

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle

June 1998

The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 13 / Issue 6



Hone your skills at the 1998 Convention

Are your Libertarian activism skills a little rusty? Need a brush-up lesson in effective communications or media relations?

Or, are you a brand-new LP member looking for a crash course in the basics of party-building?

Or, do you want to get elected to public office — but aren't quite sure how to make that happen?

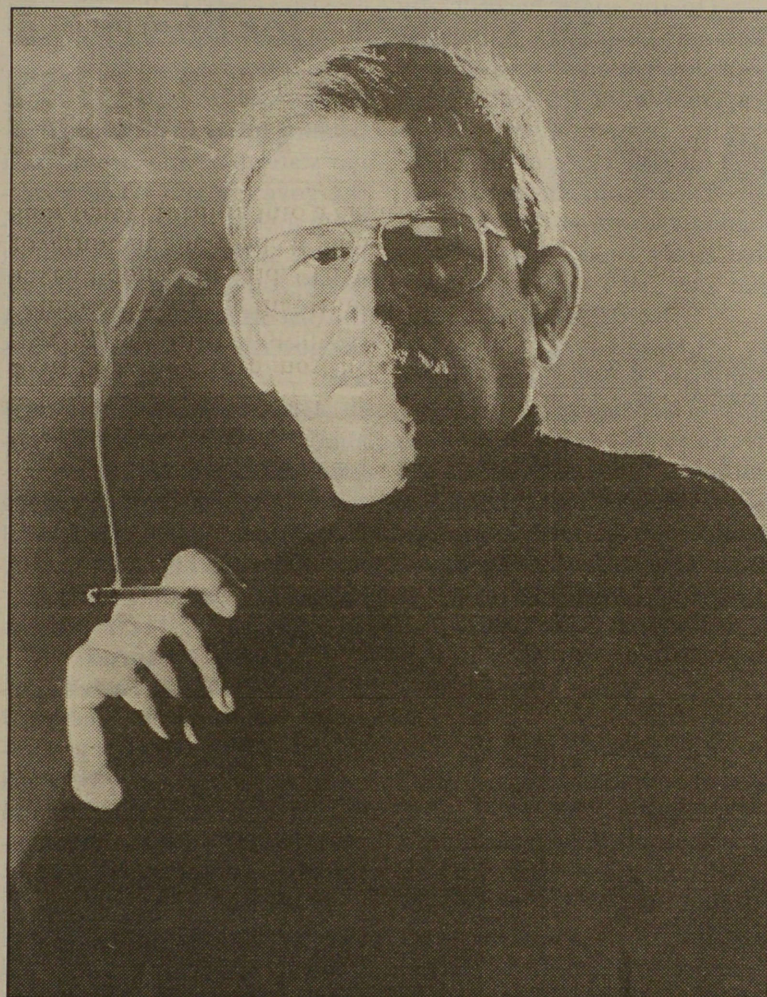
The 1998 National Libertarian Convention may be the answer, with a half-dozen different seminars and workshops on effective political techniques and campaigning, said convention organizer Kris Williams.

Nuts-and-bolts

"If you're looking for nuts-and-bolts, how-to lessons in political success, you'll find it at the 1998 Convention," he said. "Some of the party's most talented and experienced activists will offer training seminars on the subjects Libertarians said they want to learn."

During the four-day convention in Washington DC (July 2-

See **POLITICAL SKILLS** Page 12



■ **Art Bell**, the fourth most-listened to talk show host in the USA, has left the Republican Party and become a Libertarian. "Almost everything that [the GOP] should have done, they haven't done," he said. "They campaigned for smaller government and made it larger. Their big tent is so big that their tent is turning into a circus."

Talk radio titan Art Bell joins LP

Thousands of 800# info requests pour in

Art Bell, the fourth most popular talk show host in America, has joined the Libertarian Party, and his surprise on-the-air announcement sparked a nationwide outpouring of information requests about the party.

Bell, who built a late-night radio show into a coast-to-coast juggernaut of 389 stations and nine million weekly listeners, joined the party on the air on Tuesday, May 5.

"Your party is one stronger tonight," he told his special guest, Harry Browne, the Libertarian Party's 1996 presidential candidate. "After years and years of internal debate with myself, I've left the Republican Party and joined the Libertarian Party."

Browne welcomed him, saying: "What a wonderful thing! There probably isn't anyone in the country on the radio that is

more influential than you are."

Bell's announcement and his lengthy on-air conversation with Browne generated more than 2,250 calls to the LP's 800# service — the biggest barrage of information requests since the 1996 National Convention, which was broadcast on C-SPAN.

Massive popularity

The enormous public response wasn't completely surprising: Because of his massive popularity, Bell, 52, has been called "the hottest talk show host in America today."

He ranks behind only talk-show titans Dr. Laura Schlesinger, Howard Stern, and Rush Limbaugh in total weekly listening audience, according to *Talkers* magazine. His show "is still growing in popularity," reported the *Washington Post*.

See **ART BELL** Page 2

Libertarians across America rally on Tax Day

Libertarians fanned out across the USA on April 15th to demonstrate against the IRS, to show support for beleaguered last-minute Tax Day filers, and publicize the party's efforts to slash taxes.

Their actions generated numerous front-page newspaper stories, recruited new members — and uncovered at least one out-and-out theft of the party's popular "Million Dollar Bill" literature by Republicans.

"Plagiarism is the sincerest form of flattery?" asked LP member Bill Lambert of California, displaying an LP \$1 million bill that Republicans had altered to claim that the GOP wanted to "reduce your tax burden."

The *real* Libertarian \$1 million bill got plenty of action on Tax Day, as hundreds of Libertarians held rallies and outreach events at Post Offices from Maine to California.

Highlights included:

■ **Delaware:** "Libertarians passed out million dollar bills at the Post Office in Wilmington," said state activist Mike Smith. "The responses were mostly positive [and] it did result in media coverage from the two news-talk radio stations in the area."

■ **Hawaii:** Libertarians in Honolulu — "complete with signs and patriotic hats" — rallied in front of the city Post Office. Their purpose: "To remind people that they have been work-

ing hard all year to pay off their tax burden to fund the government's scandalous projects," said State Chair Roger Taylor.

■ **Kentucky:** LP member Roger Schattilly mounted a "one-man Tax Day protest" in front of the Post Office in Cadiz. "The local newspaper [ran a] picture along with an article about the protest," he reported. "Over a two hour period of time I handed out 180 bogus \$1,000,000 bills with an acceptance rate of over 95%."

■ **California:** For LP candidates Gail Lightfoot and David Bersohn, Tax Day served double duty: They appeared with other LP members at the San Luis

See **TAX DAY** Page 3



■ **Roger Taylor** (right) interviews Mike Powell for community TV at the Tax Day Rally in Honolulu, Hawaii.

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Good news from Project Archimedes' second test mailings

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Hornberger considers LP presidential run

NEWSBRIEFS

Libertarian books dominate on Amazon.com

Who says the Internet is a stronghold of libertarian beliefs? Amazon.com, that's who. In early April, the massive online "virtual" bookstore listed three libertarian books among its top 10 bestselling "Ideological Tracts & Manifestos."

According to Amazon.com, its #1 bestselling ideological book is *Libertarianism, A Primer*, by David Boaz; followed by *The Libertarian Reader*, by David Boaz, editor (#2); and *Why Government Doesn't Work*, by Harry Browne (#8).

And three libertarian works are included in the online bookstore's list of 12 bestselling "Political History, Theory and Biography" books: *Libertarianism, A Primer* by David Boaz (#5); *What it Means to be a Libertarian*, by Charles Murray (#7); and *The Libertarian Reader*, by David Boaz, editor (#11).

"I've always heard that the Net is Libertarian but I'd sort of written it off as hype," said Mike McNeill, editor of the *Minden Press-Herald* (Louisiana), who noticed the phenomenon. "No more. [This is] impressive. Someone is buying these books."

Libertarian officeholder cuts his own pay

A Libertarian in appointed office in Oregon started saving taxpayers money on his first day on the job — by requesting that his salary be cut.

Bruce Coe, a member of the Kittitas County Planning Commission, was recently hired as Facilities Director for that county's fairground, reported the *Ellensburg Daily Record*. His first action at a session for new county employees: Complaining that his salary was too high, and requesting that it be cut by \$2,000.

"Coe combined principle with political savvy," said the state LP's Executive Director Mike Hihn. "Like so many Libertarian officeholders, Coe is developing public trust through positive and principled actions."

The joke is on the Democrats

The Libertarian Party was included in a joke printed by the *San Antonio Express-News* — but the punch line was the foolishness of the Democrats. In its "Random Notes" column, the March 15th issue of the Texas newspaper printed this joke:

A Republican, a Democrat and a Libertarian are lunching in a restaurant when a poor man walks in. Unbeknownst to any of them, it is Jesus.

The Republican summons the waiter and asks him to serve the poor man the best food in the house and put it on his tab. The waiter does so. The Libertarian asks the waiter to please serve the poor man ice tea and put it on his tab. The waiter does so. The Democrat then asks the waiter to bring the poor man some pecan pie with ice cream and put it on his tab.

When Jesus is finished eating, he goes over to the Republican and says, "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. Thank you. I see that you are blind." He touches the man's eyes and they are healed.

Jesus then goes over to the Libertarian and says, "I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. Thank you. I see you have a bad arm." He touches it and it is healed.

Then Jesus walks over to the Democrat. But the Democrat moves far back from Jesus and yells, "Don't touch me! I'm on 100 percent disability!"

Futurist Society nominates 1998's best books

The Libertarian Futurist Society (LFS) has selected its five finalists for the annual Prometheus Awards — which honor the science fiction or fantasy novels that best "explore the possibilities of a free future and champion human rights."

The five 1998 finalists include: *The Fleet of Stars*, by Poul Anderson (TOR Books); *Finitary's End* by C.J. Cherryh (Warner Books); *Nanotime* by Bart Kosko (Avon Books); *The Stone Canal*, by Ken MacLeod (Orbit Books, Little Brown, England); and *Bretta Martyn*, by L. Neil Smith (TOR Books).

Winners will be announced in the Libertarian Futurist Society's annual awards ceremony at the 1998 World Science Fiction Convention in early August in Baltimore.

Founded in 1982, the LFS publishes the quarterly *Prometheus*, and "provides fun and fellowship for libertarian science fiction fans." For membership information: www.libertarian.com/LFS/

Art Bell joins Libertarian Party

Continued from Page 1

Remarkably, Bell built up an enormous following in a time slot usually considered the "graveyard shift" of radio — 10:00 pm to 3:00 am Pacific time. He is so popular that there are Art Bell Chat Clubs that meet regularly in more than 40 cities around America, as well as in London and Tokyo.

On the night he officially became a Libertarian, millions of Bell's loyal listeners got a detailed explanation of the factors that led him away from the GOP — and into the Libertarian Party.

The bottom line: Bell said he had lost whatever faith he once had in the Republican Party.

No difference

"I looked at the Republican Congress [in 1994] and thought — ah-hah!" he said. "[But] frankly, they've spent more money than the Democrats did in previous years. The promise of smaller government wasn't fulfilled. In fact, none of the promises were fulfilled. None of it translated into action. Now, I see no difference between the Republicans and Democrats — none at all."

Bell also said he was concerned about the general erosion of freedom in America.

"If you talk about liberty and freedom, it's slowly slipping away. That's what I see [politicians] doing — taking away our freedom," he said, "We're clearly

STEVE DASBACH:

"Libertarians are delighted that this Bell will now toll for liberty."

heading toward a more totalitarian state. I completely distrust the government — and everybody should. They've told lie after lie, so the average American has become so cynical. Today, the first assumption is that what the government is telling you is a lie."

However, Bell said he "likes almost everything" the Libertarian Party stands for.

"The Libertarian Party is the closest ideologically to what I now believe," he said. "I really believe in freedom."

We're honored

The Libertarian Party's newest member was welcomed by LP National Chairman Steve Dasbach, who said, "We're honored that Art Bell has decided to join the Libertarian Party and embrace our message of limited government and greater freedom. Libertarians everywhere are delighted that this Bell will now toll

for liberty."

Besides his high ratings, Bell has also won the respect of his peers: He won the Best Male Radio Talk Show Host award from the National Association of Radio Talk Show Hosts in 1997, and was named to *Talkers* magazine's list of the "Top 100 Most Important Radio Talk Show Hosts in America" in 1998.

His two programs, the five-nights-a-week "Coast to Coast AM" and the Sunday night "Dreamland," are both broadcast from his home-studio in Pahump, Nevada, and are syndicated by Jacor Communications/Talk Radio Network.

Whatever is interesting

His program covers topics that range from the "prosaic to the eccentric" — including UFOs, paranormal events, current events, government cover-ups, politics, and "whatever is interesting."

He is also the author of two books, the autobiographical *The Art of Talk*, and *The Quickening*.

Bell joins an increasing number of influential radio talk show hosts who have become Libertarian Party members, including David Brudnoy (WBZ Radio, Boston, Massachusetts); Neal Boortz (WSB-AM, Atlanta, Georgia); Irv Homer (WVDB-FM, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania); Dr. Roger Libby (WNNX-FM, Atlanta, Georgia); and Zoh Hieronimus (WCBM, Baltimore, Maryland).

Libertarians help with Colorado victory

The name was the "Glendale Tea Party"—but the message and much of the political muscle was Libertarian.

And thanks to their victory, an attempt by the Glendale, Colorado, City Council to impose a "Christian Right" political agenda and shut down several popular adult establishments was thwarted in an election on April 7.

It was "a victory for freedom and tolerance," said W. Earl Allen, editor of the *Colorado Liberty* newsletter, describing the victory of three candidates who promised to repeal a law that would have shut down the city's two topless bars.

Running under the "Glendale Tea Party" banner, the candidates captured three of the six council seats in the nonpartisan race, out-polling the incumbents by a two-to-one margin.

By the end of April, the new "freedom-loving council members" had successfully repealed the ordinance, said Allen.

The brouhaha began several months ago when the mayor of Glendale got the Council to pass a law imposing onerous regulations on adult businesses.

For Libertarians—even if they didn't personally like strip clubs — the issue was clear, said Allen: "A morally authoritarian city council passed [an] ordinance that would have shut down several popular businesses."

So Colorado Libertarians

pitched in to help the Glendale Tea Party publicize the issue, raise money, and register voters.

"The driving force behind this was Libertarian," said Bette Rose Smith, an activist in the Colorado LP who helped with the campaign.

All the work paid off on election day with a record voter turnout and what local newspapers called a "decisive victory" for the Tea Party candidates.

LP NEWS

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Archimedes mailings show more promise

Second tests reveal potential for successful million-piece LP recruitment mailings

The latest batch of membership recruitment mailings for Project Archimedes have been very successful, reported LP National Director Ron Crickenberger — generating a greater dollar return, lower costs, and more useful demographic filters than expected.

In addition, almost 3,000 new members have been recruited from the first six months of testing, and the party is prepared to advance to the next stage: A planned one million-piece mailing.

"We have now conducted enough successful tests that we may be able to recruit more new members in just one month than we have previously recruited in

the Archimedes project.

"Now, we should be able to nearly double the size of the party by mailing three times to this group of [one million] names we have identified. At the very least, we've broken out of the libertarian movement ghetto, and have good prospects of recruiting new members from the world at large."

Economies of scale

Even better news: Higher-than-expected contributions and economies of scale for such sizable mailings means "that the response rate needed to cover our costs has plummeted," said Crickenberger, from 14 contributions for every 1,000 pieces mailed to just nine responses.

Project Archimedes is the Libertarian Party's effort to recruit in excess of 100,000 members by the year 2000.

Named after Archimedes' famous quote, "Give me a lever long enough and I shall move the earth," the project will use demographic profiling techniques to find Americans who hold Libertarian beliefs and recruit them as LP members.

The goal: To recruit enough LP members to allow the party to have "the strength to duplicate, at the presidential campaign level, what Ross Perot did in 1992," said LP National Chairman Steve Dasbach.



A provocative sign, Libertarians dressed in Colonial clothing, and plenty of enthusiasm — that was the recipe for "a great rally" in Honolulu, Hawaii, according to Cindy Powell, state party media director. Plus, "the million dollar bills were definitely a great outreach tool," she said.

Tax Day rallies spark interest in LP

Continued from Page 1

Obispo Post Office to protest the income tax — and to announce their respective campaigns for elective office. The event resulted in a major story and photo in *The Telegram-Tribune*.

In San Francisco, Libertarians showed up to "protest, hand out literature, and circulate petitions — including a Libertarian-sponsored measure to repeal the income tax," reported local LP activist Starchild.

In San Diego, Libertarians took an innovative approach, setting up a five-foot-tall toilet bowl near the Midway Post Office, and inviting "tax filers who think Uncle Sam is wasting their money to flush their returns down the john," reported the *San*

Diego Union-Tribune.

■ **Alabama:** "Our Tax Day demonstration was a complete success!" reported LP member James Chappelow in Auburn. "We handed out about 600 \$1,000,000 bills. Our signs, reading 'Honk if you hate the IRS' had cars honking continuously until it got too dark to read them."

■ **Washington:** Members of the Spokane County LP rallied at the Post Office's Terminal Annex, reported organizer Janice Moerschel. "Armed only with signs, flyers, and million dollar bills, Spokane County Libertarians attracted attention. In addition to a front-page article in *The Spokesman-Review*, we received publicity from local radio stations KGA and KXLY, and from

KXLY Channel 4 TV," she said.

■ **Ohio:** "Libertarians came in greater numbers than ever before for our annual Tax Protest" in Cleveland, said George Baluk, Chairman of the Northeast Ohio LP. "Besides being a hell of a fun event, we also received media coverage."

■ **Florida:** Libertarians held rallies in at least seven locations, reported state LP secretary Tom Regnier. In Okaloosa County, "the LP's tax protest received front-page coverage from the *Northwest Florida Daily News*, which ran a photo of Richard Vajs clad in a wooden barrel and wearing a sign saying 'U.S. Taxpayer,'" said Regnier.

■ **Pennsylvania:** In Doylestown, Libertarians took advantage of what they called "April Fool's Day" to hand out literature at the local Post Office. "This is the kind of activity that gets us noticed," said Arthur L. Fransworth, editor of the Bucks County LP newsletter.

■ **Michigan:** Macomb Co. Libertarians held a protest at the local Post Office, and "the following morning we received front-page coverage in Macomb County's largest newspaper," said LP activist by Paul Soyk.

For LP affiliates that did not conduct a Tax Day rally in 1998, Soyk had some advice: "I would strongly encourage all LP affiliates to plan on holding their own [event] on April 15, 1999. The opportunities to get our message out are too great to pass up."

Note: For expanded coverage of 1998 Tax Day activities, see the LP News Web page: <http://www.lp.org/lpn/>

CRICKENBERGER:

"The prospects look good for being able to achieve our final objectives."

any single year," said Crickenberger. "The prospects look good for being able to achieve our final objectives."

Since November 1997, the LP has mailed nearly 750,000 pieces of test mail to 53 different lists, including registered Libertarians, political magazine readers, and investment newsletter subscribers.

"The results indicate a potential 1.2% response with an average contribution of around \$44 from people with the following characteristics: Incomes greater than \$76,000 a year; aged 31 to 70; single male heads of household; and subscribers to men's, news, and financial magazines," said Crickenberger.

Based on these demographic profiles, the LP should be able to rent mailing lists of over one million names — and mail to them at break-even cost.

"Before we started our Archimedes testing, our universe of such names was less than 120,000 — and that universe had already been mined for most of the potential LP members," said Perry Willis, who is coordinating

Hornberger mulls entering race for party's 2000 presidential nomination

Will make decision within 18 months

Jacob Hornberger has announced that he is "giving serious consideration" to seeking the LP's presidential nomination in 2000 — and said his goal as a candidate would be to "actively fight and campaign against Democrat and Republican presidential contenders in the heat and passion of a political contest."

Hornberger, 48, the president of the Future of Freedom Foundation and a public speaker known for his passionate ora-



■ **Jacob Hornberger:** Would run an "insurgency or guerrilla type of campaign."

tion, said that over the next 18 months, he will make "a final decision whether to seek" the party's nomination.

"My decision to seek the nomination will depend on the political landscape in 1999, specifically whether the LP has major party status in various states and is participating in the presidential primaries in those states," he said. "I have no interest in seeking the nomination simply to do radio shows and to speak at LP conventions."

If he runs, Hornberger said he would employ the same kind of "Dixville Notch" strategy that

See **HORNBERGER** Page 7

States file record candidate slates

Three more states have come forward with impressive or record-setting slates of Libertarian candidates for the 1998 elections — boosting the LP's standing as the third-party alternative for voters.

Highlights include Vermont with 40 candidates; West Virginia with 19 candidates, and New Jersey, which will run a full slate of 13 Congressional candidates.

"Every time one more Libertarian candidate is announced, one more hero for liberty has stepped forward," said LP National Director Ron Crickenberger. "If these numbers continue, 1998 could be the best-ever year for LP candidates."

More than all others

Already, the LP has far more announced candidates than any other third party — and more Congressional candidates than all other third parties combined, according to Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News*.

According to Winger, the LP had 94 confirmed Congressional candidates as of early April, compared to a combined total of 69

EVERY CANDIDATE means "one more hero for liberty has stepped forward."

for the Reform Party, the Natural Law Party, the Green Party, the U.S. Taxpayers Party, and all other smaller parties.

"When voters look for an alternative to the Republicans and Democrats, in most states, the only real alternative will be the LP," said Crickenberger.

State candidate-slate highlights include:

■ **West Virginia:** The USA's fastest-growing state affiliate will run 19 candidates — compared to a previous high of four candidates in 1996.

"West Virginia will have its largest field of candidates in its history this year," said State Chair John Brown.

Included will be three can-

didates for Congress; three candidates for State Senate; and 10 candidates for State House of Delegates.

■ **Vermont:** From Governor to county high bailiff, the state LP will offer voters 40 candidates for office this fall, compared to six candidates in 1996.

"We want Vermonters who are tired of the infringement on their property, confiscation of their earnings, and intrusion in their lives to have a solid alternative to the tired old incumbent parties," said State Chair Chris Costanzo.

The Vermont LP is running a candidate for U.S. Senate and U.S. Congress, 12 candidates for State Senate, and 13 candidates for State Representative.

■ **New Jersey:** Voters in all 13 Congressional Districts will find a Libertarian candidate on the ballot this year, announced State Chair Janice Presser.

"The NJLP has been reinvigorated by the success of the 1997 gubernatorial campaign," she said. "We're on a roll and are committed to running a very visible 'Vote Libertarian for Congress' campaign this year."

To boost the impact of the Libertarian campaigns, Presser said she had appointed Michael T. Buoncristiano as the state LP's Political Director.

"I'm confident we will make progress this year to gain acceptance of our ideas, tab higher vote totals, and add to our membership," said Buoncristiano.



■ Libertarian Gary Multer stands at ground zero of his "Windows '98" battle with South End Landmark bureaucrats.

Libertarian vs. Boston's "historic" bureaucrats

Call it the Boston version of the "Windows '98" battle — as a Massachusetts Libertarian struggles against bureaucrats who want to prosecute him for installing a new vinyl window without their permission.

Gary Multer, an LP member since 1991, has filed two lawsuits against the South End Landmark District Commission, after it accused him of installing an illegal window that violates the neighborhood's "historic" standards.

But Multer said all he did was repair a broken window in his home, and argued that the Commission is running roughshod over his property rights.

"I know most people wonder: Why make such a big deal about a window? But the commission's action is 100% wrong," he said.

Multer's run-in with Boston's old South End bureaucracy started late last year when he repaired a window "that was loose, rickety, and without any panes of glass." His solution: A neat, white vinyl window frame.

His handyman's "crime" came to the attention of the

Landmark District Commission because of a building permit Multer had to apply for.

He was called in for a hearing on December 2 that turned out to be a "talking to," he said — as the bureaucrats briskly informed him that he was guilty.

The Commission told him he had six months to remedy the "inappropriate" vinyl window with a more acceptable wooden window.

But Multer said he didn't like the ruling in his case, the Commission's high-handed tactics, or the whole concept of government control over private property.

Real harm

"The Commission claims that their standards and criteria are here to protect us, but I don't want this type of protection," he said. "[The Commission] has no bounds to the power it has, and that is a real harm to all of us."

So he filed two lawsuits in January in Suffolk County Superior Court, challenging the Commission's right to exist at all, and arguing that it acted in a capricious and excessive manner.

Multer has been identified in media reports about his lawsuit as an LP member — and admits his philosophy of limited government and personal responsibility helped turn a vinyl window into a legal challenge.

"I just don't like people telling me what to do," he said.

Political Correction

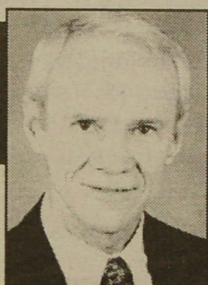
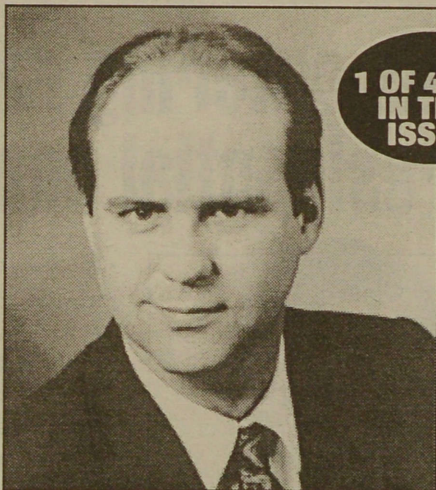
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Why 2-Time Michigan LP Candidate Jon Coon supports David Bergland for National Chair

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— **Jon Coon**, LP Candidate for U.S. Senate, 1994



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TALKINGPOINTS

What taxes did to Japan, wacky warnings, and Bosnia confusion

Why Japan skidded

The root of Japan's problem lies in a massive increase in taxes over the last three decades. In 1966, total taxes consumed just 17.8% of GDP in Japan, compared to 24.6% in the U.S. By 1995 Japan's tax burden had increased by 60% to 28.5% of GDP, now putting it above the United States' 27.9% figure. A typical Japanese company pays a total (national) tax rate of 57.9%. This is well above the 35% corporate rate in the United States.

— **BRUCE BARTLETT**

The Washington Times,
March 13, 1998

A cop on drugs

As a career police officer for 35 years (including police chief of Kansas City and San Jose), I have seen the racism, violence, corruption and failure to curb drug abuse that stems from government policies. Before 1914, Americans had the right to possess and use drugs. Of course there were abuses, but there was no \$400 million black market or widespread corruption and violence, nor was there the vastly disproportionate incarceration of non-whites, until the Harrison Act of 1914 criminalized drugs. Prohibition does not work.

— **JOSEPH D. MCNAMARA**

The New York Times,
March 18, 1998

Warning: Stupidity

The Massachusetts Civil Justice Reform Alliance held a "Wacky Warning Label" contest. The winner was on a can of self-defense spray: "Pepper spray may irritate your eyes."

— **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

February 12, 1998

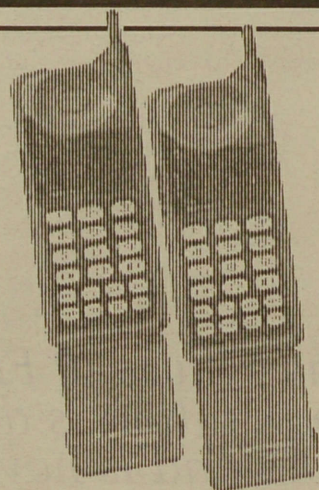
Drug war casualties

The U.S. Department of Justice reported that the nation's prison and jail populations have risen nearly 6% from the previous year — more than 50% since the beginning of the decade. At midyear 1997 an estimated 1,725,842 men and women — roughly 645 out of every 100,000 Americans — were held in the nation's prisons and jails.

— **JUBILEE EXTRA**

Prison Fellowship Ministries,
March 1998

MARC BEAUCHAMP
EDITOR



**"A CELLULAR PHONE
costs just 2%
of what it did a
decade and a
half ago."**

Stamp out smoking

If something more drastic (to curb teen smoking) seems in order, probably the best thing to do is turn over all cigarette sales to an organization known for deglamorizing its product and making it as unappealing as possible. Simply require that all cigarettes be sold at the Post Office.

— **JEREMY BULOW &**

DANIEL P. KESSLER,
The Wall Street Journal,
March 10, 1998

A taxing system

The current tax system did not become the behemoth that it is today overnight. In 1913, when Congress first began collecting personal income taxes, the tax code was only 15 pages long. Today, it is more than 10,000 pages long. To administer the tax system, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) distributes almost eight billion pages of forms and instructions a year. Placed end to end, these forms would stretch 694,000 miles, or about 28 times around the Earth.

— **CITIZENS FOR A SOUND
ECONOMY'S SENTINEL,**
June 1998

Back to business

Now that the Paula Jones case has been thrown out of court, the two political parties will no longer be distracted from the main business of government — namely selling influence to wealthy campaign contributors.

— **KEVIN J. WILLIAMS**

The New York Times,
April 12, 1998

Follow the money

For a worker earning \$60,000 a year and living in a state with average taxes, the government's share rises to 36 percent. The overall tax burden is now at an all-time high. Nearly half the amount taken from workers' paychecks is hidden. Three ways to bring those costs out of hiding are to replace federal income and payroll taxes with a national sales tax, to repeal withholding, and to encourage employers to adopt the Right to Know Payroll Form, first proposed by the Mackinac Center for Public

Policy. That payroll form itemizes on workers' pay stubs each and every one of the costs that the employer must bear on behalf of the worker as a result of government tax and regulatory policies.

— **DEAN STANSEL**

Cato Policy Analysis,
March 15, 1998

Sand and ideas

On the part of free marketeers, the proper attitude toward any public debate of this type (Microsoft) is to determine who's attempting to use government force, and who's not — and then oppose the party using force. Bill Gates told the Senators that "no company owns the factory for ideas." He's right. At bottom, the Internet's fiber-optic network and computer chips come from silicon, one of Earth's most abundant elements. It would have been interesting to hear Microsoft's competitors explain just how it is that a monopoly in sand and ideas is even remotely possible.

— **WAYNE CREWS**

*Competitive Enterprise Institute
Update,* March 1998

Thank the rich

Without the wealthy, fewer new goods and services would find their way to the rest of us. The system harnesses the spending of a relative few and puts it to work delivering goods to the many. Unequal income distribution drives society forward. A

cellular phone costs just 2% of what it did a decade and a half ago, and computing power is less than 1% of its 1984 real price. What better proof could there be that free enterprise is society's greatest welfare program?

— **MICHAEL COX**

Wall Street Journal,
March 6, 1998

Whatever

"[The Bosnia] mission will be precisely defined with clear realistic goals. Our Joint Chiefs of Staff have concluded that this mission will take about one year." (President Clinton, November 27, 1995.) "Clinton Says Troops to Stay in Bosnia Indefinitely." (Headline in the *Washington Post*, December 19, 1997.)

— **CATO POLICY REPORT,**

March/April 1998

Guns and crime

A recent study in the *Journal of Legal Studies* found that concealed handgun laws reduced murder by 8.5% and severe assault by 7% from 1977 to 1992. Had "right-to-carry" laws been in effect throughout the country, there would have been 1,600 fewer murders and 60,000 fewer assaults every year.

— **INVESTORS BUSINESS DAILY,**
January 8, 1998

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

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■ Walker Chandler practices law in Zebulon, Georgia. A 1970 graduate of the University of Virginia and a 1975 graduate of Mercer University Law School, he has twice been the Lt. gubernatorial candidate of the Libertarian Party. He is currently its announced candidate for Attorney General of Georgia in the 1998 General Election.

He was the lead plaintiff in the case of *Chandler v. Miller*, which challenged Georgia's statute requiring drug testing of candidates for political office. He argued the case before the U.S. Supreme Court, which struck down the unconstitutional law in April 1997, by an 8-1 vote. (Case No. 96-126).

His website may be found at: www.walkerchandler.com.

Hornberger for president?

Continued from Page 3

won 1992 LP candidate Andre Marrou a majority of votes in one small town in the New Hampshire presidential primary.

"In 2000, both the Democrats and Republicans will have a wide field of presidential candidates vying for the nomination," he said. "Thus, their total votes will be split among many candidates. The political goal of my campaign in the primary season will be to persuade people to boycott the Democrat and Republican primaries and vote for us Libertarians (i.e., me) in our primary.

"If we are successful, it is very possible that we could outpoll the bottom rungs of Democratic and Republican presidential contenders. If that were to happen, no one could ignore the Libertarians going into the general election season."

Surprise and ambush

To achieve this, Hornberger said he would run an "insurgency or guerrilla type of campaign" that depends on surprise and ambush.

"You don't need 200,000 members and \$20 million to run that kind of campaign," he said. "My models are the presidential campaigns of Gene McCarthy, Jerry Brown (1976), and Bobby Kennedy, where people were energized to work hard primarily because they were fighting for their principles.

"A Hornberger campaign will be unlike any other presidential campaign in LP history. No one will ever accuse Jacob Hornberger of running a passive political campaign based on radio appearances, book sales, and LP speeches," he said.

His campaign would also avoid "boring" policy proposals, he promised.

"You will never see coming from me any boring, mundane budget or tax proposals or recommendations on how we can save, reform, or downsize the socialistic welfare state and regulated society. You will also never see any compromise of libertarian philosophy throughout my campaign," he said.

"In sum, mine will not be a political campaign seeking to present a credible five-year plan

to downsize government. Mine will be a cause in which we are fighting to restore liberty to the American people."

Hornberger said that Harry Browne is currently the "obvious front-runner" for the 2000 nomination.

But Hornberger said that even Browne's "enormously powerful, well-oiled, well-financed political machine" won't stop him from seeking the LP's nomination, if that's what he decides to do.

"If I am required to fight not only Harry Browne but also the

entire party hierarchy who may have made Browne the Anointed One, along with all of the LP staff, resources, newspaper, fundraising letters, etc. that are under the control of the party hierarchy, then so be it," he said.

Very different

If he does run, Hornberger's campaign will be very different from Browne's 1996 campaign, he said.

Unlike Browne, Hornberger said he would not have "abandoned an active campaign in the New Hampshire primary three

months before the election simply because Steve Forbes had entered the Republican primary;" will not "obsessively" solicit money from LP members; will not run a "campaign like those of the major parties;" and would not have a "prejudice against the use of LP volunteers."

A noted public speaker in Libertarian circles, Hornberger gave the keynote address at the 1996 LP National Convention.

He is the founder and president of the Future of Freedom Foundation, a Virginia-based, non-partisan, non-profit "educational foundation whose mission is to advance liberty and the libertarian philosophy by presenting an uncompromising moral,

philosophical, and economic case for individual freedom and limited government." The FFF publishes a monthly journal, *Freedom Daily*.

Born in Laredo, Texas, Hornberger has worked professionally as a lawyer, an adjunct professor of law and economics at the University of Texas, and as Program Director of the Foundation for Economic Education.

His LP activity includes three terms on the LP Platform Committee and speeches at numerous LP state conventions. He has never run for elected office.

For more information about Hornberger's possible campaign, write: 43176 Center Post Terrace, Ashburn, VA 20148.

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AFFILIATE NEWS

A minor win, political discipline, and cleaning the road to victory

■ Colorado

What are three words Libertarians love to hear? *No more petitioning!* And that's what Colorado Libertarians will hear, now that the governor signed a new bill in early April granting them official "minor party" status.

"Passage of HB 1110 is great news for the LP," said former State Chair **Sandra Johnson**. "With the elimination of petitioning requirements for our candidates, for the first time we will be able to focus our efforts on actually winning races."

The new law significantly liberalizes the nomination process for candidates — so the party will no longer have to collect petitions to run candidates.

"Now we're looking forward to taking a much more active and visible role in Colorado politics," Johnson said. One target is the state Legislature, which offers "unprecedented opportunities" because more than two-thirds of the races are expected to have no incumbent.

■ Colorado

Libertarians testified before the state legislature on March 16 against a "reverse Robin Hood" bill that would force taxpayers to finance a football stadium for the millionaire owner of the Denver Broncos.

"This \$400 million subsidy would take money from poor people and hand it to a very rich Pat Bowlen," LP member **Earl Allen** told the House Affairs Committee. "His Super Bowl Champion Broncos should be able to raise the funds by normal means, such as the sale of stock [or] bonds."

Also testifying were party members **BetteRose Smith**, **Ken Kirkmeyer**, and **Judd Ptak**. Despite their efforts, the legislature approved the bill on April 22, and now it will be put to a popular vote.

Libertarians vow to continue fighting the measure by issuing press releases urging a "Separation of Sport and State" and working with Citizens Opposed to the Stadium Tax, Inc.

"We hope that Mr. Bowlen will follow the lead of the owners of the Pittsburgh Steelers and San Francisco 49ers, and build a

new stadium himself," Ptak said. "But if he wants to extort money from the taxpayers of Colorado, the Libertarian Party says 'Go Broncos — and take the Nuggets with you.'"

■ Florida

The LP is leading the charge to put two new weapons into the hands of voters: The power to recall elected officials and to vote for NOTA (None Of The Above).

"Voters need better tools with which to discipline politicians," said **Brian Collar**, acting State Chair. "These are two such welcome tools."

In April, the LP became the first party in the state to endorse the campaign for the two constitutional initiatives.

Under the proposed NOTA law, elections (except the presidential) would be canceled if "None Of The Above" received the most votes, and a new one would take place five weeks later with new candidates.

The recall law would apply to every non-federal judge and elected official statewide.

■ Massachusetts

Two more election victories boost the number of Libertarian officeholders in Massachusetts to eight — more than any other third party in the state.

"This is great news for us," candidate coordinator **Jim Sullivan** said after **Craig Mathias** of Ashland and **David Atkinson** of Provincetown were both elected as Selectmen on May 5.

"Though these were officially nonpartisan elections, both Atkinson and Mathias are well-known in their towns as Libertarians. Both had previously held appointed positions on their town finance committees, earning the trust of voters."

Mathias, who has never run for office before, said, "My overall strategy was simply to be my (political) self and spread the word, which I did with essays, ads, and a briefing book. These victories show we can win, and we will continue to do so."

"This is only the beginning," said Sullivan, who noted that the November election will offer a record number of LP candidates,

including Atkinson, who is running for Secretary of State. "Success at an even higher level is not out of the question."

■ Michigan

Libertarians in South Haven are trying to recruit residents being harassed for committing "civil infractions" — such as letting your grass grow higher than six inches, failing to remove snow from sidewalks, being on the beach late at night, and parking your boat trailer in the wrong place on your property.

"The city has been sending 'friendly reminder notices' to people in an attempt to get them to comply," said Van Buren County Chair **Bill Bradley**. "It's a bad idea to let people in government get away with this type of thing."

Bradley hopes some of the estimated 400 people who receive the notices will join the LP, or at least help him pay for a legal challenge.

"We want to completely overturn the concept of civil infraction," he said. "We believe



Rock for your rights in Wisconsin

■ Rolf C. Lindgren, Chair of the Dane County LP (Wisconsin), has a new "secret weapon" for recruiting new Libertarians: Women from the local Hooters Restaurant. Lindgren is shown here (with two Hooters employees) announcing prizes at the Libertarian Rock for Your Rights event in Madison, Wisconsin, on April 25. The event, which drew several hundred people, featured three live bands, 10 speakers, and a World's Smallest Political Quiz booth. Of those surveyed — primarily students from local colleges — 52% scored libertarian, which is "not scientific — [but] the results are revealing," said Lindgren.

they are a basic violation of human rights."

A civil infraction is a non-criminal act "for which officials in city government have the power to punish ordinary people," said Bradley.

■ Michigan

The Midwest Michigan LP is putting the "road" into the "Road to Victory" by pledging to clean up a two-mile stretch of highway in Osceola County as part of the state's "Adopt a High-

way" program.

"This gives us a chance to prove that the LP is concerned about the environment, while getting our name out in front of thousands of people every day," said vice chair **Greg Willis**. The highway now features signs with the LP's name on them, following the May 9 clean-up.

"This proves that Libertarians believe in doing something about problems rather than just talking them to death," said Willis.

Why Carla Howell, LP of Massachusetts Chair, Endorses David Bergland for National Chair

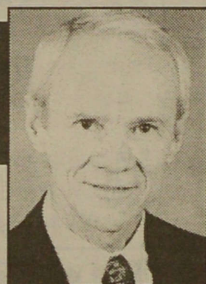
"David Bergland means even greater professionalism in the Libertarian Party. His *Libertarianism In One Lesson* is a shining example of principled persuasion. David Bergland will help us grow our state and local membership, and get us the tools and training we need to succeed. Please join me and vote for David Bergland."

— **Carla Howell**

State Chair, LP of Massachusetts



2 OF 4 ADS
IN THIS
ISSUE



BERGLAND

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■ New Jersey

A Libertarian officeholder who denounced zoning as "confiscation of private property" has won a victory for a local businessman who wanted to expand his restaurant.

Eugene Richards, who sits on the West Milford Zoning Board, persuaded his colleagues in late February to vote 5-to-2 to let the restaurant owner build in a residential zone.

To pro-zoning opponents, Richards argued: "Did anyone tell you that you had the right to control the properties around you? Have control over your *own* property, and leave [your] neighbor's alone.

"People buy an acre and they want to control as far as the eye can see," he said.

■ Ohio

Delegates at the state convention on April 25 unanimously passed a resolution to oppose an attempt by the state — which has a budget surplus of \$850 million — to raise sales taxes.

"The LP of Ohio is the only political party in the state on record opposing these two measures," said State Chair **Jim Babka**, who is urging Ohioans to simply "Vote no, and no!" on issues 1 and 2. The sales tax hike for public schools would cost the average family \$250 a year.

But instead of just opposing the taxes, the LP is also presenting voters with a solution to government-run schools: Dollar-for-dollar tax credits that allow parents to spend the money on the school of their choice.

"Let the money follow the students," Babka said. "Let's stop thinking of schools as buildings housing clusters of bureaucrats and start thinking of them as places where children learn."

■ Pennsylvania

For the first time, Philadelphia's registered Libertarians will get to vote for LP candidates in a primary election.

The reason? The LP was so successful in last November's elections that it earned the right to hold a primary on May 19, making the LP the first minor party to elect committeemen since the turn of the century.

"Historically, people who agree with Libertarian principles fail to register as Libertarians because they don't want to exclude

themselves from primary voting," said LP member **John Famularo**.

But now the party has fielded five candidates for committeeman, giving some of the city's 2,400 registered Libertarians an opportunity to vote in the primary, he said.

■ South Dakota

The state's governor has called LP gubernatorial candidate **Bob Newland** "nuts" for endorsing an end to Drug Prohibition — but then promptly admitted that the War On Drugs may

be lost anyway.

Governor Bill Janklow made the surprising admission at an April 2 debate with other Democratic candidates in Pierre.

Newland showed up uninvited, and wrangled a few minutes to speak — using the opportunity to note: "Nothing good has ever come out of the 30-year War on Drugs; it's a price-support system for drug dealers."

In response, Janklow called Newland "nuts" — before acknowledging the drug war may fail. "But we're going to fight the hell out of it anyway; it's a mis-

sionary zeal with me!" he said.

Newland countered, "I've just been called nuts by the governor" — and went on to note that the War on Drugs has led to an increase in the availability of illegal substances.

■ Texas

Lubbock LP members mounted a "grassroots attack" on a proposed tax increase — and torpedoed it for the fourth time in a row.

"It was sweet," said LP member **Richard H. King**. "The pro-taxers had a massive money ma-

chine with consultants, a do-it-for-the-sake-of-your-children guilt trip, and slick television ads with sobbing grandmothers. But we won — and they still don't know what hit them."

Libertarians orchestrated calls to talk radio, assembled home-made posters, and even made TV ads to rally opposition to the tax, which failed by a 2-to-1 margin in January.

But the city refuses to give up, King warned: "The power brokers are now threatening to raise property taxes. So soon it will be back to war!"



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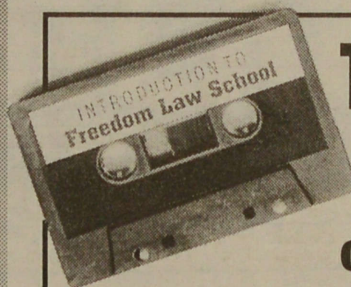


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■ Lori Frary may run for office again—but “I certainly would not run as a Republican.”

GOP candidate joins Indiana LP

A one-time Republican candidate for mayor in Evansville, Indiana, has left the GOP, saying she feels “more comfortable and more welcomed” in the Libertarian Party.

Lori Frary, who won more than 33% of the vote in the 1995 mayoral election, jumped ship to the LP in February, and made her public debut as a Libertarian at the Vanderburgh County convention on April 25th.

Her new political goal: To

help educate the public about the Libertarian Party.

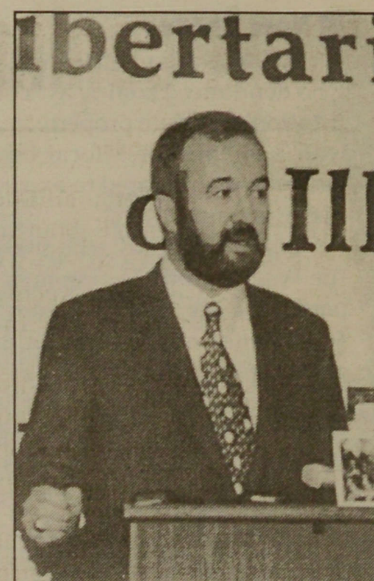
“I’m glad I could stay strong enough to say I’m a Libertarian and not care about winning or losing—but education,” said Frary.

Frary said she left the Republican Party because it didn’t support her campaign for mayor—but also because she found the Libertarian Party’s political positions more “appealing.”

Frary’s decision was welcomed by local LP leaders.

“Lori is a big recruit. She is a prominent person in town, good name recognition, with a lot of respect,” said Dean Hodges, the past Vice Chair of the LP of Vanderburgh County.

A long-time entrepreneur, Frary has started a number of businesses in the Evansville area. She also served on the Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Committee, and writes a monthly column for the *Evansville Business Journal*.



■ Jim Tobin: “Easily the best-known” LP candidate ever.

Illinois tax foe announces bid for governor

The most well-known anti-tax activist in Illinois has accepted the gubernatorial nomination of the Libertarian Party—and says he will take aim at “tax-and-spend Republicans” in his campaign.

Jim Tobin, the head of the National Taxpayers United of Illinois (NTUI), won the nomination on May 1. The announcement generated widespread media coverage, with journalists calling Tobin “easily the best known” candidate ever fielded by the state Libertarian Party.

Mike Ginsburg, State Chair of the Illinois LP, said he was “excited” about Tobin’s campaign.

“Jim is well-known and widely respected for his efforts to cut taxes and spending in Illinois,” he said. “The voters of Illinois will be provided with a real choice in the election.”

NTUI, an organization founded by Tobin in 1976, has 10,000 members and 200 affiliated clubs around the state.

Tobin said he was running because politicians refused to curb spending, despite a projected \$750 million to \$1.5 billion budget surplus.

“I told everyone that if the general assembly did not put the Tax Accountability Amendment on the ballot by the end of April, I would run,” he said. “Now, unlike so many of our elected officials, I am doing exactly what I said I would do.”

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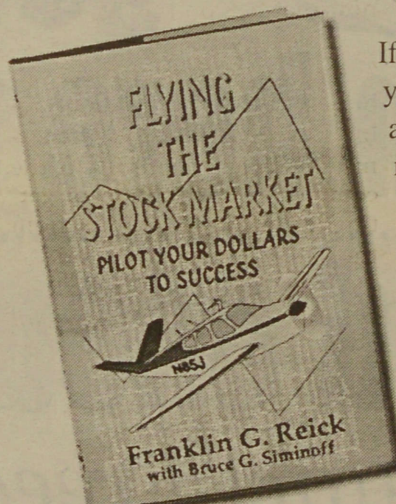
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Park commissioner fights 'welfare'

By Larry Hubner

Minnesota Libertarian Eric Johnson wasn't about to let the Lake St. Croix Beach have a blast at his expense — and that's how he got involved in politics.

Several summers ago he discovered the city had made plans to install a civil defense siren on an easement adjacent to his property.

"Naturally, I didn't want it next to my house, so I investigated how they determined how it should be placed there," he said.

Doing some digging, he discovered that the council project leader had used an unscaled map to determine placement.

"I attended the next council meeting showing them the error, and succeeded in having the siren placed next to the city hall," Johnson explained. "I came to the conclusion that if someone in authority can screw up something as simple as that, what else are they messing up?"

Obvious blunders

"I felt someone should keep an eye on things to ensure no obvious blunders are made."

That incident, coupled with an interest in boat mooring jurisdiction and administration, led to his present position.

Johnson, 36, recently accepted a position as a commissioner for the city of St. Croix Beach Park Commission. He ac-

LIBERTARIAN Profile OFFICE-HOLDER

cepted the position after serving as an alternate in the same capacity for more than a year.

Park Commission members, he said, consider and make recommendations on matters affecting management, development and planning of city parks. "The city of St. Croix beach has one of the nicest swimming

beaches on the St. Croix River, which gets very busy during the summer," he said.

"The Park Commission is instrumental in seeing that the beach is operated efficiently and in a fair manner, balancing the interests of residents adjacent to the beach area with the public using the beach."

So far, he said, he hasn't been able to put his libertarian "stamp" on the Park Commission, but that hasn't stopped him from speaking up when he thought government spending was unnecessary.

As an alternate, he wasn't able to cast a vote after the Park Commission applied for a Min-

nesota Department of Natural Resources matching grant — however, his was the sole voice set against the "spend-spend" mentality of local government.

The Commission wanted to improve the picnic grounds adjacent to the swimming beach, but "something about the project bothered me," he said. "While a few improvements would be justified, I didn't see a pressing need for a pavilion or a basketball court on the empty lot."

Corporate welfare

"At the time, I wasn't able to discern my specific objections to the project. Later, it dawned on me that the matching grant was a sort of corporate welfare, only in this case it was from the state to a local government. This grant encouraged greater public spending for unnecessary projects while masking the total cost."

Does Johnson have a different perspective on government now that he's on the inside?

"Not really," he answered. "While the commissioners can be very conscientious about doing what is best for the community, they get caught up in the common misperception of getting something for nothing from the state or federal government."

■ Reprinted from the January/April 1998 issue of the Minnesota Libertarian. This is the first in an occasional series of profiles of Libertarian office-holders.



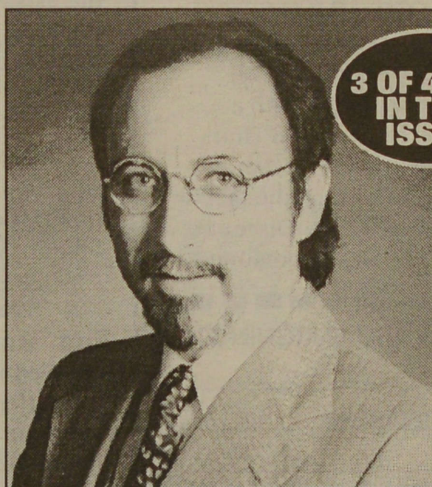
■ Eric Johnson, St. Croix Beach (MN) Park Commissioner

Why Jim Hudler, Chair of Libertarians for Gay & Lesbian Concerns, supports David Bergland for National Chair

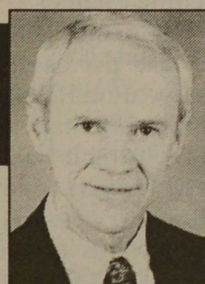
"David Bergland: Principled leadership from the man who wrote the book. I've known David Bergland for 22 years. Through his Vice-Presidential campaign and Presidential campaign. I served with him on the Libertarian National Committee. He's professional, an outstanding team player, and unfailingly fair. David is a principled and professional Libertarian leader. Please vote David Bergland for National Chair."

— Jim Hudler

Chair, Libertarians for Gay & Lesbian Concerns



3 OF 4 ADS
IN THIS
ISSUE



BERGLAND NATIONAL CHAIR

Performance — not just promises

David Bergland for Libertarian National Chair ★ 714-966-1211 ★ www.libertarianism.com

THE ISSUES

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

Do racist government policies hurt blacks?

Uncle Sam should wear a white sheet — because he can be as racist as the Ku Klux Klan, the Libertarian Party charged.

"The government cheats African-Americans out of their Social Security payments; routinely harasses them for DWB; and disproportionately arrests them for drug crimes," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national chairman. "Government policies keep black Americans poor, afraid, and in jail." For example:

■ According to a study by the Heritage Foundation, the average black man actually earns a negative rate of return on his lifetime of Social Security payments — getting back less than he paid in. "The average black male pays into the system for his entire life, collects eight months, and dies," said Congressman Mark Sanford (R-SC).

■ It's a "crime" called Driving While Black (DWB) — and results in African-Americans being stopped for alleged traffic violations far more frequently than white drivers. Some examples: Between Baltimore and Delaware, 73% of the police traffic stops involved African-Americans. In one town in Pennsylvania, 96% of the drivers stopped by police were black or Hispanic.

■ More blacks are being arrested at a faster rate on drug charges, says the Center for Substance Research. Since the early 1980s, the arrest rate for African-Americans on drug charges has soared by 156%, compared to a 49% increase for whites.

What can be done to reverse this government inequity? "Freedom would be a better friend for African-Americans than government," answered Dasbach. "The great thing about freedom is that it's color-blind — unlike the government."

Prescription drugs: 20 times more dangerous

Doctors kill far more people every year than drug pushers do — a fact that should make sensible Americans start to question the War on Drugs, the Libertarian Party said.

In April, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported that properly prescribed legal drugs kill 106,000 Americans every year — 20 times more than illegal drugs do.

"Will politicians declare a War on Medicine?" asked Steve Dasbach. "Of course not. So why are we spending \$17 billion on the War on Drugs and restricting civil liberties to try to solve a problem that's one-fifth as dangerous as modern medicine?"

The study found that prescribed medications claim 106,000 lives a year because of toxic reactions. By comparison, only 5,212 Americans die annually from illegal drugs, according to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

"This means that doctor-prescribed drugs kill 20 times more people every year than drugs peddled on street corners," said Dasbach. "The health consequences of illegal drugs are vastly overstated by politicians — apparently to justify the costly government program they call the War on Drugs."

129 days to "feed the greed" of politicians

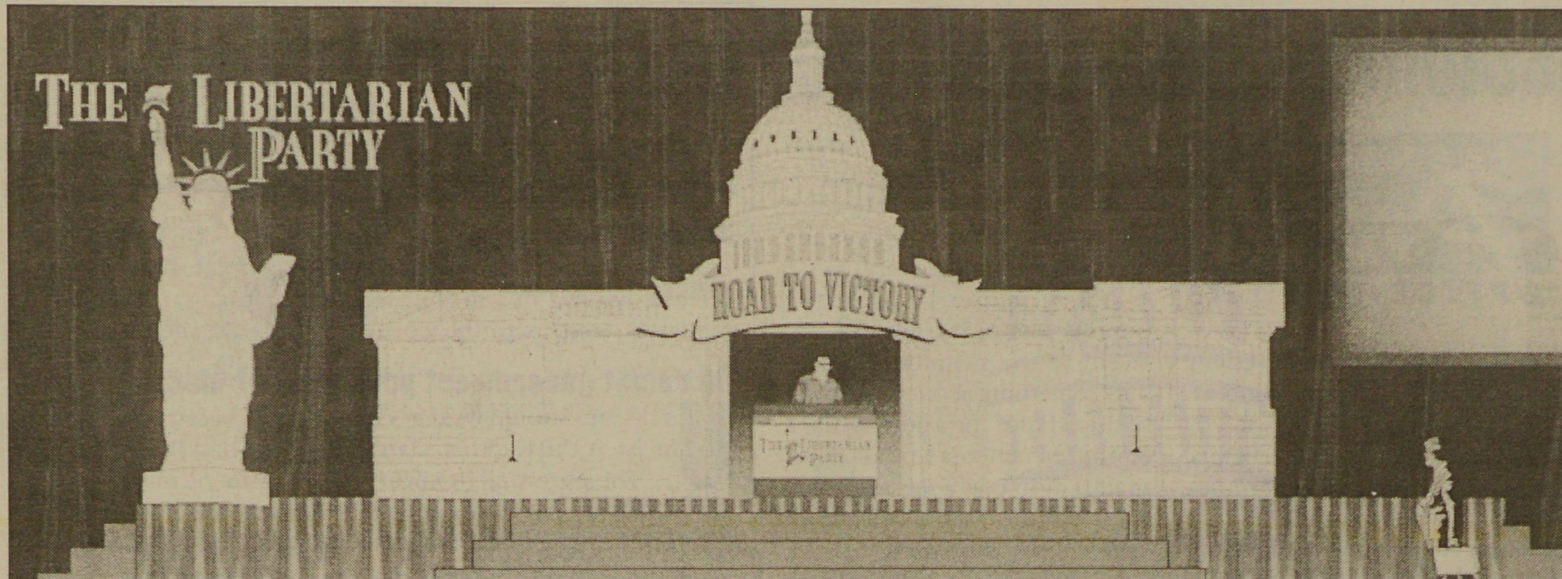
Tax Freedom Day falls on Sunday, May 10th this year — but Americans shouldn't celebrate it, they should be furious, the Libertarian Party said.

"Americans should be outraged that they slave for 129 days to feed the greed of politicians," said Steve Dasbach. "Tax Freedom Day is a painful reminder that we spend one-third of our lives working for politicians. And unless Americans get angry and start doing something about it, it will only get worse."

According to the Tax Foundation it takes 129 days for the average American to earn enough money to pay his or her share of federal, state, and local taxes.

Is there a solution — or are Americans doomed to let politicians grab an ever-larger percentage of their money?

"There is a solution," said Dasbach. "If taxes are the disease, Libertarians are the cure. If you think you can spend your own money better than the politicians, then start voting Libertarian. The Libertarian Party is working every day to slash taxes and let Americans keep more of what they earn."



Convention stage?

◀ Is this what the stage in the Convention Hall will look like? Not necessarily — this is just a preliminary artist's rendering. "But we do know that it will feature a huge, 18-foot-tall three-dimensional scale model of the U.S. Capitol as a backdrop," said Convention organizer Kris Williams. "You'll have to attend the convention — or tune in to C-SPAN — to see how this spectacular stage turns out."

CONVENTION NEWS

Sharpen your political skills at Convention '98

Continued from Page 1

5, 1998) the following workshops will be offered:

■ **The Secrets of Effective Local Organizing**, by former LP National Director Perry Willis: During his tenure as Chair of the San Diego LP, membership grew to exceed that of most state parties. Willis will discuss ways to build strong, effective, and growing local parties — including his innovative concept

of "free market" meetings.

■ **Read All About It! Effective LP Newsletters**, by LP Director of Communications Bill Winter: New Hampshire's *Libertarian Lines* newsletter, which he edited for six years, was widely praised as the best state newsletter in the country. With a background in graphic design, writing, and editing, Winter will discuss the 10 rules that guarantee a better newsletter.

■ **Running To Win Campaign Workshop**: It's an all-star line-up of Libertarian campaign experts and successful LP candidates: Ron Crickenberger (LP National Director, who managed the successful city council campaign of Bruce Van Buren in Georgia); Barbara Goushaw (head of the Libertarian Campaign Managers Association); Sandi Webb (two-term member of the Simi Valley, California,

City Council); Bruce Van Buren (mayor pro-tem of Avondale Estates, Georgia); Fred Collins (member of the Berkley, Michigan, City Council); and Aaron Starr (head of CELLO — the Committee to Elect Libertarians to Office).

■ **Mastering the Media**, by LP Director of Communications Bill Winter: He appeared on C-SPAN, *The Montel Williams Show*, NewsTalk Television, and dozens of radio talk shows and television news broadcasts. During his tenure, the party has earned front-page stories in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Insight* magazine, and *Investor's Business Daily*. He will discuss the basic techniques for getting more publicity — including developing media lists, writing successful press releases, and representing the party effectively on the air.

In addition

In addition to those workshops — which are included at no extra cost as part of the Gold, Silver, or Bronze Convention packages — there will be a special "**Grass Roots Campaigning**" seminar with Jerry Russell on Wednesday, July 1.

Offered at a separate price from the rest of the Convention, the intensive, all-day session will focus on "low-cost, highly effective grass roots campaigning techniques" — which are the speciality of Russell, a professional campaign consultant with a 70% winning record.

"This Convention won't just be exciting and inspirational," said Williams. "With this line-up of workshops, it can also be the most politically educational experience of your life!"

Change the LP platform?

Do you think the LP Platform can be improved? If so, you will be able to play a role in shaping the 1998 version of the LP Platform — whether or not you attend the Convention.

"The field is wide open and all Libertarians should be encouraged to lobby the Platform Committee member of their choice to submit whatever changes they believe would be beneficial for the party," said interim committee chair John Buttrick.

The 20 members of the Platform Committee will discuss Platform proposals in the weeks leading up to their meeting in Washington DC on June 30. When the convention is called to order, the committee will propose changes to the delegates.

For a complete list of committee delegates, contact Buttrick at: 2244 Encanto Dr., N.E., Phoenix, AZ, 85007-1516. Call: (602) 257-896. Fax: (602) 351-8516. E-mail: buttrick@brownbain.com.

LEARN HOW TO WIN ELECTIONS WITH GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING

In conjunction with the 1998 LP National Convention, Jerry Russell, president of Campaign Consultants, will present an intensive seminar on winning elections. Russell, 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 June 1.

SIGN ME UP FOR GRASS ROOTS CAMPAIGNING!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

ST _____

ZIP _____

OCCUPATION _____

EMPLOYER _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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

ACCT # _____

EXPIRES _____

SIGNATURE _____

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

JERRY RUSSELL

Special Delegate Package: \$59

A special package deal has been announced for Convention Delegates: For only \$59.00, delegates get a Convention Hall floor pass (includes all Main Hall speakers), access to the Exhibit Hall, and souvenir bag. (Does not include break-out speakers or evening events.)

■ **Other prices:** Single-Day pass: \$49 per day. (Includes Convention Hall floor pass, Victory briefings, and access to the Exhibit Hall.)

■ **Individual event tickets:** Road to Victory Gala Honors & Awards Banquet ticket (\$100) and the Capitol Steps event (\$25). Prices good through June 30, 1998.

THE
ROAD
TO

VICTORY

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 2-5, 1998 ★ WASHINGTON DC

The Elected "Experts!"



SANDI WEBB

A two-term Simi Valley (California) City Council member, she's made headlines for carrying a gun in "dangerous" areas like Los Angeles; (she explains, "The Second Amendment is my permit"); walking out of a meeting with Senator Diane Feinstein; and forcing the local police to end their de-facto ban on issuing concealed-carry permits.

■ NEW EVENT ADDED: *Solving Local Problems the Libertarian Way!*

Hear three of the Libertarian Party's "Elected Experts" — **Sandi Webb** (City Council, California), **Brian Thomas** (Town Meeting Member, Massachusetts) and **Dewayne Metheny** (Mayor, Georgia) talk about the challenges they've faced in their positions — and how they have used Libertarian ideas and proposals to solve local problems. It's a unique opportunity to see the LP's best-and-brightest political stars talk about "real world" politics, when theory comes crashing into... Republicans and Democrats!



BRIAN THOMAS

He parlayed his 18 years of experience in the broadcasting industry into an election victory in 1997, winning a seat as a Town Meeting Member in Holbrook, Massachusetts. This combination of talents has made him one of the LP's rising stars of political communications.



DEWAYNE METHENY

He's the Libertarian Party's newest mayor — stepping into the top spot in Auburn, Georgia, in mid-May after citizens voted to recall their former mayor. Since he was first elected as the only Libertarian on the City Council, "the job has proved anything but dull," he said.

◆ DATE

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

◆ LOCATION

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

◆ EVENTS

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

◆ LODGING

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

◆ CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received after May 2nd can not be refunded.

◆ MORE INFORMATION?

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

REGISTER BY MAY 31 AND SAVE MONEY!

CONVENTION GOLD PACKAGE

Only \$289: All panels, all speakers, floor pass, convention souvenir, program booklet, the Capitol Steps, 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, & meals.

SIGN ME UP FOR THE ROAD TO

VICTORY

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LOWER PRICES
END ON
MAY 31!

Yes! Sign me up for: (Prices good until May 31)

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

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

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

For the "Delegate Package," Single Day pass, or individual event tickets:

☐ **OTHER** (Specify w/price): _____

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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

[W] [H] _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL: _____

EMPLOYER _____

OCCUPATION _____

■ Payment:

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

ACCT. # _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Make checks payable to: 1998 National Libertarian Party Convention

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

■ Special Needs?

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

- ☐ Visual ☐ Mobility ☐ Hearing
- ☐ Dietary ☐ Other: _____

■ To Register:

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

Call toll-free: (800) 722-5141

Fax: (202) 234-3884

Via e-mail: LPNATCONV@aol.com

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

CANDIDATE'S FORUM

"Why I'm running for National LP Chair"

David Bergland

Why am I running for Libertarian Party National Chair? Because I see a major problem on the horizon for the party. In the next two years the Libertarian Party may bring in 100,000 new members. (Yes, that's a problem!) I welcome the opportunity to contribute to its solution.

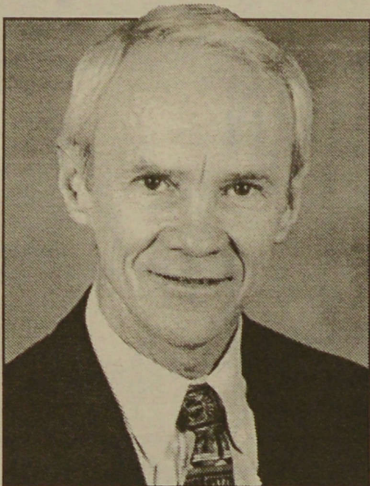
If we continue on our present course, as I intend, our recent dramatic membership growth will accelerate. We must be ready to assimilate tens of thousands of new members over the next two years: Find projects for them, educate them in the party's history and philosophy, and give them reason to stay. I want to bring new blood into the party as rapidly as possible by continuing our tremendously effective membership recruitment projects. Consequently, the party must adopt policies and programs that will provide an effective infrastructure at every level so that our flourishing grassroots will have outlets to sustain their enthusiasm.

A major commitment

Membership growth must continue to be our overriding goal. When a person becomes a Party member, it means many things, all positive. The new member makes a major commitment to liberty. It is not easy for people to leave old political affiliations. They join us because they are motivated. They make a commitment to new levels of activism and financial support.

The more members we have, the larger our pool of talent and resources. More people with experience and new ideas to be candidates and campaign managers. More people to be active locally in efforts to protect our fellow citizens from tax increases and boondoggles. More financial support for campaigns and voter education. More influence on the media — because, to them, numbers count.

Membership growth begets membership growth. Size means credibility, not just to the media, but to potential new members. Many current members joined when they became convinced



that the party had become large enough to be worth supporting. As we grow, our growth accelerates.

My goal is to ensure that the Libertarian Party, by the 2000 presidential campaign, is just too big to ignore. National membership recently passed the 25,000 mark, doubling in approximately two years. My goal is at least 50,000 members by July 1999 and 100,000 by our presidential nominating convention in July 2000. Ambitious? Yes. Challenging? Definitely. But also achievable. Success will mean credibility and media attention as never before.

Effective organization is as important as numbers. It is the solution to the "problem" of tens of thousands of new members. They will get involved in our state and local organizations: as our candidates, our campaign managers and workers, our petitioners and precinct walkers. They are our grassroots.

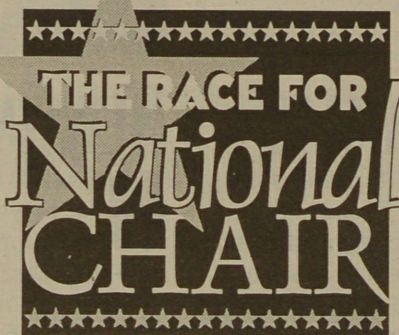
Increased support

The Libertarian National Committee and headquarters staff have primary responsibility for presidential ballot access and presidential campaigns.

But that's not all. With increased membership and the additional funds generated, the party has increased its support for affiliate parties through such projects as the Unified Membership Plan and the Success '97 programs that brought experts in organization, fundraising, and campaigning to grassroots activists. I intend to expand such support

See BERGLAND Page 15

At the Libertarian Party National Convention in Washington DC (July 2-5, 1998), party delegates will have the vitally important task of selecting a new National Chair — the person who will lead the party for the next two years.



LP News asked the two announced candidates to explain "Why I'm Running For National Chair" — and outline their background, plans, and vision for the party.

Gene Cisewski

Are you more free today than when the Libertarian Party was founded 27 years ago? If you can say government is less intrusive, then you'd be wise to do the George Bush thing and stay the course.

Yet if you share my fear that we have not made enough of a dent in our mission to create a libertarian society through the electoral process, we have work to do.

The LP stands on the brink of great opportunity. Yet if we are not more effective in our work for freedom, you and I won't see liberty in our lifetime. With your support, I will help lead us to new victories — victories not measured only in membership numbers, but also by the changes in government that will make a difference in your life.

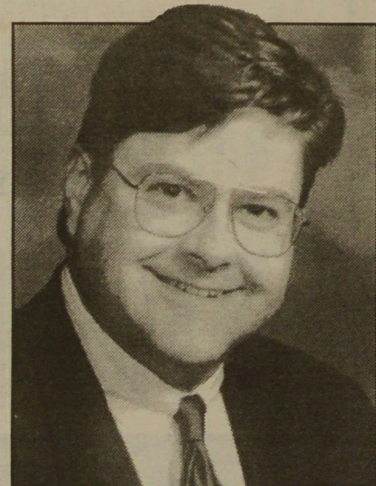
The first step is a reality check. In strategic planning, one calls this situation analysis. We look at our resources, both in financial areas and people power. We also have to honestly look at what it is we must conquer to succeed.

Grassroots elections

To change government, we have to win in the electoral arena. Some say the Socialists won much of what they wanted without winning elections. That's not true. They won grassroots elections. They captured 42 significant mayorships, taking over entire city and county governments. The reason Democrats adopted so much of that agenda had nothing to do with enlightenment. It was the power they were rapidly losing at the grassroots. This historical lesson must not be lost on us today.

Campaigns and Elections reports more than 500,000 elected offices in the country. We have about 160. How can anybody tell you that we can make a significant difference in the way you are governed at our current pace?

More money and members are important for success. There's universal agreement about that. Having raised more than a million dollars for libertarians in the last three years, along with 20



years in broadcast advertising and direct mail marketing, guarantees that I can continue those successes. Yet these two elements alone are not enough. It's irresponsible to suggest that when party membership reaches some magical number, we'll be contenders. We have to build the infrastructure that provides us with our product: viable candidates.

Other strategic elements I will pursue in developing a strong partnership with all levels of our party, include:

■ Getting political operatives into the field to train grassroots leaders the elements of political success is a priority. It's teaching people to fish rather than throwing them a fish. As state and local parties grow, the need for this service will diminish. Yet we will have a trained crop of professional organizers to provide the pool of talent from which grassroots parties can tap for their own staffs.

■ We also have to act on growing libertarian sentiments on campuses. Most folks adopt life-long politics in their late teens to early twenties. It's more cost efficient bringing people into the party when they are receptive than waiting until they're stuck in a rut. Young folks don't represent the biggest voting block or great potential for donors in the short term, yet their life-long contributions will keep our party alive and growing.

■ We have to build up our candidates with the media. When the national office books media appearances, they must

See CISEWSKI Page 15

Bergland

Continued from Page 14
port programs.

In addition, the national headquarters provides a national media program of press releases and responses to increasing media inquiries. As we have grown, media demands for information have multiplied. We must prepare for dramatic increases in this demand.

Our party must move from a primarily volunteer-operated organization to a professional nonprofit business. The Chief

Executive Officer responsibilities of the Chair have become too demanding for a part-time volunteer. I plan to create a full-time Chief Executive Officer staff position and intend to appoint Steve Dasbach, who is stepping down from the position of National Chair, as CEO. Steve is eminently qualified for the position by experience and temperament.

I plan for a transition with stability. I will keep the Dasbach team: Ron Crickenberger (National Director); Bill Winter (Communications Director); George Getz (Press Secretary); Nick Dunbar (Office Manager); Kris Williams (Special Projects); and Dan Smith (Affiliate Services Manager). Former National Director Perry Willis will continue as an independent contractor working on membership development.

Why am I uniquely qualified to be National Chair? I have been

a Libertarian Party candidate five times, National Chair and LNC member. I know how these different roles can and must work together. My experience includes serving on corporate boards and advising corporations on legal matters. I have over 20 years of experience, speaking with the media and before groups, telling the libertarian story.

Finally, since my 1984 presidential campaign, I have studied effective communication and conducted programs to help libertarians improve communication skills. I will bring this experience to the Chair position to help the party develop into the dominant political force it deserves to be in the year 2000.

I'm proud of my record. It tells you what to expect: Performance, not just promises.

For information: (714) 966-1211 or www.libertarianism.com

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Awards for Activists!

The Advocates for Self-Government wants to recognize and reward outstanding libertarian activism — and encourage a lot more of it.

Our new "Lights of Liberty" program gives award certificates, public recognition, prizes, discount coupons and more to all libertarians who accomplish any one of the following outreach goals in 1998:

- 1) **Letters:** Publish three letters to the editor that use the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" in a positive light.
- 2) **Operation Politically Homeless:** Take part in three OPH booths during 1998.
- 3) **Public speaking:** Deliver three speeches to non-libertarian groups such as service clubs, classrooms, Toastmasters, political rallies, etc.



Harry Browne endorses "Lights of Liberty"

"I like the Advocates' 'Lights of Liberty' program . . . I feel strongly that we have to build name recognition for the words 'libertarian' and 'libertarianism' — by attaching the words publicly to specific proposals, analyses, and ideas. Lights of Liberty is an excellent way to further that goal."

You can be a Light of Liberty! Let's take libertarianism to millions with "Lights of Liberty!" Call us or check out our Web site now for details.

Advocates for Self-Government

■ Phone: 800-932-1776 ■ Web: www.self-gov.org

Cisewski

Continued from Page 14

tap a database of LP candidates and office holders. They have to have the exposure to earn credibility in the electoral arena.

We have to run more races to win. Taking advantage of easier ballot access will backfire if we do not score more victories. Without that, a losers' image will be the perpetual view of the LP among the media and voters. Consider Republican Harold Stassen — a legitimate contender in the 1950s. After racking up many losses, he was only a joke. Similarly, American Communist Gus Hall ran for president so frequently it signaled his ideology's death.

Finally, I want a national office without so much as the appearance of conflict of interest for our 2000 presidential contest. The party belongs to all members. It cannot give the appearance of favoring one good candidate over another. Harry Browne is a great spokesperson for the LP. Yet names like Jacob Hornberger and Walter Williams have recently circulated as people who might carry our banner in 2000. I want them to compete for your support on a level playing field.

The reality check portion of strategic planning for the LP's growth and future can be almost daunting, yet I'm optimistic. If we channel our talents more effectively, you and I will see liberty in our lifetime. If you share my view that we can do even better I'd appreciate your support.

If you'd like more information, visit our web site at www.cisewski.com or call Jesse Markowitz at: (301) 990-7512.

POLITICAL NEWS

Famularo announces run for Treasurer

John Famularo, past secretary of the national Libertarian Party and current treasurer of the LP of Pennsylvania, has announced that he is running for the office of treasurer of the national LP.



If elected at the National Convention in Washington DC (July 2-5, 1998), Famularo said he had several goals:

■ "First, the Libertarian National Committee needs a treasurer with more attention to detail and a commitment to see that the office staff and accountants provide the necessary reports to the new Board of Directors and local officers

so that they can perform their fiduciary and oversight duties more effectively. We must assure that the reports we are required to file with various agencies are complete and accurate," he said.

■ "Second, I will encourage the National Committee and all other activists to include a continuing critical analysis of the party at all levels along with praising individual and group successes. I would like to influence the strategic planning of the party to emphasize recruitment and training of local candidates in addition to membership and registration growth. A real political party consists of credible candidates running competitive campaigns at the local level," he said.

■ "Third, we must consider the value of decentralization. We should lead by example and demonstrate how a national organization can achieve goals and objectives while working to decentralize our operations and resist the tendency to create and expand centralized bureaucracies," he said. "Decentralization is a difficult concept to sell because it goes against popular cliches such as 'Economy of Scale' and 'Maximizing scarce resources,' but these are the same excuses used to justify and promote the same strong federal and state bureaucracies that Libertarians ridicule for their inefficiency and conflicts of interest."

Famularo has a 15-year history of LP activism: He has served as membership chairman and State Chair of the LP of Pennsylvania; has been Philadelphia County Chairman since 1993; and was an LP candidate for State Assembly, State Treasurer, and Philadelphia City Controller. Professionally, he is a management consultant and software developer in private practice.

For more information on the Famularo campaign, call (215) 545-6994. E-mail: Famularo@erols.com. World wide web: www.erols.com/famularo.

Presser seeks At-Large LNC position

Janice Presser, State Chair of the New Jersey LP, is seeking a spot on the Libertarian National Committee as an At-Large Representative, and promises to provide "energy, commitment, and creativity" if elected.



"As State Chair of the NJLP, I have been responsible for creating infrastructure and motivating volunteer effort where there was none," she said. "I have achieved my first goal, to get a candidate for each Congressional seat in NJ, and plan to work on a unified 'Enough is Enough: Vote Libertarian' statewide campaign."

As an LNC member, Presser said she would contribute "mature, experienced management" talent, "excellent public relations skills and contacts," and "high energy!"

If elected, she said she had two major goals: "Increase national support of states. Get people running and elected. [I] believe that as the state [party] needs to support the local groups, that the national [Libertarian Party] needs to support the states."

Presser is a four-time Libertarian Party candidate: Twice for NJ State Assembly, for which she was endorsed by a major newspaper, and twice for U.S. Congress.

Professionally, Presser is the Director of Human Resources for a \$75 million company. She is also a Certified Clinical Member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

For more information on the Presser campaign, call (609) 273-3253. E-mail: jpresser@netaxs.com.

THE FORUM

Eliminate 'small-party' rhetoric

Is it time to make the LP Platform more reader-friendly?

The Libertarian Party will be considering changes to its Platform at our convention in July. The decisions we make will have much to do with determining whether we are to remain a small party or become a major party.

There are two roads a minor party can take. It can decide that it just wants to serve an educational function, not worry about winning elections, and hope to have an influence on the major parties. This is an honorable course of action which the Libertarian Party followed in its first 20 years or so.

The other road, which the LP decided to take about five or six years ago, is to try to become a major party — to grow enough in size to challenge the Democrats and Republicans on an equal footing.

Why would we take such a course? Other small parties, such as the Socialists, have had a major influence on politics while getting few votes. But the Democrats and Republicans can't buy votes with libertarianism the way they can with socialism, so they'll never embrace it the way they did the socialist creed.

And Republicans and Democrats don't get libertarianism. They're never going to until we show them how it's done. It's going to take real libertarians — people like us — in office, to bring about a libertarian society. If we wait for the D's and R's to do it, it will never happen.

"In-your-face"

If you listen to the rhetoric of a small party like the Socialist Party, you'll find that it has a very demanding, self-righteous tone.

Because they "know" they're right, they simply assert their positions but don't explain any thought process behind them. It's "in-your-face" socialism which just hopes to shock. The style and tone of their rhetoric immediately brand them as a small party that expects to remain a small party.

Unfortunately, the Libertarian Party Platform has traces of this kind of "in-your-face" rhetoric. It says "demand" when it could say "advocate;" it says "abolish" when it could say "pri-

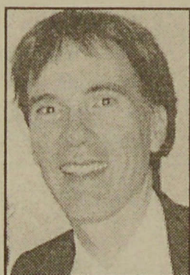
vate." It often fails to explain the reasoning process that led to our positions. It just tosses the results of our thinking at people and expects them to get it. It complains

about the way the world is but doesn't say much about how a Libertarian world would be better. It says a great deal about what we're against but not much about what we're for.

Preaches to the choir

Like the Socialist rhetoric, it preaches to the choir but isn't likely to convince many people who don't already agree with us. It makes us seem like a group that will always be outside of the halls of power, shaking its fists and shouting loudly.

We need to sound more like calm, reasoned members of mainstream society who expect



By Tom Regnier

to wield the levers of power responsibly as we dismantle large chunks of government.

Take the Platform's education plank, for example. It demands separation of school and state and says government funding of schools should stop. That's fine, but there's something missing.

Suppose you're a young parent with small children. You will search our platform in vain for any clue as to how you're going to educate your children in a libertarian society.

You will read that plank and come away thinking, "I can't afford to send my kids to private schools" and think that the Libertarians are intent only on destroying institutions but with no constructive alternatives.

Of course, we know that we have alternative solutions that are much better than the present system. But in our Platform we don't even give the reader the courtesy of mentioning what they are.

When someone asks me about the Libertarian Party, I might give him the World's

Smallest Political Quiz, or a flyer from the national party, or a book by Harry Browne or David Bergland. I know I'm playing with fire if I give him the platform. He may be ready for it, but a great many people aren't.

That's why we need to clean up the rhetorical style of our platform — just the style, not the principles.

We don't have to compromise our principles; we just have to express them better. It should be easy. We have what everyone wants — freedom. If we sell it right, people will buy it.

We need to apply what we've learned from the Advocates for Self-Government and from great libertarian communicators such as Harry Browne and Mary Ruwart.

A major party?

The issue is this — do we want to remain a small party or do we want to be a major party?

Do we want to keep on losing elections or do we want to grow to such a size that we can start winning them?

We don't have 20 or 30 years to get the job done. We're not going to grow as a party by being self-righteous.

We're going to grow by communicating to people what a glorious world a libertarian world would be. And we can do that much better.

■ **Editor's note:** Tom Regnier is a member of the National Platform Committee and the Secretary of the Florida LP. You can reach him at TRegnier@aol.com.

For Lori, with love

I was asked by a good friend what I bought my wife Lori for Valentine's Day. I said I had bought her a .25 caliber handgun with a laser sight.

My friend then informed me that a handgun is not a very romantic gift for Valentine's Day. To which I replied, "What could be *more* romantic, loving, and caring than giving those you love the means to protect themselves? Certainly, I'd rather see my wife put a bullet in a crook than become a rape or robbery victim."

My friend then smiled and said my point was well taken but she herself could never carry a gun for self-defense for fear a criminal might take the gun away and use it on her because she wouldn't have the nerve to pull the trigger.

I told her she could go shooting with me and Lori. Once she became more familiar with firearms, she'd have more self-confidence and less to fear — just like Lori. Lori was once shy of guns but now wants to go shooting all the time. Lori finds it both

By Don Johnstun

relaxing and fun. She said she would consider tagging along, and for us to let her know next time we go shooting.

I believe a handgun is a very loving gift for any occasion and a very Libertarian way to say, "I love you." What's more, I think that *all* women should carry a concealed weapon of some sort for self-defense (although I wouldn't browbeat anybody into doing so or recommend a law being passed to require such).

Still too scared?

At any rate, until our friend works through her gun phobia, Lori suggests that we get her some pepper spray, which makes me wonder: What good is pepper spray, if you're still too scared to squeeze the trigger?

Unfortunately, our friend lives in a high-crime area and works the night shift. So we're concerned. Nobody wants to see anyone become a crime victim . . . especially your friends. But sometimes that's what it takes for some people to learn the importance of self-preservation.

Next year, I think I'll give Lori flowers with a box of ammo. But please don't tell her. I want it to be a surprise.

■ Reprinted from the Spring 1998 issue of the Utah Liberator.



The quiet power of the phrase: "You sound like a libertarian"

Last month, I attended a memorial ceremony for Richard Misare. Richard was a professor at Metropolitan State College. He was also the brother of the person I consider my best friend from college.

At the dedication, I had the chance to talk to my friend. I had not seen Bruce and his wife, Sally, for almost 12 years. As things do, the conversation turned to what I am doing now. This brought us straight to the Libertarian Party, since working as the Fundraising Director of the Colorado LP is a major part of what I am doing.

Bruce has always held a special place in my life, not because he was a great friend, or because of his devotion to Sally, or because he was so educated about things I didn't know.

No, the one very special thing Bruce did was to say to me one day, "You sound like a Libertarian." Just that and nothing more. Of course I asked him what that was and he gave me the two-to three-minute version. I took it upon myself to locate the Libertarian Party, get information, and join. The year was 1978.

Fancy talk

Did Bruce try to convert me with fancy talk? Did he stun me with the various logical arguments Libertarians are so fond of? Did he convince me the error of my beliefs? No, none of that. All he said was, "You sound like a Libertarian."

After I left the ceremony, I reflected on where I'd gone since that fateful summer day almost two decades ago. I wondered if Bruce had any idea how many Libertarians he created that day.

Like a multi-level marketing downline, his one sentence has created a large "empire." My sister Michele followed my lead several years later and joined the party. My friend Steve joined and has been busy telling others about the LP. My friend Tom

joined. Even an Oregon man I met over the Internet joined and now his roommate is joining. All of these and more have joined the LP because of that simple sentence:

"You sound like a Libertarian."

Johnny, my friend in Oregon, says I convinced him to become a Libertarian. Yet I don't remember mentioning the Libertarian Party except in passing. Politics were never really discussed. Yet within a couple of weeks of our meeting, the man joined the LP of Oregon.

What brought him to our side? Could it be that I said to him, in my own way, "You sound like a Libertarian"?

I once gave the World's Smallest Political Quiz to someone who scored very liberal. My



By Bette Rose Smith

sister made an attempt to explain to him why the Libertarian approach is better but was distracted. The conversation fell to me and I simply told him, "You should most likely be registered as a Democrat."

He was curious about my attitude. I replied, "My job is not to convert you. My job right now is to locate libertarians who don't know they're libertarians."

Right now, that should be one of the jobs of all activist Libertarians. Over 20% of Americans hold libertarian views. Finding those Libertarians is an easy task, as I have proven again and again, as Michele has shown over and over.

And as Bruce learned, sometimes it only takes a sentence, said at the right moment. Sometimes all it takes is saying, "You sound like a Libertarian."

■ Editor's note: Bette Rose Smith is the Fundraising Director for the Colorado LP. Her sister, Michele Bethke, is now the State Chair of the Colorado LP.

ONMEDIA

Welcome to "On Media," a new, semi-regular column that will keep an eye on LP appearances in the media . . .

The National Review seemed to enjoy the LP's slap at the Education Department for spending \$1.3 million to closed-caption the Jerry Springer Show. The magazine quoted LP Chairman Steve Dasbach in its April 6 issue: "If you want to see something really offensive, watch C-SPAN as Congress votes to squander our money on such ridiculous programs . . ." Data point: LP guests or press releases have recently been featured by five of the nation's 10 most popular talk hosts: **Art Bell, Jim Bohannon, G. Gordon Liddy, Dean Edell, and Bob Grant**. Total combined listenership: 27 million people . . .

A veddy British quote: **The Financial Times** of London (March 28) included the LP perspective on the Arkansas school shooting: "Steve Dasbach, national chairman of the Libertarian Party, said that for every innocent victim murdered by guns, there are dozens alive 'because of the defensive use of guns . . .'" On April 15, CBS's **Gil Gross** (170 stations) kicked off his Tax Day show by reading the LP's "Top 10 most ridiculous things the government will spend your money on this year . . ." Columnist Scott Porter at the **Daily Gazette** (Sterling, IL) confessed on April 3 to having "a Libertarian streak" . . . Yes, that was an LP spokesman on the **Jim Bohannon Show** (April 6). Topic: The Paula Jones case. Highlight: An elderly woman called and said, "If anyone did to me what Bill Clinton did to Paula Jones, I'd slap him — I don't care if it was the Pope!" . . . No joke: The LP office got a call on May 6 from a Polish newspaper, **Nagwyszcz Czas**. One comment: "Our readers will think it strange that you Americans bother to fight taxes, because they are so low compared to ours . . ."

By George Getz

LP Press Secretary

Libertarian Party Membership

The Power of Just One Signature

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

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

Make a stand for freedom!
Join the Libertarian Party today!

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

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

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

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

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

■ Subscription

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

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

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(No corporate checks, please.)
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Libertarian Party Affiliates:

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

Libertarian Party Platform:

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

From THE CHAIR

The LP's bright future

It is an exciting time to be a Libertarian!

After years of trying to talk like Libertarians, the Republican Congress has demonstrated that they simply wanted to be the ones dispensing the pork. Americans looking to reduce the power and expense of government have to look elsewhere — and they are. They're joining the Libertarian Party.

Meanwhile, the Democrats have given up any pretense that they support the Bill of Rights. Whether the issue is censorship of the Internet or the infamy of asset forfeiture, Americans who defend the rights of the individual have to look elsewhere — and they are. They're joining the Libertarian Party.

After years of struggling to overcome the ballot-access barriers erected by the old parties, we have finally grown large enough to finance significant growth. In 1994, 23 years after the LP began, we had less than 10,000 members. Today, just four years later, we have over 26,000 members. That growth has enabled us to triple our national budget, which, in turn, is fueling even more growth.

Our Project Archimedes testing has already expanded the list of people we can recruit members from without losing money from about 125,000 to nearly a million. Tests already underway offer the potential of expanding that list to over 20 million.

How significant is that? A single million-piece mailing would generate about 7,000 new LP members — over a 25% membership increase. Now, consider what mailing to 20 million prospects would do to the size of the Libertarian Party.

Imagine what a 25% increase every couple of months would do to the strength and effectiveness of your local LP. What impact would such an increase have on your party's ability to recruit outstanding candidates, mobilize volunteers, raise money, and get candidates elected?

Of course, huge mailings like these require huge amounts of seed capital. That's why we've decided to create The Endowment for Liberty. Contributions to the Endowment will be used to finance these membership-growth mailings, with the proceeds going back to regenerate the fund.

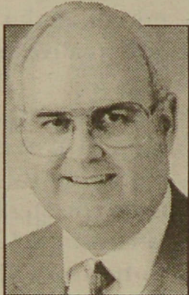
Right now, we can finance 250,000-piece mailings. We hope to build the Endowment to at least \$300,000 over the next few months, which will enable us to finance million-piece mailings and bring in thousands of new members every month.

Of course, that kind of explosive growth will create a new set of challenges for the LP. To realize the full benefits of increased membership, we have to involve these new members in the LP at the grassroots level. That means we have to establish effective local LP organizations in every community. It will be an immense undertaking.

Success '97 helped hundreds of LP activists enhance their ability to build effective organizations, raise funds, generate media coverage, recruit candidates, and run effective campaigns. However, we will need to reach hundreds more in 1999 to lay the groundwork for effective campaigns in 2000.

It is an exciting time to be a Libertarian. I can't begin to express how much I appreciate the support I've received over my terms as National Chair; from our hard-working national staff; the talented members of the National Committee; the state and local activists who do outstanding work at the grassroots level. But, most of all, I appreciate the support I've received from you, the members of the Libertarian Party, who have made everything possible. Thank you!

Over the next few years, I expect to see the LP grow to hundreds of thousands of members — and to see thousands of Libertarians elected to public office, first at the local level, then at the state and federal level. I expect to see the LP become a major political force. *Together, we will make it happen.*



By Steve Dasbach

National Chair

The benefits of open immigration

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.*

LIBERTARIAN Solutions

By Michael Tanner

Introduction

Pace and free enterprise: That's the Libertarian vision of foreign policy. And to implement such a policy, the Libertarian Party offers a principled, four-part proposal:

1) America should disengage from outmoded Cold War military alliances and resist new obligations. 2) Foreign aid should be ended. 3 & 4) At the same time, a free flow of goods and people across our borders should be encouraged.

Such a libertarian foreign policy will enable America to defend its citizens and bring economic prosperity.

Part IV: Immigration

America has always been a nation of immigrants. Thomas Jefferson emphasized this basic part of the American heritage, taking note of "the natural right which all men have of relinquishing the country in which birth or other accident may have thrown them, and seeking subsistence and happiness where-soever they may be able, and hope to find them."

The Libertarian Party has long recognized the importance of allowing free and open immigration, understanding that this leads to a growing and more prosperous America. We condemn the xenophobic immigrant bashing that would build a wall around the U.S. At the same time, we recognize that the right to enter the United States does not include the right to economic entitlements such as welfare. The freedom to immigrate is a freedom of opportunity, not a guarantee of a handout.

Specialized skills

A policy of open immigration will advance the economic well-being of Americans. All major recent studies of immigrants indicate that they have a high labor force participation, are entrepreneurial, and tend to have specialized skills that allow them to enter under-served markets.

Although it is a common misconception that immigrants "take jobs away from native-born Americans," this does not appear to be true. In 1989, the U.S. Department of Labor reviewed nearly 100 studies on the relationship between immigration

and unemployment and concluded that "neither U.S. workers nor most minority workers appear adversely affected by immigration."

Indeed, most studies show that immigrants actually lead to an increase in the number of jobs available. Immigrants produce jobs in several ways: 1) They expand the demand for goods and services through their own consumption; 2) They bring savings with them that contribute to overall investment and productivity; 3) They are more highly entrepreneurial than native-born Americans and create jobs with the businesses they start; 4) They fill gaps in the low and high ends of the labor markets, producing subsidiary jobs for American workers; and 5) Low-wage immigrants may enable threatened American businesses to survive competition from low-wage businesses abroad.



PART FOUR OF A FOUR-PART SERIES Immigration

Confirmation can be seen in a study by economists Richard Vedder and Lowell Galloway of the University of Ohio and Stephen Moore of the Cato Institute. They found that states with the highest rates of immigration during the 1980s also had the highest rates of economic growth and lowest rates of unemployment.

Studies also show that not only do immigrants not take jobs away from American workers, they also do not drive down wages. Numerous studies have demonstrated that increased immigration has little or no effect on the wages of most American workers, and may even increase wages at upper income levels.

Contrary to stereotypes, there is no evidence that immigrants come to this country to receive welfare. Indeed, most studies show that immigrants actually use welfare at lower rates

than do native-born Americans. For example, a study of welfare recipients in New York City found that only 7.7% of immigrants were receiving welfare compared to 13.3% for the population as a whole. Likewise, a nationwide study by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that 12.8% of immigrants were receiving welfare benefits, compared to 13.9% of the general population. Clearly, most immigrants are not on welfare.

The impact of immigrants on taxes is more equivocal. Most immigrants pay more in taxes than they receive in government benefits. But the majority of immigrant taxes are paid to the federal government, while immigrants tend to use mostly state and local services. This can place a burden on states and localities in high immigration areas.

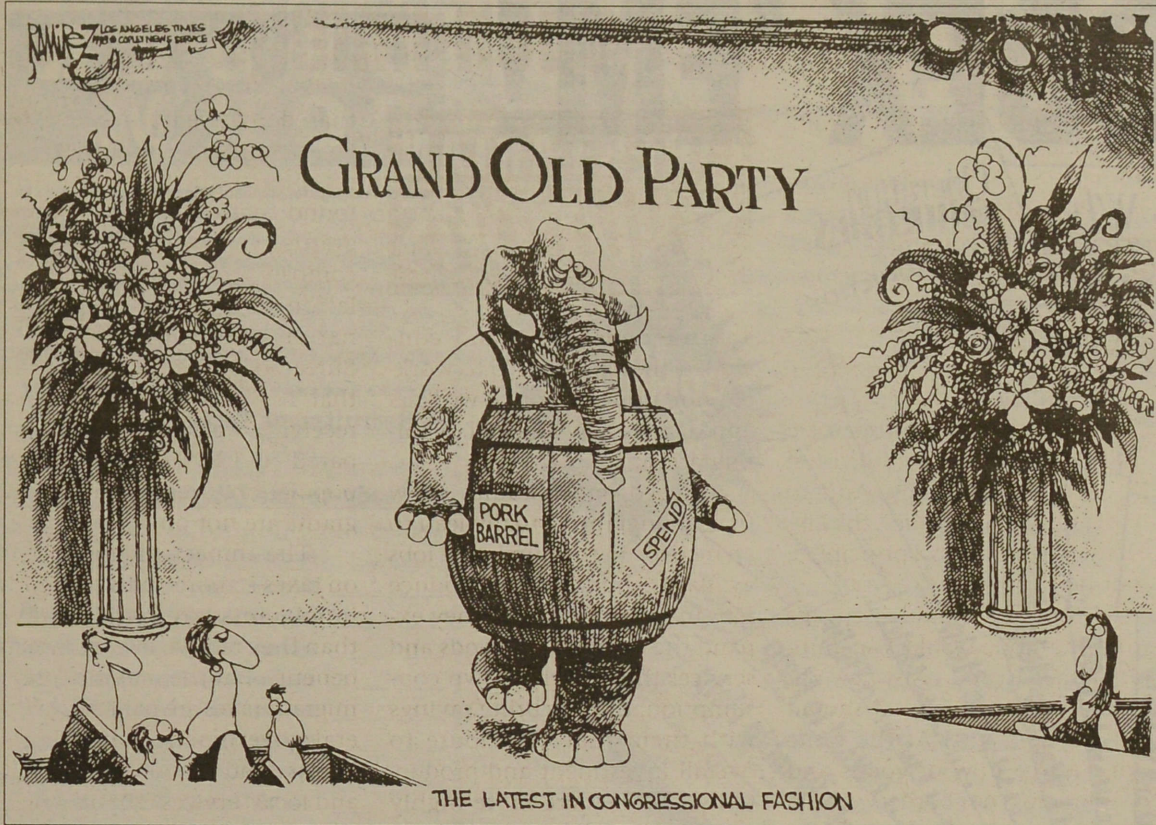
A right to welfare

However, the answer to this problem lies not in cutting off immigration, but in cutting the services that immigrants consume. The right to immigrate does not imply a right to welfare — or any other government service. Moreover, this is not simply a matter of saving tax money. The LP believes that most government welfare programs are destructive to the recipients themselves. Thus, immigrants would actually be better off without access to these programs.

Finally, any discussion of immigration must include a warning about the threat to civil liberties posed by many of the proposals to limit immigration. Recent legislation to restrict immigration has included calls for a national identity card for all Americans. California Senator Diane Feinstein has even suggested that such an ID card should contain an individual's photograph, fingerprints, and even retina scans.

Representative Lamar Smith (R-Tex.) has proposed legislation that would require employers to consult a national registry of workers before hiring anyone, effectively giving the U.S. government control over every hiring decision by every business in America.

Other legislation has contained provisions penalizing people who fail to "inform" on people they "suspect" might be illegal immigrants. Such Orwellian nightmares have no place in a free society, but are the natural outgrowth of an obsession with restricting immigration.



THE MAILBOX

Concentration of power

The pictures of students uncritically supporting Microsoft [LP News, May 1998] made me uncomfortable. There is no reason to harass Microsoft for bundling items in the operating system software, any more than General Motors should be harassed for using Delco radios in their vehicles. However, concentration of power does not have to be in government to have an adverse effect on the public.

What I do not like about Microsoft is the rapid obsolescence of software. Some application software that ran on DOS or early Windows will not run with later versions of windows. That is like the Bermuda government's requirement that no one can drive an old car!

Am I not quite a real Libertarian because I object to having perfectly good software become useless if I upgrade my operating system?

— **ROLAND O. PETERSON**
Waltham, Massachusetts

Resistance is futile

I read an article in LP News [May 1998] entitled "Libertarian students hold DC rally for Microsoft." In this article, it stated: "We, as believers in private property and the free market, believe that the government has no place in regulating the business practices of Microsoft."

I, too, believe in private property and the free market *but*, in the case of Microsoft, it doesn't apply. The GWU College

Libertarians, while they may have had the right motive, did *not* have all the facts. They continued to praise Mr. Gates for his success [but] Mr. Gates's "success" was brought about because of his skill for marketing strategies — nothing else.

Microsoft has built up their empire by "stealing" technologies from third-party software developers. I compare Microsoft with the "Borg" in *Star Trek* — those who don't comply to Microsoft's standards either get destroyed or assimilated. [For example], the desktop for Windows 95 was clearly "borrowed" from concepts already introduced by both Apple (Mac) and IBM (OS/2).

The students accuse the government of unduly punishing Microsoft. They clearly have no clue. By bundling (and integrating) Internet Explorer with the Windows 95 operating system, Microsoft has attempted to rob the public of its right to freedom of choice. This is the only instance I remember where I *applauded* the actions of the government — Microsoft *should* be regulated and if the government

doesn't do it, who will? The public is too uninformed to care whether regulation occurs or not.

— **TERRY WARREN**
Blackfoot, Idaho

1988, not 1998

I suppose I'm the n'th member to call attention to a "slip that passed in the type" that occurred twice on page two of the May issue of LP News. Both stated that Ron Paul was the Libertarian Party's candidate for president of the United States in 1998. The year was 1988.

— **BILL WILLIFORD**
Houston, Texas

■ **Editor's note:** Mr. Williford is correct; Ron Paul was the LP presidential candidate in 1988. LP News regrets the error.

Blatant arrogance

I recently received my IRS tax return check (such as it was) and for the first time ever, realized the blatant arrogance presented there. I'm not talking about the federal income tax itself — although such a monstrosity certainly qualifies. I'm talking about the physical appearance of U.S. Treasury checks.

First off, Lady Liberty is featured right on the front — as if liberty had anything to do with a Treasury Department which taxes us to death, regulates our firearms, liquor, and tobacco; and then maintains a level of exorbitantly expensive inefficiency which serves to stagger

Life & Rights: Joined at Conception

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See MAILBOX Page 21

THE PULSE

Improving the Bill of Rights

Fiddle with the Bill of Rights? Most Americans would not dream of it—but Libertarians were eager to accept the challenge. In response to this month's "Pulse" question, LP News readers submitted a whopping 104 amendments to the Bill of Rights that would, in a specific way, limit the "power, cost, or scope of government."

The suggestions ranged widely, but a few clear winners emerged. In first place, with 12.5% of the vote, were proposed amendments that would repeal current laws, or make it harder for the government to pass new laws. Another 10.6% of Libertarians made suggestions to repeal taxes. And tied for third place (with 7.7% of the votes) were proposals to repeal laws against consensual crimes and to reduce government spending.

Some other suggestions that garnered support: Amendments to protect individual liberty in general (6.7%); to protect free trade or get the government out of economic affairs (3.8%); and to establish term limits, defend gun rights, and protect private property or end asset forfeiture (all with 2.9%). Another 36.5% of the suggestions fit into no broad category.

Here is a representative sample of the suggestions to "beef up" the Bill of Rights:

■ The possession or peaceful noncoercive use of any substance, object, image, or information by any person 18 years of age or older shall not be a crime under the laws of the United States or any state.

— **DAVID NOLAN**, Mission Viejo, California

■ The purpose of the Bill of Rights being to limit government, I suggest that it be given teeth. The Eleventh Amendment to the Bill of Rights should provide for the preservation of the Bill of Rights by imposing a non-commutable death sentence upon any politician, at any level, who votes for legislation that would limit or infringe upon the practice of the first ten Amendments.

— **TOM KOZAN**, Greeley, Colorado

■ "Neither Congress nor any state shall make or enforce any law proscribing consensual acts among adult citizens." With one sentence we could abolish laws banning gambling, prostitution, drug use, birth control, pornography, sodomy, ticket-scalping, and working for less than the minimum wage. Let cops fight real criminals!

— **JIM KLANN**, Glendale Heights, Illinois

■ A vote of any single Justice of the Supreme Court shall be sufficient to declare a law unconstitutional.

— **GARY R. LLOYD**, Michigan

■ No person who, during the preceding 48 months, accepted net payments from government in excess of total tax payments to government, shall be allowed to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress.

— **DAVE LINDBERGH**, Woburn, Massachusetts

■ No Congressman may vote on a bill supported by a lobbyist from whom he has received a campaign contribution.

— **RICHARD D. FURLE**, Grand Island, New York

■ Repeal the Bill of Rights! The so-called Bill of Rights does not limit the power of the central government. The Bill of Rights increases the power of the central government by specifically granting the central government the power to intervene in anything and everything in order to "protect" the rights listed in the Bill of Rights.

— **KENNETH HOWLETT**, Bridgeport, Vermont

■ Every new law enacted by Congress and signed by the President shall remain in force for a period not to ex-

See THE PULSE Page 21

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

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■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** (Blue & black). Drug legalization: The sensible alternative.

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** (Blue & black). How government impoverishes families with taxes.

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** (Green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting work, opportunity, & responsibility.

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** (Red & black). The LP's 5-point crime program.

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** (Orange & black). The LP's Second Amendment position for general audience.

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** (Green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce taxes.

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Operation Rolodex Kit (Shipped Priority Mail)

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_____	Brochure: "Is This/New Political Party?"
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_____	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 Literature
_____	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

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"h x 5'w)
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Merchandise Total
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Expires _____ Signature _____

Name _____

Membership ID# [On label] _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

THE PULSE Continued

Continued from Page 19

ceed seven years from the time the President signs it into law, following which the law is null and void. This provision applies also to all regulations promulgated by Federal agencies as part of any law's implementation.

— ED MACKE, St. Louis, Missouri

■ "The IRS cannot seize assets and the government cannot seize property under the War on Drugs." Our government has forgotten that "innocent until proven guilty was a basic premise in founding our country.

— KATHLEEN A. MCNELIS, Landrum, South Carolina

■ All non-defense spending bills, and bills which increase revenue, shall require a two-thirds vote of Congress before they are presented to the president.

— CHARLES MALONEY, Apple Valley, Minnesota

■ The cost of a citizen's defense against suit or action by his government shall be borne by the government, regardless of the outcome, payable quarterly.

— SHIRLEY L. CULP, Wilmette, Illinois

■ Any Amendment to the Constitution that limits individual rights shall be proposed to the people. That amendment shall not be ratified unless a majority of qualified people in each state accepts it.

— RODERIC J. CONVERSE, Ft. Wayne, Indiana

■ No regulation promulgated by an agency of the executive department shall take effect until approved by both houses of Congress.

— STEVE EVANS, Huntsville, Alabama

■ No person shall be subjected to the initiation of force, no matter how noble the cause.

— GRACE PAYTON, Temple Terrace, Florida

■ I would specifically require that any Congressman voting on any Bill or Amendments would have to personally read the Bill or Amendments that he or she is voting on.

— MARK CROSS, Kissimmee, Florida

■ The Bill of Rights doesn't need amending. Instead, I would suggest we start with the First Amendment that begins, "Congress shall make no law . . ." and white-out the rest.

— STEVE CASON, Bean Station, Tennessee

■ "The government shall make no law abridging the commerce of the people." I don't think there needs to be much explanation. It explains itself.

— MICHAEL H. WILSON, Portland, Oregon

■ The right of all individuals to do as they wish with their bodies, money and property, to the extent that they do not engage in acts of force nor acts of fraud, nor interfere with the equal rights of others to do the same, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States nor by any State.

— NANCY O'BRIEN, Allen Park, Michigan

■ "An amendment that limits, restricts or usurps the authority of the Bill of Rights is unconstitutional and thereby null and void." Reason: Most of our current amendments attempt to undermine standing amendments without a repeal of the previous amendment.

— DAVE WOOD JR., Urbana, Illinois

■ The right of a competent and consenting adult to engage in behavior that risks harm to his person or property, but otherwise does not violate the rights of others, shall not be infringed, abridged, or denied.

— DAVID WALLACE CROFT, Fairmont, West Virginia

■ Nothing should be added to the Bill of Rights. To tamper with this bedrock foundation of our democracy, as well as the Constitution itself, is only inviting disaster.

— CRAIG A. WINCENTSEN, Fairfield, Connecticut

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 19
the imagination.

Then, right on the Treasury Department seal is borne the legend: Financial Management Services. Does anyone really believe the government's financial "management" of our money is really a "service"?

Perhaps if we publicly expose the absurdities inherent to these kinds of misrepresentations, we can accrue greater membership to the LP with even greater rapidity.

— ALEX KNIGHT

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Second-hand anarchy

As a Libertarian, I believe that all drugs should be legalized and everyone should be free to use any drug they want. However, people should not be free to force their drugs on others. People who smoke in public places, work places, or restaurants force their drug (without a filter) up other people's noses.

Several recent articles in LP News say that the LP is fighting to rescind laws that keep people from forcing their smoke on other people. If this is true, then the Libertarian Party must believe that anyone should be al-

**"ENOUGH IS
enough. It's
time to put some
sanity back in
this debate."**

lowed to drive drunk, rape, injure or kill others. It must believe that smokers have the right to shorten the lives of 35,000 people per year with their second-hand smoke. This is not Libertarianism — it's anarchy.

I really believe in the principles of the Libertarian Party, but I can't support a party that would endanger peoples' health to satisfy smokers and the tobacco industry.

— CHARLES E. GEISEL

Naperville, Illinois

■ **Editor's note:** The Libertarian Party has never taken a penny from the tobacco industry.

The smoking jihad

When this whole smoking jihad began, I yawned and ho-

hummed at how silly Washington politicians had become. Did they really believe that they could get people excited and angry about smoking?

Well, it is months later and I find myself reading and hearing about Republicans and Democrats posturing about who is more against smoking. Even more disturbing, is that I have read letters-to-the-editor from readers very angry at the "evil tobacco companies." Enough is enough. It's time to put some sanity back in this debate.

For one, let me first say that I own myself. If I choose to smoke, it is my choice, not the choice of some do-gooder health advocate who petitions government to use their gun to stop me. I am not owned by the State or anyone else. I own myself! There is no halfway. If you are owned by government, they make decisions like this about your life. If you grant that premise, then you have opened the door to regulating anything from hamburger consumption to our breeding habits. Personally, I own myself and can say that I will happily take the good and bad consequences of my freely made choices.

Secondly, this is really just a shake-down by the beltway crime family. Republicans and Democrats are foaming at the mouth thinking of the mischief

See MAILBOX Page 22

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

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THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 19

they can get into with this money. Who knows how much of our freedom they will be able to purchase with this plunder?

Lastly, let me make a statement directed at all of those health-conscious totalitarians from both sides of the political isle. My life is *mine* to live, not yours. Please just butt out, pardon the expression.

— SEAN ECKENROD

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

White House scandals

I strongly disagree with your hands-off attitude regarding the Clinton scandals — Whitewater, Filegate, illegal donations, Monica Lewinsky, Kathy Willey, and all the rest of the bull that has corrupted our government and cost taxpayers a fortune ["The Issues," *LP News*, March 1998]. Do you know we taxpayers pay Clinton's legal fees for all his screwing around?

The LP is going nowhere (sadly to say) and it is because they would support Rasputin's immorality, despite not approving of Czar Nicholas' policies. Goering was only following orders wasn't he? That seems to be the LP attitude, not having a moral government and ethical elected officials. Do you really wonder why folks don't contribute to the LP? Give me a break.

— MICHAEL BORLAND, M.D.

Glen Ellyn, Illinois

■ **Editor's note:** The Libertarian Party does not support the use of taxpayers' funds to defend President Clinton. If Mr. Clinton is charged with a crime, he should foot the bill for defending himself.

Second, the brief excerpt of our press release about the "Monicagate" scandal that appeared in *LP News* did not fully explain our position on the issue. Many Libertarians share your concerns about White House corruption. However, the point of the press release is that our function as a political party is not to simply remove Clinton from office. As the press release

"LIBERTARIANS need to start running campaigns with more realistic goals."

stated: "... as a political party, we've got our sights set on a higher goal: Restoring liberty in America."

Totalitarianism?

If Libertarians want to succeed, Jacob G. Hornberger is right that we need to focus on better campaigns. I surfed the [Internet] message boards after Harry Browne appeared on the Art Bell show. Many of the messages seemed to express positive things — except that Libertarians were extreme and frightening. We reach many potential Libertarians, but blow our chances on winning new support.

Libertarians need to start running campaigns with more realistic campaigns. We must tell voters that we will stop government growth and slowly push government diligently in the right direction — and not off the cliff. Jacob G. Hornberger did not make one comment in his open letter [*LP News*, May 1998] that would scare a voter. On the other hand, you had people defending Social Security and turned off on the Libertarian Party after Harry Browne spoke on the radio. In addition, Harry Browne speaks of sweeping changes in his first year as President.

We need to form our own policies carefully, be humble with them to allow others to offer constructive criticism of them, and never jump off the cliff with them and announce to millions of radio listeners that we plan to implement our plans the first year as President. Sounds a little totalitarian if you think about it.

— KEITH GARDNER
Marietta, Georgia

Entertainment value

How much would you pay for a Super Bowl ticket? How much does it cost to take your family to a baseball game or the movies? What are Broadway tickets going for these days? A day at Disneyland?

How much would you pay to

see Harry Browne in even one presidential debate?

Mr. Browne's exploratory committee is trying to raise \$1.5 million by the year 2000. In a fundraising letter, Mr. Browne called this "ambitious," but I don't see it that way.

If the LP continues to grow at current rates, I see no reason that he couldn't raise five to ten million dollars by January 2000. If we had 50,000 members donating an average of just \$100, that's five million right there.

Never mind the political ramifications of a better-financed campaign — think of the entertainment value!

Harry Browne might not get into the debates, but your sports team might not win their game, either. So, skip a ball game or an expensive dinner and, please, support Browne's exploratory committee. It could be immensely more satisfying in the long run.

— SCOTT FROST

Seattle, Washington

Weekly radio

I was thinking that a way for the Libertarian Party to gain recognition for its ideas is to respond to addresses given by the President, and by the 50 state governors. The LP should try to find a way to respond to President Clinton's weekly radio addresses, and especially the State of the Union address.

State parties should also do the same thing [with] the annual State of the State address given by most, if not all, governors.

— DAVID M. DAVIS

Ames, Iowa

THE PULSE

August Question: Government size?

Size *does* matter — and Libertarians know it... especially when it comes to the government. The fact is, the bigger the government gets, the less freedom we have. That's why LP members work so diligently to cut Big Government down to size.

But how big is big? And how small is small? It's a perpetual Libertarian debate: How *big* can a government get before it infringes on citizens' inalienable rights? And how *small* can it get and still protect essential liberties?

■ **QUESTION:** In percentage terms, how big should the federal government be? (100 equals the size/cost of today's federal government. Zero equals a Libertarian "utopia" with no federal government at all.) Between that zero to 100, how big would *your* ideal Libertarian federal government be? Please give the *exact* preferred percentage size of the federal government — and a brief explanation of what you'd trim to get to that size. (Limit your answer to 100 words, please.)

■ **DEADLINE:** July 5, 1998

July Question: Abortion

There are only a handful of public policy questions where equally strong Libertarian arguments can be made on *both* sides. Abortion is one of those issues: Both "pro-choice" and "pro-life" Libertarians can make a strong case based on the non-aggression principle, restricting the power of government, and individual choice.

■ **QUESTION:** Should the Libertarian Party be officially "pro-choice" or "pro-life"... or something else? And why? (Limit your answer to 100 words, please.)

■ **DEADLINE:** June 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

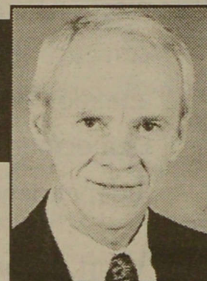
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— Sandi Webb, City Council, Simi Valley, CA



4 OF 4 ADS
IN THIS
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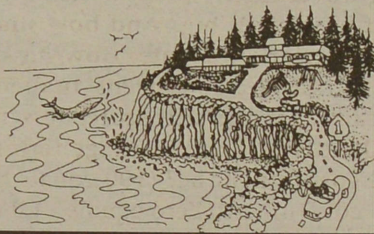
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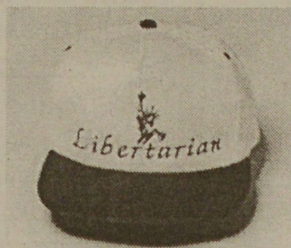
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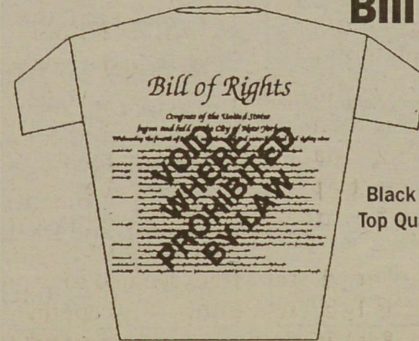
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Thomas Jefferson



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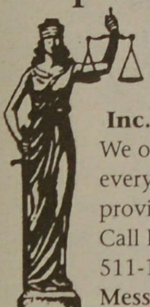
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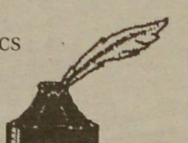
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UPCOMING EVENTS

■ May 23, 1998

Utah LP Convention, Salt Lake County Commission Chambers, Salt Lake City. Speakers include columnist Vin Suprynowicz. For information, call Kaylin Robinson at (801) 468-6209.

■ June 6, 1998

Kentucky LP Convention, Executive Inn, Louisville. Speakers include National LP Chairman Steve Dasbach, author Dr. Mary Ruwart, LNC Representative Ken Bisson, Dr. Eric Schansberg ("How Government Hurts the Poor"), and Michael Grossberg ("Liberty and Faith"). For more information, call Tom Wimmer at (502) 384-6139. E-mail: ctwimmer@duuo-county.com.

■ June 7, 1998

Louisiana LP State Convention, Holiday Inn Holidome, LaFayette. Speakers TBA. For more information, contact State Chair Jerry Millette at (318) 984-6012. Write: 112 Hampton Road, LaFayette LA 70503. Or call state treasurer Richard Johnson at (504) 383-9090.

■ June 12-14, 1998

Texas LP Convention, Fredonia Hotel & Convention Center, Nagadoches. Speakers include Barbara Goushaw (Libertarian Campaign Managers Association), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Jacob Hornberger (Future of Freedom Foundation), and David Bergland (the LP's 1984 presidential candidate). For more information, contact Nancy Neale at (512) 280-6540. E-mail: torchess@ix.netcom.com.

■ July 1, 1998

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

■ July 2-5, 1998

Libertarian Party National Convention, Washington, DC. Speakers include 1996 LP presidential candidate Harry Browne, Jacob Hornberger (Future of Freedom Foundation), Michael Tanner (Cato Institute), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), and IRS whistle-blower Shelley Davis. Also: Roy Innis (C.O.R.E.), Tanya Metaksa (NRA), Gene Burns (KGO talk show host), and author Charles Murray. Performers include "The Capitol Steps" and Tim Slagle. For information call (202) 234-3880.

■ August 23-18, 1998

International Society for Individual Liberty's 1998 World Conference, Berlin, Germany. Features speakers from around the world, including Barbara Branden (USA), Stefan Blankertz (Germany), and Christian Comanescu (Romania). For more information: isil@isil.org. Or call: (707) 746-8796.

■ November 6-8, 1998

Fully Informed Jury Association National Convention (FIJACon IV) Dallas, Texas. Includes a Legal Education Seminar, academic presentations, and activist training sessions. For more information, call: (800) TEL-JURY or (406) 793-5550.

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

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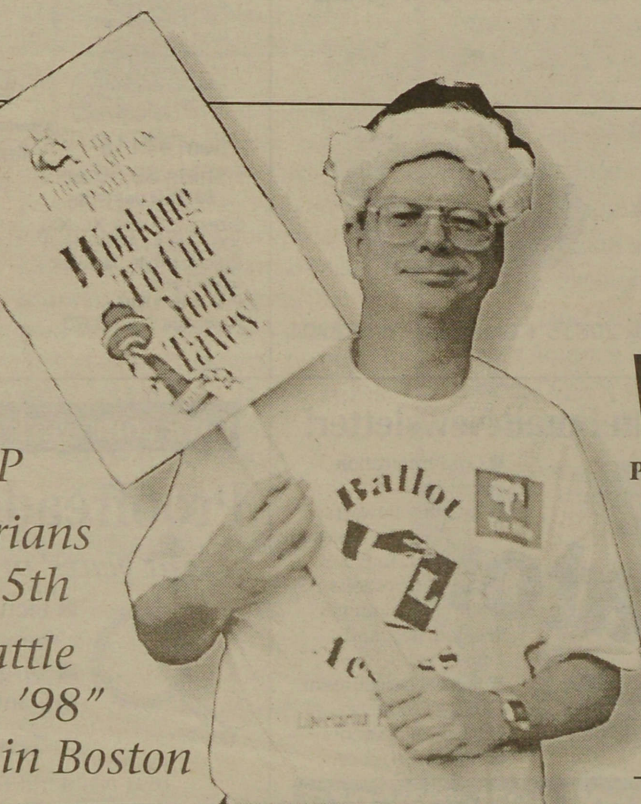
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FIRST WORD

Whenver I interview a candidate or politician, I ask one simple question. I ask them to describe one problem facing the American people that does *not* require a government solution. Politicians manage problems. They cannot think of one problem in your life that they cannot manage better than you can. Every government regulation or new tax is preceded by fear. The news is filled with statistics on the horrors or deaths of some problem. This is soon followed by the government solution, more regulations and more taxes over your life. One final question we should ask every politician: "In a free nation, in what area of life should a citizen be free of government mandates and regulation?" You will be surprised with the blank stares and professional spin of their responses.

— MASON WEAVER, *North County Times*, Escondido, CA (April 7, 1998)