

Free Orange County

"It is easy to forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; it is tragic indeed when men are afraid of the light."

—Plato

Newsletter of the Orange County Libertarian Party • July 1991

Libertarians score at HEMP Fest '91

By Tom Caldwell

June 16th was a very rewarding day in terms of outreach for the Orange County Libertarian Party. That was the date of "HEMP Fest '91," organized by philosophical libertarians **Joe** and **Karen Elliot**, along with **Dave Myers**. Held at Murdy Park in Huntington Beach, it was a tremendous success for the HEMP movement, bringing a sizeable crowd of about 500 people.

(For those who don't know, the HEMP movement is an organization circulating petitions for a citizens initiative to legalize marijuana in California. They have put together some very powerful *economic arguments* in favor of this idea, in addition to the familiar personal liberty issues. Libertarians, while not the primary organizers, have been active in this effort.)

Dave and the Elliots invited a band, which was very entertaining. During breaks there was a full slate of enlightening speakers lined up which included the author of "The Emperor Has No Clothes," Judy Osborne speaking about the Fully Informed Jury Amendment, and yours truly sharing the circumstances of his discharge and explaining how the Constitution supports the freedom to use hemp.

I had planned to only speak at the rally, until Dave asked me to call **John Beatty**. John then asked me to operate the "Nolan Booth." Not realizing the work I was in for, I said, "Yes." Many thanks are owed to the individuals who helped out: **Terry Dunn**, **Ted Sharshan**, and **Brian Schar**. A special note of gratitude is wed to **Dave Keller** for carefully reviewing each voter registration, ensuring each one will pass the inspection of the County Registrar.

It was a very successful day as we garnered seven new *RegLibs* (Registered Libertarians) — five who were previously registered Demopublican, and two more who were not previously registered. There was an added bonus in that we had one *RegLib* updating his address. Our registrations might turn

out to be much higher as many who were asked to register with the party declined, only wanting more information. They were given a registration card and asked to reconsider their decision when the information pack arrived.

All in all we collected the names and addresses of 47 people who wanted more information about the party. There were an additional 53 people who did score libertarian on the Nolan Chart Quiz, but declined to give us their name or address or to keep the card. We had many more people score in the libertarian category, and simply asked them to keep the card if they did not want to give us their name and address.

After a while we quit putting stickers on the Nolan Chart after a while, because every person who took the quiz scored libertarian. When asked to comment on his first time out with the Nolan Booth, Dave Keller said, "Hopefully now they will get my committee assignment right!"

It was a very rewarding day, and many thanks to Joe, Karen and Dave for inviting us to participate. Although this was called "HEMP Fest '91," I hope that Joe, Karen and Dave only need to plan one more, for 1992. After that it is hoped that the HEMP initiative will pass, and HEMP Fest '93 will be a victory re-union.

We've moved!

The OCLP has a new meeting place. It is the Neighborhood Community Center of Costa Mesa (dontcha just *love* those imaginative municipal facility names?), located on Park Ave. between 18th and 18th Streets, right behind the Costa Mesa Courtyards shopping plaza (a CRA development). Just go in the main door and follow the signs to our meeting room. See map on the back page.

From the Chair

Privatizers dine, gun owners shoot, candidates run

By Roger Bloxham

You missed a great Libertarian Supper Club if you were not one of the 58 who dined and danced to live music this past June 15th at the Newport Harbor Country Club. The next one is scheduled for Aug. 17 — details in next month's newsletter.

Robert Poole spoke and answered questions on privatization, and **Richard Boddie** really made the night worthwhile with a rousing presentation of Libertarianism, after an introduction by **David Bergland**, our 1986 presidential candidate.

California Attorney General Dan Lungren has decided that the state's latest gun regulation bill is unenforceable. It may be because he had agents at the 2nd Annual Speed-Shoot at the San Gabriel Gun Club range last month. Guns subject to that law were in abundance and very competitive.

Activist **T.J. Johnston** spoke eloquently on the guns issue and introduced **Larry Nichols**, a Republican candidate for elective office who qualified in the contest with his AR15 Colt with a 90-round drum magazine. He was absolutely subject to arrest under the Roos law which Lungren has now thought better of enforcing.

Working the meet were several active Libertarians from our own central committee: **Eric Sprik, Floyd Holiday, Mark Logsdon, Terry Dunn, John Beatty**, and others.

Where we stand

The latest California LP membership report shows that Orange County ranks fourth among county/regional parties in the number of dues-paying members, with 164 sentient citizens out of a total state party membership of 2,180.

The highest-ranking county party by far is San Diego, with 401 members.

Other high-ranking counties/regions were Santa Clara with 265 members, West Los Angeles with 184 members, San Fernando Valley with 135 members, and East Bay with 127 members.

Dues-paying membership is but a small fraction of *registered* party affiliation, where people simply check a box on their voter registration cards. As of June 16 the number of registered Libertarians in Orange County was 5,356.

Election time is rapidly approaching. It's time to pick the race in which you want to run. We have about six months to get set for the 1992 elections. Candidates may choose varying degrees of activism, from full-time campaigning to being just a "placeholder" candidate. Our goal is to have a Libertarian candidate for every position on the ballot.

This month we are in our new meeting place, the Neighborhood Community Center located on Park between 18th and 19th Streets in Costa Mesa. Attendance has gotten too much for my office to handle comfortably so we've found a larger meeting hall. Unfortunately we won't be able to provide the usual refreshments, so we'll probably adjourn to a nearby restaurant or similar place for "social hour."

The Boddie for President campaign just keeps snowballing. Richard is covering the whole U.S. with talk radio and personal appearances, spreading the Libertarian message and building support for his nomination.

Headline: "63 Dead in Yugoslavia." Non-headline: More people than that were killed in L.A. in the drug war in past weeks, and half of them were totally innocent of drug involvement.

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Committed activists get things done

By Scott Bieser

A few months back, at the suggestion of activist Jim Rushing, the OCLP Central Committee organized itself into 14 separate committees, each assigned to a specific task towards the goal of increasing the party membership. To date it has worked fairly well in getting a number of people involved in the nuts-and-bolts work of political activism, and avoiding the common syndrome of 10 percent of the people doing 90 percent of the work (and burning out quickly).

Personally I think "committee" is an inaccurate term for what we're doing. Each "committee" is actually one to three people who spend two hours a week on a particular activity, from direct mail to media access to fundraising to working with coalitions. "Task force" might be a better term but this was all due to Jim's initiative so we'll stick with his terminology.

Jim's main committee assignment is the Organizing Committee, which tracks the activities of the other committees. Jim submits a monthly report on these activities, and what follows are some highlights gleaned from his June report:

Media Committee: Gary Hull is developing a list of Media contacts for our OCLP announcements and news events. Brian Schar reported on several letters that were published last month in Reason, the OC Register, etc.

Nolan Booth Committee: Call John Beatty for information on how you can set up the Booth on the

beach, at gunshows, fairs, on campus, malls, etc. The beach is still the outstanding location for informing people about the LP.

Fundraising Committee: Jim Rushing will follow up on a lead for supplies of Libertarian T-Shirts, etc. A list of donors willing to give \$50 each on short notice was established to provide emergency funding for special projects and OCLP needs.

Coalitions Committee: Eric Sprik is working with area gun rights groups, and planning a picket against the Grant Boys Gun Store in Costa Mesa (whose owners have testified in favor of gun control laws). Time and date to be announced — call Eric at 650-7072 to get on the call list for the picketing. Dave Keller has been heavily involved in petitioning for the HEMP and FIJA initiatives, generating signatures, registrations, memberships and inquiries. He has also put together a literature packet of arguments in favor of the HEMP and FIJA issues at considerable personal expense.

Letters to the Editor committee: Steve Marczeski urges everyone to write letters to the editor and especially to use the word "Libertarian" in your letter.

Action Committee: David Nolan and Terry Dunn have landed the 1992 LPC Convention in Orange County, to be held in February 1992 at the Balboa Bay Club. Nolan and Bloxham are organizing the next Supper Club meeting planned for August. Dirk Voss will check out the possibility of getting a Libertarian Booth at the Orange County Fair next year.

Membership Application

Libertarian Party of California • 2156 The Alameda, Suite B • San Jose, CA 95126

I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

_____ signature _____ date

- I am voluntarily setting my dues at:
 - \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____
- I want to join but I can't afford the above. I am setting my dues at \$15.
- Life Membership (\$500 or more)
- National Membership (add \$15)
- Additional donation \$ _____
- First Class Mail option for *CLNews* (\$5)

Please clip and mail to: **OCLP**
P.O. Box 8324 • Newport Beach, CA 92660

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State & ZIP _____

Day phone _____

Evening phone _____

Check to "Libertarian Party of California"

Please charge my VISA MasterCard

Card # _____

Expiration date _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Meeting Time & Place

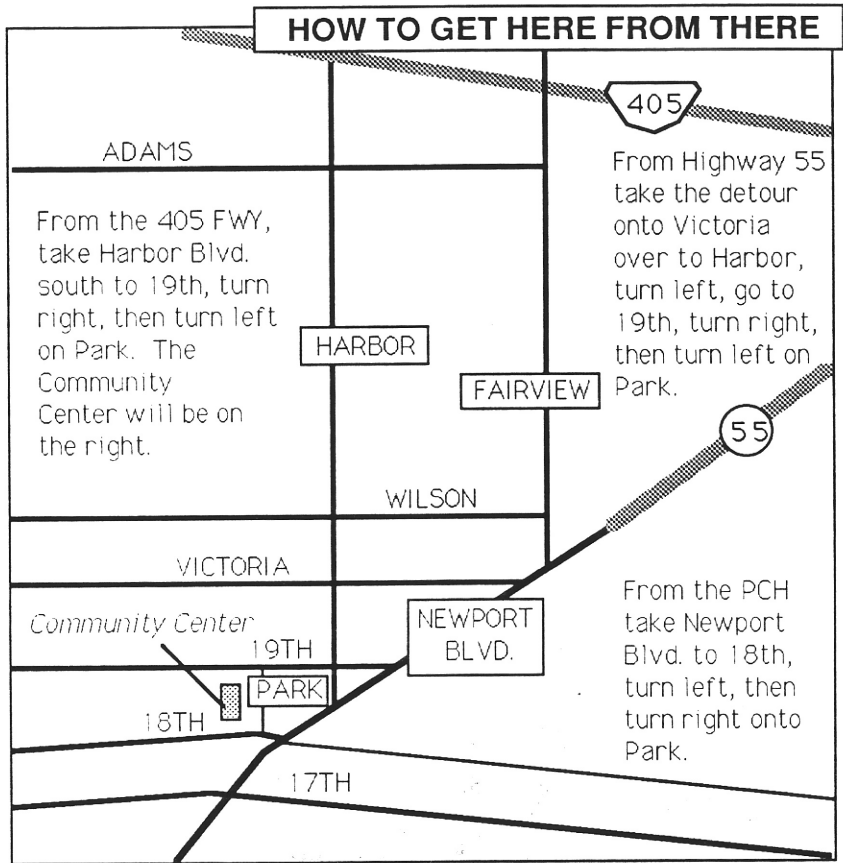
The Orange County Libertarian Party will meet Tuesday, July 16 in the Neighborhood Community Center, located on Park Ave. between 18th and 19th Streets in Costa Mesa. The meeting is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

For up-to-the-minute details concerning the next meeting please call party Chair Roger Bloxham at (714) 642-2002.

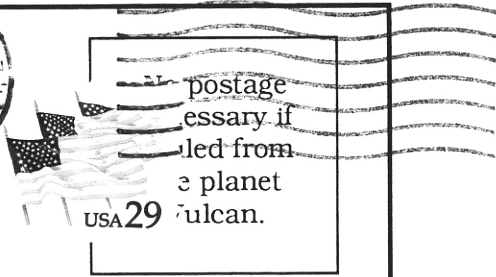
South County Meeting

Libertarians in the southern party of the county also meet the fourth Tuesday of each month in Laguna Beach.

Jim and Linda Rushing organize these meetings at the Laguna Beach Hotel, 425 S. Coast Highway. This month the meeting will be in the Catalina Room from 7 to 10 p.m.



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