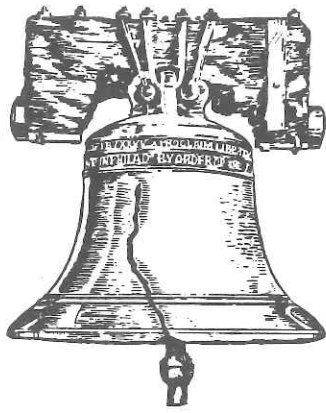


February 1986



Sandhills Libertarian Gazette

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBERTARIANS IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MIDLANDS

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Join the Freedom Movement

1986 presents an opportunity to continue the Libertarian quest for freedom. Several projects are planned, including the annual Tax Protest Day on April 15 and the booth at the S.C. State Fair in October. In addition, the biennial S.C.L.P. State Convention will be held in Columbia on April 12 in order to nominate candidates to run for state office (and perhaps the U.S. Senate). County conventions will be held on March 15 to nominate local candidates and to select delegates to the State Convention.

We need your help in our fight for Liberty. The Libertarian Party is small, and we have a lot of work to do in order to convince millions of persons that our philosophy and our proposals offer the best solutions to the problems that face us. Our success depends on how much support we can get from the hundreds of persons on our mailing list. We need contributions, we need volunteers for our various projects, and we need candidates to run for state and local office.

PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR FIGHT FOR YOUR FREEDOM!
If you truly value liberty, please send a contribution and volunteer a little of your time. If you embrace the libertarian philosophy, then please consider running for state or local office. If you can't do all three of these things, then help in whatever way you can. We can't succeed without help. Contact your county chairman if you are interested in the possibility of being a candidate. If you want to be a delegate to the State Convention in April, you need to join the S.C.L.P. before March 1, and you should attend your county convention in March. A membership form is enclosed.

We welcome to our mailing list many persons who signed our list at the fair booth last October. Unfortunately, the Lexington County L.P. is not wealthy enough to send every issue of the GAZETTE to every person who signed the list. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, please send the enclosed form to the editor. We hope you will enclose a contribution to help cover postage expenses.

YOU MAY BE A LIBERTARIAN AT HEART WITHOUT EVEN BEING AWARE OF IT.

Do you believe in an economic system based on open competition instead of big-business-controlled government agencies?

Do you believe the government — through its meddling, corruption, catering to special interests, awarding of subsidies and bail-outs and special bank privileges — has shown itself to be totally incapable or unwilling to control the declining dollar, or in fact, to act benevolently for the working person?

Do you believe that voluntary agreements between companies or individuals are none of the government's business — provided that no force or fraud is involved nor intended against anyone else?

Do you believe the government should stop trying to impose its morality on the American people, that no crime has been committed if there is no victim? Do you believe it is wrong to use the time, budgets and resources of our police, courts and prisons to persecute people who may be harming no one but themselves?

Do you believe government should leave the buying of seatbelts, motorcycle helmets or any other item designed for personal safety up to the individual?

Do you believe government spending and taxation should be cut?

If you answered "yes" to most of these questions, congratulations. You may be more of a Libertarian than you thought.

COUNTY CONTACTS (partial listing)

Aiken: John Heaton (648-9806)
Charleston: Joan DiGiovanni (795-6048)
Florence: John Harllee (669-8345)
Greenville: Bill McCuen (232-7476)
Lexington: Bill Griffin (755-9304)
Richland: Steve Vandervelde (779-3985)
York: Cliff Ross (327-3337)

For information about other counties, please contact John Harllee or John Heaton.

Aiken County Libertarians Successfully Fight Zoning

During 1985, libertarians in Aiken County put a lot of effort into fighting countywide zoning, and their efforts finally paid off in December.

For over a year, there have been efforts to get the Aiken County Council to pass a countywide zoning ordinance. Several months ago, Ron Heaton (S.C.L.P. Chairman), John Heaton (Aiken County L.P. Chairman), Mary Lou Seymour (Libertarian candidate for county council in 1984), and Tom King (a former city planner) joined forces to form the Aiken County Committee for Libertarian Principles. Throughout the year, they held anti-zoning meetings which attracted a large number of supporters. These individuals also attended county council meetings and made themselves conspicuous in their protest against zoning. These efforts gained publicity and news coverage. The libertarians also entered a hearse (see photograph) in the Salley Chitlin' Strut on November 30 and in two Christmas parades in December.

These efforts culminated at a county council meeting on December 10. Almost 200 persons showed up to protest zoning, many of them carrying signs distributed by the libertarians (see photograph). At the meeting, John Heaton asked the council to require that any law restricting property rights be passed only through a binding referendum of the county's voters. Finally, on December 17, the council voted 5 to 3 against any further consideration of countywide zoning. However, there will probably be some consideration of fringe-area zoning in the future, so zoning is not a dead issue.

Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats have expressed any opposition to zoning. The Libertarians are the only political group opposed to government-mandated zoning. According to Heaton, "We favor the use of deed restrictions, covenants, and common sense. Zoning raises taxes, rents, and construction costs. It adds another layer of bureaucrats between you and your individual rights."

To control the biggest threat to liberty in our country - government - we must reduce taxes. I do my part, and maybe I can help you do yours.

Richard Winchell
Bookkeeping and Tax Service
781-5427

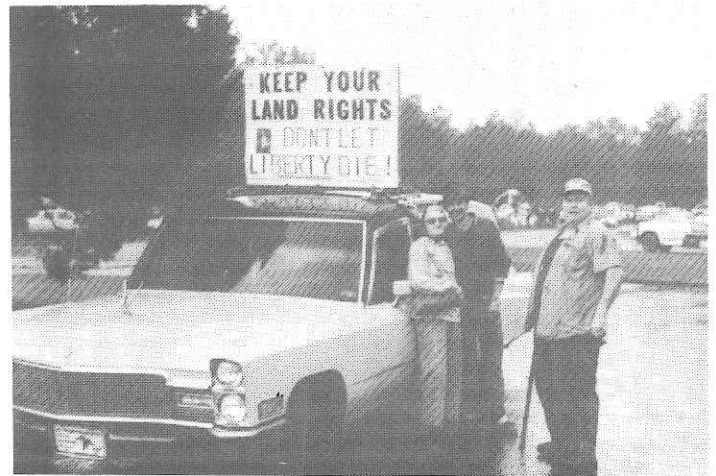
POND BRANCH RIFLE & PISTOL RANGE, INC.

Gilbert, S.C.
(1 mi. East off I-20, Exit 44)

Sat., Sun. 12 Noon; \$5.00/day



Closed July & August
Call (803) 359-5295



TOP PHOTO: Tom King (middle person) poses with two friends beside the hearse that was entered in three parades.

MIDDLE PHOTO: Zoning protest at the Aiken County Council meeting on December 10.

BOTTOM PHOTO: John Heaton addresses council.

Top photo by John Heaton.
Middle and bottom photos by Ron Heaton.

Contribution and Membership Form

Become a Contributing Member of the Lexington County Libertarian Party and take advantage of several fine offers:

If you contribute \$10 or more to the L.C.L.P., you will receive a libertarian bumper sticker.

If you contribute \$20 or more to the L.C.L.P., you will also receive a copy of Liberty Reclaimed: A New Look at American Politics, by Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian candidate for Vice-President.

If you contribute \$35 or more to the L.C.L.P., you will also receive a subscription to The Freeman, the excellent monthly journal of the Foundation for Economic Education, which features good articles on economics and other subjects, and is easy to read.

Please also consider joining the S.C. Libertarian Party and the National Libertarian Party in order to participate in the state party and receive L.P. News, the national L.P. newsletter. Becoming a Contributing Member of the L.C.L.P. will entitle you to a discount rate for membership in the national party. In addition, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping in the fight for *YOUR* freedom!

Yes! I want to become a Contributing Member of the L.C.L.P. and receive one or more gifts. Enclosed is \$ _____

I would also like to join the South Carolina Libertarian Party. Enclosed is \$15. \$ _____

I would like to join the National Libertarian Party and receive a subscription to L.P. News. Enclosed is \$15 (\$13 for Contributing Members). \$ _____

Note: State and National members must sign the membership pledge.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals. I support the principles of the Libertarian Party.

Signed _____

NAME (please print) _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

I am registered to vote in _____ County, S.C.

Make checks payable to Lexington County Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 2297, West Columbia, S.C. 29171

Voluntary Defense Survey

Please take a few minutes of your time to fill out this questionnaire. The Lexington County Libertarian Party is conducting a survey concerning voluntary financing of national defense, and your help is needed in order to gather important information. This survey does not concern U.S. defense policy - just the financing of national defense.

It is important for you to answer every question as accurately as possible. When deciding on your answers, assume that the United States has already made significant progress towards being a true free-market society based on libertarian principles.

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. Send your completed form to the address listed at the bottom of the form. If you wish to receive a copy of the results of this survey, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Lexington County Libertarian party.

-
-
1. What is your annual income? \$ _____
 2. If national defense were funded from voluntary contributions, what percentage of your income would you be willing to contribute each year? _____%
 3. If national defense were funded both by tax money and by private contributions, and if each person who voluntarily contributed to a national defense program received a tax credit for the amount of the contribution, what percentage of your income would you be willing to contribute each year? _____%
 4. If the Soviet Union or another totalitarian nation initiated an attack against U.S. territory or shipping, would you be willing to volunteer immediately to serve in some military capacity to defend the U.S.? Yes _____ No _____
 5. In the situation described in question 4, if you were unable to serve in a military capacity, what percentage of your income would you be willing to defer in order to support an emergency defense effort? _____%
 6. a) How many weeks per year would you be willing to spend learning without pay some defense-related skill and keeping your training up-to-date in case of a defense emergency? _____ weeks
b) If you received 50% of your usual salary during this training, how many weeks per year would you be willing to devote to this? _____ weeks
 7. If a freedom-loving nation were invaded by a totalitarian state, would you volunteer your services to help that nation defend its citizens?
Yes _____ No _____
 8. In the situation described in question 7, if you were unable to volunteer your services, what percentage of your income would you be willing to send to help defend that nation? _____%
 9. Below are listed some voluntary methods of paying for national defense. Please give your opinion of their relative effectiveness by placing the number 1 beside the one you believe to be the most effective, the number 2 beside the next most effective, and so on, with the number 8 placed beside the one you believe to be the least effective.
____ Voluntary contributions
____ A national endowment for defense funded by voluntary contributions
____ Voluntary levy (a percentage of wages, salaries, interest, dividends, etc. to be withheld voluntarily); this would not be enforced by the government, but rather by boycotts and pressure from businesses and individuals
____ Lotteries
____ Damage insurance (insurance companies would offer damage insurance and provide defense in order to minimize their claims)
____ Contract fee (a fee charged by the government for any contract that is to be recognized and enforced by government courts)
____ Site protection fee (a voluntary property "tax" tied to a package deal including defense, police protection, and the enforcement of contracts)
____ Other (please specify _____

 10. If the money spent on installing a fallout shelter could be deducted as a credit against your taxes, would you invest in one? Yes _____ No _____

Send to: Lexington County Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 2297
West Columbia, S.C. 29171

Libertarians Oppose Mandatory Seat Belt Bill

In recent weeks, libertarians have voiced their opposition to the mandatory seat belt bill being considered by the S.C. legislature. In December, S.C.L.P. Secretary John Harllee's letter in *THE STATE* disputed the belief that seat belts save lives. According to Harllee, New Jersey had a 15% increase in auto deaths after a mandatory seat belt law took effect.

On December 19, Lexington County Libertarian Party Chairman David Morris spoke to the joint legislative committee which is considering the seat belt bill. The full text of that presentation is printed below. It received coverage on two Columbia television stations but was ignored by the newspapers.

Other freedom-lovers also spoke at the legislative hearing. John Wrisley, a free-market advocate and former TV announcer who is well-known to local libertarians, explained to the committee that a mandatory seat belt law would be an unconstitutional infringement on the rights of individuals. He urged the legislature to let the bill die in committee. Jesse McDugald, President of A.B.A.T.E. (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments), echoed this view and urged the legislators to amend the bill to allow adults the freedom to choose whether or not to wear seat belts.

Of the three state senators present, only Glenn McConnell (R-Charleston) agreed that the government should not interfere with the decisions of individuals in matters of personal safety. He pointed out that if the government can mandate seat belt use, then it can also claim the right to force people to stop smoking, stop drinking, and avoid eating unhealthy foods.

Everyone is urged to contact their local state representative and senator and ask them to vote against the mandatory seat belt bill (H-3230, S-761).

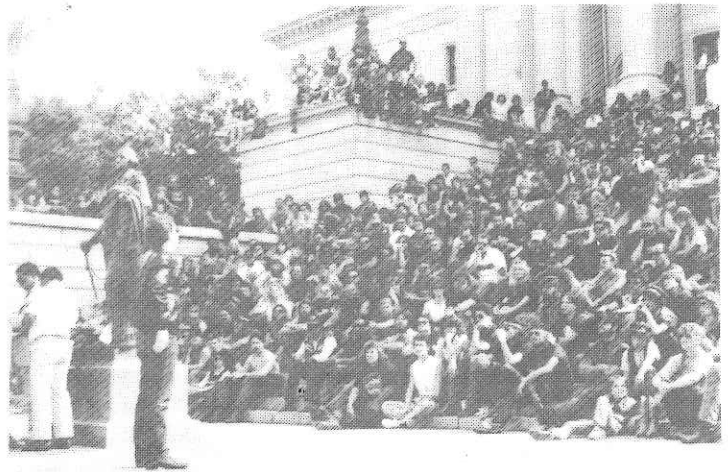
* * * *

THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS WAS MADE BEFORE THE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY MANDATORY
SEAT BELT LAWS ON DECEMBER 19, 1985:

My name is David Morris. I am a family physician in private practice in West Columbia. I am also Chairman of the Lexington County Libertarian Party as well as Education Chairman of the South Carolina Libertarian Party.

As a physician, I recognize the wisdom of wearing a seat belt when driving or riding in a car. In fact, I always wear a seat belt, and I strongly encourage my patients to wear seat belts. I also encourage many of my patients to get more exercise, lose weight, stop smoking, eat food that is low in cholesterol and high in fiber, and use sunscreen on their skin when they spend time outside. However, it would be wrong for me to force my patients to do any of these things, and it would be wrong for the government to force my patients to do any of these things, because that would be a fundamental violation of their right to control their own bodies.

As a libertarian, I recognize that each person has a natural right to life, liberty, and property, and that the only proper function of government is to defend these rights and to protect individuals from those who would violate their rights. All persons should have the freedom to control their own lives, bodies, and property, as long as they don't initiate



Steve Vandervelde, Chairman of the Richland County Libertarian Party, addresses hundreds of bikers on the steps of the State Capital in Columbia on October 21. This rally was held to protest the mandatory motorcycle helmet bill introduced by Senator David Thomas (R-Greenville). The rally was organized by A.B.A.T.E. of South Carolina. Jesse McDugald, President of A.B.A.T.E., can be seen to Vandervelde's left in the background (tallest person in group).

Photos by John Heaton

force or fraud against others. Decisions about personal safety should be made by individuals and their families - not the government. The government should be our servant - not our master.

Violent crime is a serious problem in South Carolina, and so is drunk driving. Law enforcement officials should put all of their time and effort into solving these problems. They should not waste their time by harassing persons who do not pose a danger to anyone else. I object to my taxes being used for this purpose.

It may be wise to wear a seat belt, but wisdom cannot be legislated. Gentlemen, I urge you to oppose any mandatory seat belt bill, and I urge you to resist attempts by the federal government to lure the South Carolina legislature into passing such a bill.

Thank you very much for letting me address you.

If you enjoy reading this newsletter, please patronize our advertisers. Their ads cut our expenses and make it possible to send the *Gazette* to more persons. Please eat at Mama Mia's and tell them that you saw their ad in the *Sandhills Libertarian Gazette*. Likewise, please visit Jeffers-McGill and Pond Branch, buy some anti-tax post cards, and write to Richard Winchell and Brokerage Services to tell them that you appreciate their ads. If you want to read a newsletter that explores libertarian issues in depth, then *The Pragmatist* is a good place to start. Remember, too, that you get a free subscription to *The Freeman* if you contribute \$35 to the L.C.L.P.

practical arguments
for liberty.

The Pragmatist

A Utilitarian Approach



P.O. Box 392 • Forest Grove, PA 18922

ANTI-TAX POST CARDS

Eight different kinds for \$1.

Order from John Harllee, Rt. 10,
Box 52-A, Florence, S.C. 29501.

Have Your Insurance Agent
Call Us For Quotes On:

TERM, UNIVERSAL, CURRENT
ASSUMPTION, ANNUITY AND
IMPAIRED-RISK
LIFE INSURANCE

Brokerage Services of Carolina, Inc.



Bill Brooks, Jr. P.O. Drawer 5697
President Columbia, S.C. 29250
Phone: (803) 254-2215
S.C. WATS 1-800-223-2762

JEFFERS-McGILL

WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL

Panasonic



Quasar™

776-4466

6400 DEVINE ST., CEDAR TERRACE SHOPPING CENTER

Mama Mia's

ITALIAN TOUCH
RESTAURANTE



SPAGHETTI-LASAGNA-SALADS
WINE & COLD BEER

772-0964 TAKE OUT
AVAILABLE

BOOZER SHOPPING CENTER

The editor thanks Jan Chapman for the assistance she has provided in the preparation of past issues as well as the current issue of this newsletter. The editor also thanks John Heaton and Ron Heaton for providing photographs.

LEXINGTON COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY
Post Office Box 2297
West Columbia, S.C. 29171

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
West Columbia, S.C.
Permit No. 188

Address correction requested



The Sandhills Libertarian Gazette is published by the Lexington County Libertarian Party. Ad rates available on request. Please address all correspondence to the Editor.

EDITOR: David Morris