

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle



March 1998

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First Archimedes tests: Good, but...

First wave of tests exceeds expectations, but more research is needed, says Willis

The first wave of Project Archimedes test mailings performed "better than expected" — but more testing is needed before any conclusive results can be guaranteed, said Perry Willis, the past LP National Director who is working with the party on the membership recruitment effort.

The first batch of 120,000 pieces of direct mail generated a

.58% overall response rate — more than twice the quarter-percent return Willis said he was expecting. That translates into almost 700 new LP members.

"The test went better than I expected," he said. "I think things are looking good."

The party sent out the first wave of membership recruitment mail for Project Archimedes — named after Archimedes' famous quote, "Give me a lever long enough and I shall move the earth" — in late November 1997. It was the first batch of what party leaders hope will eventually be a massive 24 million-piece blitz of direct-mail marketing.

200,000 Libertarians

The goal of the project is to recruit up to 200,000 Libertarian Party members from the 50 million people who already hold essentially libertarian views.

The first mailing went to 11 different mailing lists of people who match key Libertarian demographic profiles.

The five top-performing lists, said Willis, were:

- High-propensity California registered Libertarian voters: 1.74% response.

See **ARCHIMEDES** Page 2

Libertarian code-busters join campaign

A group of Libertarians are putting their computers where their principles are — and have joined a nationwide effort to crack an "uncrackable" code to highlight the dangers of the government's anti-encryption laws.

Vermont Libertarian Hardy Macia has organized the group, called "Libertarians for Privacy," which is donating spare computer cycles to attempt to crack a 64-bit encrypted message as part of the nationwide "RC5-64 Challenge."

Their goal: To prove that government laws which restrict encryption programs to only 64-bits are short-sighted, a violation of free speech, and a danger to Internet privacy.

Libertarians for Privacy is competing to be the team that cracks the code — winning a \$1,000 prize and making the LP a "status symbol" in the pro-encryption movement, said Hardy.

See **CODE-BUSTING** Page 2



■ Roy Innis "signs on the dotted line" to join the Libertarian Party, flanked by (left to right) New York LP State Chair Lloyd Wright, LP National Director Ron Crickenberger, past NY State Chair Blay Tarnoff, Clarence Jackson of the Florida CORE, and NYLP Treasurer Jim Harris.

CORE's Roy Innis joins LP; mulls NY governor's run

Roy Innis, the well-known African-American civil rights leader and head of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), has joined the Libertarian Party and is currently deciding whether he will seek the party's 1998 nomination for governor of New York.

Innis, 63, a self-described "life-long Democrat" famous for his numerous *non*-Democratic political positions, officially joined the LP on February 4 — and said he will make a decision about a gubernatorial run before the New York LP convention on March 14.

"I like the idea [of running]," he said. "I see this as a chance to do something for the state — and it will reverberate around the country."

But Innis said he was concerned that he might not have the time available to run a "credible and competitive" campaign.

"The board of directors at CORE are against his running for

"YOU HAVE THE kind of principles this country needs more of."

governor this year because they do not believe he has the time to run for governor and run CORE," said Lloyd Wright, the State Chair of the New York LP.

Words of praise

Whatever his final decision, Innis had words of praise for the Libertarian Party when he joined at CORE headquarters in New York, an event attended by LP National Director Ron Crickenberger, LP Communications Director Bill Winter, past NY State Chair Blay Tarnoff, and NYLP Treasurer Jim Harris.

"You have the kind of prin-

ciples this country needs more of," said Innis. "The Republicans are unable to deal in a forthright way with what's going on in this country."

After the meeting, Wright said he hoped that Innis would decide to run.

"[An Innis campaign] would virtually guarantee that we achieve major party status in New York," he said. "He's a very impressive man. He has a grasp of the issues, he's spoken all over the world, he's willing to buck the establishment, and he's the highest profile candidate we've ever had — if he runs."

Wright also said that Innis seemed to be a good ideological fit for the Libertarian Party.

"On virtually all issues, he is in agreement with us," he said. "He's with us on the personal freedom side; he's with us on guns; and he's with us on economic issues."

A follow-up meeting is

See **ROY INNIS** Page 3

INSIDE

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Washington state freeholders work to make liberty local

■ **PAGE 8**
Ex-mayor kicks off bid for State Rep.

NEWS BRIEFS

Costa Rican LP elects member of parliament

The Libertarian Party of Costa Rica has elected its first member to the National Parliament. **Otto Guevara** of Movimiento Libertario was elected to the national legislature on February 1, 1998, according to Vince Miller, president of the International Society for Individual Liberty.

"We apparently missed electing a second legislator by only a few votes," said Miller. "Other members of the party were elected at the local level; we do not know how many yet. And this is just the beginning. The party was formed only two years ago; at that time, there was only one Libertarian in Costa Rica."

George Getz: Now LP's Press Secretary



The Libertarian Party's Deputy Director of Communications **George Getz** is now the party's Press Secretary, effective January 1, 1998.

"The new title is more representative of what George does, since he handles most of our media calls, schedules interviews, and represents the party on numerous radio shows," said Bill Winter, LP Communications Director. "Besides, Press Secretary is easier and faster to say on the radio than his former 12-syllable title."

Two Libertarian thumbs up?



Want to share your libertarian perspective on current movies? You can do so at a new WWW site called FlickPicks, "The Moviegoers' Website," owned and operated by LP members.

"We're seeking input from libertarians," said **David Nolan**, one of the founders of the Libertarian Party, and owner of FlickPicks along with **Jack Dean**, of the Harry Browne 2000 Exploratory Committee.

At the FlickPicks site, moviegoers can rate and critique films they've seen and see how others rate them, said Nolan.

"Our goal is to become recognized as a leading source of information on current movies," he said. "A year from now, we hope that FlickPicks ratings will be cited regularly in movie ads." Interested Libertarians will find FlickPicks at <http://www.flickpicks.com>

The Batman/Ludwig von Mises connection

Holy Austrian Economics! The latest well-known figure to promote libertarianism is none other than — **Batman**? That's right: In a recent issue of *The Batman Chronicles*, an old-time incarnation of the Caped Crusader — the "Berlin Batman" — battles Nazi confiscation of **Ludwig von Mises'** papers in 1938. Batman rescues the famous libertarian economist's papers and says: "I've read his work. He's a brave man to oppose the [Nazi] party in these barren times."

The comic later notes: "Ludwig von Mises escaped to the U.S. when the Nazis ransacked his apartment. They slowed him down, but they couldn't stop him. He continued work on a book which was eventually published in '49, called *Human Action*, now considered one of the great libertarian works of our times." *The Batman Chronicles* is published by DC Comics.

National LP lobbies Virginia legislature



Saying that "the voters of Virginia deserve more choices," LP Projects Manager **Kris Williams** testified before a subcommittee of the House of Delegates to urge support for three bills that would ease ballot access requirements.

"Virginia is one of only seven states in which the only qualified parties are Republican and Democrat," Williams told members of the Privileges and Elections Subcommittee on January 26, 1998.

The three bills — HR 47, HR 48, and HR 49 — are part of an effort to improve ballot access in Virginia, and were introduced by Delegate Vince Callahan (R-34th District), in response to an ongoing lobbying effort by the Virginia LP.

"This is definitely an uphill battle, but I think the delegates are sensitive that they are out of sync with the rest of the nation on ballot access," said Williams.

Libertarians in code-busting effort

Continued from Page 1

"Libertarians believe in the right to privacy," he said. "I thought, the RC5-64 Challenge might be a good place to show a libertarian presence on the web."

What exactly is the RC5-64 Challenge, and what is 64-bit encryption?

"RC5-64 is an attempt by the Internet community to crack an encrypted message," explained Hardy. "The spare cycles of thousands of computers are being used to crack the message to show that the government must allow stronger encryption technology to be used — or else our data is at risk."

10,000 years

The RC5-64 Challenge is a voluntary effort of individual computer users and groups, using computers linked by the Internet. The idea is that thousands of computers, working together, can relatively quickly crack a code that it might take one computer 10,000 years to decode.

And 64-bit encryption is a measure of encryption strength. Even 64-bit encryption can be cracked, but would require computers to crunch through billions of possible mathematical combinations to discover the key to unlock the code.

Hardy just started organizing his Libertarian team within the last several months — but said he has ambitious goals.

"I have just started letting people know about the competition," he said. "So far, we have a very small team of about five computers. If the Libertarians for

ENCRYPTION Q&A

■ Why should computer data — especially e-mail — be encrypted?

Most e-mail messages sent over the phone lines are "unsecure" — and can be read by individuals or government agencies with the right technical know-how. "There is no security on the Internet," said **Jim Heath**, a corporate security consultant. "[That's why] encryption is spreading fast in business."

■ What does the LP say about encryption?

The LP Platform states: "We oppose all restrictions on the private development, sale, and use of encryption technology. We specifically oppose proposals for so-called "key escrow" which is government access to keys [to decode messages]."

Privacy team had 100 Pentium and PowerPC computers working together, we would shoot by most of the mid-sized teams."

There is plenty of time for LP members to join the team, said Hardy, since it will take months — and lots of computer power

"THE SPARE CYCLES of thousands of computers are being used to crack the [coded] message."

— to crack 64-bit encryption.

"The estimate at the current level of voluntary effort is over a year to crack [the code]," he said.

Once the code is cracked, said Hardy, "The organizers of the RC5 effort will take care of notifying the government," and use their success as leverage to lobby for stronger encryption rights — or to get the government entirely out of the encryption regulation business.

"The government should allow individuals to choose whatever encryption methods suits their needs," he said.

Hardy has a history of both computer expertise and LP activism. He is currently the Webmaster for the Vermont LP site, the LP Town Chair of Grand Isle, and Secretary and Outreach Coordinator of the Vermont LP.

■ Want to join the Libertarians for Privacy team?

Contact Hardy via e-mail at: vtlpRC5@catamount.com. Or visit his Web page at: <http://homepages.together.net/~hardy/VTLp/rc5.html>.

Project Archimedes requires more tests

Continued from Page 1

■ National Review magazine subscribers: 1.31%.

■ Adrian Day investment newsletter subscribers: .74%.

■ Massachusetts registered Libertarians: .81%.

■ Wired subscribers: .38%.

At the bottom of the performance chart were "compiled" lists of home business owners (.07%); business owners (.06%); and gun owners (.01%).

The party is now in the process of analyzing which common demographic trends emerge from those people who responded. Then, another wave of more selective test mailings will go out, based on the new know-

ledge, said Willis.

"This [first] test has already allowed us to boost the universe of names that we can mail to at our target response rate from about 70,000 to nearly a quarter of a million," he said.

However, Willis cautioned, it's still too early to draw any conclusions from this first test.

"As promising as the first returns are, there still are uncertainties ahead before we can be sure how successful the overall program will be," he said.

Based on the results of the first test, Willis said the party will roll out another 250,000 pieces of direct mail in late February, with results expected by April.

LP NEWS

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EDITOR:
Bill Winter

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Bergland launches campaign for National Chair's position

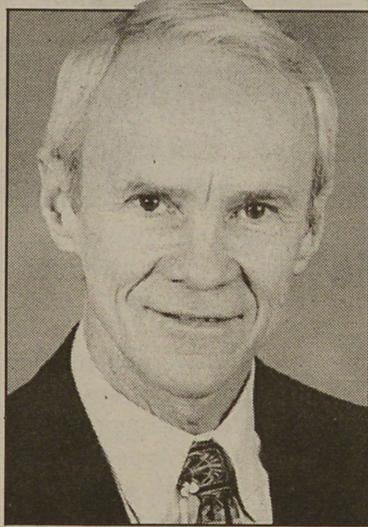
David Bergland, the LP's 1984 presidential candidate, has announced that he will seek the Chairmanship of the Libertarian Party — and said his goal is to "continue the professionalization efforts" of the party.

"The Libertarian Party is in a critical transition period due to its recent dramatic growth, and much of that growth is due to the excellent job that Steve Dasbach has done as Chair. But he's stepping down," said Bergland.

"I feel that I have a great deal to offer the party because of my background and experience, and so I've decided to seek the Chairmanship to help the party during this critical phase," he said.

Bergland made his announcement on February 14th during the LP of California's state convention in Los Angeles.

Bergland boosters at the convention wore "Bergland for Chair" campaign buttons and distributed brochures which outlined his goals and listed his cam-



■ David Bergland: Wants to continue the LP's "dramatic membership growth."

aign organizing committee.

In his announcement, Bergland stressed the need to expand the LP's base of support by accelerating the party's membership growth and electing more Libertarians to public office.

"Dramatic membership growth is the key to building a

political party that can compete with the Democrats and Republicans," he said. "With more members, we can run more candidates, recruit more volunteers, raise more money, and get more Libertarians elected."

Bergland also announced his intention to appoint Steve Dasbach as the party's Executive Director.

"Get the job done"

"We're proposing to achieve some pretty ambitious membership goals over the next two to four years," he said. "We need a full-time CEO to make it happen, and Steve has already demonstrated that he can get the job done. In addition, this will allow [current National Director and former Political Director] Ron Crickenberger to devote more of his time to getting Libertarians elected."

Also at the California LP convention, Dasbach confirmed that he had decided not to seek re-

See BERGLAND Page 9



■ Roy Innis (center) gets a three-way handshake of welcome to the Libertarian Party from New York State Chair Lloyd Wright (left) and past State Chair Blay Tarnoff.

Innis: NY governor?

Continued from Page 1

planned with Innis in late February, said Wright, to discuss possible Libertarian support for his campaign.

Whatever Innis decides, said Wright, "Just signing him up for the party is a major coup."

Innis, 63, is the president of CORE, the third-largest civil rights organization in America, and has a reputation as a powerful public speaker.

CORE — and Innis himself

— have long been out of step with traditional, left-leaning civil rights organizations. The CORE mission statement says that "the most fundamental freedom for all people is the right to govern themselves."

Personally, Innis is an outspoken defender of the Second Amendment, and said in 1995: "It's the good people that are hurt by gun laws. The only people who don't have guns [in New York] are the good people."

College-based Libertarians: Activity is on the upswing

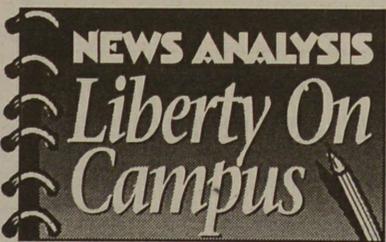
From Virginia to Arizona, Libertarianism on campus is enjoying a "major upsurge"

By Dr. James W. Lark

Are Generation Xers going Libertarian? Is Libertarianism the choice of a new generation?

If Libertarian activity on college campuses is an accurate leading indicator, the answer to these questions may well be "yes."

I have been involved with Libertarian campus organizing since 1984, and I am pleased to be witnessing a major upsurge of interest in Libertarianism



on campus. In addition to such well-established groups — such as Students for Individual Liberty (SIL) at the University of Virginia and the College Libertarians at the University of Michigan — new groups are starting to get organized on campuses throughout the country.

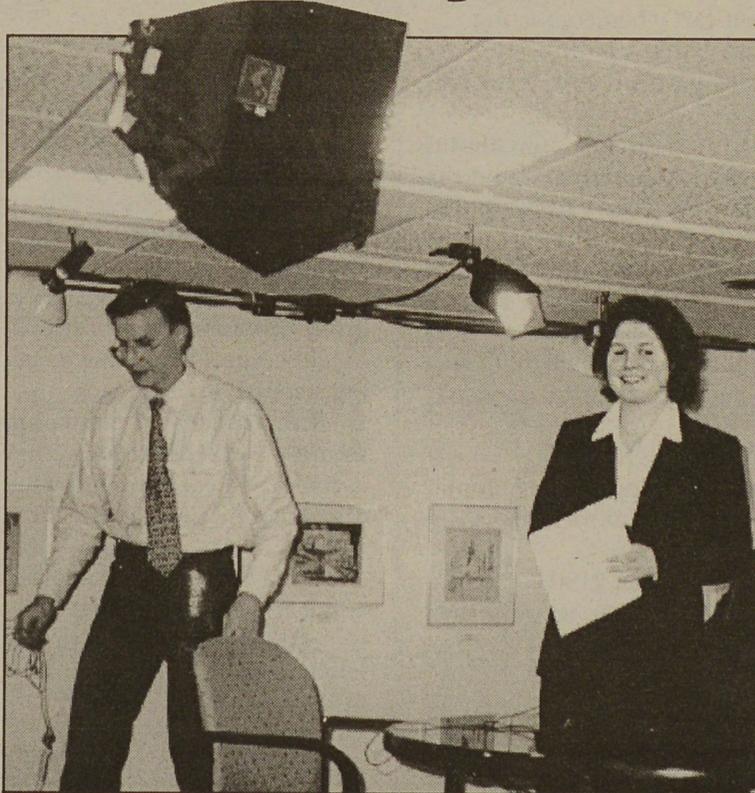
As a measure of this interest,

since early 1997 I have been contacted by activists associated with more than 30 colleges and universities, including UCLA, Colorado, Yale, Chicago, Rutgers, and Washington State.

In my home state of Virginia, there are groups at the University of Virginia (UVA), Washington & Lee University, James Madison University, and George Mason University. Some of them

promote the Libertarian Party. Other groups are educationally oriented and have no partisan affiliation. In addition, I am working with people associated with Virginia Tech and Virginia Commonwealth University who wish to build groups at those institutions.

As I discussed in my campus activism sessions during Success '97, a very useful tactic for campus Libertarians is to organize several Libertarian groups, each



■ Where are college Libertarians turning up? Lisa Stronawski, the president of the student Libertarian group at George Washington University, prepares to represent the Libertarian viewpoint on the *Morning Journal* program on C-SPAN on February 1, 1998 in their studio in Washington, DC.

of which has a different purpose. In particular, I suggest that activists establish at least two groups: One group should be explicitly

LP-oriented, the other should be an explicitly non-partisan, educational group. (For example, at UVA, we have nine Libertarian-

run organizations, each established to address a specific need.)

Stephen Jones, a Libertarian activist at George Mason University, followed the UVA model. He has founded three groups at G.M.U. during the past year: Students for Individual Liberty, University Libertarians, and Students for the Second Amendment (co-founded with Steven King).

Substantial growth

The substantial growth of the LP of Michigan over recent years is also visible on state college campuses. According to Martin Howrylak, co-chair of the College Libertarians at the University of Michigan (UM) in Ann Arbor, there are Libertarian student groups at Wayne State University, Western Michigan University, Michigan State University, Hillsdale College, Michigan Technological University, Andrews University, and Delta College.

Howrylak notes that his group meets weekly during most of the school year, and sponsors numerous outreach events — including a speaker series which has featured David Boaz, David

See COLLEGE Page 15

THE ISSUES

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

The Clinton Sex Scandal: Yawn

Here's what Libertarians think about President Bill Clinton's ongoing White House sex scandal: *We don't care.*

"It would be a shame if Clinton was impeached over allegations he pressured White House intern Monica Lewinsky to lie about an alleged sexual affair," said Steve Dasbach, the party's chairman.

"It would be a shame because Clinton would face judgment over a simple moral or legal issue — and not over the fact that while president, he routinely trampled Americans' civil liberties and vastly expanded the size of the federal government."

Dasbach said the LP is taking no position on whether Clinton is guilty or deserves to be impeached.

"It's our policy not to comment on this type of political scandal," he said. "We Libertarians know that allegations come and go; sleazy and corrupt politicians come and go; and special prosecutors come and go.

"We'll leave the legal issues up to a judge or jury, and the moral issues up to the American public. The real problem is that the growth of government continues onward — no matter what scandal is titillating the media any particular day. And such scandals simply distract us from the important question: What is the proper role of government in a free society?"

The ADA versus professional golf

What's next: Federally mandated stilts so midgets can play professional basketball? Should Roger Clemens be ordered by the court to throw slower fastballs to near-sighted batters? Should someone with a fear of deep water be allowed to wear a life preserver while playing water polo?

Sounds ridiculous? It's not, warn Libertarians: It's the logical consequence of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), now that a federal judge has ruled that the PGA must allow a golfer with a leg disease to use a golf cart when competing.

"The ADA is a bureaucratic disease that's getting worse every year — and the only question is which sport or industry will be the next victim," said Dasbach.

In early February, a judge ruled that golfer Casey Martin must be allowed to ride in a golf cart while competing on the professional golf tour because of a rare circulatory problem that makes walking painful.

"The issue isn't whether Martin should be allowed to use a golf cart," said Dasbach. "The real issue is: *Who decides?* Do professional sports have the right to set their own rules? Or does the federal government have the final decision-making power over every aspect of our lives — including professional sports?"

Taxpayers are getting sheared

Here's a story that'll make you want to pull your hair out: Over the past five years, the federal government has spent \$1.8 million on haircuts for U.S. Senators.

And they're planning to squander another \$180,000 of taxpayers' money this year so Washington politicians and their staffs can continue to get cheap, convenient haircuts at the cash-hemorrhaging Senate Barber Shop & Beauty Salon.

"It's the ultimate bad hair day for U.S. taxpayers," said Dasbach. "Senators get their hair cut — but taxpayers get sheared."

Wait a second: How in the world can anyone — even the U.S. Senate — lose \$1.8 million on haircuts? It's easy because...

■ The Senate clip joint employs seven barbers, five hair stylists, two manicurists, one shoeshine attendant, and two receptionists — all for 100 U.S. Senators and their staffs.

■ One Senate barber earns a whopping \$62,000 a year; the receptionist gets \$47,000; and even the shoe-shine attendant is paid \$27,400.

"The U.S. Senate should be concerned about trimming the size of government — not trimming their tax-subsidized hair," said Dasbach.

Washington Freeholders work to bring liberty to the local level

After four years of work, two elected Libertarians in Washington state say they're almost ready to unveil a new county government charter that will enshrine into law the "principle of minimum use of government force."

LP members Jack and Lori Loranger — who were elected to the 15-member Freeholder board in Skamania County in 1994 — say they are optimistic that the new charter will win the approval of county residents when it comes up for a vote by 1999.

"We're giving legislative authority directly to the people," said Jack of their proposed charter — which would create libertarian-style county government where citizens can propose laws, there are no appointed offices, and an oath of office is enforceable by contract law.

"It is exciting to see such fundamental changes taking place, especially with Libertarians helping to guide the effort," said Doug Thornton, the Washington state LP Public Relations Chair. "One hopes to see the domino theory kick in, [and] county governments around Washington are replaced with Libertarian-led, freedom-preserving institutions."

Title 36

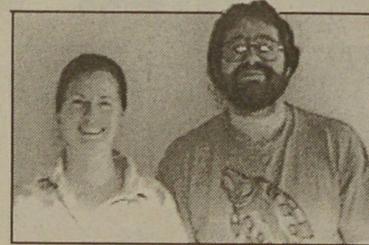
If the domino effect does occur, it will be because of Title 36 of Washington law, which allows counties to opt out of the usual state-mandated county government by adopting a "home rule" charter.

"The state constitution leaves this door open for people to take control when they're being stepped on," said Jack.

The citizens of Skamania County walked through that door in 1994 because of growing dissatisfaction with the three county commissioners. Votes endorsed a home rule charter, and elected 15 Freeholders who were charged with writing a new charter, which would lay out the new county government.

And what kind of government do the two Libertarians have in mind?

"We're trying to give people



■ **The Lorangers:** "We're trying to give people the option to govern themselves."

the option to govern themselves and provide for their needs through voluntary organizations," said Lori. "As people build these organizations, government will have less and less to do, and become less expensive."

Although the details are not finalized, Jack said that in the proposed new government:

■ There will be no appointed

offices; everyone in the executive and judicial branches will be elected by the people.

■ "The charter will specify that the oath of office is a contract with the people," he said. So, any official that violates the oath is subject to the laws pertaining to contract violation.

The Lorangers hope to have the charter ready for the 1998 ballot, but it may take longer.

"The process is not hindered by a deadline," said Lori. "We feel that it's more important to write a good charter. We may have it ready for this November [but] it may take another year. By refusing to be hurried, we've been able to address many of the initial fears of change, and we've given people a chance to become comfortable with the idea."

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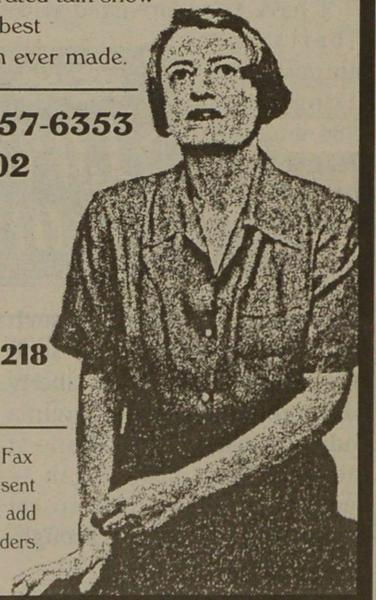
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AFFILIATE NEWS

Battling an egg plant subsidy and lobbying for a Bill of Rights Day

■ California

Christmas came early this year for the California LP, thanks to a series of fund-raising banquets that raised more than \$26,000.

The December events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego — featuring 1996 presidential candidate **Harry Browne** — attracted over 230 people and helped push the party over its 1997 year-end goal of raising \$150,000.

Many of the attendees were new to the party, according to organizer **Laura McFadden**. "I'm especially glad we had so many new faces," she said. "Obviously they liked what they saw and made some very generous donations."

Browne served as the keynote speaker and autographed copies of his book, *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World*. Later, he said he was "extremely impressed" with the direction of the California party.

■ California

A battle over giving tax money to private groups has left the Loomis Town Council with "egg plant" on its face, say Placer County Libertarians.

Despite lobbying by Libertarians, the council refused to pass a proposed ordinance in December that would have ended the flow of public money to private groups, arguing that such expenditures are for the "public good."

The immediate beneficiary: The annual Loomis Egg Plant

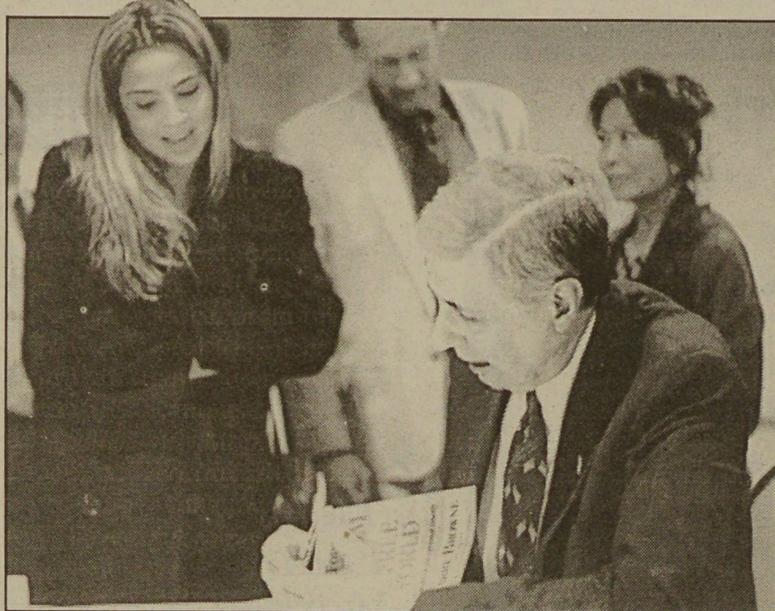


PHOTO BY PERRY MARTIN

Booked for fundraising

Harry Browne signs copy of his newly reprinted book, *How I Found Freedom In An Unfree World*, in California in December. The party's 1996 presidential candidate was on hand for a series of fundraising banquets that raised \$26,000 for the California LP — and said afterwards that it was a "pleasure to speak to and meet so many impressive Libertarians."

Festival, which requested a tax-money infusion to make up for declining attendance.

In response, county LP Chair **Priscilla Falconi** blasted officials for becoming infected with "the American disease" — spending public funds on private causes.

"Good projects wanting public money are without limit," she said. "But American families will never prosper so long as small-town governments all over the country stay infected with the disease of income redistribution through taxation."

■ Colorado

State party officials are pointing to a 22% jump in Libertarian registration as evidence that the party enjoyed a "banner year" in 1997.

More than 500 new voters were added to the party's registration rolls from August 1996 to August 1997 — bringing the total count to more than 2,250.

The reason? A year-long series of fair booths, fund-raisers, lawsuits, and a highly visible, successful campaign against transportation tax hikes, said State Chair **Sandra Johnson**.

"All of this work has paid off by attracting more positive media coverage than ever before, which has generated more interest among the public, and eventually more registered Libertarians," she said.

The state party's next task: Converting the new registered voters into active, dues-paying party members, said Johnson.

■ Georgia

A Libertarian who won a drug-testing victory at the U.S. Supreme Court last year has now been rewarded closer to home.

Walker Chandler, who overturned a Georgia law requiring drug tests for state political candidates, won the Georgia Civil Liberties Award from the ACLU at an Atlanta ceremony on December 6, 1997.

"I'm pleased to be recognized as a defender of civil liberties, and thrilled that we managed to get an unconstitutional law declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court," said Chandler, an LP candidate for lieutenant governor in 1994 when he decided to challenge the law.

Chandler is running again this year — for state attorney general — and quipped, "At least I won't have to take a drug test."

■ Georgia

Republican U.S. Senator Paul Coverdell is apparently feeling the heat from his 1998 Libertarian opponent, **Bert Loftman** — and has asked Loftman to drop out of the race to avoid "draining votes" in November.

Loftman's response: No, Senator, *you* drop out.

"I'm not in it to get out of the race," said Loftman. "I'm the one with the ideas. I'm not sure Coverdell had any vision of what he wanted to do except take [former Senator's] Wyche Fowler's place."

"Step aside and give someone else a chance" Loftman told Coverdell.

■ Michigan

Libertarians are working to form two new county affiliate parties on the heels of a successful pro-property rights rally in the Upper Peninsula, where hundreds of "Yoopers" showed up to support a family prosecuted by the state for starting a wetland habitat on their own property.

At the rally late last year, "Libertarian literature and information was handed out to all who were interested," said LP member **Robert Black**. "Everyone who took the political quiz had a chance to win a 'Don't Tread on Me' revolutionary flag."

Since then, a new affiliate already has been started at Michigan Tech, and another one is on the way, said Black.

The rally was called after two Upper Peninsula property owners received legal permits to build a wetlands habitat — but were subsequently fined \$1.3 million and had their property raided by a SWAT team after the attorney general ultimately reneged on the agreement.

■ New Hampshire

If there's one thing worse than paying high taxes for government-run schools, it's a *state-wide* tax for centrally planned government-run schools, NH Libertarians say.

That's why they're fighting a state Supreme Court ruling that mandates "equal funding" for schools — a goal that may end up foisting the first-ever state-wide income or sales tax on the "Live Free Or Die" state.

The Libertarian solution: A complete separation of school and state.

"Given the mess that government has made of education, we believe that the children of NH would be better served by [getting] government out of education entirely," said **Brian Christeson**, chair of the party's Education Committee, in late December.

■ Oregon

Libertarians were invited for the first time to take part in a public dialogue on race relations, sponsored by the Urban League — and discovered that African-Americans may be the only ones not advocating more government "solutions."

When it came time at the January 15 meeting to offer solutions to solving racial conflicts, "it became evident rather quickly that many people concerned about race relations tended toward proposals that had been unsuccessful in the past, such as increased governmental action," said Oregon LP member **Stephanie Spanhel**.

But, she said, the two black participants in her group "were the only ones not advocating a government solution."

The LPO intends to continue participating in the meetings during 1998, said Communications Director **David Vessell**, who also attended the meeting, along with **Gary Dye** and **Michael Wilson**.

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■ **South Dakota**

Libertarians have successfully lobbied the South Dakota House to recognize the Bill of Rights Day as an annual working holiday. The day will be commemorated on December 15, the anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights in 1791.

"More than any other single document of law, the Bill of Rights stands between tyranny and liberty," said LP activist **Jim Christen**. "Refugees come to the USA for its liberty. Why don't we celebrate it?"

Christen traveled to Pierre to lobby for the bill, which passed the South Dakota House on January 27. It now faces a Senate vote.

"Working on this bill provided me with a great opportunity to work with many members of the state legislature for the first time," said Christen. "Every year our influence in the legislature has increased."

■ **Texas**

Libertarians are working to repeal a protectionist law that benefits Dallas-Fort Worth Airport — but costs air travelers an estimated \$183 million a year.

Their target is the Wright Amendment, which increases the number of flights out of DFW by prohibiting direct, long-distance flights from other airports nearby, said LP member **Larry Nickerson**. The law enriches DFW and the airlines it serves at the expense of other regional airports — and consumers.

A Congressional vote in October weakened the law, and Libertarians saw an opportunity to abolish it.

Wearing matching t-shirts emblazoned with the Statue of Liberty, they attended a Fort Worth City Council meeting on December 9 and "talked free market in the skies" to the council and explained why this law should be repealed, said Nickerson.

■ **Utah**

Libertarians angry about repressive laws have added a new weapon to their pro-freedom arsenal: The telephone. More specifically, a telephone tree.

"For years, the intractable, blue-nosed, busybody Eagle Forum [a conservative lobbying group] has held the Legislature hostage with a barrage of phone calls supporting one restriction on personal liberty after another," said State Chair **Jim Dexter**.

So the party started its own phone tree, which will focus on issues of interest to Libertarians, such as civil liberties, taxes, and gun rights.

Dexter is urging state Libertarians to become "Libertarian Minute Men," who can quickly rally Libertarians and others to target key legislators with phone calls.

"We want these legislators to know there are other perspectives out there," Dexter said.

■ **Wisconsin**

Act locally, think globally — that could be the motto of Wisconsin Libertarians, who are working to end American participation in the United Nations.

Libertarians testified in late October before the state legislature's Committee on State and Federal legislation, which is considering a resolution to weaken the U.S.'s role in the U.N.

The bill requires Congress to stop appropriating funds for any military presence that Congress has not authorized.

Passage of the resolution is "the first step in a process that could lead to filing a legal brief before the U.S. Supreme Court," said LP member **James Dean**.

■ **Wisconsin**

The state legislature is threatening to impose a massive, \$300 million law aimed at tracking parents who owe child support, warns LP member **James Dean**, who testified against the bill at a recent hearing.

"This is very dangerous legislation!" said Dean. "The bill is

supposed to streamline the collection of child support, but what it would really do is streamline the state's control over your life."

The measure includes provisions for expanded use of Social Security numbers; mandatory reporting of assets; and for allowing the state to confiscate property without a warrant.

Dean is now urging Libertarians to "shake up" their legislators by deluging them with requests for copies of the mammoth, 260-page bill.

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HOWTO

Recruiting candidates

The LP has a goal of running 1,000 candidates this year. The *only* way we will accomplish this is if *every* LP organization makes a concerted effort to recruit candidates . . . and if they do it now. How can you recruit candidates quickly and effectively?

First, understand that *anyone* can recruit candidates. You don't have to be a State or County Chair — in fact, I suspect that most state or county organizations would welcome your taking the initiative to help.

Next, learn about the filing deadlines for offices in your area, and make up a list of key offices which are coming up for re-election. You and your recruitment team will want to be conversant about opportunities in a member's area when you contact them. Try to be aware of "open seats" (without an incumbent), or those races where only one candidate from the D's or R's is running. Those will be your races with the greatest potential impact.

Now, think about what your expectations are for candidates. My suggestion?

The *minimum* expectation is that the candidate will get on the ballot, completing any newspaper/special interest surveys which they receive, and attending any public forums with "old-party" candidates. This approach is great for a first-timer, costs little in time, money or effort, and is a great stepping stone to future campaigns with greater efforts.

Don't we want candidates who are running to win? Certainly. You should be prepared to provide more information about what is expected of such campaigns. (Ask the National LP to send a copy of their *Libertarian Political Action* booklet to every candidate you recruit.)

Next? Ask your State Chair or Database Manager for a list of LP members in your area, on a district-by-district basis if available. If you want to get a recruitment drive team together (and I *strongly* suggest you do), pick a date and place, make an announcement at party meetings and in your newsletter, and let people know what you're doing and when.

In preparation for the meeting, you will need: 1) Multiple copies of the membership list, including phone numbers; 2) Example of a calling "script," so that folks will present a consistent message to potential candidates; 3) A list of possible objections to running ("I don't have time, money, interest, experience . . ."), with suggested language showing how callers can respond to them.

In particular, the script should explain who you are and why you are calling, the benefits (to them and to the state & national LP) of running, the importance of their candidacy, and how easy and fun it is to run. It shouldn't take more than a minute or so to run through this before you ask them if they will consider running for a specific race.

At the meeting (you should have three to 15 people working with a list of 100-500 members), divide up the membership list, set a schedule for calls to take place, and set a time for a follow-up meeting to review results. Be sure volunteers follow-up with any "maybe" candidates.

Sound like telephone sales? Perhaps. But I've found that when asked to run and when the benefits and expected effort are explained, a surprising number of Libertarians are happy to run for office.

Last time I used this method in New Hampshire, we set a new record for local candidates, had a 25% win rate and discovered a few public officeholders we didn't know we had.

It's not too late for 1998. Get organized. Get moving. Get candidates.

■ Mark Tuniewicz is a member of the LNC and a founding member of the new Libertarian Campaign Professionals Association. Send e-mail questions or comments to: nhliberty@aol.com.



By Mark Tuniewicz

Ex-mayor Carl Strang runs in special FL State Senate election

The former mayor of Winter Haven, Florida, has announced that he is running for State Senate in a special election to be held on March 10 — and urged residents to vote for him to "send Tallahassee [the state capitol] a wake-up call."

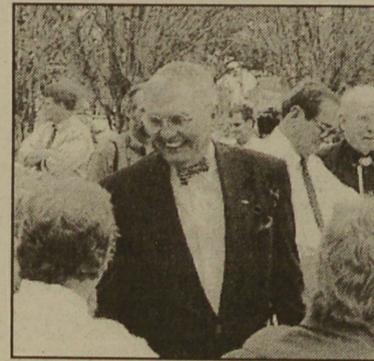
Carl Strang, 64, made the announcement that he will seek the vacant District 17 State Senate seat at a well-attended press conference on January 14. His campaign represents the first time a Libertarian has been on the ballot for Florida Senate in state history.

"My campaign will be an assault on big, bloated, unresponsive government," he said. "Our children, especially, deserve to grow up in a freer society than we have today."

Switched in 1996

Strang, a long-time Republican before switching to the Libertarian Party in 1996, turned in over 3,000 petition signatures — collected in just 10 days — to get on the ballot.

Now that he's overcome that hurdle, "we intend to run a very competitive campaign," said



■ Carl Strang (center) is running for State Senate because, "Our children deserve to grow up in a freer society."

campaign manager David Owens. "Many people in this area are eager for Carl's message of greater freedom, and we intend to spread the message vigorously."

At his campaign kick-off, Strang zinged his older-party opponents with one-liners:

■ "It's gotten so you can't tell the Democrats from the Republicans without a scratch and sniff test."

■ "The Democrats want to be your Mommy. The Republicans want to be your Daddy. The Libertarians just want to treat

you like an adult."

■ "Choosing between Democrats and Republicans is deciding whether you want government to be enormous or just huge."

Strang said he plans to make the most of his short campaign, and promised, "I intend to be vigorous in taking our message of liberty to the people."

Strang's campaign is the "most exciting campaign in several years," said state newsletter editor Tom Regnier. "Strang is highly regarded in the community, where his portrait hangs in the public library and a wing of the hospital is named after his family. And the local press has been highly responsive."

Strang was mayor of Winter Haven in 1987-88. He is a member of the Polk County Charter Commission and on the Polk County Citizens' Committee for Efficient County Government.

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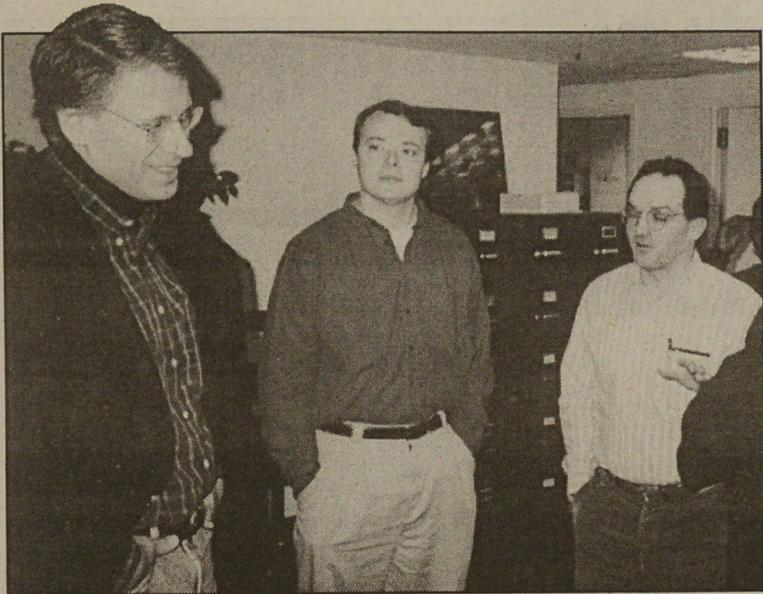
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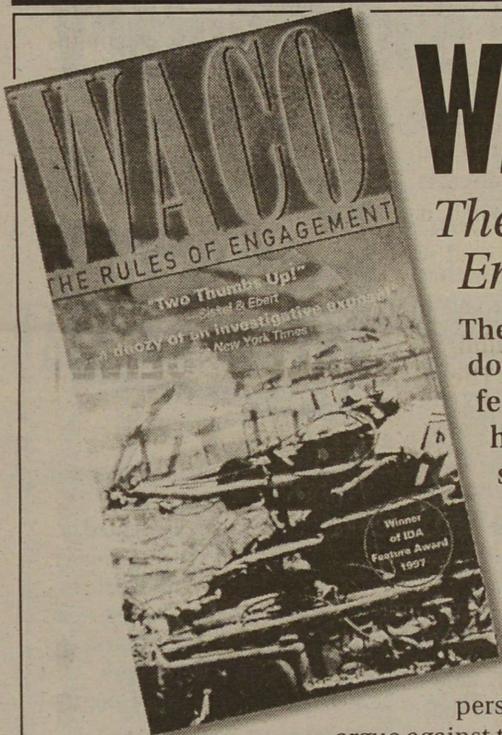
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Waco film producer visits LP headquarters

Dan Gifford (left), a producer of the Oscar-nominated documentary, *Waco: The Rules of Engagement* stopped by the National LP office in Washington DC on January 16, 1998, to discuss showing the film at the party's National Convention. (See page 10 for details.) He's shown here talking to LP Projects Manager Kris Williams (center), and Press Secretary George Getz.



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- "Remarkable . . . persuasive . . . Those who argue against the government in this film seem to be telling the truth." — film critic Roger Ebert
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- "Two thumbs up!" — *Siskel & Ebert TV show*
- "A doozy of an investigative expose!" — *New York Times*
- "Terrifyingly persuasive." — *Los Angeles Times*
- "A convincing, devastating, argument." — *Village Voice*

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Bergland in Chair's race

Continued from Page 3
election to a third term as National Chair.

"The party has grown into a multi-million-dollar-a-year business," he said. "We have grown beyond the point where the party can be effectively managed by a part-time, volunteer CEO. We've reached a point where the National Chair needs to focus his energy on guiding the LNC as a policy-making board of directors.

"I can think of no one better prepared [for] this role than David Bergland," he said.

As National LP Chairman, Bergland said he would work to make sure the LP is run more like a professional business.

"The LNC must begin acting more like a policy-setting board of directors," he said. "It must hire staff who have the ability and experience to achieve the goals set by the board, and then let them do the job.

"I feel confident that I can build a team that will keep the LP moving forward."

The National LP Chairman will be selected by delegates at the party's national convention over the July 4th weekend.

Co-Chairs of the Bergland for Chair Committee are 1996 LP presidential candidate Harry Browne of Tennessee and Libertarian campaign consultant Barbara Goushaw of Illinois.

Browne and Goushaw

Besides his presidential candidacy in 1984, Bergland is perhaps best known for his book *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, which Laissez Faire Books calls the "best brief introduction to libertarianism available today." It has sold over 50,000 copies.

Bergland has previously served two terms as Chair of the Libertarian National Committee from 1977 to 1981. He has served a total of 10 years on the LNC.

Bergland is a business attorney in private practice. He lives in Costa Mesa, California, with his wife, Sharon Ayres.

For information about the Bergland campaign, write: 1773 Bahama Place, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Call: (714) 966-1211. E-mail: dpbergland@earthlink.net.

LP Online Guide

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POLITICAL NEWS

Butler starts Vice Chair campaign

Libertarian Party Treasurer Hugh Butler has announced that he will run for LP Vice Chairman at the party's national convention this summer in Washington, DC.

If elected, Butler said he will make sure the "self-discipline of pre-funding projects" continues, so the LP "can ensure that the necessary resources are available to complete critical projects like 50-state ballot access."

At the same time, he said, he would "never forget that the national party exists to serve the needs of our members, candidates, and affiliate parties."

Butler's candidacy won immediate praise from LP National Chair Steve Dasbach.

"Hugh has done an excellent job as the party's Treasurer, and he'll do an equally excellent job as Vice Chair," said Dasbach. "During Hugh's two terms as Treasurer, we successfully computerized the filing of our FEC reports, substantially increased our net worth, and successfully completed the first certified financial audit in the party's history."

Butler's candidacy also won endorsements from 1980 LP Presidential candidate Ed Clark, former LP national chair Alicia Clark, Sharon Ayres, campaign manager of the 1996 Browne for President campaign, former LP national director Perry Willis, and current LP Vice Chair Karen Allard.

Butler joined the LP in 1977. He has served two terms as national treasurer, was an LNC regional representative from 1983-87, and State Chair of the Utah LP in 1983.

He is also the founder and president of Computer Consultants Corporation, a \$6 million company with 54 full-time employees that provides computer services to 757 credit union clients in 46 states. He lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, with his wife, Marsha, and their sons David and Alan.

For information on the Butler campaign, call: (801) 328 4325. E-mail: hugh@ccccorp.com.



■ Hugh Butler: LP Treasurer will run for Vice Chair.

Givot to run for LP Secretary

Libertarian National Committee At-Large member Steve Givot has announced that he is running as an "independent candidate" for the office of LP Secretary, and says he will bring to the job a "dedication to [the] task and a commitment" to responsibility.

"I have substantial experience as an LNC member as well as past experience keeping minutes for other organizations. I know that I can do this job well," said Givot. "I pledge to end the problem the LNC has had in getting draft minutes of its meetings prepared and distributed in a timely manner."

The election will be held at the LP National Convention in Washington, DC, July 2 to 5, 1998.

Givot said he is an "outspoken supporter of the current LP strategy of growing membership and the LP's contributor base. Our challenge is to guide the continuing growth of this organization with steady hands. We are on the right path. Hard work, sound management, steady leadership, faith and patience will bring us to our goal. I pledge to do my best to bring 25 years of practical business and leadership skills to the table to ensure that we stay on course."

Givot has been an active member of the LP since 1980. He has served on the LNC for most of the last 12 years; chaired the 1991 and 1993 Convention Oversight Committees; chaired the Platform Committee (twice) and the LP's first Program Committee; and worked on the 1992 Marrou/Lord campaign. He is also the Treasurer of the LP of Illinois.

For information on the Givot campaign, call: (847) 382-2098. e-mail: givot@softwarena.com.



■ Steve Givot: Will bring a "dedication" to the job as LP Secretary.

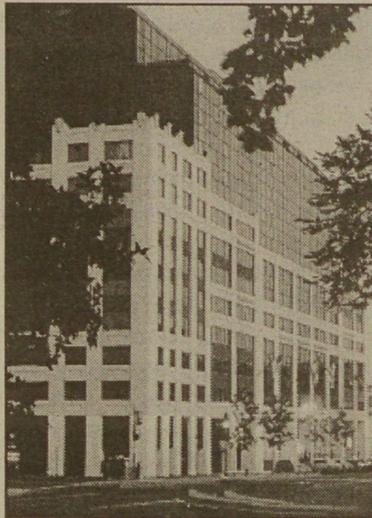
CONVENTION NEWS

1998 LP Convention moves to larger Washington DC location

It's a classic good news/bad news situation, said LP Projects Manager Kris Williams, who is coordinating the LP's 1998 National Convention.

"The bad news is that we're moving the convention location, which required some fast, behind-the-scenes activity to get everything arranged," he said.

"The good news is that we're now at a larger convention site and a better hotel, in a more central, downtown Washington DC location," he said.



■ Convention '98 has moved to downtown Washington DC's spacious Convention Center and Renaissance Hotel.

bumping the LP and 33 other groups who had meeting space

scheduled, said Williams.

However, the LP quickly re-scheduled its convention to the more spacious DC Convention Center and the Renaissance Hotel, both located on Ninth Street in downtown Washington, DC.

The new hotel location, prices, and phone number are given in the full-page advertisement on page 11 of this issue of *LP News*.

"We've made the move as seamless as possible," said Williams. "All reservations made at the old hotel have been transferred to the Renaissance, and those people have been notified. Any current reservations are being re-routed to the new hotel.

"In fact, the *only* thing about the move that most people will notice is that the new hotel rate is \$4 a night lower!"

Best news

"The *best* news is that for most of the attendees, this relocation won't affect you one bit."

The convention was forced to relocate after the Sheraton Hotel decided abruptly to close this summer for renovations —

"This seminar was incredible! I've won two elections and still found an immense amount of new, great ideas for my next re-election campaign!"

— SANDI WEBB, Simi Valley (California) City Council Member

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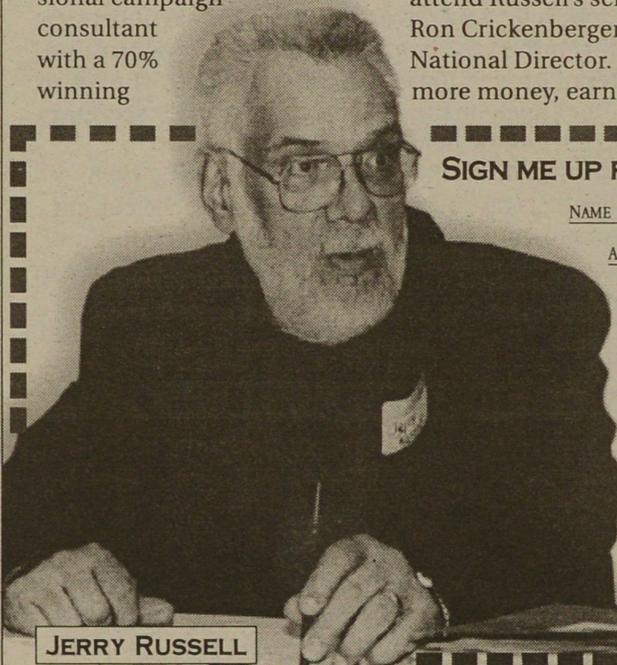
In conjunction with the 1998 LP National Convention, Jerry Russell, president of Campaign Consultants, will present an intensive seminar on winning elections. Russell, a professional campaign consultant with a 70% winning

record, specializes in low-cost, highly effective grass roots campaigning techniques.

"I would urge every LP member who wants to improve his candidate or campaign management 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."

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.



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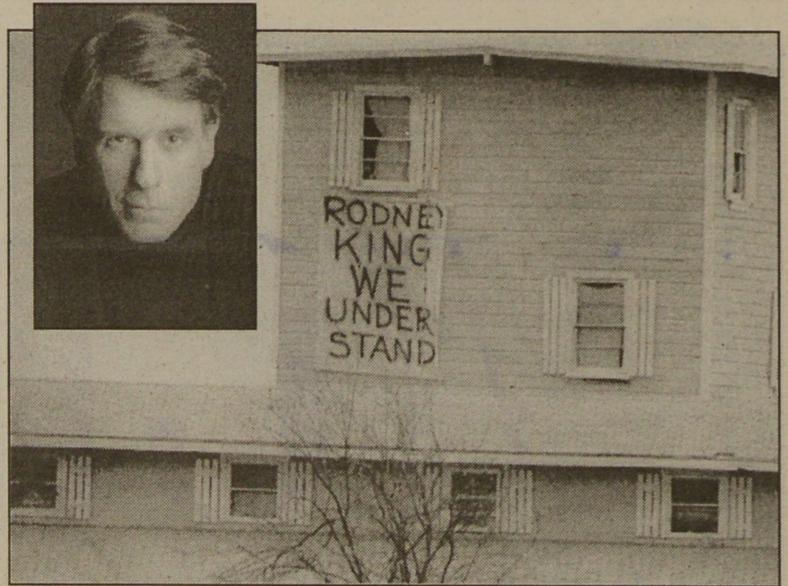
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■ A chilling scene from the Academy Award-nominated documentary, *Waco: The Rules of Engagement*. Inset: Producer Dan Gifford, who will be at Convention '98 with co-producer Amy Gifford to answer questions about the movie — and about the tragic and bloody stand-off in Waco, Texas.

Meet the producers of the Waco documentary

It's the film that the government doesn't want you to see. In fact, federal bureaucrats like Janet Reno just wish it would go away.

But that's unlikely now that *Waco: The Rules of Engagement* has been nominated for an Academy Award for best documentary feature—and been praised by the *New York Times*, Siskel & Ebert, and the Atlanta Film Festival.

Now Libertarians will have a chance to see the chilling documentary that's generated all this acclaim, when *Waco: The Rules of Engagement* is shown at the 1998 LP Convention.

The movie paints a devastating picture of out-of-control federal agents, their involvement in the fiery deaths of 76 people, and the cover-up that followed.

Plus, the producers of the movie, Dan and Amy Gifford, will be on hand for a special audience Question & Answer session, following the film.

"If you've wondered about the real story behind the Waco tragedy or how such a controversial film gets made, here's your

chance to ask the people who did it," said Kris Williams, the LP Projects Manager who arranged the event.

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):

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THE ROAD TO
VICTORY
 LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION
 JULY 2-5, 1998 * WASHINGTON DC

Confirmed Speakers



ROY INNIS

As National Chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, Roy Innis is a leading figure in the civil rights movement—but is better known for his controversial *anti-affirmative* action, *pro-Second Amendment*, *pro-personal responsibility* positions.



TANYA METAKSA

She's the "voice" of the National Rifle Association. As the Director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action, Metaksa works to protect gun rights in the legislative arena. She's also the author of *Safe Not Sorry*, a woman's self-protection book.

Convention Details

◆ **DATE**

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

◆ **LOCATION**

The Washington Convention Center at 900 Ninth Street, NW, downtown Washington DC. (See article on page 10 about new location.)

◆ **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) HOTELS 1 or (202) 898-9000.

◆ **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

**Play a defining role in
 Libertarian Party history!**

Who decides what political positions the Libertarian Party will take? Who chooses the party's leadership? Who decides on the future direction of the party?

You do — if you attend the Libertarian Party's 1998 national Convention. As a delegate, you'll have your hands on the party's "levers of power." Specifically . . .

- YOU will vote on changes to

the party's official platform, and will have the opportunity to propose changes to the convention at large.

- YOU will vote for the new officers of the party — including the new National Chairman.

- YOU will select the people who will set the party's agenda for the next two years — the Libertarian National Committee.

Who decides where the party will go? *You do* — if you decide to attend the '98 convention. *Sign up today!*

REGISTER NOW AND 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):

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

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

■ **Payment:**

Check/money order. Or: Charge Visa Mastercard

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EXPIRATION DATE _____

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Make checks payable to: 1998 National Libertarian Party Convention

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■ **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
Fax: (202) 234-3884 · **Call toll-free:** (800) 722-5141
Via e-mail: LPNATCONV@aol.com

TALKINGPOINTS

Those well-paid federal workers and tax-funded music for babies

The rich get richer

If you wonder why the government has such a hard time cutting spending, take a look at the new car in the driveway of the bureaucrat down the street. While private workers have seen their average annual earnings grow slowly but steadily over the past two decades, pay for government workers has skyrocketed.

Economist Wendell Cox has discovered that since 1980, for every inflation-adjusted dollar of extra compensation (wages and benefits) the average private sector employee has earned, the average state and local government employee has received an extra \$3.00.

Over the same period, the average federal employee has taken home five times more in additional compensation than his private sector counterpart.

The average state and local government worker now earns over 30% more than the average private sector worker, while the average federal non-military employee earns 50% more.

— **ADRIAN T. MOORE**
Reason, February 1998

Collective child care

The New Deal collectivized retirement and disability. Post-war presidents and Congresses collectivized medical care for the elderly and the poor. Now Bill and Hillary [Clinton] and the Republican Congress are going to collectivize child care.

It is astonishing. No American would think of collectivizing agriculture. But here we are about to collectivize child care. With the collectivization of child care, the family will have no social responsibility left. As collectivization advances, the family and the individual shrink.

The question before us is: How can a people, who are not responsible for their retirement incomes, their medical bills and the education and care of their children, hold on to self-rule?

— **PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS**
Washington Times,
January 16, 1998

Sour note

Citing research on classical music listening and college students' IQ scores, Georgia Govern-

MARC BEAUCHAMP
EDITOR



THE GOVERNOR
proposed that the state provide every newborn with a classical music CD.

nor Zell Miller proposed that the state provide parents of every Georgia newborn with a classical music cassette or CD in order to boost the infant's intelligence later in life.

Asked by Miller to help select music for the recordings, Atlanta Symphony conductor Yoel Levi proposed Beethoven's Ode to Joy.

— **USA TODAY**
January 14, 1998

Great Denver Smoke-In

Colorado has some of the toughest smoking regulations in the nation, but that didn't stop world leaders attending the June "Summit of Eight" meeting in Denver from lighting up. No-smoking rules were suspended during the Saturday session when the heads of state of the world's greatest industrial pow-

ers met in the Denver Public Library. The little people weren't afforded such generous treatment, and now the rules are back in force.

— **COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER**
December 1997

D.A.R.E. to fail

The most comprehensive collection of scientific evidence to date suggests that "zero tolerance" drug prevention programs such as D.A.R.E. fail to prevent drug use among America's youth, states the February issue of the national research journal *Evaluation Review*. Research published in the issue also indicates that "misleading or inadequate evaluation methods [are] being used to justify these programs' widespread application."

Five new studies provide evidence that "current programs and their conceptually flawed underpinnings cannot consistently prevent youth from using or abusing substances," said Dr. Joel Brown of the Center for Educational Research and Development.

The federal government currently spends about \$2.4 billion annually on youth drug prevention programs, according to General Accounting Office (GAO) 1997 estimates.

— **NORML FOUNDATION**
February 5, 1998

Big government is back!

From a Fox News/Opinion Dynamics poll taken on January 7 and 8: "In President Clinton's 1996 State of the Union address he said that the era of big government is over. Do you think the era of big government is really over?"

By a landslide of 85% to 6%, the respondents said no. Nine percent were unsure.

— **WWW.FOXNEWS.COM**

Not a bad idea, but . . .

We were excited at first when we learned NASA was going to send Senator John Glenn into outer space. Shooting Congressmen into space — finally a use of our tax dollars we can appreciate! Then we learned they're going to bring him back.

Speaking of outer space . . .

Put end to end, the amount of paperwork generated by the IRS in one year would stretch around the Earth 28 times.

— **THE LIBERATOR ONLINE**
January 22, 1998

Steal: It's easy!

A convicted felon says a lax screening process made it easy for him to steal \$32 million from Medicare.

"I know of no other business where I could make the same money without any risk," said the witness, called "Mr. Smith" during anonymous testimony before the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. "The government actually made it easy for me to steal."

A Miami nightclub owner with no health care experience, the witness told lawmakers he was able to get a Medicare provider number over the phone for his bogus medical supply company. He then cheated Medicare out of as much as \$500,000 a month between 1988 and 1994

by conning more than 2,000 senior citizens into giving him their insurance numbers and using the numbers to submit false bills to the government for nutritional supplements he never delivered.

— **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**
January 30, 1998

Taxing taxes

Taxes are now nearly at a historical high, more than 19% of Gross Domestic Product. That's as high as they've been since 1969, [during] LBJ's Vietnam surcharge. The Tax Foundation, aggregating taxes at all levels, calculates that the median, two-earner family, with a 1996 income of \$53,000, is now paying 38.4% of that in taxes.

— **WALL STREET JOURNAL**
January 16, 1998

■ Send "Talking Points" contributions to Marc Beauchamp, 2231 Kings Garden Way, Falls Church VA, 22043. E-mail: mbeauch@ix.netcom.com

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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

I'm Pro-Choice on EVERYTHING!

LIBERTARIAN PARTY
800-682-1776



They're back, better than ever!

Now in stock: Two of the Libertarian Party's most popular bumperstickers — the classic "I'm Pro-Choice On Everything!" and the always timely "Don't Blame Me . . . I Voted Libertarian" — updated and improved.

Both bumperstickers are a big 3" x 13.5" and are printed in crisper, brighter, bolder colors: red and blue. Both feature the party's toll-free phone number. And either bumpersticker would look great on your car or truck — and would help spread the word about the Libertarian Party.

Remember: Bumperstickers are long-lasting, hard-working low-cost advertising for the party. Do your part today — with these perennially favorite bumperstickers!

■ **Cost:** \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

NEW: Sheet of Libertarian Party Stickers

Tired of big government & high taxes?
Call the Libertarian Party
Toll-free: (800) 682-1776

Promote the LP (and the party's 800#) with these 5/8" x 2-1/8" stickers! (24 per sheet.) Great for outgoing mail. **Cost:** Four sheets for \$1. Or 25 sheets for \$5 (600 stickers).

ALSO IN STOCK

Booklet

■ **LP Special Report.** 20 pages, blue & black ink. Comprehensive introduction, detailing the benefits of a Libertarian society. 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.

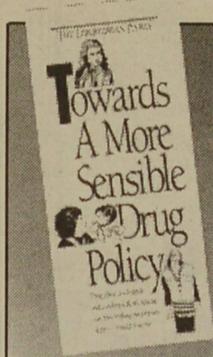
Cost: \$8 each.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



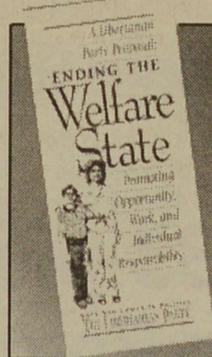
■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

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



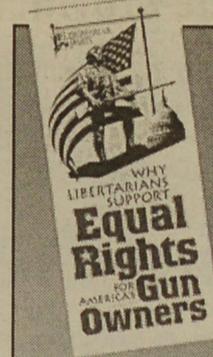
■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

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



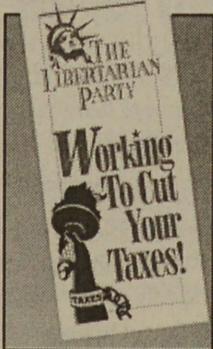
■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

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



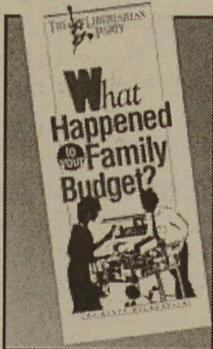
■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for general audience.

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



■ **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



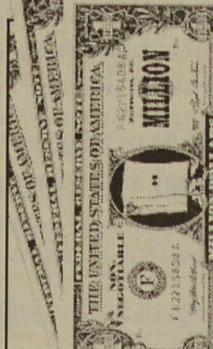
■ **What Happened to Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how government impoverishes the "typical" family through taxes and inflation.

★ **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



■ **"Million Dollar Bill."** Green ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive Federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day outreach efforts.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ Or \$5 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	
_____	_____	Brochure: "Is This/New Political Party?"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____	_____	Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
_____	_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	_____	Tax Day Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill
_____	_____	2-page LP history/2-page bibliography. (Package.)
_____	_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____	_____	Why Government Doesn't Work book
_____	_____	1996 LP Platform
_____	_____	1995 LP Program
_____	_____	Booklet: "Special Report"

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

_____ **NEW!** LP stickers (24 per sheet)
 _____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL
 _____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
 _____ "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" x 5')
 Please check preferred second line:
 Defenders of Liberty 1-800-682-1776
 _____ Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5').

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 _____

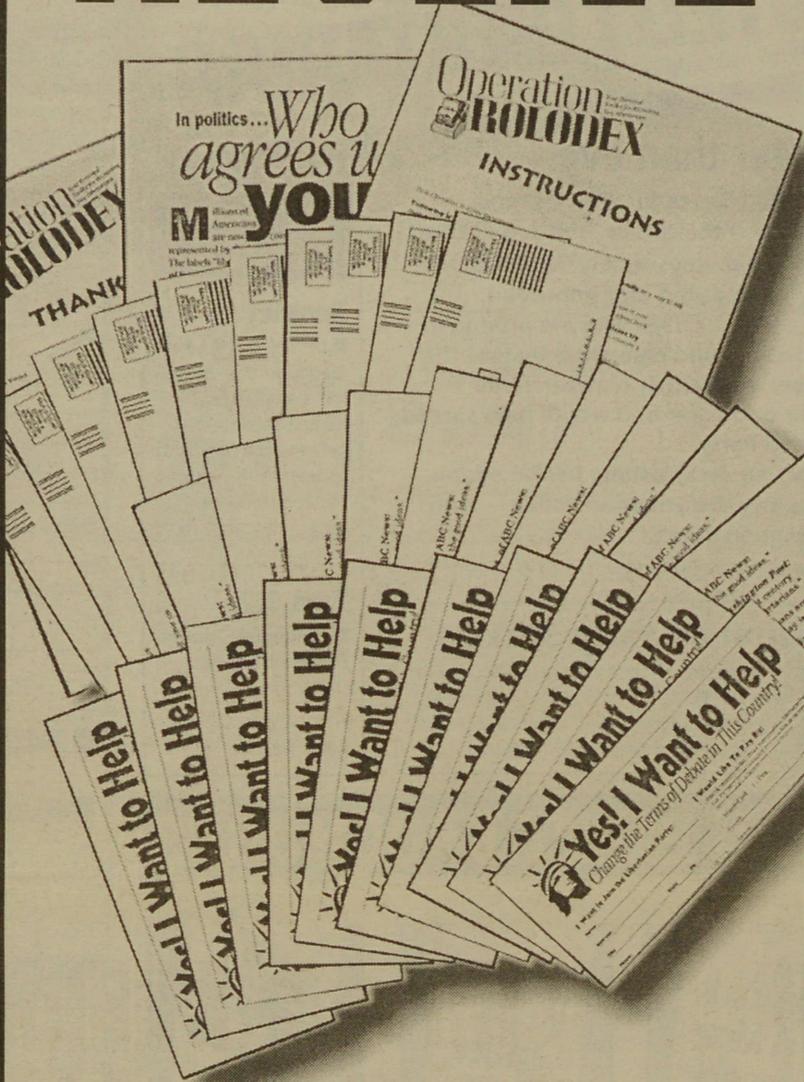
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**WHAT YOU
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**Get the 33-piece
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- ◆ 10 recruitment letters.
- ◆ 10 response forms.
- ◆ 10 business reply envelopes.
- ◆ A sample cover letter.
- ◆ A political position quiz.
- ◆ Complete instructions.

Want the Libertarian Party to be larger and more influential? Order the Operation Rolodex kit, and start turning that goal into reality!

PRICE: Only \$8 per kit. (Price includes Priority Mail shipping.)

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YES! SEND ME THE 33-PIECE OPERATION ROLODEX KIT!

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SIGNATURE FOR CREDIT CARD _____

Mail: Libertarian Party, 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, #100, Washington DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008
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.

LP Tax Day news needed!

LP News wants to publicize your 1998 Tax Day protest — but “we need your help to do it,” said editor Bill Winter.

“On April 15, Libertarians around the USA will hold rallies and outreach events to mark Tax Day. We want to make sure that other LP members hear about what you did, what worked — and what helped grow the party,” he said. “But, to do that, we need reports, news clippings,

and photographs from your event — as quickly as possible,” said Winter. “Help me publicize your efforts to a nationwide audience of Libertarians.”

■ **Mail Tax Day reports to:** Libertarian Party News, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037. Fax: (202) 333-0072. E-Mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 231 for details about sending electronic images.

**More
UPCOMING EVENTS**

■ **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 (Cato Institute). Contact Kathy Kelley at (815) 874-6345, or Mike Ginsberg (847) 776-8747. E-mail: lpi@mcs.com.

■ **April 17-19, 1998**

Indiana LP Convention. For information: (800) 814-1776.

■ **April 18, 1998**

Minnesota LP Convention, Mystic Lake Hotel, Prior Lake. Guest speaker: Harry Browne. For information, call: (612) 874-8531. World Wide Web: www.lpmn.org.

■ **April 24-26, 1998**

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

■ **April 24-26, 1998**

Ohio LP Convention, Ramada Plaza Hotel, Akron. Speakers include Harry Browne, David Boaz, Steve Dasbach, Tim Slagle (comedian), David Bergland, and Ron Crickenberger. For information, call (800) 974-5173. Or e-mail: ae628@acorn.net.

■ **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, David Bergland, Michael Cloud, and Ron Crickenberger. 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

■ **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 Steve Dasbach, Jacob Hornberger, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Wallace Johnson, and James W. Lark, III. For information call John Brown at (800) 950-3421.

College Libertarians make strides

Continued from Page 3

Littman, Jon Coon, Richard Ebeling, and Mark Perry. In addition, UM Libertarians have formed the Liberty Party to run candidates for the Michigan Student Assembly, focusing on their opposition to mandatory student fees.

One of the more active College Libertarian groups founded this year is at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan. Doug Hull, founder of the group, reports that the group publishes a newsletter and sponsors speaking events. One such event, on the topic of "Corrupted



■ James Lark: "The upsurge has not gone unnoticed."

Campus: The Politics of Higher Education," landed the group on the front page of their campus newspaper.

Some organizations have been successful in sponsoring debates about important issues of public policy.

For example, John McCoy, president of the Libertarian Students at the University of Arizona, said the group has participated in debates with the Democrats and Republicans on topics as diverse as public schooling and immigration. The group also debated the Student Environmental Action Coalition on environmental solutions, and participated in a debate over the minimum wage with the Tucson Living Wage Committee.

Major debates

Libertarians at the University of Texas (UT) in Austin have been very active, sponsoring major debates over affirmative action, diversity, and free speech, thanks to the work of activists Mark Grohman and Marc Levin.

Some of the newly-formed groups have capitalized on "hot topics" on their campuses. Andy Fitzgerald, who organized a Libertarian group at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, reports that the federal governments policies toward Microsoft is a topic of great interest at Wake Forest — and he has made sure the Libertarian perspective is part of the debate.

Another exciting sign of

progress: The formation of Libertarian Students of America. This group, founded by my UVA colleagues Byron Smith and Eric Stetson, seeks to link campus Libertarians throughout the country. For information, see the LSA webpage at www.libertarians.com/students/.

The upsurge in campus Libertarianism, which began about three years ago, has not gone unnoticed in other quarters.

For example, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ran a story about the phenomenon in its September 15, 1995 issue. The story featured information about the Libertarian philosophy, its appeal to college students, and comments from campus activists.

More recently, I was contacted by an individual from the publishing company W.W. Norton. The company is working on an introductory political science textbook, had heard of Students for Individual Liberty and wanted to obtain information about us for inclusion in the textbook.

In perspective

However, we should keep our progress in perspective. Most college students are *not* Libertarian in orientation. College faculty members and administrators generally tend to be unsympathetic to Libertarian ideas. Furthermore, many of the new groups may have difficulty surviving upon the departure of their principal activists.

However, it appears that the Libertarian perspective has gained a substantial following among many students — and Libertarian positions appear to be gaining supporters, too.

During the next several months, I will be working on several projects to keep this campus Libertarian momentum going — including a campus organizing workshop at the LP national convention in July.

■ Need help with or advice about college organizing? Contact Lark at: **Students for Individual Liberty**, Box 514, Newcomb Hall Station Charlottesville, VA 22904

Call: (804) 982-5016. E-mail: liberty@virginia.edu. World Wide Web: <http://scs.student.virginia.edu/~liberty>

■ **About the author:** Dr. Lark is a professor in the UVA Dept. of Systems Engineering. He has conducted workshops on campus organizing at several state and national LP convention sand at Success'97.

CORREX

The February LP News . . .

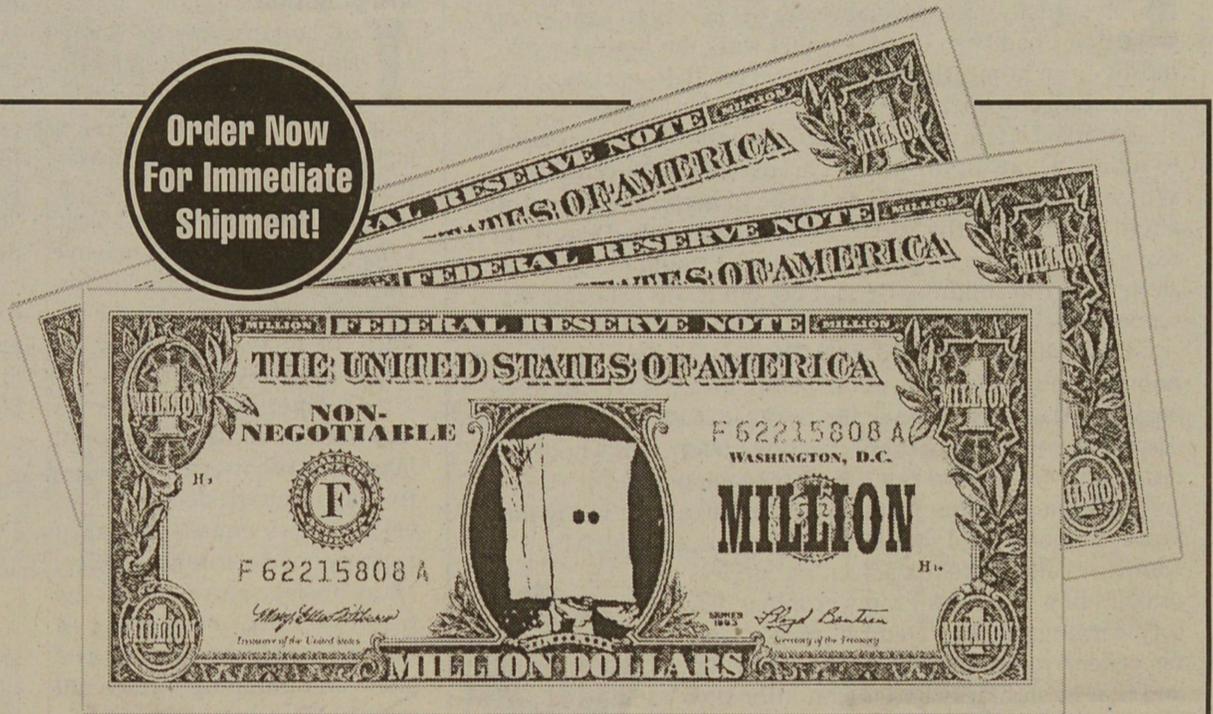
■ Reported that Maine Libertarians "have joined a campaign to support" a new right-to-die bill. In fact, the state party has *not* officially endorsed the bill because it is "too bureaucratic," according

to State Chair Richard Eaton — but just publicized the bill in their newsletter to keep LP members informed about it.

■ Inadvertently misspelled the last name of Minnesota LP member Colin Wilkinson (in a photograph on page one).

■ Incorrectly listed Tonie Nathan as the party's 1976 Vice Presidential candidate. Nathan ran in 1972, winning the first Electoral College vote cast for a woman VP candidate.

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For Immediate
Shipment!



How to Have a Million-Dollar Tax Day Outreach/Rally!

Want to add some fun — and *success* — to your Tax Day rally this year?

Want to break through the resistance of the public to take our literature? Want to generate more prospect names? Want to make your tax 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 cheerful line, "How would you like a million bucks to help pay your taxes?" LP volunteers report an

acceptance rate of over 80% from passers-by. People smile, laugh, and joke when they get it, and even return to get extra copies.

■ The "\$1,000,000 bills" are available for immediate shipment. **Cost: \$5 per 100.** (Call for rush shipping details, if needed.)

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 professional looking signs; and much more.)

2. 50 samples of the "\$1,000,000 bill" literature.

3. Camera-ready mechanicals to print the "\$1,000,000 bills." Included are two versions: One with the National LP's return address and phone number, and one with a blank area to personalize with your local LP's contact information.

4. A sample press release to publicize your "\$1,000,000 Outreach."

■ Price for the entire package: **\$10.** (The \$1 Million Tax Day kit will be sent via Priority Mail.)

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**Beginner's Introduction
A Liberty
Primer**

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

FIRST PERSON

Even in a small town, Big Brother's watching

Last year I heard about a position as volunteer coordinator at our local elementary school. I interviewed twice. Eventually, after several weeks of waiting to hear, I found that I had been hired. I would work ten hours a week, mostly from home, finding volunteers to help as classroom tutors and guest speakers for several "theme" weeks.

I worked a few months before I found out that I needed to submit a copy of my driver's license and birth certificate. Which I did. And that I needed to be fingerprinted. I took an afternoon to go to the Sheriff's office. I asked the Deputy if I really needed to be fingerprinted, since I would never be alone with the children. He said no, but it was probably a school policy. I paid my \$2.

Then I had to get a T.B. test. This is only done one afternoon a week, and it took weeks before I was free. I had to go back four days later to have the test read. Certainly all these measures would assure that I was not a felon, was who I claimed to be, and did not have a contagious disease.

Today, a year after I was hired, I found a note in my mailbox at school. It said that I should authorize a search by a

company called Infolink Screening Services into, among other things, my criminal history, earnings history, credit history, character, general reputation, and mode of living; and that I voluntarily and unconditionally release any named or unnamed informant from any and all liability resulting from the furnishing of information.

My first reaction was: Who the hell is Infolink, and how much are they charging the schools to do their search? Then I wondered who are the "informants" that supply information about one's character?

I decided that I would not submit to a search by Infolink. Not because there's anything strange about my personal data. I am not a criminal. I am something far rarer. I am a Libertarian.

All this comes at a time when I am considering running for State Senator on the Libertarian ticket. Suddenly my political beliefs are put to the test. Once again the actions of a few are being used to punish the rest of us. I know that Infolink already has access to "informants" and information about my life. That my tax dollars are going to such companies infuriates me.

So I decided to call Infolink. They seemed confident that they could do a complete search in a matter of days for about \$25.00. I re-read the form and crossed out all the portions about my personal finances and the part about holding harmless any informants.

I feel in some ways that I wimped out. Perhaps I should have stood my ground and refused to submit to a search. But I love my work at school and understand that a search of police records at least weeds out the known criminals.

Still, I find the whole matter depressing. I moved to a small town because I hoped to reclaim the sense of community I had lost as Los Angeles engulfed Santa Monica. I wanted to effect positive change on a personal level, with the people I knew and worked with. I'm sad and disgusted to find that even in the small towns of America, Big Brother is watching us.

■ Mary Lee Gowland is a Libertarian Party member in California. She has decided to run for State Senate this year.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "First Person" is an occasional column by Libertarian Party members. Do you have an interesting story to tell? Send a 600-word essay (and photograph of yourself) for consideration in a future issue of LP News.



By Mary Lee Gowland

A more Libertarian foreign policy: Defending America (not the world)

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. During the Cold War, it was at least possible to argue that America's vital interest faced a threat that called for a massive military, and intervention in foreign conflicts. Whatever the validity of such claims, they no longer have any relevance.

As America searches for a new role in a changing world, liberals and conservatives appear to be developing two equally mistaken approaches to foreign policy. Many liberals see America as the world's nanny, intervening in foreign conflicts around the globe and pumping foreign aid into the socialist economies of the Third World. Conservatives, on the other hand, turn isolationist and would have America cower behind trade barriers and immigration restrictions.

What America needs is a Libertarian foreign policy — that understands that America must be a fully engaged participant in the world economy, but refuses to become the world's policeman. A Libertarian foreign policy knows that free markets are the best route to global prosperity, but realizes that free enterprise cannot be built on foreign aid.

So, the Libertarian Party offers a four-part foreign policy: 1) America should disengage from outmoded Cold War military alliances. 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 foreign policy will enable America to defend its citizens and bring economic prosperity. Peace and free enterprise: That is the Libertarian way.

Part I: National Defense

In the aftermath of the Cold War, the purpose of America's defense and foreign policy should be to defend the United States, not to act as the world's policeman. Europe and Japan no longer face a Soviet threat and should be expected to bear the

cost and responsibility for their own defense. At the same time, the United States should strenuously resist any attempt to coopt U.S. forces into United Nations-controlled "peace keeping" efforts. This more realistic defense policy would enable the United States to dramatically reduce its defense spending.

Certainly America's defense capability should be strong enough to defend the United States. However, the United States now accounts for 37% of

ing more than \$232 billion per year? The answer lies in our far-flung and ill-advised commitments around the world. America is bearing the cost for defending the rest of the world.

For example, it costs each American more than \$1,000 per year in taxes to pay for the military, while it costs each German or Japanese less than \$360 per year. How can we justify these commitments?

What purpose?

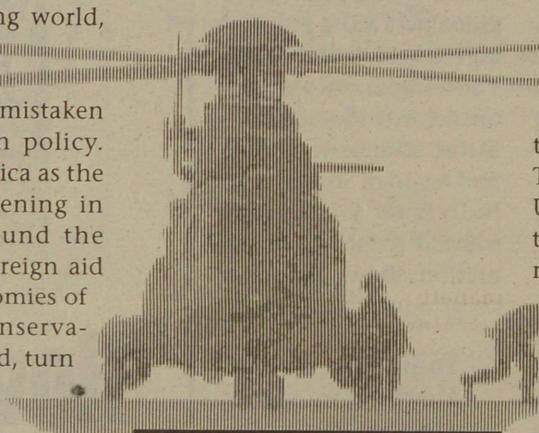
NATO currently costs American taxpayers more than \$90 billion annually. For what purpose? The European Union has a collective population of 370 million, a gross domestic product of \$7 trillion per year, and more than two million troops. Surely, these nations can protect themselves from any threat. The reinvigorated European Union offers an excellent vehicle to replace NATO and allow European nations to provide for their own security needs.

Likewise, the cost of American efforts to defend Japan and South Korea totals more than \$40 billion per year (counting air, ground, and naval forces, as well as ground troops stationed in the two countries). Yet, Japan is an economic giant and South Korea a budding one. Alone or together, both countries are fully capable of defending themselves.

Meanwhile, President Clinton continues to expand U.S. military commitments around the world. For example, he committed 20,000 U.S. troops for "one year" to enforce a Bosnian peace accord. Three years later, thousands of American troops are still there — with no lasting peace in sight. Why? The fact is, attempting to enforce a settlement on a battleground for contending ethno-religious factions that have fought each other for hundreds of years is to recklessly put American lives at risk.

Professor of International Affairs Earl Ravenal estimates that, if the U.S. were to pursue a policy of defending its own borders, we could realistically reduce our defense budget to as little as \$125 billion over the next five years. The beneficial economic impact of such a "peace dividend," if returned to the American people as tax reductions, would be enormous.

■ Next Month: Foreign Aid



PART ONE OF A FOUR-PART SERIES National Defense

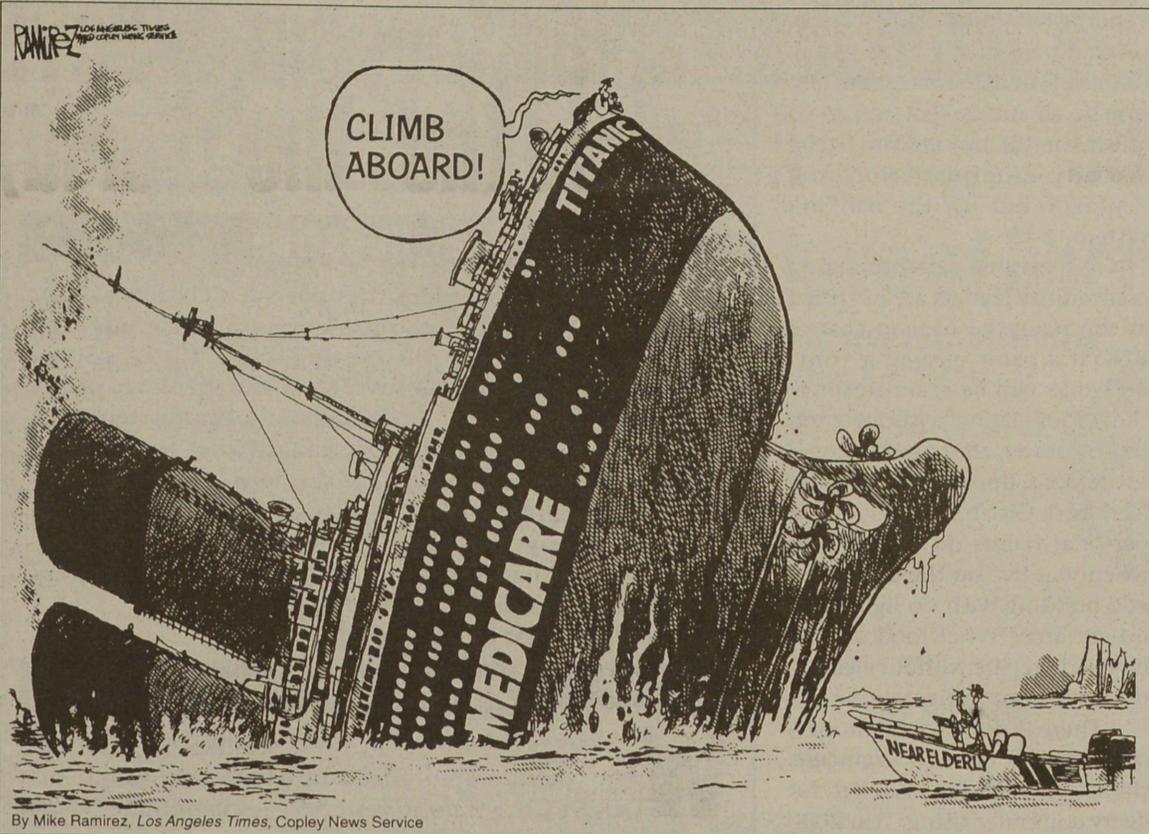
all the world's military spending. Another 30% of world military spending is by countries in Western Europe along with Japan, South Korea, and Israel — nations which pose no conceivable threat to the United States.

Organizational nightmare

Russia, our former Cold War adversary, certainly represents no military threat. Our military budget is more than \$230 billion; Russia's is less than \$80 billion. The Russian army is an organizational nightmare, with much of its force incapacitated by low morale and a lack of even the most basic supplies.

China spends less than \$7 billion on defense. The most commonly cited rogue states — Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, North Korea, and Cuba — spend a combined \$15 billion. As William Hyland, former editor of *Foreign Affairs*, writes, "Nowhere are American vital interests even seriously threatened."

Our massive military budget cannot be needed to defend this country. Why then are we spend-



By Mike Ramirez, Los Angeles Times, Copley News Service

THE MAILBOX

Social Security burial

In the February 1998 "Libertarian Solutions," Christine Murphy Silk's article on bad investors beating Social Security was excellent.

However, she missed one important point: After the investor dies, his/her beneficiaries will receive the remainder of the annuity principal (either the \$499,000, or the \$166,000 in the examples given).

With Social Security, all they get is a \$250 burial expense and if the spouse is still living — maybe a reduced pension until the spouse dies.

Anyone want to buy the Brooklyn Bridge?

— **GEORGE F. MUSSMANN**
O'Fallon, Missouri

How pure?

The Pulse February topic leads me to wonder if all the "purists" so against acceptance [of candidate matching funds] are themselves without blame.

Do they refrain from accepting, directly or indirectly, stolen (tax) money such as Social Security, government schools (direct or subsidized), libraries, parks, beaches, roads, airports, etc.?

— **WILLIAM J. PEARSALL**
Richmond, New Hampshire

Not on this planet

Dan Catchpole ("Reducing choices," February 1998 *LP News*) rejects proportional representation (PR), asserting that when people vote for a Libertarian, it is "off times because they trust

that person" in spite of their dislike of the LP itself. Not on this planet!

Almost none of the thousands of voters who vote for each Libertarian congressional candidate have a clue about the individual; many Libertarians are little more than paper candidates with zero information promulgated about themselves.

For every vote we lose be-

true voice of freedom to the political deliberations.

As those of us who have been LP candidates have learned, the number one objection to voting Libertarian is not drug legalization, open borders, laissez faire capitalism, or ending government welfare — it is the voters' perception that they are wasting their vote. While our country currently shows little interest in adopting PR, it offers by far the best chance for the ultimate political success for our party.

— **RICHARD RIDER**
San Diego, California

THE NUMBER ONE
objection to
voting Libertarian
is the perception
they are wasting
their vote.

.....
cause some acquaintance can't vote for his Libertarian friend, we will gain 100 voters who, under a PR system, realize that (for the first time) voting for the Libertarian Party can actually get representatives elected, adding the

The ballot battle

It was with great pleasure that I read the *LP News* article "HR 2477 gets first co-sponsor" (February 1998). My cumulative hours in candidate debates for Ohio's 19th Congressional district with Congressman Steve Latourette did not go to waste.

My focus issue was ballot access. Or more accurately, the lack of it. Ballot access is the only issue for all alternative parties. Many other topics are closer to my heart: The restoration of a smaller, Constitutionally respectful government, abolishing the looming Social Security slavery for the next generation, the unlawful tyranny of the IRS, and more. But without being allowed to even run against the entrenched powers, whining about all other points is moot.

Because it was illegal to run as a Libertarian in Ohio in 1996,

See MAILBOX Page 18

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THE PULSE

Bill Clinton: Triumphant again!

Maybe his sky-high approval ratings aren't a fluke. It turns out that President Bill Clinton is the politician that Libertarians most love. To *hate*, that is. Well, maybe hate is too strong a word. But our nation's Embarrassment-In-Chief is the politician who Libertarians "dislike, disdain, or scorn" more than any other, according to the results of this month's Pulse survey.

Clinton won with 21.4% of the vote — easily beating the two second-place finishers, Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) and Congressman Charles Schumer (D-NY), each with 10.7%. In a remarkable showing for a man who isn't even a politician, Rush Limbaugh placed third (7.1%). And coming in tied for fourth were Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY) and Vice President Al Gore (5.4% each).

In all, 28 different politicians were nominated as the "most irksome." Here are some of the vote-getters, and a representative sample of the reasons:

■ **BILL CLINTON:** "He has no morals whatsoever. He has raised lying to a fine art. He works constantly to promote ever bigger, stronger, more intrusive government control over the general population."

— **DON WACKER**, Issaquah, Washington

■ **CHARLES SCHUMER:** "He is the complete phony, sanctimonious, liberal politician. His performance during the Waco hearings was despicable. His fanatical anti-Second Amendment rants chill the blood."

— **FREDERICK L. WOECKENER**, Hyde Park, Vermont

■ **DIANE FEINSTEIN:** "I have not yet come across a Congressperson who I so disagree with on every issue, from gun control to affirmative action."

— **CHUCK ROSS**, Santa Clarita, California

■ **RUSH LIMBAUGH:** "The most annoying person in the political arena. He is there every day telling millions of listeners over and over again what a good job Republicans are doing to reduce government. It just isn't true."

— **JOHN NEMETH**, Tucson, Arizona

■ **ALFONSE D'AMATO & JESSE HELMS:** "D'Amato is an ambulance chaser: He'll say anything, do anything, and pretend he cares about anything if it will get him a vote. With Helms, God help you if you're female or black or gay or poor or old. His bigotry is too often translated into law!"

— **CHRISTOPHER ROSS**, New York, New York

■ **RICHARD GEPHARDT:** "He epitomizes the type of politician that relies on the fears of the public to keep his hand out and the public enslaved in welfare."

— **WILLIAM HETZER**, Lynwood, Illinois

■ **BILL CLINTON:** "It's not so much that Bubba does any more than the rest of the degenerates in Washington; it's just that he does it with such God-awful exuberance."

— **GREGORY B. HARP**, Oldsmar, Florida

■ **HARRY BROWNE:** "Early in his presidential run [he] promised to make a splash in New Hampshire, to grab attention and momentum. But then he ignored the state [and] we lost the ballot status we'd worked so hard to win."

— **ROBERT MULTER**, Rindge, New Hampshire

■ **CAN'T PICK JUST ONE:** "I can't think of any Republican or Democratic politician who does *not* irk me. Trying to figure out the worst is too annoying to contemplate."

— **JAMES ARFT**, Hilton, New York

■ **BILL CLINTON:** "His malicious use of government to allocate power and wealth is divisive and dangerous [and] has created a difficult future for my children."

— **JOHN M. TYSON**, Olympia, Washington

See page 18 for next month's Pulse question.

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 17

I ran as a Natural Law candidate.

My main pitch went like this: First I defined what was right. Every individual has a right to life and property. A just government respects all persons and their property equally. It grants special favor to none.

Next, I damned the entrenched political parties for wronging the citizens: Citizens must be free to choose their candidates as they see fit. In a free republic, political opposition cannot be required to petition those in power for permission to run against them.

[Ballot access] must certainly be one of the many rights that the Ninth Amendment was meant to protect. To be a candidate from an alternative party (or as an independent) requires a vastly higher standard than the entrenched parties' automatic access. Ballot access laws also violate the 14th Amendment, for protection certainly is not meant to be equal under these laws.

I can only strongly urge every Congressional candidate, and every other candidate who faces these restrictive ballot access laws to A) Recognize and define the unjust nature of these laws and B) Push the incumbent as hard as possible to restore a level playing field.

— TOM MARTIN

Mentor On-The-Lake, Ohio

Life-saving drugs

Your life may be in danger thanks to the War on Drugs, especially if you live in a rural area.

In the town of Caroline, New York, the Volunteer Fire Department has been trying for two years to get permission to carry life-saving drugs on the ambulance. We have trained, certified Emergency Medical Technicians who can diagnose, prescribe, and give the needed life-saving drugs. But — and with government there is always a *but* — the New York State/federal government is concerned that someone might get access to them, and wants a lot more control over them than a locked box in the ambulance.

The predicable result is a majority of rural or small town ambulances do not have life-saving drugs on board. Our VFD had an example of what this can mean. A young man had his hand crushed in a well-digging machine. It was a 20-minute drive to the hospital. The young man, in great pain, was unable to be treated during the trip. Instead the crew had to hold him down to keep him from thrash-

ing about and causing more damage. He might get 60% use of his hand back.

I urge LP News readers to check with their VFD's or local ambulance companies to see if they carry life-saving drugs on board. And if they don't, find out why, and let the local media know how the War on Drugs hurts everyone in your town.

— WILL KONE

Caroline, New York

YOUR LIFE MAY be in danger, thanks to the War on Drugs.

The Y2K problem

I have heard some traffic on the Internet from Libertarians hoping that the Y2K Menace [the year 2000 computer "bug"] will result in massively less government — for a time at least.

As owner of a company

vending data-processing services to credit unions, I have to say that the potential for disaster will not be so nicely isolated as to affect the IRS but *not* the Social Security Administration; the Pentagon but *not* the banking system.

Responsible data-processing community leaders are horrified at the potential human cost of Y2K. If a panic ensues, a "run" on banks will be reminiscent of the 1930s. Being without computing power, after one has come to depend upon it, is like the New York City blackout — what personal habits do you change when you live on the 20th floor of a building with no lights and no elevator? What food do you buy and prepare without electricity for heat or refrigeration?

There is not enough money, there are not enough engineers, there is not enough time left, for every computer-using, Year 2000 [deficient] business and government agency to make it through. Even if the estimates of a 10-20% failure rate are optimistic, that still spells a sizable calamity.

Libertarians should not be seen as celebrating computer history's darkest hour. Just a reminder. We're not to have too much fun with this.

— HUGH A. BUTLER

Salt Lake City, Utah

THE PULSE

May Question

To some, it's pure Libertarian poetry; a clarion call for freedom. To others, it's purple prose that sounds kind of, well, *cultish*. It's the opening 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." That sentence has been debated at past national conventions — and will probably spark *more* debates in the future. **QUESTION:** Should the party change that line to something more "mainstream" — or stick proudly with the original language? (Please keep answers to 100 words or less.)

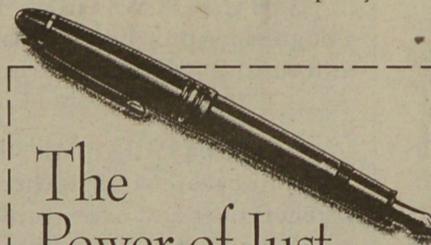
■ DEADLINE: April 5, 1998

April Question

We all fantasize about one great presidential candidate who could catapult the LP into national prominence. **QUESTION:** Who is your "dream candidate" — the person you'd *most* like to see run as the LP presidential candidate in 2000? And why? (Ideally, it should be someone who has supported libertarian ideas, but can be someone you think we could convert.) Keep answers to 100 words.

■ DEADLINE: March 5, 1998

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include your name, please; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month. ■ E-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Include "Pulse" in subject line.) ■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse). ■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037



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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.

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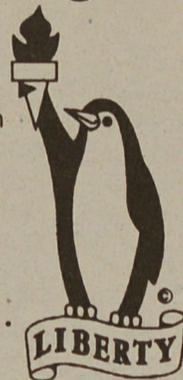
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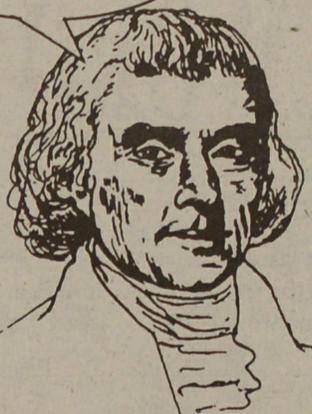
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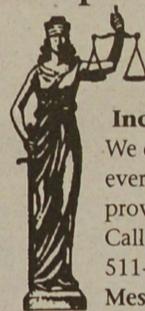
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LIBERTARIAN PARTY
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037
Telephone: (202) 333-0008
Fax: (202) 333-0072
New Member Info: (800) 682-1776
Office Hours: M-F, 9 am to 5 pm

NATIONAL CHAIR
Steve Dasbach
4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
(219) 432-7145 ♦ DasbachS@aol.com

LP NEWS
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037
News: (202) 333-0008, Ext. 226
Advertising: (202) 333-0008, Ext. 231
(202) 333-0072 (fax)
73163.3063@CompuServe.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ March 14, 1998

Arizona LP Convention, Fiesta Inn, Tempe. For information, contact Mike Dugger at (602) 598-1394.

■ March 14, 1998

Nevada LP Convention, Super 8 Motel & Convention Center, Reno. Speakers include 1992 VP candidate Nancy Lord and J.J. Johnson. For information, call Ernest Walker at (702) 359-6754.

■ March 14-15, 1998

New York LP Convention, Sheraton Civic Center Hotel, Poughkeepsie. Speakers TBA. For information, call Audrey Capozzi at (516) 286-7631, or e-mail at audgeo@aol.com.

■ March 15, 1998

New Jersey LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Somerset, NJ. Speakers TBA. For information, call (800) 201-NJLP. Outside New Jersey, call (201) 656-1776.

■ March 19, 1998

Dinner/Speaker event, featuring Dr. Gregory Gronbacher of the Acton Institute at Risto's Bistro, Owosso, Michigan. Topic: "The Role of Religion in a Free Society." Sponsored by LP of Shiawassee County. For information, call: (517) 288-5616.

■ March 21, 1998

Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger, 1996 presidential can-

didate Harry Browne, and campus organizing expert Jim Lark. For information call (615) 773-7090.

■ March 21, 1998

Sam Adams Dinner, Clarion Hotel, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Featuring comedian Tim Slagle. Sponsored by the LP of Washtenaw County. For information, call Dan Lafavers at (734) 483-5978.

■ April 3-5, 1998

Michigan LP Convention, East Lansing Marriott, East Lansing. Speakers include Sharon Harris and Bill Winter. For information, call Deb Coburn at (517) 646-8964. E-mail: dacoburn@aol.com.

■ April 4, 1998

Maine LP Convention, South Portland Marriott. Speakers include Sally Sutton (ACLU), Jeff Weinstein (NRA), and Steve Dasbach. For information, call Mark Cenci at (207) 780-1776.

■ April 4, 1998

North Carolina LP Candidate Training Seminar, Flat Rock. For information, contact Shannon O'Shields at (919) 420-7784.

■ July 2-5, 1998

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

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■ **PAGE 3** Special Report: College Libertarians



FIRST WORD

By 1971, it had become apparent to me that the worst enemy of the working man and woman is the state, and that the average person is safest in a country that struggles to limit the size of the state. This is something that everyone knows at some level, whether liberal or conservative.

When liberals are in power, they champion [government] as the solution to all ills — but, when they aren't in power, they fear the government. When conservatives are in power, they have a different agenda, but they haven't reduced the power of government; they've only reduced the rate of growth. Yet when they're out of office, conservatives see government as a monolithic horror.

As a result, I developed a profound distrust of government regardless of the philosophy of the people in power. I remained a liberal on civil-rights issues, became a conservative on defense, and a semi-libertarian on all other matters.

— DEAN KOONTZ, bestselling author of *Dark Rivers of the Heart*, *Intensity*, *Sole Survivor*, and *Fear Nothing*. Quoted in *The Dean Koontz Companion* (1994).