



NEW YORK LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

Number 16

October 1985

National LP Convention Elects Jim Turney as Chair

The 1985 National Convention of the Libertarian Party convened in Phoenix, Arizona, on Aug. 15th. Several hundred delegates from all sections of the country were present at the convention, which had as its theme "Freedom Reborn"--appropriate enough considering the symbolic meaning of the desert city's name. In many ways, the convention itself marked a rebirth of the national party from the ashes of the disappointing 1984 Presidential campaign.

Highlighting the convention were several major changes in the party's national leadership. Foremost among these was the election to the office of National Chair of Jim Turney, known to many libertarians around the country as the head of Liberty Audio, a Virginia-based company that makes and markets audio and video recordings of libertarian speakers. Turner was the victor in a hard-fought, five-way race for the office. It took four ballots before a majority vote put Turney over the top. He defeated incumbent Randy Ver Hagen of Wisconsin, who had held the office since April 1985, replacing Paul Grant, who had

resigned earlier in the year. Other candidates for the office were: Vernon Etzel (Delaware); Steve Fielder (West Virginia); and Clifford Thies (Montana).

Sharon Ayres of California was elected Vice Chair of the Party without opposition. Dean Ahmad of Maryland won the office of Secretary against Gary Johnson of Texas. Sam Trayner, Calif., was elected Treasurer without opposition.

Seven at-large National Committee members were also elected by the delegates: Jim Lewis (Conn.); Ruth Bennett (Wash.); Steve Givot (Ill.); Dale Hemming (Minn.); Dave Walter (Penn.); Steve Fielder (West Vir.); and Peter Breggin (Maryland).

A major concern at the convention was the poor financial condition of the national party and the suspended publication of the LP News. The latter was the result of the party's debt, which had grown to over \$85,000 by July 1st. Cutbacks by former

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Two Libertarian Candidates Qualify for Nov. Election

Ernie Phillips of Williamson in Wayne County and Don Davis of Charlton in Saratoga County each filed petitions during August to appear on the ballot in this November's election. Ernie Phillips is running for Supervisor of the Town of Williamson, a position he sought in 1981 when he received 25% of the vote in a three-way race. Ernie filed his petitions on August 20th, submitting 151 signatures against a requirement of 109.

Don Davis is running for Town Council in the Town of Charlton. It will probably see three candidates vying for two seats, the other two candidates being Republicans.

Don has not run before, but really became involved in the petition process. He submitted 188 signatures against a requirement of 87.

Both contests take place in small rural communities in which it will be possible to communicate personally with a large percentage of the voters and to solicit by mail the support of the entire town.

The Town of Williamson has 3300 registered voters of which about 2200 are expected to turn out on election day. Charlton has 2300 registered voters of which 1800 are anticipated to cast ballots.

POLITICAL TOOLS:

Campaign Strategies and Tactics

by Ed Jowett & Jim McKeown

(This is the last in a three-part series on political campaigning. The authors are both Libertarian Party activists in Binghamton, N.Y., and helped coordinate the party's nationwide "Campaign '84.")

Campaign Calendar

A "campaign calendar" is how your group plans on getting from "here to there." Start with today and at each key date--determined, in part, by current state election law--going in chronological order, indicate a brief but specific description for each vital campaign activity, including goals to be met by that date. Even when such items have already been well thought-out and discussed, misunderstandings and timing conflicts may only become evident when you try to put the proposed campaign down on paper in this manner.

For example, say you tentatively decide to field a candidate for an office that requires 5,000 signatures to be collected over a six-week period; and you set a goal of 1,500 signatures in each of the first three weeks to provide a "cushion" for the total number needed--and to allow time for processing the petition. Creating a campaign calendar forces you to look realistically at the volunteers committed to such a task, not just for a week or two in this period, but for a sustained effort during the entire six weeks. If it looks doable, fine! If it looks difficult, you will make special plans for this part of the campaign, allowing extra time to closely monitor the petition drive. If, however the petitioning now looks nearly impossible you might consider another public office that requires fewer signatures. While another public office may not be as visible to your area's voters, your chances of success may be far greater. Of course, fielding a candidate for the 5000-signature office can still be part of your party's future goals.

Crystalizing your thinking about the signposts for a successful campaign--and resolving any differences of opinion among the candidate, campaign management and

others as early as possible--can be one of your most important planning functions. A campaign calendar will epitomize your game plan and provide a punch list for everyone involved.

Petition Drive

It is a fallacy that we no longer have to petition voters to any large extent once we have permanent ballot status. Just look at the number of signatures being collected by each traditional party candidate for the same office you want to field a candidate for. The reason they do this is they know you don't get elected to most public offices without personally facing the individual voter during a campaign--no matter how much money you have available.

We must organize every ballot drive with this fact in mind. Ultimately, we must reach a point where 100% of our signatures are collected door-to-door from specific registered voters. This will also be our source of future campaign workers and financiers.

Telephone Call-Out

By recording the name (including all other registered voters in the same household), address, precinct and telephone number of individuals who have pledged their vote to your candidate as the campaign progresses, you are in a position to give each household a reminder call. A sample ballot must be issued by the Election Office before election day. With this you can determine your exact location (row and column) on the ballot. This enables callers to give their voters specific directions on what to look for when they cast their vote. Some voters may even want to write down these directions during the call.

You should begin early the solicitation of firms and organizations with four or more telephone lines at one location to contribute a three-hour period for this purpose--and therefore minimize campaign costs. The three days before a Tuesday election is an ideal time for a call-out. Saturday morning and afternoon, Sunday afternoon and early evening, and Monday early evening are effective times to have your phone-banks operating. Rotating groups of four or five people who volunteer to make 20 completed calls each in an hour's time, is usually the most pro-

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Libertarians Have Election Opportunity in November; "Give it Back - Plus!" Endorsement Set

by Bill McMillen

The Libertarian Party of New York has an opportunity this year to elect a libertarian to office. Either one or both of our candidates who have filed petitions have an outside chance of winning. Ernie Phillips is running for Supervisor of the Town of Williamson, Wayne County, while Don Davis is running for Councilman in the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County. Both of these gentlemen are personable and communicate with a simple and polite eloquence. They seek office in small, rural communities where libertarian ideals of self-reliance and voluntary community involvement are still well-understood, and valued even when not practiced.

I urge every libertarian in the state to provide these two campaigns with encouragement and support.

The "Give it Back" campaign of Ed Robinson will begin again on September 9th with a state-wide tour in which Ed will introduce his new petition, "Give it Back - Plus." The "plus" will include open legislative meetings and initiative, referendum and recall.

The "Give it Back - Plus" campaign will be on the agenda New York L.P.'s State Committee meeting set for September 14th in the Dutchess County village of Fishkill. The endorsement of this campaign by the Libertarian Party will give rise to a

state-wide press release that will form a part of my efforts to keep the party before the eyes of the press and the public from now until our gubernatorial candidate takes over in the spring.

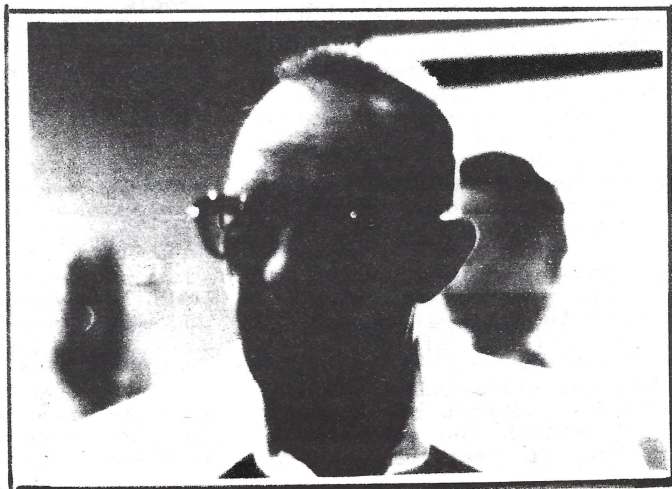
The opening of a state party office in Albany in January will provide an opportunity for us to address state issues as and where they are developing, in the legislative chambers of the state capital.

The brochure "Who is a Libertarian?"--the text of which was written in 1955 by Dean Russell of the Foundation for Economic Education will be available to local chapters some time this fall. This brochure is recommended as an initial introduction to libertarians. The brochure allows the reader to determine, first, whether they do or do not cherish liberty, and hopefully respond to the question in the affirmative. Later on they may question whether, in fact, they are libertarian, but will continue to think that perhaps they should be.

It used to be called "constant vigilance." The machine politicians urged their supporters to "vote early and often." However one expresses it, winning--which for us is maintaining liberty--requires an awareness and commitment that does not and will not rest.

(Clarks, continued)

A lawsuit was recently filed on behalf of Bob and Celia Clark in an effort to obtain an injunction against the enforcement of the court order and the arrest warrant. The Clarks are still free--and you can help keep them free by supporting their struggle the right to their property. Send your check and a few words of encouragement to the Neighbors Defense Fund, c/o Dottie-Lou Brokaw, 39 Prospect Terrace, Cortland, N.Y. 13045.



Bob Clark

A letter from prison

by Paul Jacob

(The following "letter from prison" was written by Paul Jacob to the delegates to the 1985 National Convention of the Libertarian Party. It was read to a hushed assemblage by Marshall Fritz, the founder of Self-Government Advocates. When Marshall finished the letter from Paul, the assembled libertarians stood up and gave Paul the great ovation that he so well deserved. Paul's message to us is an important one. Please read it carefully. And please send him a card or letter (a contribution would be great too) telling him of your support. Write to: The Paul Jacob Defense Fund, P.O. Box 15724, Little Rock, Arkansas 72231.)

Throughout the past few years many of you have supported my fight against draft registration. Many of you helped me to go underground. Many have contributed to my legal defense. Many have helped bring publicity to my struggle -- our struggle. Without the hard work and moral support of so many Libertarians, I would not have had the courage or know-how to make the case for freedom from conscription as well as I believe we have made it. Thank you all.

Writing to you now from prison, I must say your support -- through letters, cards, telegrams and continued financial help -- is making my incarceration so much easier to bear. My wife, Rhonda Allen, and I were very worried about who would care for our daughter, Jessica, whom I had cared for on a daily basis prior to my imprisonment. We have been able to put Jessica in Montessori school for the next six months specifically due to generous contributions for this purpose. As a parent, I can't begin to explain how much this means to me -- how much comfort this brings.

In the past, some have expressed to me their concern that for all the Libertarian movement's strong rhetoric against the draft there would not be much support for those such as myself who took our principles to heart and re-

sisted the tyranny we all oppose. Looking back now, I am amazed at how completely Libertarians have put their energy and money "where their mouth is."

I am deeply moved by the tremendous show of support from all of you and I am also quite proud of what that says about our movement. In talking to other resisters, it gives me confidence that they can expect support and can expect to thus make a difference. I think Libertarians have just cause to feel very proud of themselves in their efforts on the draft issue.

The coming months will be very difficult for me and for my family. I miss my wife, Rhonda, and our daughter, Jessica, and all the good people "on the outside." And yet, I think I have paid a very small price to remain true to myself and my beliefs and to strike a blow for liberty.

In the past four years, we have reached literally millions of Americans with a Libertarian, anti-draft, anti-war message via newspapers, magazines, radio and television. Thanks to all those who contributed to the Paul Jacob Defense Fund, we were able to put the draft on trial in Little Rock, Arkansas where Ed Clark, Ron Paul and Selective Service Director Thomas Turnage (much to his disappointment), testified in court.

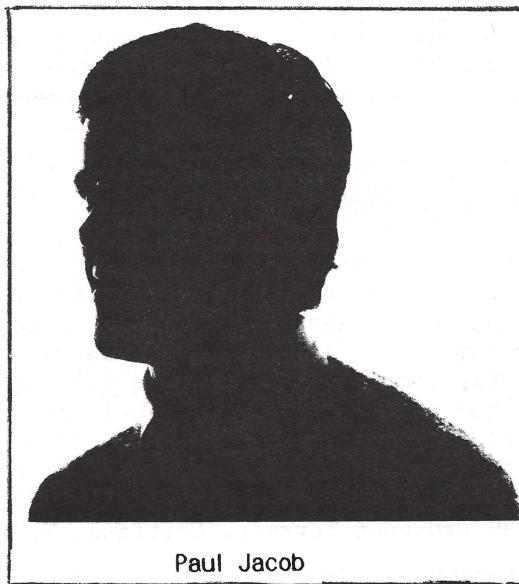
In spite of the guilty verdict, I feel that we were very successful. Through our many efforts, people thought about the draft -- many for the first time -- people were convinced that the draft is wrong, and many who were before apathetic, now believe the draft is a "big deal." Accordingly, the draft is less likely to return. A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step -- we have taken that step.

"POLITICS IS PEOPLE"

AS the verdict was read, the sentence imposed, bond denied and myself led away in handcuffs, my wife (who has been such a source of strength for me throughout this whole ordeal), began to cry. She didn't cry for what this said of our legal system, or our government's policies or our society. Her pain was not so theoretical. No, she cried because the United States government was tearing apart her family, leaving her without a husband and her daughter without a father.

There is a lesson here. We must never forget even for a moment, that regardless of the waste in government, the statistical stupidity of its programs or the theoretical immorality of its abrogation of natural rights, the real, true horror and brutality of government is the cruel, painful effect it has on individuals. We must shine a strong light on the pain the State causes people.

The crux of the difference between "us" and "them" -



Paul Jacob

the reason we gather together and spend time, energy and money to fight the powers that be -- is that "they" care everything for power and nothing for people. "We" care ultimately nothing for power and very deeply for people. The only power we desire is the power to protect the freedom of individuals to live their lives for themselves rather than for the government, the military-industrial complex and the power class.

People work hard to earn money for food, comfort and independence, which in turn brings happiness. Government takes this money from families who must then work harder, spend less time with each other and be more dependent on the State. People hope dearly for peace so as to live their lives productively rather than destructively. The government searches the world for war and then forces the people to fight in it. The people want a better life and we have the answer -- Liberty.

"A PARTY OF HOPE"

Since Libertarians have the solution to so many problems caused by government and people so desperately need and want these solutions, we should succeed. We can only fail by staying in our comfortable groups, debating with each other or looking down from our ivory towers on all the "ignorant" people who don't know what we know, rather than going to those people with the Libertarian message.

Trite though these sentiments may sound, I think they are accurate. We as a movement have tried to define every aspect of our philosophy to the point of defining too many people out of the movement. We have debated and fought each other when we needed all our strength to enter the political debate of the nation. Not that we should not define ourselves and struggle for the purest freedom, but that if we spend all our time with that year after year after year, we affect no change, we reach no one outside the movement, we do not grow.

We are too weak to be divided. As Ben Franklin said, "We must hang together or we shall surely all hang separately." We must unite. We don't need a new, name for

Party, we need a new commitment. We need to dedicate ourselves to reaching out to new people and thus, to grow.

Success will come through dedication, commitment, and perseverance. The signers of the greatest political document ever written and acted upon, the Declaration of Independence, pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What will we pledge?

If I feel compelled to write anything from my present vantage point to Libertarians everywhere, it is this: The American people are out there waiting. The government is incredibly powerful and corrupt and dangerous. There is only one thoughtful, concerned, compassionate opposition to that power with the proper answer -- Libertarianism. You, the Libertarian Party, and the Freedom-loving people everywhere. You, my friends, are my hope.

In love of liberty,
Paul Jacob

(Reprinted from the Washington Libertarian)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(This issue, we salute two libertarian letter-writers: Bob Horan of Endicott and Michelle Yaskel of N.Y. City. Bob's letter appeared in the Binghamton Press, June 16, 1985, while Michelle's appeared in the Sept. 1985 issue of Working Mother.)

So-called experts would regulate every facet of life

Editor, *The Press*:

When I saw the letter written by Dr. Michael Ashman about regulating tanning parlors, it really burned me.

Our leaders, including doctors, are of the mind that we can't take care of ourselves. It seems that every time something -- smoking, drinking, eating, tanning, dying -- interferes with what some "expert" says should be, the politicians will accept their experts' testimony and adopt some new regulations and form a new bureaucracy to protect us from ourselves.

D.H. Lawrence wrote: "Give us back, oh give us back our bodies before we die!" This has never been more true.

We must take responsibility for what we do or we might have to re-

Party supports jailed member

Libertarians, who ended their national convention in Phoenix on Sunday, contributed nearly \$4,000 to assist a member of their political party who is in prison for refusing to register for the draft.

Paul Jacob, 25, of North Little Rock, Ark., was sentenced last month to five years in prison, with six months to be served at a federal facility near Dallas. The balance of the sentence was suspended.

Jacob's wife, Rhonda Allen, was at the convention seeking financial assistance for her husband. She said Jacob is scheduled to be released Jan. 2.

The \$4,000 contribution from the 225 delegates who attended the convention comes to more than \$17 per person.

At his trial, Jacob argued that he was singled out for prosecution because of his vocal opposition to the draft. The U.S. Supreme Court earlier had upheld the government's policy, since changed, of prosecuting only those young men who publicized their refusal to register.

port to the bureau of tanning and burning; subsection peeling and rashes; subgroup A; floor three; ...

BOB HORAN
Endicott

WHAT WOMEN'S WORK IS WORTH

"The War Against Equal Pay for 'Women's Work'" [May] might be better titled "The War for Bureaucratically Controlled Wages." The question is not whether comparable worth is good, but whether worth is to be determined by the parties involved or by politicians.

The real sexists are on the side of so-called comparable worth, for they apparently believe that women are incapable of tackling higher-paying jobs. Usually, male-dominated jobs pay more because there are fewer qualified applicants or because the male-dominated unions are so powerful.

Michelle Yaskel
South Ozone Park, N.Y.

(Convention, continued)

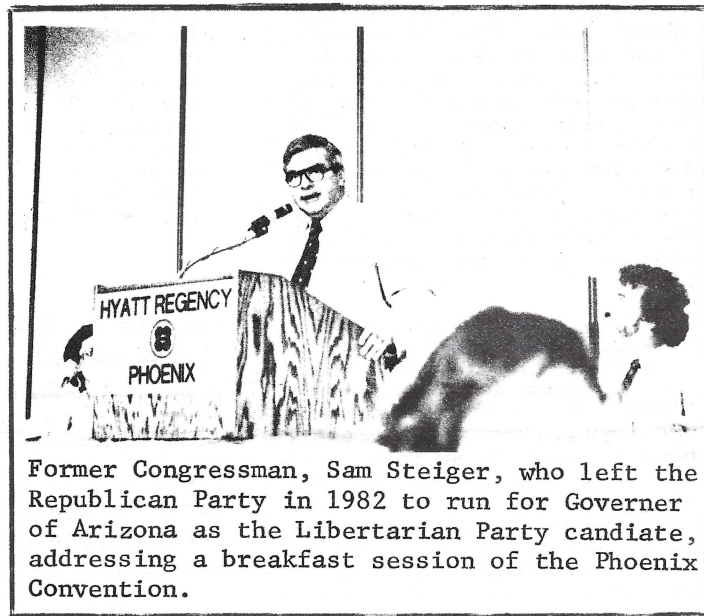
Chair, Randy Ver Hagen, shaved the debt to \$78,000 by the time the convention met in August. About \$15,000 was raised at the Convention banquet, which coupled with continuing austerity measures should see the debt dropping during the rest of the year. The National Committee met directly after the convention ended and took steps to resume the publication of the LP News. (National Director, Perry Willis, told this writer recently that the next issue of LP News was in preparation and would be in the mail on Oct. 1st.)

A number of changes were made to the National Party's platform and by-laws at the convention. Among these was a change in the structure of the National Committee, which gives smaller states the ability to bloc with other states for the purpose of electing regional representatives to the National Committee. As a result of this change, the southern states formed a super-region that now has three National Committee representatives, one whom is Paul Jacob, the libertarian draft resister, who is currently in prison and unable to take his seat.

Another by-law change authorizes the development of a "political program" by the National Committee for consideration by the 1987-88 Presidential Convention (which is scheduled for Seattle, Wash., by the way). The purpose of this program is to develop libertarian positions on specific political issues--perceived as such by the media and the public. This amendment to the bylaws reflects dissatisfaction with the national platform, which many delegates criticized as unwieldy and too complex to be a useful political tool. Indeed, there was also a proposal, which did not pass, to "sunset" the existing platform and draft a new document at each Presidential Convention. The new "political program" will be subject to such a "sunset" policy.

A major new platform plank was adopted on the subject of "American Indian Rights." The plank, which was hotly debated, demands that American Indians be free to choose their citizenship and whatever level of autonomy they prefer, including absolute sovereignty. The plank also calls for the abolition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and for the settlement of all remaining government obligations to the Indian tribes through an exchange of otherwise unowned and unclaimed federal properties.

Other new and revised planks include one on U.S. government intervention in Central America; a condemnation of the growing alliance between the governments of the U.S. and the People's Republic of China; support for the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, with the proviso that balancing be accomplished exclusively by cutting expenditures; deploring the tendency of government jurisdictions to prosecute individuals who exercise their right of self-defense, rather than the criminals who have aggressed against them; and opposition to proposals for an "industrial policy" that would forge an alliance between government and business.



Former Congressman, Sam Steiger, who left the Republican Party in 1982 to run for Governor of Arizona as the Libertarian Party candidate, addressing a breakfast session of the Phoenix Convention.

The convention was also entertained and educated by a wide variety of libertarian speakers, including Karl Hess, former speech writer for 1964 Republican Presidential candidate, Barry Goldwater; Sam Steiger, former four-term Republican Congressman and 1982 L.P. candidate for Governor of Arizona; Ed Clark, 1980 L.P. Presidential candidate; Bob Poole, publisher of Reason magazine; David Bergland, 1984 L.P. Presidential candidate; and by no means last or least, Marshall Fritz of Self-Government Advocates.

Ten New York Libertarians were at the convention as delegates: Dean Grimes (Binghamton); Dave Hoesly (Rochester); Ed Jowett (Binghamton); Vickie Kirkland (N.Y.C.); Siegie Kress (N.Y.C.); Tom Lowy (N.Y.C.); Ed Paige (Ottawa); John Sproul (Rochester); Norman Wille (N.Y.C.); Paul Xavier (N.Y.C.).

ductive method to accomplish this task, since many activists feel uncomfortable about making such calls by themselves. The timing of this activity is crucial--the election could be over before an individual working alone stops procrastinating. The phone-bank approach provides a way to monitor actual progress throughout these three days.

Be extra well-prepared for the actual telephoning, so those who do commit an hour of their time feel it was well spent and may even commit additional time to the project. Do this by having each caller's list of names and numbers ready when they arrive. Have a few additional lists ready in case a volunteer arrives with a friend or they have a problem completing enough calls on their first list. Also, have a short script for them to use.

Pollwatching and Election Night

If there is one day the general public feels comfortable with any part of the political process, it's on election day. That's why you should definitely schedule activities like pollwatching, and a get-together right after the polls close.

Groups have found their best "meeting" attendance has occurred on election night with these publicized activities, because non-party regulars are willing to get swept-up into the process. Party regulars, who would never invite a friend or relative that hadn't previously exhibited some form of libertarian leanings, are for some reason more comfortable in asking these same people to help get our vote counts from their particular polling place. By having a telephone number where pollwatchers can reach your vote tabulation party, in case it is inconvenient for some to attend, you'll get even more willing participants. In addition, having a telephone there makes contact with similar Libertarian gatherings elsewhere possible. Then your campaign can share its successes with other efforts.

Even if election day were not an opportunity for us to reach new people, it is the best time to "grade" our campaign efforts. Without such a meeting an individual who contributed much to the campaign may find little to cheer about from the TV, radio and newspaper election coverage. The media often believes there is no news value in a rapidly growing political party, which is not yet influencing today's outcome. By being part of a Libertarian elec-

Upstate Libertarians Face Prison

Here in New York, in the upstate village of East Freetown, two other libertarians are facing jail in a property rights struggle with the local authorities. Bob and Celia Clark have lived in the Cortland County village for nearly 40 years. For many of these years, they have run a trash collection business. But their rural property--on which they keep their trucks, equipment and parts--have run afoul of some of their neighbors.

A while back, in order to improve the appearance of their property, Bob and Celia decided to build a pole barn in which to store equipment. They even got a permit. But the permit ran out before they finished the project and they were told that they would have to tear down the nearly completed structure, fill in the hole and remove the equipment. Understandably, the Clarks were a little upset about this and refused to comply with these demands. The authorities obtained a court order to force them to comply--and the Clarks have been resisting this invasion of their rights ever since.

Many neighbors rallied to the defense of Bob and Celia, and an organization called the "Neighbors Defense Fund" was formed. Money was raised for the costs of fighting this property rights issue in court and the local press began to cover the story.

On June 17th of this year, the authorities obtained a warrant for the arrest of the Clarks. When their neighbors learned of this, several went out looking for Bob and Celia to warn them. They were successful. The Clarks eluded the grasp of the local Sheriff and went into hiding. For the last three months, this freedom-loving couple, who have been self-supporting and an asset to their community for many, many years, have been sheltered by their friends and neighbors. Their son is running the family business--and the unfinished pole barn still stands.

(continued, page 3)

tion night party, a campaign worker gets some perspective of just how our long term goal of achieving individual liberty has been served with his or her effort.

Libertarian Party of New York

STATE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Bill McMillen	Chair	518-463-8242
Dottie-Lou Brokaw*	Vice Chair	607-753-9176
Tom Lowy*	Vice Chair	212-674-6105
Bill Stocker	Treasurer	516-883-1892
Dawn Davis	Secretary	518-399-1293
Don Davis	At-Large	518-399-1293
Reed Halstead	At-Large	914-761-1174
Vickie Kirkland	At-Large	212-245-1628
Siegie Kress	At-Large	212-927-9788
George Wager	At-Large	518-462-7543

COUNTY CHAIRS

George Wager	Albany Co.	518-462-7543	Arthur Svensson*	Orange Co.	914-744-3698
Bob Goodman	Bronx Co.	212-828-4536	Werne Saunders*	Monroe Co.	716-663-7723
John Fields*	Broome Co.	607-722-2677	Rosemary Pringle	Oswego Co.	315-593-3800
John Munteer*	Capital Dist.	518-458-2620	Eric DelGiacco	Otsego	607-286-9401
Dan Webster	Cayuga Co.	315-497-0042	Bill McMillen	Rensselaer Co.	518-463-8242
Richard Ulsch	Chemung Co.	716-422-9069	Marion Weinberger	Rockland Co.	914-357-5383
Dale Tierney	Clinton Co.	518-563-0440	Don Davis	Saratoga Co.	518-399-1293
Tom Hazard	Cortland Co.	607-756-6585	Robert Hills	Schoharie Co.	518-234-4238
Steve Jones	Dutchess Co.	914-471-2344	Bob Straub*	Suffolk Co.	516-422-0147
Bob Goldenberg	Erie Co.	716-695-7931	Mike North	Ulster Co.	914-679-2733
David Miller	Genesee Co.	716-768-8330	Jim Phillips	Wayne Co.	315-589-5511
Dick Savadel	Nassau Co.	516-795-3622	Norma Segal*	Westchester Co.	914-576-3275
Tom Lowy*	New York City	212-674-6105	Gary Carlson	Yates Co.	315-536-3052



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