

Arizona LIBERTY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ARIZONA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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ALL-NEW ALP NEWSLETTER

I have taken on the task of publishing a monthly newsletter for the Arizona Libertarian Party. This is the first copy of the new expanded format. Each issue will run four to eight pages.

As a capitalist (I publish three newsletters and a magazine of my own), I cannot bear to help propagate the vicious socialist myth of a "free lunch". Consequently, Arizona Liberty will be run on a strict business basis. I expect it to at least pay its own way. This means that I will do my best to make it worth your while, but you must support it by paying for your own subscription.

The subscription price, \$3 per year (12 issues) is 25¢ per copy. That covers printing (two colors), envelopes, postage and a tiny profit (hopefully) for the Party treasury. All labor is volunteer, provided by ALP members and officers.

Please subscribe right now, before you put it off and forget. Arizona Liberty will be as lively, entertaining and controversial as I can make it. Don't miss it. Send that check (we even accept fiat paper currency!). Stuff your check or cash in an envelope, put your mailing address in with it (or in the return address spot on the envelope -- we'll know what the money is for) and mail it to us today:

ARIZONA LIBERTY
P.O. Box 501
Phoenix, AZ 85001

P.S. We also need news, opinions, clippings, feedback (flak), art, letters to the editor, etc., so that Arizona Liberty can truly mirror the progress and serve the interests of Arizona Libertarians. RB

ABOUT THE NEW EDITOR....

Rene Baxter is a free market economist and registered investment advisor. He edits *The Rene Baxter Letter*, an internationally read economic newsletter, *The Trader's Tekletter*, a commodity trader's newsletter, *Rene Baxter's Confidential Report*, a precious metals and coin investment newsletter, and *Freedom Today*, a magazine of personal freedom, self-liberation and self-reliance. His consulting firm, Rene Baxter Investment Services, Inc., 4045 E. Palm Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85008, does personal and business financial advising, and publishes all the above publications. His brokerage firm, Rene Baxter & Co., Inc., makes investments in precious metals and coins for its clients across the nation.

Educated at the University of Colorado, Arizona State University, the University of California at San Diego and U.C.L.A., his work has been strongly influenced by Ludwig von Mises and Henry Hazlitt. His forthcoming book, *Financial Survival In The Seventies*, is scheduled for release this summer. His memberships include the International Investment Letter Association, the Committee For Monetary Research and Education, and the American Numismatic Association. He was born in St. Helena, California in 1937. An avid pilot, he lives with his wife, Elizabeth, in Phoenix.

DEAD WEIGHT IN THE L.P.

What direction do I envision the Party/movement taking? First, I would disregard the movement. It has a life of its own, and its effects on political change will be virtually nil; it is vitally necessary. But its value is very long-term. It's like a natural resource, a new idea, concept or invention. Without the solid consistent philosophical base, our revolution would not be possible. BUT -- that base could exist for centuries and -- without the exploiters, the salesmen, the ACTIVISTS -- it would remain unknown and of little or no benefit to any great number of people.

It seems self-evident that the only practical and effective vehicle for change is the Libertarian Party -- not only for desperately-needed immediate political reform and relief of human suffering, but for solid long-term radical change as well.

In the LPO (Ohio), 80% of the members are totally useless. They (80%) did, in fact, cause nothing but net trouble during the campaign. I suspect this same situation obtains throughout the country. In my opinion, LP members are going to have to make a basic decision: either they are going to be a political party, or they are not. I make the following observations/recommendations. They are brief and, I suppose, brutal -- but I am convinced this is what should and must be done.

Number One Hang-Up:

The LP must cultivate and develop strong leadership within the Party and nationally, AS a party -- both leaders and "stars". Alarming as this may be to many of our timid anarchist/pacifist/Objectivist drop-outs (copouts?), this

is a major political reality that LP members must stop evading.

Number One Necessity:

No one should run as an LP candidate who is unable or unwilling to stand unequivocally and effectively on the hard-line LP principles/platform. If Ohio comes close to being typical, THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE SATIATED WITH PRAGMATISM, COMPROMISE, EQUIVOCATION, CONTRADICTIONS AND EVASIONS. Furthermore, amateurs should not be sent out to do professional work -- and that's what running for office is.

Number One Unpleasant (?) Task:

The activists must lead the Party, and the dilittantes and discussion-groupies ignored or side-tracked. The political motto should be: 'Lead, follow, or get the hell out of the way!' If 4,500 members leave the Party and only 500 effective ones remain, the Party, the movement, the country, the world! will be 100% better off. (My own personal experience in this past year was that I could convert activists to libertarianism a damned sight faster than I could -- if one ever could -- convert most present libertarians to activism!)

Conclusion:

The philosophy is ready -- as it never has been before. The people -- perhaps everywhere -- are ready as never before -- for new, positive, strong, SANE direction and leadership.

It would be a pity if the LP -- the ONLY alternative -- failed both.

-Kay Harroff, LP Ohio
Candidate for U.S.Senate
(last fall)

ROTHBARD ON POLITICAL ACTIVISM

"The impulse to avoid the responsibility and the burden of steady, persistent, and long-term social and political activity toward libertarian goals is a copout that won't work.

"The Libertarian Party is not only an educational device and a way of organizing libertarians, but also a way of

eventually dismantling the state apparatus.

"The key problem is to remain pure and consistent in principle, while at the same time attracting a lot of voters. It seems to me that if the Party doesn't get votes, we're never going to be around long enough to educate anybody. (cont. p.3)

ROTHBARD (continued)

"I would plead with libertarians to worry less about what to invest your capital in, on poring over the latest news from the gold and silver markets, and spend a little more time and energy to try to save our economy and our civi-

lization. Only he who dares and risks can succeed at a task, including the glorious task of the victory of the libertarian ideal." (Murray Rothbard, speaking at the California State L.P. Convention in March.)

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Do you realize, there is absolutely no statement anywhere in the 1972 LP Platform on freedom of religion? And that no such statement was added at the '74 Convention? Yet religion plays an important part in the lives of most Americans, and various religious values color Texas political issues. It seems to me that it is time for TLP (Texas) members to think a little about religion and about how we -- as individuals and as a party -- will relate to it.

Consider a few of the political issues affected by religion. Drinking. Twice in two years, proposals to extend bar hours in Austin have been defeated by local church groups. Gambling. Last February I sat for four hours listening to the Texas Constitutional Convention (sic) trying to word a gambling provision which would outlaw horseracing without interfering with the Catholic Church's bingo and lottery businesses. Censorship. Deep Throat has now been prosecuted in Austin, Dallas and Houston. In Austin we know that this was the direct result of political pressure by church and church-related groups.

The LP's stand on victimless crime laws is clear. All activities should be legal which only involve voluntarily participating adults. The rationale for our stand is opposition to physical coercion...No statement on religion seems necessary to cover the above cases. And no particular religion is being persecuted these days, so why is any statement needed?

Religion does become an issue when it is used to justify laws against drinking, gambling, pornography, etc. In a political context we must not only present our own principles, we must answer the man who says, "This is a Christian country, and the Bible forbids such things". Most libertarians answer such arguments

by laughing raucously. This implicitly (and sometimes explicitly) answers, "To hell with the Bible". At this point libertarians start being viewed as a threat to religion: First, if we try to make atheists out of everyone we meet, religious people will view us as a threat to the salvation of their children. Second, since all other political parties use coercion against their enemies, religious people will naturally be suspicious about what we'd do if we had power.

I am frankly impatient with an "unholier than thou" attitude in libertarians. It is not only tactically foolish to put up a sign saying, "The religious need not apply", it ignores the fact that being religious is not necessarily incompatible with being libertarian. To be a libertarian one need only "not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals". There are lots of religious people about whom this is true. Some of them are in the LP. Others would be if they weren't insulted every time they came around. I've heard more than one say, "I might agree with the rest of your principles, but I won't become an atheist".

This sneering at religion also bothers me because it shows libertarians to be insensitive to the values of others. Many people, especially those over 40, have built their social lives around the church. They will perceive an attack on religion as an attack on marriage, family and friends. For others, religion has been a source of ideas on ethics. To them an attack on religion will seem an invitation to nihilism. Finally, religious leaders have been in the vanguard of the civil rights and other civil liberty movements. A blanket condemnation of religion unjustly ignores their very valuable contributions. (cont. p.4)

FREEDOM OF RELIGION (continued)

So, please, how about the following as a statement of the libertarian position?

The Libertarian Party takes no stand on the truth or falsity of any religious belief. We defend the rights of individuals to engage in any religious activities which do not violate the rights of others. In order to defend religious freedom, we advocate a strict separation of church and state. We will oppose gov-

ernment actions which either aid or attack any religion. We oppose taxation of church property for the same reason we oppose all taxation.

If you're an atheist and want to say so, I suggest you do so in private, quietly, and with a full explanation that this is a non-political matter.

- Ed Caruthers
Texas Libertarian Party

FREEDOM'S LITTLE HELPERS

Many Americans still labor under the mistaken assumption that we live in a free-enterprise economy. Nothing could be further from the truth. The truth is that we live in a fascist economy.

A few definitions are in order: Capitalism is an economic system in which all property is privately owned and controlled. Socialism is an economic system in which all property is publicly owned and controlled. Fascism is an economic system in which ownership remains at least partly private, but control is public. Thus nationalization of private property is a move toward *socialism*, and regulation is a move toward *fascism*.

In current usage, the terms socialist and fascist are held to be opposites -- but such is clearly not the case. The real opposites are liberty and authority. Both socialism and fascism seek to impose authoritarian control over private property. They are merely variants of the same authoritarian tyranny. Anyone who advocates public (government) controls is an enemy of freedom. Consider the following news item:

"To a growing number of experts, the nation's current economic woes are evidence that the free-enterprise system cannot handle the problems of a complex, interdependent world without more help. Thus, the idea of long-term planning by the Federal government is gaining new respectability. Academicians, business and labor leaders -- even some politicians -- are cautiously beginning to advocate planning as the best way to insure prosperity.

"*We don't live in a small, laissez-faire economy any more,*" observes

United Auto Workers president Leonard Woodcock. *'We live in a large, complex, technological society in which planlessness means massive dislocations.'* Woodcock is co-chairman -- along with Nobel-laureate economist Wassily Leontief -- of a new group called the Initiative Committee for National Economic Planning; the aims of the organization have been endorsed by more than 60 influential public figures. As its name implies, the committee is trying to persuade the government to establish specific national economic goals and priorities -- and to take steps to assure that they will be met. *'We can no longer rely on the accidents of the markets alone,'* argues committee member Robert V. Roosa, former Under Secretary of the Treasury and now a partner in Brown Brothers Harriman, the investment-banking firm." (*Newsweek*, March 17, 1975.)

The "failures" of free-enterprise are nothing of the sort. Every intervention in the market has the inevitable result of reducing the efficiency of the market, which in due course lowers the standard of living and prosperity of the people.

The planners immediately assert that the "economic woes" which result from their destructive policies are "evidence" that the free-enterprise system cannot function without still more "help". Our plans, it seems, are merely "accidental", while theirs are "national (fascist) goals and priorities".

Hitler said exactly the same thing.

- Rene Baxter, reprinted from
The Rene Baxter Letter.

DOCTORS TO BE NATIONALIZED?

"In New York, Assemblyman Thomas Culhane proposed legislation aimed at physicians because of 'what I consider an almost avaricious and intransigent position by the doctors'.

He said the bill would 'revoke the license of any medical doctor who arbitrarily, willfully, or maliciously, refuses to treat a patient or practice his

medical specialty'.

Culhane said he would also ask the state's congressional delegation to propose federal changes that would make a New York suspension recognized in other states. Such a bill would be aimed at doctors who threaten to move."
(Arizona Republic, May 28, 1975, p.A-11)

CALENDAR

18 June, Tucson Meeting, 8:00 PM
8901 "CR" Street (off Speedway)
885-4877

19 June, Phoenix Meeting (Scottsdale)
Drew Roshlam's home
4279 N. Miller Road (east of
Scottsdale Rd., south of Camelback)
946-9803

Michael Thompson will speak at both of the above Arizona meetings.

6 July, Arizona Convention
Place unknown.
All party delegates up for grabs.
Everyone urged to attend.

30 Aug. - 1 Sept. (Labor Day Weekend)
New York Convention
Statler Hilton (Manhattan)
All interested welcome to attend.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual; namely, (1) the right to

life -- accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action -- accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property -- accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Arizona Liberty is the monthly newsletter of the Arizona Libertarian Party, P.O. Box 501, Phoenix, Arizona 85001, (602) 252-9091, \$3 per year (12 issues). Edited by Rene Baxter, and published by the Arizona Libertarian Party. All contents are from original or published sources, believed reliable, but not guaranteed.

1976 is too late to begin raising money for the 1976 Presidential campaign.

It's going to take about \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 to conduct an effective campaign in 1976. And our chances of raising that kind of money are directly proportional to the amount we start out with in September of 1975.

A realistic estimate is that we'll need a minimum of \$50,000 by Labor Day if we're going to raise the rest in the following fourteen months.

That's why the national Libertarian Party has established the Liberty '76 Fund . . . to serve as an accumulation point for that \$50,000. All money contributed to the Liberty '76 Fund — above the expenses incurred in raising that money — will be put into a special account, and turned over to our national candidates' campaign fund in September. It will not be spent on anything else.

If every state and national LP member will contribute just \$10, we'll have \$50,000. But since some folks are simply unable to help, we're asking you to contribute \$25 . . . either all at once, or \$5 per month, April through August of 1975.

Do it today! Make your checks payable to Liberty '76 Fund, and mail them to LP national headquarters, 550 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Libertarian Party
550 Kearny Street, Dept. A
San Francisco, CA 94108

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

OCCUPATION _____

Enclosed is a one-time contribution to the Liberty '76 Fund, as indicated.

I hereby pledge to contribute the following amount to the Liberty '76 Fund each month, from now through August, 1975. Enclosed is my first month's contribution.

\$500 \$250 \$100

\$50 \$25 \$10

\$5 \$ _____

Liberty '76 Fund.