



## 95 California Libertarians Seek Office

*The LPC will field more candidates this election than any other California Third Party*

by Ted Brown

**A** near-record number of Libertarians have filed for offices throughout California for the 1998 election. 95 Libertarians are seeking statewide offices, along with the State Board of Equalization, U.S. Congress, State Senate and State Assembly. This number has only been exceeded twice: in 1980 and 1992, when we fielded 100 candidates.

The statewide ticket is led by Steve Kubby for Governor and Ted Brown for U. S. Senator. Libertarians must win at least 2% of the (continued on page 9)

## Membership Continues to Skyrocket!

As of the end of February, LPC membership reached an all-time high of 5,104. This represents a net increase of more than 500 in less than a year, just counting since the LPC joined the national unified membership program.

Recent growth has been attributed to several factors, including active recruiting by local regions, and direct mail recruiting campaigns by the state and national parties.



J u a n R o s

## LPC Raises Funds for Executive Director

*California Libertarians close to hiring Juan Ros to work full time for Party*

**I**n a concerted effort to meet a March 31st deadline that climaxed with a dramatic 11th hour "e-mail-athon," the LPC reached its \$25,000 fundraising goal for hiring San Fernando Valley activist Juan Ros as its Executive Director.

"What a great bunch of Libertarians we have in this state," said Chair Mark Hinkle. "Thanks to so many people, our goal of hiring an Executive Director is about to become a reality. This is a huge step forward for our Party."

Now that the funds are in place, the official decision (continued on page 4)

## California Libertarian Elected Mayor

*Bellflower activist becomes the first Libertarian mayor in Los Angeles County*

**L**os Angeles County has elected its first Libertarian mayor: Art Olivier of Bellflower.

On March 9, the Bellflower city council voted unanimously to name Olivier as their city's municipal leader. The veteran LPC activist has been a member of the Bellflower city council for four years; twelve months ago the group elected him Mayor Pro-Tem (Vice Mayor). His election to the office of Mayor is another milestone for the Libertarian Party of California on the road of growth and political influence.

Reporting the story, local papers used the L-word repeatedly: The *Herald American* ran a front page article entitled "Libertarian Engineer Named as Mayor of Bellflower;" The *Long Beach Press Telegram* described Bellflower as "some-what libertarian." (continued on page 3)

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April 1998

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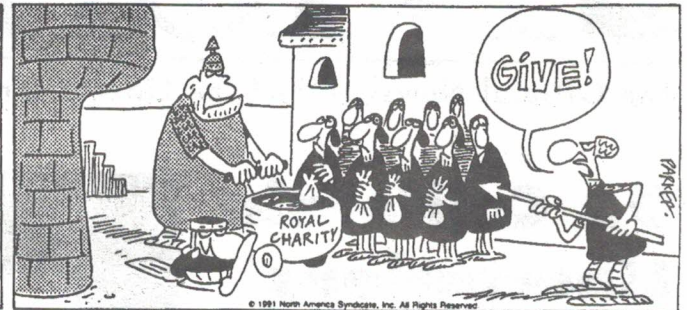
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## LETTERS

### THE WIZARD OF ID



Brant parker and Johnny hart

### Marin County

I was delighted to read the article about the revival of my old region, Marin County (R21) in your February issue. However, the article contained a factual error.

The Marin County web page was created nearly four years ago by myself, at the urging of Joe Dehn. It made us the second region in California to have a web page. In late 1996 I updated the page to reflect my move to San Jose and the then-current activism of Dr. Edelstein; my page from then still constitutes the bulk of the current page, as I write this.

I am very pleased that Ms. Austin has stepped up to the plate and gotten Marin County re-activated. The region has badly needed someone with her enthusiasm, time, and ability for several years now, and I sincerely commend her and the other three new officers for taking on the sometimes thankless task of leading the region.

BOB BICKFORD  
rab@well.com

### Kubby Campaign Update

The Kubby for Governor campaign is getting underway for real. Most of our key campaign staff is in place, and our website just recorded its 100,000th visitor. The Kubby website can be found at <<http://www.alpworld.com/kubby98>>.

Many people have been asking about helping with the campaign over the last six months. Those who have volunteer time available to help elect Steve can contact me now. Please include an address and phone number when responding.

This election offers unprecedented opportunity for the LPC and Steve Kubby. It will be wide open with no exciting Democrat candidate, and only Dan Lungren on the Republican side. The more people know about Steve, the better they will like him. Help us spread the word.

With the highly successful Libertarian convention behind us, the Primary election just a few

months ahead, and excitement at a fever pitch, it's time to get to work.

ARTHUR R SOBEY  
Kubby for Governor Campaign  
asobey@ncfcomm.com

*The following letter was recently published in the L.A. Times; it was written in response to an article, "Candidates Plan Open Primary Strategy."*

### Ignoring Third Parties

I was amazed to see the lengths that your writer would go to not mention the Libertarian Party by name. He talks of the challenge of the initiative "filed by the Democratic and Republican Party organizations," ignoring that the Libertarian Party and Peace and Freedom Party were also plaintiffs in that suit.

He goes on to talk about the 20th Senate race, mentioning the American Independent Party, the Green Party and the Peace and Freedom Party, never once stumbling to say "Libertarian Party."

The real story is the dearth of third party candidates in most of the races in the state. In most races the Libertarian Party is the only opposition to the "two party state." The Open Primary's real effect has been to dumb down the debate, in favor of so-called "moderate" candidates. In my race, the 39th Assembly [District], Republicans didn't even field a candidate. So once again, it is up to the Libertarian Party to carry the flag of opposition to the status quo.

KIT MAIRA  
North Hollywood, CA

Send your letters to:  
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Hollywood, CA 90078  
E-Mail: [LPCMonthly@aol.com](mailto:LPCMonthly@aol.com)

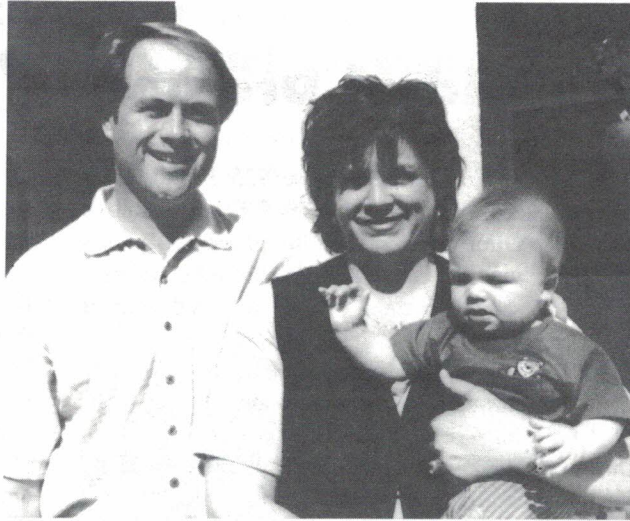
## California Libertarian Elected Mayor

(continued from page 1)

Bellflower is located about ten miles south of Los Angeles and has a population of about 63,000. "Although 60% of the population are renters," said Olivier, "most of the voters are homeowners."

When Olivier was first elected to the city council, he had his hands full fighting taxes and regulations. "It was tough," he said, "because for a long time the council was dominated by three good ol' boys with, let's just say, some possible conflicts of interest." But the balance of power shifted last year, when one of the "good ol' boys" failed to gain reelection. Now, in addition to Olivier, the five-seat council is made-up of an anti-tax-and-regulation Republican, a fiscally conservative Democrat, and two remaining good ol' boys.

"Bellflower has an honest majority on the council," Olivier



Art Olivier, his wife Joyce, and their son Blaze.

said, "and I have significant influence with the two honest members." Every year, the council names the city's mayor from one of its rank. Apparently the two "good ol' boys," realizing they were outnumbered, bit the bullet and voted for Olivier. "I'm sure they'd rather see me six feet under," he said.

Olivier was also opposed by the Bellflower Chamber of Commerce because, according to him, "I eliminated

their annual \$35,000 subsidy."

Since Olivier has been on the city council, the group has voted to privatize its tree trimming and crossing guard operations. "We fired the Los Angeles Building Department and replaced them with a competitively bided private firm," said Olivier. "We also put the Planning, Building and Public Works Depts all on one counter which greatly expedites the permit process. And we've stopped all efforts to use eminent domain in Bellflower."

Enjoying his stint in local government, Olivier says he would seek higher office "if it would

help the party." He is also well known throughout his community for "The Political Money Trail," a cable TV show he co-hosts with fellow Libertarian Richard Gard; each week, the long running series ferrets out government corruption and waste.

A professional engineer, Olivier lives in Bellflower with his wife Joyce and their daughters Cassandra, Alyssa and Krista, and their son Blaze. ■

## Telephone Affinity Program

*How to contribute to the LPC and save money on your phone bill!*

**W**hen opportunity calls, pick up the phone!

How would you like to contribute to your favorite political organization — the Libertarian Party of California — and *save* lots of money at the same time. Impossible? Not even!

You can support the LPC and save money by signing up with the LPC's Telephone Affinity Program. It's easy, helps the LPC, and, best of all, cuts

the cost of your monthly phone bill.

Instituted and endorsed by the LPC Executive Committee in 1992, the LPC telephone affinity program offers highly competitive rates: \$0.089 per minute for interstate calls; \$0.057 per minute for instate calls; and \$0.15 per minute on calling card calls. Billing is in six second increments. There are no hidden fees, no set-up fees, no required minimum usage, no deposits and no installation fees. Just sign up and start giving and saving!

A donation equal to the fee paid to the independent contractor providing the service will be made to the LPC. Simply put: lower phone bills to you means greater income for the LPC. It's a win-win situation for everyone.

Every time you call your sweetheart, you'll be sending a Valentine to the LPC. Every time you call your family, you'll be supporting your extended family — your fellow California Libertarians. Every time some arrogant government bureaucrat puts you on terminal hold, you can take satisfaction in the knowledge that he's actually helping you fund a group working to put him out of a job!

So what are you waiting for? Start contributing to the LPC — and saving money — today!

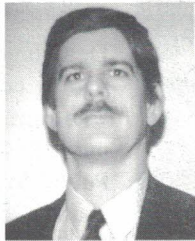
For more information or to sign up with the LPC's Telephone Affinity Program, write Bob Aronson at 1922 Elise Way, Suite A, Santa Ana, CA 93109. Telephone: (805) 963-2225. ■



From The Chair:

## Building in the Field of Dreams

by Mark Hinkle



Mark Hinkle

In the movie "Field of Dreams," a voice told Kevin Costner: "If you build it, they will come." I think the same is true for the Libertarian Party. Last year I set three ambitious goals for us, confident that if the LPC leadership offered a viable plan to achieve them, the necessary funds would come. They did.

Over the last year, the LPC has done more direct mail membership recruiting than in any time in our history. The financial support to do this came from you, our members. As a result, we have met our 1997 membership goal — building our ranks to 5,000 dues-paying Libertarians — and are well on our way toward achieving this year's membership goal: building our ranks to 6,000 Libertarians.

Last year I set another goal — raising \$150,000 in revenues — even though the Executive Committee passed a budget of just over \$70,000, a slight decrease from the previous year. They had good reasons for being conservative. But you came through with flying colors: last year we raised \$190,000, exceeding our goal by \$40,000 — and setting an all time record high!

Well, you've made believers of the LPC Excom: this year they passed my proposed budget of over \$380,000 in revenues — more than double last year!

This is a very ambitious budget, and we're going to have to work hard to prove to you that we deserve that level of your support. But I know we can.

How? By hiring Juan Ros as the LPC's Executive Director.

Hiring an Executive Director was my third goal for 1997. From the beginning, some said we couldn't afford it — but, as they spoke, I remembered the words: "If you build it, they will come". I knew you wouldn't let me down — and you didn't.

We needed to raise \$25,000 to cover half a year's expenses for the Executive Director's position to prove the plan's viability to the Excom before I could present it to them for the required vote. It was a race to the wire to meet our March 31st deadline, but, once again, you came through with donations and pledges totaling \$27,434 — \$2,434 over our goal!

As a result, I will propose to the Excom at its next meeting, April 18th, that we hire Juan Ros. By the time you read this, the decision will probably already have been made — and hopefully we will have someone working full-time for liberty!

Imagine LPC Executive Director Juan Ros meeting with TV star Drew Carey, who is very sympathetic to libertarian ideas, and officially inviting him to join the Party. Imagine Juan Ros meeting with actor Kurt Russell, who has publicly announced he is a libertarian, for the same purpose. Ditto for Ward Connerly, UC Regent and author of Prop. 209, who has also called himself a libertarian.

Now imagine Juan Ros meeting with T.J. Rodgers, CEO of Cypress Semiconductor, a multi-millionaire and a fan of Harry Browne; imagine Juan and Harry Browne presenting a comprehensive business plan for massive LP growth to Rodgers, and asking for his support.

Now imagine hearing Juan Ros on the radio as a regular guest on programs like Larry Elder's top-rated KABC talk show.

Imagine hearing Juan Ros say "*La mision del Partido Libertario es crear una sociedad de libertad, prosperidad, y paz,*" on the Z Spanish Radio Network.

The time has come for us to hire someone who can work full time to help us grow bigger and faster. Now is the right time, and Juan Ros is the right person for the job.

If you want to help us continue to employ Juan Ros past this November, please use the form on the back of this newsletter to become a monthly pledger. Only you can make this work — and so far, you have! ■

## Executive Director

(continued from page 1)

to hire Ros must made by the LPC Excom. The committee will vote on the issue at its next meeting, on April 18th.

Hinkle set the goal of hiring an Executive Director at the beginning of his term, but said the Party must raise \$25,000 to fund the position for its first six months before he would bring the matter to an Excom vote. At the LPC's 1998 Convention, he named Ros as his choice for Executive Director — and announced that the Party would have to meet its fundraising goal by March 31st, or Ros would have to take another job recently offered to him.

Fundraising began in earnest at the convention and continued afterward via direct mailings, phone solicitations and appeals to major donors. Libertarians throughout the state responded, but two days before the deadline, the Party was still \$2,252 short of its goal; and Hinkle issued a final, impassioned plea for more funds over the Internet. The "e-mail-athon" ignited a blitz of further contributions and, by the midnight of March 31st, the party had met and passed its goal.

Ros was overwhelmed by the move to hire him. "I'm touched by all the people who made this happen, and excited about the prospect of working for the LPC."

Responsibilities of the Executive Director will include: lobbying and testifying in Sacramento; media outreach; assisting local regions; developing fundraising efforts; and planning special events.

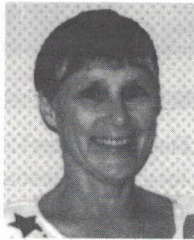
"If all goes well," said Hinkle, "and I fully expect it to, by the time the fall elections are done, we will have increased our pledge base and major donor program to the point where funding the Executive Director won't be a major worry."

"With Juan as our Executive Director," said Hinkle, "we'll increase our visibility. We'll do more projects and do them better than ever before. That will fuel more growth. That will mean more funds at our disposal. We will shorten the timeline in our fight for freedom." ■

Op-Ed:

# Do Californians Really Want an Open Primary?

by Gail Lightfoot



Gail Lightfoot

In March 1996, California voters passed Prop. 198, "The Open Primary Initiative." But do they actually want what they voted for?

Californians may not realize it, but the new law means that all voters will receive the same ballot for primary elections, regardless of their party affiliation.

This is a significant change.

Traditionally, primary elections enable party members to select their own candidates. Now, California voters will be able to vote for candidates in parties other than their own. As a result, candidates seeking their party's nomination

will no longer focus their appeals to their party's most ideologically committed members; instead, they will have to try to appeal to the greatest number of voters — which they can only do by moderating or camouflaging their views. Thus, political choices will be further homogenized.

In addition, campaign costs will increase under the new law because all candidates will now have to reach out to all voters twice during the election year. This will cause many potential candidates not to run for office for financial reasons, further limiting voters' choices.

Candidates will try to appeal to voters who have no party affiliation, while somehow appealing to their own party members. Themes that appeal to crossover voters will be emphasized. Issues will be presented in general or

deceptive terms. Addressing specific problems, candidates will say that "something" must be done without saying specifically what. Compromisers will triumph and those who stand on principle will be vilified as extremists. As they move toward the center, the two major parties will become even more alike.

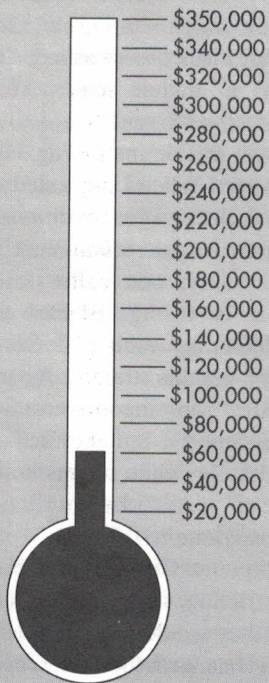
Candidates with no hope of being nominated by a major party will seek the nomination of one of the smaller parties — even if their values are unrepresentative of that party. And, if they have the means to do so, those mercenary candidates can defeat candidates of more ideological integrity.

Do those people who did vote for Prop. 198 really understand what they voted for? I doubt it.

Someday, Californians may realize their mistake and correct it. Hopefully soon — before too much injury is done to the state's political health. ■

## Revenue

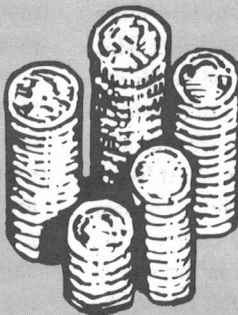
Current: \$60,707  
Year End Goal: \$350,000



## Growth Watch: February 1998

### Pledges & Donations

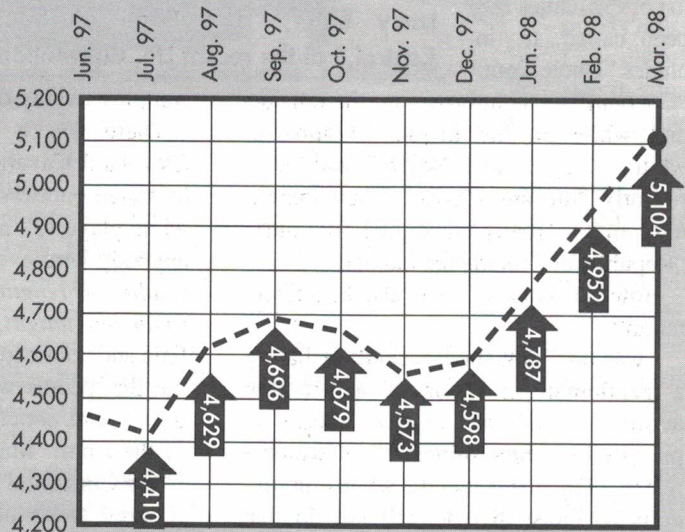
Totals for January  
Pledges: \$2,503  
Donations: \$6,633



**Help Us Grow!** To make a monthly pledge or one time donation, use the form on back of this newsletter, or call (408) 243-2711 x33.

### Membership

February 28th: 5,104      Year End Goal: 6,000



**Help Us Grow!** Ask just one friend or coworker to join the Libertarian Party in 1997 -- or offer to pay their dues the first year if they will consider paying them when it comes time to renew!

On February 15, top rated L.A. radio talk show host Larry Elder addressed a standing room only crowd at the LPC's 1998 Convention. The following is an edited transcript of his speech.

**LARRY ELDER:** I'm often asked how I got started in talk-radio... I was working in Cleveland years ago, and I wrote some op-ed pieces. A liberal radio talk-show host read them and invited me on his show. I blasted high taxes, the welfare state, affirmative action, rent control, public schools, public housing. Afterward, the guy's boss called me and said, "Have you ever thought about doing talk-

radio? My guy is going on vacation for a week — would you consider sitting in for him?" So I went home and told my wife about it. She asked me what I thought about talk radio, and I told her I thought it was stupid, shallow and glib. And she said: "It is — you'd be good at it!" (*audience laughs*)

I keep a running list of the names I've been called. It includes "Uncle Tom,"

"Coconut" — as in brown on the outside and white on the inside, "Wanna-be white," "sugar cane Negro," and most recently "the anti-Christ." Then there's one that's really designed to hurt: "Republican." (*audience laughs*)

How can a black person also be a libertarian?

I was on a talk show recently debating a gentleman in favor of affirmative action. I said affirmative action is premised on three things, all of which I reject... The first is that the white employer is so racist that he will not do that which is in his own best interest — hire the most qualified person he can find. The second is that the white man owes us. But who can't trace their ancestry to a point in time when their ancestors were

screwed over by somebody? The other reason, seldom stated but always implied, is this: We can't make it on our own. We need a boost. And I most assuredly reject that.

Anyway, this guy asked me: "Had you been a member of the Senate, would you have voted against the civil-rights legislation of 1964?" And I said, "To the extent that those laws mandate any interference in the private sector, yes, I would've voted against it." Well, he went ballistic. I was a "Nazi" and a "Tom." Then he said, "Suppose you're driving down a road and you need to use a restroom. So you pull into a gas

station, and the attendant says, 'Sorry, we don't serve niggers.' Is that acceptable to you?" I said, "Of course not. But let me ask you a question: how come it doesn't happen now? All across America, whites outnumber blacks. There aren't enough constables to stop white people if they're all determined to do what you say. I'll tell you why: they

want my twenty dollars!"

There was a man who bought the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team — he stated publicly, "I intend to hire more white players," and he did just that. Has anybody here ever heard of Mike Brett? (*audience remains silent*) Point taken! (*audience laughs*) The team was an athletic and commercial disaster. Brett found out that people wanted a winner — they didn't care about the racial composition of the team! Marge Schott is the owner of the Cincinnati Reds. As you know, she referred to her players as "niggers." Yet, look at her line-up: it's full of talented black and Latin ballplayers. There's nothing she can do about it if she wants a competitive team.

As much as we salute former Brooklyn

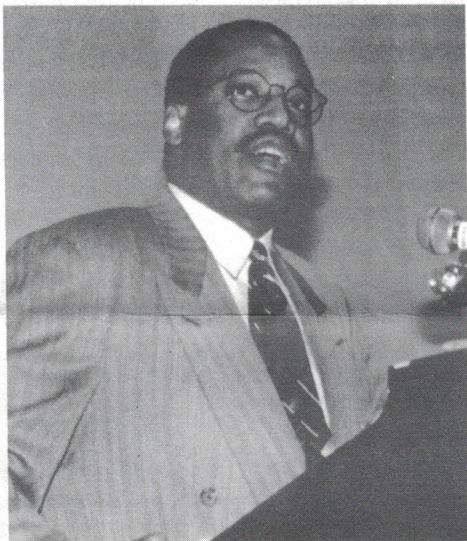
# Larry

## Race Has Nothin

Dodger owner Branch Rickey for hiring Jackie Robinson, Rickey didn't have altruism as his motivation; he wanted to beat the damn Yankees! He also saw the large, untapped black market he could capture by hiring Jackie Robinson.

One of our problems is the hypersensitivity that so many people have as a result of our race-baiting leadership. Recently, the *Washington Post* asked blacks if they felt discrimination was a major reason for their problems. Not surprisingly, about 75%-80% said "yes." Hispanics were asked whether discrimination was a major reason for their problems, and about 43% said "yes." But here's the wrinkle: blacks were asked, "Do you think discrimination is a reason for Hispanics' problems," and 58% said "yes!" In other words, 15% more blacks saw racism against Hispanics than Hispanics did! When Asians were asked if discrimination hurt them, 31% said "yes." But when blacks were asked: "Is discrimination a major reason for Asians' problems," 41% said "yes." 10% more blacks saw discrimination against Asians than Asians! When I suggested to my listeners that blacks were conditioned to be more sensitive to racism than is warranted by reality, one caller said: "Your analysis is wrong. Blacks are experts at detecting racism!" So I replied, "Let me get this straight: Asians are among the top income-earning groups in this country, but they're too stupid to see that the white man is holding them back?" And the guy said, "Yes!" (*audience laughs*)

When the Supreme Court struck down race-based districting, some members of Congress said they would soon be able to hold the Black Caucus in the back seat of a taxicab. But every single black con-



Larry Elder, "The Sage of South Central," at the recent LPC Convention.

# Elder: g To Do With It!

gressman who had to run for reelection in a Southern — now white majority — district, got reelected! Things like that don't seem to be mentioned very often when we talk about how much racism there is in America.

One of the other problems, of course, is the media's bias. I once read a story in the *L.A. Times* about Dick Armev. He was referred to as a "hard-line conservative." Here is a man who is not going anywhere near as far as we want — yet he was called a "hard-line conservative." So I got on-line to find how often the *Times* uses this expression. In the last ten years, they have referred to politicians as "a hard-line conservative" seventy-seven times. But if Mr. Armev is a "hard-line conservative," then what is Ted Kennedy or Maxine Waters? In the last ten years, that newspaper has used the term "hard-line liberal" twice. Once, the term referred to Mikhail Gorbachev! (*audience laughs*) There doesn't appear to be such a thing as a "hard-line liberal."

Last year was the first year Proposition 209 went into effect, at least as far as admissions to the nine UC campuses. Minority applications did not go down. But what did happen was quite dramatic. Only two graduate schools saw a dramatic decline in black enrollment: in the law schools, admissions went from 43-to-16 people; in the business schools, admissions went from 27-to-20 black people. All the hue and cry about Prop. 209, at least as far as blacks being admitted to graduate schools in the UC system, is over thirty-four people! Overall black enrollment was actually up 2%. Asian law school admissions were up 32%. Asian business school admission went up 9%. Black medical school admissions, no change. When you consider all 900 grad-

uate schools, there was no decline. In fact, there was a slight increase. Based upon this data, what do you suppose the headline in the *Daily News* would be — "Critics Overstate Prop. 209?" No. How about "UC Minority Enrollment Down Sharply."

This makes more sense when you look at the polling data showing that 89% of Washington, D.C. journalists voted for Bill Clinton in 1992, as against 43% of the general population. This now makes more sense.

I once had a knock-down-drag-out with a black writer about Ronald Reagan's so-called "anti-black" policies. I said to him, "If I sent you data showing that blacks made more economic progress under Reagan than did whites, that blacks created more businesses and at a faster rate than did whites, that their revenues grew faster than whites', that unemployment for black teens fell faster than for white teens, if I gave you all that data,

and you read it, could we have another conversation?" He said, "Sure." So I marshaled all the data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and sent it to him. Then I called him, and, somehow, he'd lost all the material I gave him! So I sent it again — and the same thing happened. Finally, I reached the conclusion that a fact to a liberal Democrat is like kryptonite to Superman! (*audience laughs*)

I'm often asked why I'm so optimistic... When you look at the progress of blacks following Emancipation, they went from 0% literacy to nearly 70% within decades. When you look at the data on job-creation and income growth, blacks have come further ahead from further behind than any group in human his-

tory. This is well documented in an extraordinary book, "America in Black and White," which shows that blacks made more economic and social progress before Affirmative Action than after.

In 1901, Booker T. Washington wrote: "In the long run, the world is going to have the best, and any difference in race, religion, or previous history will not long keep the world from what it wants. I think that the whole future of my race hinges on the question as to whether or not it can make itself of such indispensable value that the people in the town and state where we reside will feel that our presence is necessary to the happiness and well-being of the community. No man who continues to add something to the material, intellectual and moral well-being of the place in which he lives is



Elder chats with Libertarians after his speech.

long left without proper reward. This is a great human law, which cannot be permanently nullified."

Not long ago, I went to a small library in midtown L.A. Outside it, some

Hispanic kids were doing marvelous stunts on skateboards. Inside, wall-to-wall Korean-American kids were studying — not one Hispanic! In twenty years, I wonder which of these kids will be working at McDonald's, and which will be senior V.P.'s. There's a relationship between how hard you work and where you end up. And it has nothing to do with race, color, creed or religion! (*audience applauds*)

My parents are children of the South. My father grew up in the Depression. He left home when he was thirteen and worked as a shoe-shine boy, hotel valet, cook. After going into the Second World War, he came out a sergeant — a cook — and went back (*continued on next page*)

## Larry Elder

(continued from page 7)

home to Chattanooga to get a job as a short-order cook. He was rejected because he "had no references." He then went to California because he thought it was sunnier and more liberal, and applied for a job as a short-order cook. Again, he was told he "had no references." So he worked two jobs — as a janitor and cooking for a family on weekends — while he went to night-school to get his GED. He started his own cafe in 1952, which he ran until a few years ago — never missing a day, and *never once* telling me how the evil white man's going to hold me down. In fact, my father said, "Larry, I only wish I could trade places with you, because right now the sky is the limit."

Let me tell you another story about how I was raised... We read a poem about racism when I was in high school. The kids were upset, the teacher was upset, and we had a long, anguished discussion about it. When I came home that afternoon, my mother was in the kitchen, stirring a big pot of greens — I'll never forget it. I told her we studied this traumatic poem in school and wondered what her reaction to it would be. She said, "Shoot." So I recited it for her... "While riding through old Baltimore, so small and full of glee / I saw a young Baltimorean a-lookin' straight at me. / Now, I was young and very small and he was no whit bigger / So I smiled — but he stuck out his tongue and called me 'nigger.' / I saw the whole of Baltimore from May until September. / Of all the things that happened there, that's all that I remember."

When I was finished, my mother stopped stirring the greens, whacked the spoon on the side of the pot, then turned to me and said: "Larry, isn't it a damn shame he let *that* spoil his vacation!" (audience applauds)

In closing, I'd like to remind you of something Mother Teresa said when she was asked what can an individual do to effect world peace. Her answer was this: "Go home and love your family." Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for having me. God bless you. ■

## Q&A With Jon Petersen

*A Conversation with the LPC's candidate for Treasurer*

In the following months, *LPC Monthly* will publish a series of interviews with our statewide candidates. We begin with our Northern Vice Chair and candidate for Treasurer, Jon Petersen...



**Jon Petersen**

**Q:** *What is your background?*

**A:** I was born and raised in Washington State. I graduated from Stanford with a B.S. and M.S. in mathematics. After a year in Saskatchewan as a computer department superintendent, I returned to California, where I have lived for over 35 years in Santa Clara County, currently in San Jose. I've been married twice. My wife and I account for seven children and six grandchildren so far — but, unfortunately, only two of them are eligible to vote for me!

**Q:** *How did you discover the Libertarian Party?*

**A:** In 1988, my wife Marianne and I were disgusted with the Wimp and the Shrimp as Presidential candidates. We looked for alternatives and found Ron Paul. Marianne recorded a number of his radio interviews for me to listen to, and I pointed out references to him in investment newsletters to her. Then we went to a financial convention where Ron Paul was one of the featured speakers. He made so much sense that we knew he was the one for us, and we voted Libertarian for the first time that November. In December we both registered Libertarian and joined the LPC.

**Q:** *What accomplishments as a Libertarian activist are you most proud of?*

**A:** My most memorable experience came when the California Supreme Court overturned Santa Clara County's 1992 Measure A, a half-cent sales tax for transportation that got 52 % of the vote, validating Proposition 62 and saving taxpayers \$3.5 billion plus uncountable future amounts. I was one of three individuals that brought the suit, along with the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County and six other organizations. I've also

worked to ensure that the Libertarian Party almost always submits ballot arguments against proposed tax measures in Santa Clara County. We have a good track record on that, and it's rather encouraging to defeat a measure with just a ballot argument when the proponents spend hundreds of thousands of dollars.

**Q:** *If you could ask other LPC members to do one thing to help the Party, what would it be?*

**A:** I would ask every LPC member to get at least two friends, fellow workers, relatives, or other live human beings to register Libertarian each year.

**Q:** *What is the most important political issue in your campaign?*

**A:** The theme of my campaign is "Abundance and Harmony for All." The only political system that can possibly achieve that is libertarianism, allowing people to be free while acting responsibly. We must allow local solutions to local concerns, rather than the "nanny state" imposing their will on them.

**Q:** *Who are your opponents?*

**A:** The Democrats are Phil Angelides, who lost in 1994 with 42.6 %; Mervyn Evans, who has an uphill battle; and Albert Robles, who'll split the minority vote with Merv. The Republicans are Jan Goldsmith, who's poised and knows what he's doing; and Curt Pringle, who I haven't met.

**Q:** *If elected, what goal would be your top priority?*

**A:** I would immediately make a policy of challenging most lease-revenue bonds; and in the long run, I would make the treasurer's office a model for slim, trim government.

Members wishing to support Jon Petersen's campaign, can send their contributions to Jon Peterson, 141 Hays Ave., San Jose, CA 95123. Telephone: (408) 229-1726. E-mail: <jon\_petersen@earthlink.net>. ■



## 95 California Libertarians Seek Office

(continued from page 1)

vote in November in at least one statewide race to maintain ballot status in California. This effort is made more difficult, as there are now eight parties competing for votes, rather than the previous six. Luckily, not all are running candidates for each of the statewide offices.

There will be two contested Libertarian primary races: In the North Coast's 1st Congressional District, 1996 candidate Emil Rossi will compete with James Oglesby. In San Diego County's 77th Assembly District, Mike Mettie and 1996 candidate Elizabeth Meyers will face off in the June 2 voting.

There will be nine races where one major party failed to field a candidate, yet Libertarians are running. The largest race of this type is State Board of Equalization, 1st District. Libertarian Kennita Watson is the only challenger to incumbent Democrat Johan Klehs for a seat on this unique tax appeals board.

Other two way races are Modesto's 18th Congressional District, where Libertarian Ken Aaroe will face Rep. Gary Condit; Fresno's 19th Congressional District, where Jonathan Richter will oppose Rep. George Radanovich; San Fernando Valley's 25th Congressional District, where Bruce Acker will challenge Rep. Howard McKeon; San Fernando Valley's 39th Assembly District, where Kit Maira will oppose Assemblyman Tony Cardenas; and San Bernardino's 63rd Assembly District, where Maureen Lindberg is the only opponent for Assembly Republican Leader Bill Leonard.

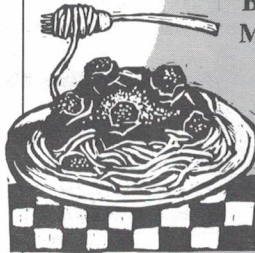
In three other races, only other third parties will join Libertarians as challengers. The Libertarians in these races are Juan Ros (26th Congressional District); Dan Muhe (48th Congressional District); and Lynn Badler (52nd Congressional District).

Be sure to vote for the Libertarians in the open primary June 2! ■

## AROUND THE STATE

### San Fernando Valley: Potluck Success

The Libertarian Party of the San Fernando Valley (R61), implementing a grassroots party-organizing method taught at last year's Success '97 seminars, hosted a potluck party on March 14th at the home of LP members **Bill and Michelle Macris** in Burbank.



About twenty LP members and one inquiry attended the party, which was a better-than-expected turnout, according

to Region 61 Chair **Juan Ros**. "I wasn't sure how well this first party would do," said Ros, "but I was happily surprised by the turnout. And the reaction to the party was overwhelmingly positive."

"The purpose of the potluck parties is twofold," Ros continued. "First, they provide a way of introducing inquiries and prospects to the LP in a friendly setting. Second, they serve as an opportunity to recruit volunteers for regional projects, something that is also difficult to do at a more formal meeting."

To spread word about the first party, Ros sent out a fundraising letter to the regional membership announcing the date, time, and location of the party. Then he and his officers followed up with phone calls to regional members and recent inquiries, urging them to attend. The result? A mix of old faces and new faces gathering together for an evening of food, fun, and exchange of ideas.

"We grew by at least one member after the evening was over, and that made it worth it," said Ros. "Next time, we're asking everyone to bring at least one non-LP friend in order to have twice the turnout and, hopefully, a few new members."

The plan, according to Ros, is to alternate the potluck parties with the regional supper club, which is being modified into more of a discussion group. "The

two events appeal to different sectors of the membership," noted Ros, "and will attract different people. That's the whole idea — to be doing as many different things as possible in order to continue spreading libertarian ideas and growing in membership."

The next Region 61 potluck party is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, at the home of member **Ellen Fitzmaurice**. For more information, contact Juan Ros at (818) 980-8833 or e-mail at [juan@myself.com](mailto:juan@myself.com). ■

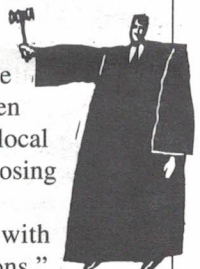
### Orange County: Judge Ruled Out of Order

On January 20, Judge **Jim Gray**, Republican candidate for Congress in the 46th district was the featured speaker at a meeting of Region 30. Gray, an outspoken advocate for rethinking the nation's drug policy, appealed for the support of Orange County Libertarians, even going as far as to ask the local party to not field an opposing candidate in his race.

"We peppered him with wide-ranging questions," reported **Tim Thompson**, "on topics from gun control to the War on Drugs to the appropriate function and scope of government. The questions forced Gray to show his hand as the conservative Republican that he is."

"To many in attendance," said Thompson, "the idea of supporting a conservative Republican was a violation of principle, Gray's moderate position on the drug issue notwithstanding. A few saw it [Grays' request] as an opportunity to shape public opinion on the drug issue, arguably the most difficult position of the Libertarian philosophy, but they were in the minority."

At the end of the meeting, **Tom Reimer**, the Libertarian candidate in the 46th district race, reaffirmed his intention to run against Gray. ■



## For Your Information

### Renewing Your Membership

Renewal notices are sent to members whose expiration date is coming up. Just return your dues payment in the accompanying envelope and your membership at the national, state, and local level will be renewed for one year. Please respond to renewal notices promptly so we don't need to send additional reminders — every additional notice costs money we could otherwise use to grow the party!

### Address Changes

Be sure to let us know if you move! Send your address change notice to the national office so that your newsletters and other important correspondence can be sent to your new address. If you are moving out of state but want to continue as an LPC member or continue subscribing to *LPC Monthly*, please also notify the state office so we can make the necessary arrangements to keep you on our list.

### Special Requests

If you need some special update to your membership records, such as a change in region affiliation, please contact the state office.

### Address Labels

The address label on your copy of this newsletter provides important information relating to your membership records. On the top line of the label, you will find a six-digit number. Please mention this number in any correspondence relating to your membership.

On the same line you will also find a two-digit number identifying the LPC region with which you are affiliated. (If you are not a member but are receiving the newsletter for some other reason there will be a two-letter code instead.) See the listing on page 11 to find out the name of your region and who to contact for information about local activities.



## Announcements

### LP Stuff For Sale

Former LPC Chair Gail Lightfoot would like to announce that she is offering Libertarian Party promotional merchandise for sale. All proceeds will go to support LPC Region 40 (San Luis Obispo County). Items for sale include the following...

**Bumper Stickers:** Blue and White saying "Vote Libertarian / 1-800-637-1776" (\$1.00 each)

**LP Flag:** 3'x5' nylon silk-screened flag features LP logo encircled by 50 white stars on a blue background. (call for price)

**LP Desk Flag:** 2"x3" banner with the LP logo. (\$10.00 each)

**LP Decal:** same design as the LP flag, for window display or other use. (\$.25 each)

**LPC Banner:** 2'x3' flag featuring the words "Libertarian Party of California" in white lettering. Silk screened on durable vinyl. Features rod pocket across top and corner grommets for hanging. (\$45.00 each)

**T-Shirt #1:** White LP logo on blue background. Specify size: S, M, L, XL, XXL (\$15.00 each)

**T-Shirt #2:** Blue Lady Liberty logo against rainbow background on white shirt. "The Libertarian Party — For Freedom's Sake." Specify size: S, M, L, XL, XXL (\$15.00 each)

**T-Shirt #3:** White porcupine and lettering "Live and Let Live" on black shirt. Specify size: S, M, L, XL, XXL (\$15.00 each)

**Lapel Pin:** blue and white Lady Liberty logo on gold. (\$10.00)

To order, contact Gail Lightfoot, P.O. Box 598, Pismo Beach, CA 93448. Telephone: (481) 452-3434. E-mail: gkltft@aol.com

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### Regional Contacts

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## Next Month:

*Ron Paul at  
the LPC's 1998  
Convention!*

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

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Contact: Eric Fussell  
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### **Del Norte** (R08)

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**The Libertarian Party** is the Party of Principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business.)

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Application

### I choose to set my dues at:

- \$25 Basic .....
- \$100 Sustaining .....
- \$250 Sponsor .....
- \$500 Patron .....
- \$1000 Life .....

### Plus additional contribution to LPC:

- \$ \_\_\_ Monthly Pledge .....
- \$ \_\_\_ One-time Donation .....

Total: .....

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