

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle



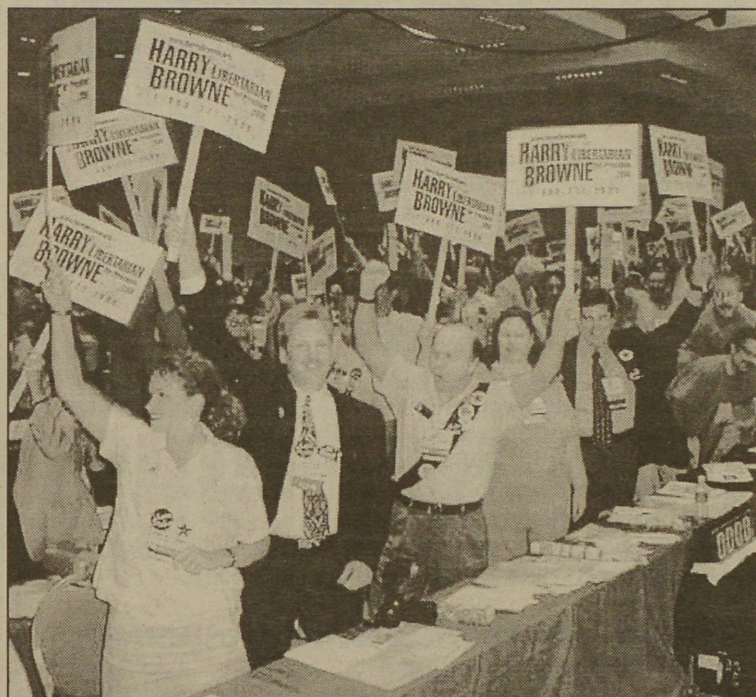
August 2000 The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 15 / Issue 8



■ Harry Browne appears on stage with his wife Pamela to accept the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination, which he won on the first ballot with 56% of the vote.



■ Harry Browne congratulates former mayor Art Olivier for winning the VP spot.



■ Delegates cheer during Harry Browne's acceptance speech, when he told a national C-SPAN audience, "Only Libertarians recognize [that] you are the rightful owner of your life."

It's a Browne/Olivier ticket in 2000

Convention delegates also elect Jim Lark as National Chair, make Platform changes

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

Under a shower of confetti and to the cheers of a packed convention hall, Harry Browne won the presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party at its National Convention in Anaheim, California on July 2.

With a first-ballot victory, Browne, a bestselling investment author, became the first man to receive the party's presidential nomination for the second time.

Winning the vice presidential nomination — in a four-way contest that wasn't decided until the second ballot — was Art Olivier, the former mayor of Bellflower, California.

In his acceptance speech on Sunday evening, Browne told delegates and a national C-SPAN audience that Libertarians "believe in you."

Unlike Republicans and Democrats who want to run peoples' lives, "only Libertarians

believe in you," he said. "Only Libertarians recognize [that] you are the rightful owner of your life — not Al Gore or George W. Bush."

Over the long holiday weekend at the Anaheim Marriott, more than 900 credentialed delegates also elected a new national chairman, chose new LP officers, made a few significant changes to



**COMPLETE
CONVENTION
COVERAGE**

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the party platform — and earned a burst of national publicity as it heads into Election 2000.

"This wasn't just an energizing, exciting convention, it was a convention that brought the Lib-

ertarian message to millions of voters, thanks to an amazing amount of television, radio, and newspaper coverage," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "The party is definitely moving into high gear as we move into the campaign season."

For many delegates, the convention reached emotional crescendos when pop/folk singer Melanie joined the party live on stage on Sunday, and later that evening when Peter McWilliams

won a posthumous Champion of Liberty Award for his fight for medical marijuana.

Close to 1,200 people attended the convention between Friday and Monday (June 30-July 3) — including delegates, Libertarians from across the USA, and interested visitors from the local area — while a potential audience of millions watched two days of gavel-to-gavel coverage on C-SPAN. Other convention events

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Carla versus Teddy: One-on-one?

Massachusetts Libertarian Carla Howell appears to be heading for a one-on-one showdown with Ted Kennedy in the race for U.S. Senate, now that the Republican candidate has been knocked off the ballot.

"A great opportunity is before us — a two-way race against big government Ted Kennedy!" said Howell. "This is the U.S. Senate race Americans have been wait-

ing for."

On June 30, the State's Ballot Law Commission ruled that GOP candidate Jack E. Robinson had fallen short of the 10,000 petition signatures required to put



■ Carla Howell: Planning for a one-on-one race

his name on the ballot.

The Commission said Robinson filed 153 "false and fraudulent" signatures, leaving him 14 short of the number needed to qualify. Robinson said he would appeal to the state's Supreme Court, and a decision is expected in mid-August.

If the appeal fails, it will mark the first time since 1916 that a Massachusetts Democratic

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boots out CA official

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Singer Melanie joins
LP at Convention

NewsBriefs

The Patriot: Libertarian outreach?

The blockbuster new movie *The Patriot* isn't just a chance to experience the exciting and violent days of the American Revolution — it's an opportunity to spread the Libertarian message, say LP activists around the country.

Even before the movie opened in late June, party members were planning how to capitalize on the film, which tells the story of a colonial farmer who became a fervent "patriot" against British tyranny.

For example, Libertarians were urged to visit the promotional web-site for the movie —

www.thepatriot.com — and post messages to the section entitled "Discuss Freedom."

"This is an ideal opportunity for Libertarians to get in some plugs for our party as the modern-day embodiment of the ideals of the American Revolution," said LP founder and movie buff David Nolan.

In Pima County, Arizona, Libertarians hosted a media event in front of a theater where *The Patriot* was playing on the 4th of July to "attract attention and tie the historical aspects of the movie to today's gun debate and liberty in general."

And in Michigan, U.S. House candidate Richard Friend encouraged Libertarians to "hit the local movie houses with our brochures. This would put Libertarians right smack in front of a large number of citizens and voters, letting them all know who we are and what we're all about."



Annual Libertarian cruise planned

The fourth annual Libertarian cruise will take place early next year — just in time to "celebrate the last day of the Clinton presidency" — and Libertarian Party members from around the USA are invited to participate.

If you sign up, you'll enjoy "a week of fun and relaxation," promised LNC member Ken Bisson, who is planning the trip.

The cruise takes place in the southern Caribbean from January 19-26, 2001. The ship, the MS Veendam (of the Holland America Cruise Line), will sail from San Juan, Puerto Rico, and will make stops in the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Martinique, St. Maarten, and St. John/St. Thomas.

Holland America will give Libertarian cruisers a 57% discount from the published price, said Bisson.

Although the principal point of the cruise is fun, not politics, "Michael Cloud and I will be offering an Advocates for Self-Government Communication Workshop during the week as an extra option for those interested," he said.

For more information, call Bisson at: (219) 833-6700. Or, visit his website: <http://members.tripod.com/~kbisson/CRUISE2001.htm>. The site includes fare information and a link to the Holland America web site where you can take a "tour" of the ship.

Gun rights meeting set for Virginia

The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms will host the 2000 Gun Rights Policy Conference Crystal in Arlington, Virginia this fall, the two organizations have announced.

The event — which is expected to draw gun rights enthusiasts from across the USA — will be held September 29-October 1 at the Crystal City Marriott Hotel.

The Gun Rights Policy Conference will feature more than 50 speakers including Alan Gottlieb (SAF) and Massad Ayoob (The Lethal Force Institute), said SAF executive director John C. Barnett, Jr. It will also examine such issues as youth violence, "smart" guns, anti-gun lawsuits by cities, concealed carry laws, and the 2000 elections.

"With this being a critical year in the defense of the right to keep and bear arms, this [conference] theme of Target Victory promises to be right on track as we move into the critical 2000 election cycle," he said. "This is your once-a-year chance to network and plan pro-gun rights strategies for the coming year."

There is no registration charge for the Gun Rights Policy Conference, and conference materials will be provided for free.

For more information or to register, call: (425) 454-4911. Websites: www.saf.org or www.ccrkba.org.

Carla vs. Teddy in November?

Continued from Page 1

Senate candidate has no Republican opponent — and would apparently set up Howell as Kennedy's only challenger in November.

Howell said she definitely plans to take advantage of the situation.

"Having no Republican gives us a chance to focus on what libertarianism is all about — small government — and to contrast it to the diametrically opposed Big Government policies of Ted Kennedy," she said. "This has been our strategy all along, but a Libertarian/Kennedy race will be even more focused."

Flooded

Following the Robinson announcement, Howell said her campaign was "flooded with e-mails, requests for donations, increased fund-raising, new volunteers, and media requests" — including Fox TV, Reuters, *Congressional Quarterly*, and the *Washington Times*.

In the interviews, "we're selling this as a David versus Goliath campaign — a long shot but a possibility," she said.

However, her biggest challenge may be getting "Goliath" to notice her, acknowledged Howell.

"Ted Kennedy has informed



■ Carla Howell — who is planning for a one-on-one campaign against Senator Ted Kennedy — marches in Boston's Gay pride 2000 parade in June. She was "met by cheers from the crowd when they saw [her campaign banner] approaching," said *Massachusetts Liberty* editor Christine Schoaff.

the media in Massachusetts that he doesn't even intend to start campaigning until late September," she said — a plan her campaign hopes to scuttle with a blast of advertising.

TV ads

Already, the campaign is planning to spend \$300,000 on

television advertisements, and \$20,000 in radio ads, she said.

One possible wrinkle on the one-on-one plan: "A couple of fringe parties are attempting to make the ballot, but they won't be ruled on until late August," she noted. "[But] right now, Carla Howell and Ted Kennedy are the only ones on the ballot."

NH candidate snags a GOP endorsement

John Babiarez, the Libertarian Party's gubernatorial candidate in New Hampshire, has won the endorsement of a former Republican State Representative.

On June 13, Phil Cobbin, a past state legislator from Grafton (District 11) publicly endorsed Babiarez's campaign for governor, saying "The two parties need the competition."

Cobbin said he endorsed Babiarez — rather than the Republican candidate — because he supports Libertarian ideas about judicial reform and more fair ballot access.

"Libertarians are working hard on petitioning for ballot access," he said, while encouraging "voters to sign the petition to get Libertarians on the ballot."

Two days later, Babiarez formally launched his campaign with a press conference at the Holiday Inn in Concord, where he was joined on stage by former Libertarian State Representative Don Gorman.

If elected, Babiarez vowed to fight against "judicial activism," promote adherence to the state and federal constitutions, and "veto all broadbased taxes."



■ John Babiarez (right) officially announced his candidacy for governor of New Hampshire at a press conference in Concord on June 15, where he was joined on stage by former Libertarian State Representative Don Gorman.

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Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

Author, LP member Peter McWilliams dies

Medical marijuana activist was 'killed' by War on Drugs'

Peter McWilliams, the #1 bestselling author and outspoken critic of the War on Drugs who became a Libertarian Party member in 1998, has died. He was 50.

McWilliams was found dead in the bathroom of his Los Angeles home on June 14. According to local sources, he had choked on his vomit — a grimly ironic coda to his three-year battle against the federal government over his right to use medical marijuana to quell nausea.

Given the circumstances of his death, it is clear that McWilliams was "murdered by the War on Drugs," the Libertarian Party said in a public statement on June 16.

Heartless, lethal

"Peter McWilliams would not be dead today if not for the heartless, lethal War on Drugs," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "The federal government killed Peter McWilliams by denying him the medical marijuana he needed to stay alive as surely as if its drug warriors had put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger."

"Peter McWilliams may be dead, but the causes he so bravely



■ Peter McWilliams, speaking at the 1998 Libertarian National Convention in Washington, DC. In his speech, he said, "[Arresting people for] medical marijuana is an outrage within an outrage within an outrage."

fought for — access to life-saving medicine, an end to the War on Drugs, and greater freedom for all Americans — will live on."

McWilliams, who suffered from AIDS and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma since 1996, had used medical marijuana to suppress the nausea that was a common side-effect to the potent medications needed to keep him alive.

The marijuana was completely legal, thanks to California's Proposition 215, which passed in 1996 and legalized the use of marijuana for treatment of illness.

However, in late 1997,

McWilliams was arrested by federal drug agents and charged with conspiracy to grow and sell marijuana.

At the time, McWilliams said he was innocent of any criminal intent.

"I have never sold a drug in my life. I have never asked or authorized anyone to sell a drug. I have never profited from any drug deal, ever," he said. "I use marijuana to treat the nausea caused by AIDS medications. Medical marijuana, for me, is a matter of life and death."

But, when his case went to
See **MCWILLIAMS** Page 25

In memory of Peter McWilliams

Peter McWilliams (1950-2000) was remembered — and praised — after his death by many people whose lives he had touched. Here are a few of the comments that marked his passing:

Peter McWilliams was more than an author and activist for libertarian causes. He was a teacher from whom we can learn to be better salesmen of liberty — and even better people. Despite his somewhat flamboyant public personality, Peter was a gentle, sensitive soul. He exhibited a tolerance toward his enemies that would have made a saint proud.

Someone once asked him why, since he was living on borrowed time anyway, he didn't get a gun and take some of the Drug Warriors to the Hereafter with him. Peter replied, "My enemy is ignorance, not individuals. It is winning the war of ideas — through fact, logic, persuasion, and, yes, humor — that brings about lasting change. Any idiot with a gun can kill. It takes clever perseverance to make lasting change. . . ."

Peter was a wonderful example — not just of tolerance, but of effectiveness. He taught us that the battle for a free, libertarian America is too important to indulge ourselves by being venomous, snide, patronizing, or violent toward our opponents. We must keep our heads, be patient, and help Americans understand how the government and the Drug War are hurting them.

— BY HARRY BROWNE, LP presidential candidate

Peter was a wry, mythogenic guy, humorous, articulate, shrewd, sassy. Imagine such a spirit ending its life at 50 because they wouldn't let him have a toke [of medical marijuana]. We have to console ourselves with the comment of the two prosecutors. They said they were "saddened" by Peter McWilliams' death. Many of us are — by his death and the causes of it.

— WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR., columnist and author

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Supreme Court strikes down 'blanket primary' law

Libertarians hail decision as major victory for political parties' right to choose own candidates

In a victory for the Libertarian Party and several other political parties, the U.S. Supreme Court has struck down California's so-called "blanket" primary law.

On Monday, June 26, the nation's highest court ruled that the blanket primary — where any registered voter can vote for any party's candidates in the primary election — violated political parties' free-association rights under the First Amendment.

The ruling came on a 7-2 vote, with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia, Sandra Day O'Connor, Anthony M. Kennedy, David H. Souter, Clarence Thomas and Stephen Breyer in the majority.

Dissenting were Justices John Paul Stevens and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

The ruling was hailed by the Libertarian Party, which had filed a lawsuit against the law, along with the Democratic, Republican,

and Peace & Freedom parties.

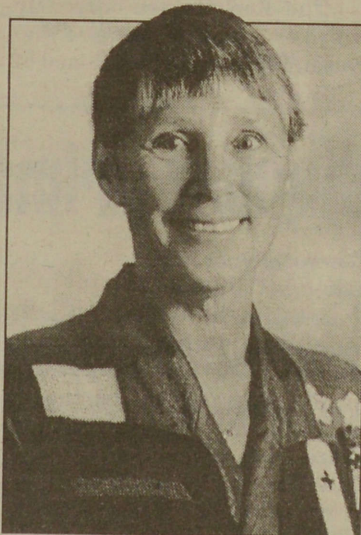
"This decision vindicates what we have been saying all along: We don't want the state telling us to let people who do not necessarily share our beliefs have a say in who will be our candidates," said Gail Lightfoot, the Libertarian Party's plaintiff in the case and U.S. Senate candidate in California.

"We believe that political parties are private organizations with rights of association protected by the First Amendment. This decision says we are right."

Momentous

California LP State Chair Mark Hinkle hailed the decision as a "momentous ruling" for all political parties.

"This vital decision emphasizes the importance of political parties' freedom to choose their own candidates," he said. "We are very pleased that the justices, after hearing the arguments from



■ Libertarian plaintiff Gail Lightfoot: "We do not want Democrats, Republicans, Greens, or Reformers selecting our candidates."

both sides, saw how the blanket primary undermined the very existence of political parties."

And LP National Director Steve Dasbach said the ruling was a victory for parties — like the Libertarian Party — that have

distinctive principles.

"This ruling means that we can protect our intellectual property — the core beliefs, philosophy, and ideology that make the Libertarian Party a unique and valuable part of the American political process," he said. "By restricting our primaries to just Libertarian voters, we can make sure that Libertarianism remains our intellectual gold standard, and that the Libertarian Party remains the party of principle."

Same ballot

In a blanket primary, every voter receives the same ballot and could theoretically vote for a Libertarian for president, a Democrat for governor, a Republican for U.S. Senate, a Reform Party candidate for State Senate, and a Green Party candidate for State House.

The Libertarian Party opposed the blanket primary, said Lightfoot, because it restricted the party's control over its candidate and their message.

"We do not want Democrats, Republicans, Greens, or Reformers selecting our candidates," she

said. "We want to preserve our right to control our own party ideals, our party principles."

"How can a party seeking to limit government intrusion into the lives of its citizens possibly support a wide-open primary, where any voter from any party — or no party at all — is able to select its candidates? Libertarian principles demand that, regardless of any possible gain to be had by higher vote totals [in a blanket primary], candidate selection be limited to party members who presumably agree with those same principles."

The blanket primary became law after California voters passed Proposition 198 at the urging of Republican Secretary of State Bill Jones in 1996. Less than 18% of registered voters turned out for the referendum.

Defended

The state government defended the blanket primary, arguing that an election "belongs to the voters" and the blanket primary had increased voter participation.

See **BLANKET PRIMARY** Page 4

NewsPolitics

Browne starts strong in online polls

The Harry Browne for president campaign has just gotten underway, but the Libertarian candidate has already racked up several strong showings in online polls.

In a June 14 poll at www.PlanetOut.com — a gay-themed website — Browne was the first-place finisher in response to the question: "Which presidential candidate would make the most interesting lunch companion?"

Browne won 48%, easily beating Democrat Al Gore (13%), Republican George W. Bush (6%), Green Party candidate Ralph Nader (6%) and Reform Party contender Pat Buchanan (4%). Another 23% said they'd "prefer to eat alone."

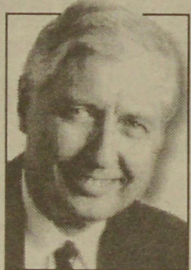
Ironically, "Although they included me in the poll, they don't yet include me among the candidates profiled throughout the website," noted Browne.

In a June 17 poll on www.ConservativeHQ.com — which dubs itself "The Conservative Headquarters" — Browne finished in third place in a presidential preference poll.

Browne won 12.62% of the vote, coming in behind Alan Keyes (40.77%) and presumptive GOP nominee George W. Bush (31.06%). Pat Buchanan finished a distant fourth with 3.88%.

And in another encouraging poll, a plurality of potential young voters at MTV's www.RockTheVote.com site said they planned to vote for a third party presidential candidate.

In the late June results, 41.0% said not only would they "consider voting for a third-party candidate," but planned to do so. Another 24.9% said they would consider it, even though they "feel like it would waste" their vote; 20.2% said they would not, and 13.9% said they didn't have "enough information" to decide.



■ Browne: In first place

New website aims to 'Grow the LP'

A new website has been set up to help Libertarian Party activists "grow the LP."

The site — www.growthelp.org — was created by members of the San Diego party, and is designed to "provide a central place for activists to go and add their two cents [about effective growth strategies]," said Kristi Stone, who helped coordinate the project.

The website includes such projects as calling new members, putting up LP candidate signs in your yard, "recycling" Libertarian newsletters, writing letters to the editor, and including the "World's Smallest Political Quiz" in envelopes you use to pay bills. Each section includes specific suggestions about how to effectively implement the project.

The goal of the website was to "capture all the great ideas our committee was coming up with [and] open it up to everyone nationally," said Stone. "[It is] a place for ideas, not mandates. Let people be responsible for picking ideas they can rally behind."

The site also includes links to the national LP website, to organizations that share some of the party's political goals, and to sites that offer LP literature and promotional materials.

As more LP activists visit the site and add other outreach ideas, "we will grow the site to help them grow the LP," said Stone.

Tim O'Brien wins lawsuit legal fees

Michigan LP Executive Director Tim O'Brien didn't just emerge victorious from a lawsuit filed against him by his ex-mayor — he also got all his legal expenses reimbursed.

On May 5, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Susan Bieke Neilson ruled that a suit brought against O'Brien by former Allen Park mayor Ken Ford was frivolous. As a result, the mayor was ordered to pay O'Brien about \$500 for all deposition, transcript, motion, and mediation fees incurred during the lawsuit.

O'Brien said he was pleased by the decision, since it would send a message that "an elected official [cannot] get away with this kind of intimidation of his constituents."

O'Brien had been sued by the mayor after he and other Allen Park residents launched a recall drive in September 1997.

The recall petition accused the mayor of using tax money to lobby for a tax increase, voting to raise his own pay, and attempting to "exert political control" over the police and fire departments.

In response, the mayor sued, charging that the recall petition was libelous and caused him "mental distress." That lawsuit was thrown out of court on February 18.

Now, O'Brien said he is glad the ordeal is finally over — and "that the ex-mayor's attempt to bully me for participating in the political process was thrown out."

Kentucky Libertarians protest planned tax-funded sports arena

Libertarians turned out in force to protest a proposal to build a tax-funded sports stadium in Louisville, Kentucky — calling the plan "corporate welfare" for the rich.

About 50 Libertarians and supporters gathered in front of the Jefferson County Courthouse on June 12, carrying signs that said: "Don't Pick Our Pockets for the Houston Rockets," "We're Not Game for More Taxes," and "No Taxfunded Basketball Arena."

"Libertarians generally believe it's good to get the poor off welfare, but it's also good to get the rich off welfare," said Bryon Himmelheber, the LP member and Jefferson Community College professor who organized the event.

"Politicians need to know there are people who are real concerned [with the proposal]," he said. "A lot of people are really concerned that an arena is being forced down people's throats very quickly."

\$180 million

Protesters were objecting to a plan by the city, county, and state government to build a \$180 million sports arena in downtown Louisville, in an effort to entice a professional basketball team, the Houston Rockets, to relocate to Kentucky.

Taxpayers would be liable for at least half the cost of the area, in the form of \$90 million in bonds. Under the plan, the National Basketball Association (NBA) would kick in only \$4 million a year.

The Rockets are currently owned by a multimillionaire who lives in Florida. He threatened to



■ Libertarians rally before the Jefferson County Courthouse in Kentucky to protest a tax-subsidized sports arena. "It's also good to get the rich off welfare," said Bryon Himmelheber, the LP member who organized the event.

pull the team out of Houston because of reluctance by city officials to build a new tax-funded sports stadium for the team.

Himmelheber said he has no objection to basketball — and, in fact, is an NBA fan himself — but argued that a tax-funded arena would be nothing more than "corporate welfare," paid for by taxpayers.

"We support the idea of the NBA coming, but they are going to have to bring their checkbooks with them," he said. "It's time that these teams stop blackmailing cities and start paying their own way."

Although organized by the

Libertarian Party of Kentucky, the rally attracted "concerned citizens from various organizations," said LP activist Theresa Fritz Camoriano.

Private business

Rally participants "stressed that a basketball franchise is a private business, which should fund its own building, and that it is not a proper function of government to spend tax money to subsidize private business," she said.

The event was covered "by all the news media, with all the major television, radio and print media represented," said Camoriano.

Blanket primary struck down by court

Continued from Page 3
pation in California.

But in the Supreme Court decision, written by Scalia, the justices declared that California was "forcing political parties to associate with those who do not share their beliefs. And it has done this at the crucial juncture at which party members traditionally find their collective voice and select their spokesman."

"The burden [the blanket primary] places on [political parties'] rights of political association is both severe and unnecessary."

Point person

Libertarians owe thanks to Lightfoot for the victory, said Hinkle, since she has served as the party's "point person" on the case for the past four years.

"Gail's tireless efforts have

LIGHTFOOT:

"I was confident we were right [and] ecstatic the Court saw the case our way."

borne fruit, and on behalf of all California Libertarians, I thank her for her commitment to this case," he said.

As the case went on, Lightfoot said she had become more and more confident of victory.

"I was confident we were

right, all during the appeals process, even though it went against us," she said. "When I was in Washington to hear the case presented to the Supreme Court I felt even more certain."

"I was ecstatic that the Court saw the case our way."

Other states

The ruling could affect three other states that have similar blanket primaries: Alaska, Washington, and Louisiana.

Another 20 states have an "open" primary, where voters can choose which one party's primary they will vote in, even if they are not registered with that party. Such open primaries will not be affected by the June 26 ruling.

The case was California Democratic Party v. Jones, 99-401.

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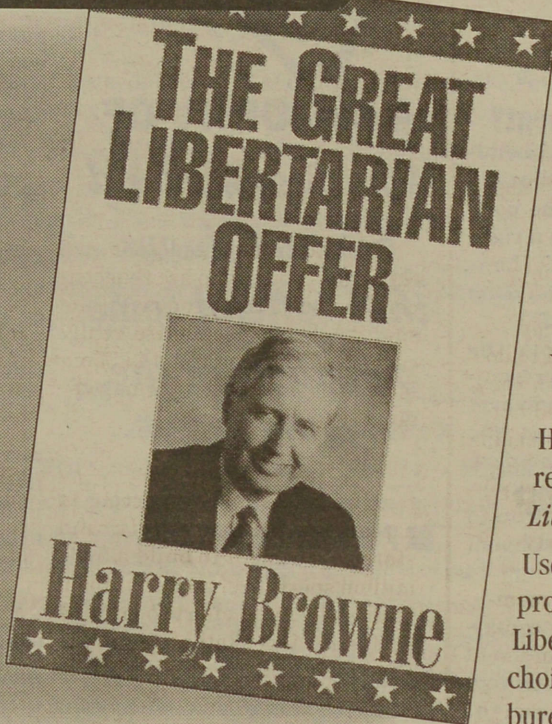
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Walking Points

Giving OSHA bureaucrats a thrill & Farmer Sam's welfare check

■ Was it good for you?

Marthe Kent, [the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's] director of safety standards program, couldn't be happier at her job.

"I like having a very direct and very powerful impact on worker safety and health," she recently told the Synergist, a newsletter of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. "If you put out a reg, it matters. I think that's really where the thrill comes from. And it is a thrill; it's a high."

Later in the article, she adds, "I love it; I absolutely love it. I was born to regulate. I don't know why, but that's very true. So as long as I'm regulating, I'm happy."

— NATIONAL REVIEW'S
INTERNET UPDATE
June 26, 2000

■ Oops

Percentage of inmates at Joliet maximum security prison in Illinois who tested positive for drugs in 1999: 2

Percentage of prison employees who tested positive: 4
— PLAYBOY, August 2000

■ Farmer Sam

Slop, slop, slop. Oink, oink, oink. Sooooooiee.

Those are the hog-heavenly sounds that reverberated [in late May] from the halls of Congress, where a \$15.2 billion farm aid bill passed overwhelmingly in both the House and Senate. It is a bipartisan spending boondoggle, special-interest payoff, and corporate welfare restoration act, all rolled into one grease-slicked, lip-smacking package.

And who profits? Multi-millionaires like ABC News celebrity "farmer" Sam Donaldson, whose goat and sheep ranches in New Mexico have reaped nearly \$100,000 in farm welfare.

— MICHELLE MALKIN
The Washington Times
June 3, 2000

■ What 2nd Amendment?

Veterans of Second Amendment battles understand that the U.S. government takes the position that you do not have a right to own a gun. Many people, however, say, "Oh come on, you don't really believe that, do you?"

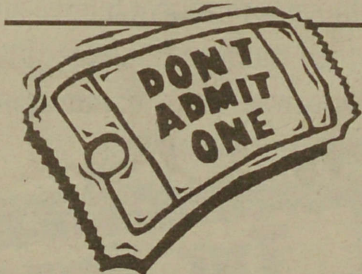
Well, here it is from the mouth of the lawyers representing the United States government, from my notes at the Emerson case. [U.S. v. Emerson, in the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans, which revolves around whether the Second Amendment grants an "individual" right to keep and bear arms].

Judge Garwood: "You are saying that the Second Amendment is consistent with a position that you can take guns away from the public? You can restrict ownership of rifles, pistols and shotguns from all people? Is that the position of the United States?"

[U.S. government attorney] Meteja: "Yes."

Judge Garwood: "Is it the position of the United States that persons who are not in the National Guard are afforded no protections under the Second Amendment?"

Meteja: "Exactly."
— TOM GRESHAM
www.GunTalk.com
June 2000



A MAJORITY OF Americans would ban art shows that "offend some members of the community."

■ Perfect regulation

The Clinton administration has some 4,538 regulations in process, 137 of which are "economically significant" and will cost at least \$100 million each.

There was a time when reformers thought the answer was to elect Republicans. Give the GOP control of Congress, it was said, and they will rein in the regulators.

Now we know better. Four years ago, Congress enacted the Congressional Review Act, which requires all agencies to submit their rules to Congress. Lawmakers then have 60 days to block the proposals.

Not once has Congress acted. Perhaps every regulation advanced by the administration has been a good one. All 4,684 final rules issued in 1999. And the 4,899 implemented the year before. And the 4,584 imposed in 1997. More than 14,167 new regulations passed after Congress approved the CRA, and apparently not one warranted rejection.

— DOUG BANDOW
The Washington Times
June 6, 2000

■ Pro-privatization

A recent Zogby Poll asks this straightforward question: "How likely would you be to support Social Security privatization if it allowed you to take your Social Security money and invest it in a retirement account of your choosing?"

A whopping 68.7% of respondents said they support privatization. More than 80% of people 54

and younger favor the idea.

And that support cuts across demographic lines — gender, race, income level, education level, union vs. nonunion, you name it.

— EDWARD H. CRANE
Cato Policy Report
May/June 2000

■ Goodbye to \$38 billion

In another ironic twist, [the National Taxpayers Union Foundation] discovered that public employees depending on state pension funds can be added to the long list of losers in the government's pursuit of Microsoft.

State-level government employee pension funds in several states pursuing Microsoft lost over \$38 billion following a federal court ruling against the computer firm.

The 19 Attorneys General pursuing the case claimed they were doing it for the "benefit of citizens."

— CAPITAL IDEAS
May/June 2000

■ Undergarment Drive

AmeriCorps, the "national service" scam created in 1993, may be President Clinton's proudest achievement. [But] in practice, AmeriCorps operates more like a federal relief program for nightclub comics.

In San Diego, AmeriCorps recruits carried out the First Annual Undergarment Drive, a high-profile campaign to collect used bras, panties and pantyhose for a local women's center.

In Buffalo, N.Y., AmeriCorps members helped run a program that gave children \$5 for each toy gun they brought in — as well as a certificate praising their decision not to play with toy guns.

In Los Angeles, AmeriCorps recruits busied themselves sewing a quilt to send to victims of the Oklahoma City bombing — but never bothered to finish the project.

— JAMES BOVARD
American Spectator
July/August 2000

■ Real tax reform

Humorist Dave Barry proposes a friend's idea on how to simplify tax law: Every April 15, lock up all members of Congress in prison cells with tax forms and the tax code.

Keep them there without food or water, until they had completed their tax returns and successfully undergone a full IRS audit.

Naturally, Mr. Barry says, this system would probably result in a severe shortage of congresspersons. But there might also be some drawbacks.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
June 7, 2000

■ And a quiz on April 15

Until the year 1913, there was no permanent federal individual income tax. The government got most of its money from levies on liquor, imports, and tobacco.

By 1939, after the creation of numerous social programs, the

tax laws had grown complex enough to compile them into an official "Internal Revenue Code" of about 500 pages.

Fifteen years later, laws were overhauled and the Tax Code increased to 927 pages — still a workable size that most Americans could understand if they took the time to read it.

It was only during the second part of the 20th Century that the system went haywire. As more citizens became liable to pay income taxes and rates went up, Congress began tinkering with the system by adding deductions, credits, shelters, loopholes, and exceptions.

Congress came up with a solution, the "Tax Reform Act of 1986" to lower tax rates and simplify the laws. The actual Tax Code in 1986 grew to almost 2,000 pages.

During the last 14 years of the century, Congress just couldn't leave the system alone. From 1986 until today, there have been more than 6,800 changes to the Internal Revenue Code, according to Commerce Clearing House (CCH) Inc., a tax research and publishing firm.

But the actual Tax Code is just the beginning. After new laws are passed, they are "interpreted" with IRS regulations. Only after adding the various other IRS rulings and related court cases do you have all the information you need to comply with your federal tax responsibilities.

One 25-volume document, called the CCH Standard Federal Tax Reporter, contains all the necessary elements and is arguably the most accurate reflection of how complex the Internal Revenue Code has become. The series of books has grown from 400 pages in 1913 to 46,900 pages in 2000.

This is what a taxpaying citizen needs to read in order to understand and comply with the law.

— CAPITAL IDEAS
May/June 2000

■ What 1st Amendment?

The home of the brave would become the land of the not-so-free if the latest public opinion polls were to prevail.

A majority of Americans would restrict public speech that is offensive to racial or religious groups and would ban art shows that offend some members of the community.

These are some of the significant findings of the "2000 State of the First Amendment" survey released [in late June].

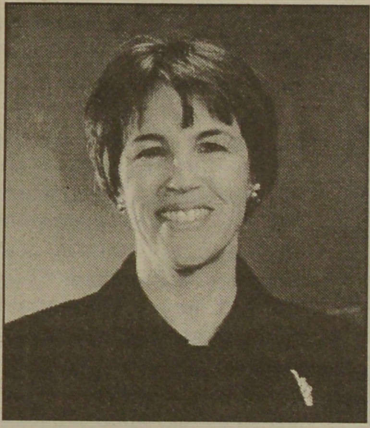
According to the survey: 67% feel public remarks offensive to racial groups should not be allowed. 51% of Americans think "the press in America has too much freedom." 20% think government should be allowed to approve what newspapers publish. [And] 37% of those polled couldn't name even one of the five freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment.

— FREEDOM FORUM ONLINE
June 29, 2000

"I prefer liberty to chains of diamonds."

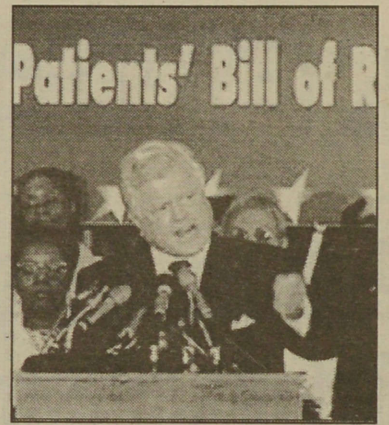
— LADY MARY WORTLEY MONTAGU

Is liberty more valuable to you than "chains of diamonds"? Than a new car? A vacation? Don't worry: We won't ask you to give up those things for liberty. But there is a way you can help the cause of freedom when you'll no longer need diamonds, a car, or a vacation — by naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion of this option, please contact national LP Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (508) 472-5321. Or e-mail him at: Treasurer@lp.org.



OFFICIAL RULING

Carla Howell vs. Ted Kennedy



2-Way U.S. Senate Race!

Official Ruling: The Republican U.S. Senate candidate failed to meet ballot requirements. The

Massachusetts State Ballot Law Commission has removed the Republican U.S. Senate candidate from the ballot.

For the first time since the direct election of U.S. Senators in 1916, there is *no* Republican U.S. Senate candidate on the ballot in Massachusetts.

For the first time in Libertarian Party history, a Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate is in a two-way race.

What does this mean?

Only 2 U.S. Senate candidates qualified for the ballot in Massachusetts: Democrat Ted Kennedy and Libertarian Carla Howell.

Big Government Ted Kennedy vs. small government Carla Howell. A Two-Way U.S. Senate Race. Democrat vs. Libertarian. In Massachusetts.

When the news hit, we were showered with media attention. Fox TV News. The Gary Nolan Show. Reuters. Associated Press. *MetroWest Daily News*. The Jay Severin Show. *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*. WMEX. *The Boston Tab*. Minyard & Minyard. The Larry Elder Show. WSMN. And that's just the beginning.

Carla Howell will be featured in a WGBH PBS Television Documentary about my U.S. Senate race. This TV Documentary begins taping in late July and will be broadcast in October.

Why is our campaign exciting and intriguing to the news media?

David and Goliath campaign. Small government Libertarian Carla Howell vs. Big Government Ted Kennedy. David vs. Goliath. Remember: David was the good guy.

Campaign of Contrast. Big Government vs. small government. 38-year career politician vs. citizen volunteer.

We could make history. If Carla Howell were to win, she'd be the First Libertarian U.S. Senator ever —

end the Kennedy dynasty in Massachusetts — be the First Woman U.S. Senator from Massachusetts ever.

Black-Belt Publicity Team: Pumping out news releases. Our Publicity team, headed by Media Coordinator Elaine Berchin, is courteous, competent, courageous, and relentless.

414 Volunteers working to make us Too Big to Exclude, Too Big to Ignore.

Why is this Two-Way Race teeming with drama?

Ted Kennedy: An Institution. 38-year U.S. Senator. America's political royalty. Because Kennedy is news, his opponent is news.

Ted Kennedy: Prime Author of Government-Run National Health Care. Federal Anti-Gun Legislation. War on Drugs. The Big Dig. Prime Architect of Big Government. Prime Mover of hundreds of Big Government programs.

Ted Kennedy symbolizes Big Government. Epitomizes. Embodies.

Ted Kennedy: Defending Big Government. Explaining

Big Government. Justifying Big Government.

Ted Kennedy's loss to Carla Howell would change American politics. Carla Howell's as much a long shot as David when he took on Goliath. *But what if* —

Would you like to make the Carla Howell Libertarian for U.S. Senate campaign Too Big to Exclude, Too Big to Ignore?

Will you help us craft David's Sling against Goliath?

The day after the Massachusetts State Ballot Law Commission removed the Republican U.S. Senate candidate from the ballot —

On July 1st, at High Noon, Carla delivered her "small government is beautifulsm" campaign speech coast-to-coast on C-SPAN TV. We were barraged with calls from voters and volunteers. Over 1,000 more people visited our website and subscribed to Small Government Newssm.

Then we were deluged with Newspaper, Radio and TV coverage. Emails. Phone calls.

That's great news. But we can do dramatically better if you help now.

Radio Ads: We're creating and producing hard-hitting, persuasive Radio Ads. We need to run our Libertarian Ads 647 to 1,123 times — starting in early August.

TV Ads: Michael Cloud, our campaign CEO, will be working with a top-notch production team to create and produce 4 to 7 attention-grabbing, high-impact TV Ads.

Michael Cloud is personally committed to running \$300,000 in TV advertising. That's over 863 TV Ads blanketing the State of Massachusetts.

Here's our formula...

TV Ads x Radio Ads x Yard Signs x Bumper Stickers x Talk Radio x Newspaper and TV News Coverage = David's Sling against Goliath!

Your donation is our budget. Without you, none of this will happen. With you, we can do it.

You can still donate up to \$2,000 to our Libertarian campaign. \$1,000 for the primary. \$1,000 for the general election. And so can your spouse.

\$1,000 will fund 8 Carla Howell TV ads — seen by 320,000 voters.

\$250 will fund 5 Carla Howell radio ads on major stations — heard by 75,000 voters.

\$85 will fund 100 Carla Howell bumper stickers — seen by 10,000 people every week.

\$65 will fund 26 Carla Howell yard signs — seen by 1,400 people every week.

Please help now.

— small government is beautifulsm —

Carla Howell

**A Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign
Too Big to Exclude, Too Big to Ignore!**
Here's my best contribution to make this happen:

One-time Contribution: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250
☐ \$100 ☐ \$85 ☐ \$65 ☐ Other: \$_____. I'll pay by:
☐ Check: "Carla Howell for US Senate" (no corporate checks) ☐ Credit card.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Bill my: ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

CREDIT CARD # _____

SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

OCCUPATION _____ EMPLOYER _____

You can donate \$2,000 — \$1,000 for the primary, \$1,000 for the general election.

Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

MAIL TO: Carla Howell for U.S. Senate • 297 Boston Post Road Suite 247 • Wayland, MA 01778 • E-mail: info@carlahowell.org • www.carlahowell.org

News: Affiliates

Pulling the plug on Sewergate, blasting an Ozymandian airport, & making N.J. history

■ ALASKA

Libertarians blast plan to create 'Stevens Airport'

A plan to rename a major airport after Alaska's current U.S. Senator is not just bad public policy — it's something you'd expect to see in a "third-world dictatorship," state Libertarians have charged.

"Is there someone other than me who thinks something isn't right?" asked Alaska LP State Chair **Len Karpinski**.

In early July, Anchorage International Airport was officially re-named after U.S. Senator Ted Stevens (R) in a public ceremony. The name change was intended to "honor" Stevens for his role in bringing federal tax funds to the state.

But Karpinski said there is nothing honorable about the plan.

"This is bad public policy to engrave your name like Ozymandias on the front of any government facility," he said. "It's something I'd expect to see in some third-world dictatorship, not the United States. If the Senator has any principles worth mentioning, he'll refuse to take part in [the ceremony], and try to stop it."

■ CALIFORNIA

\$4 million for Democrats is just 'political welfare'

State Libertarians have condemned a decision by the Los Angeles City Council to spend \$4 million in taxpayer dollars to help pay for the Democratic National Convention — calling the bailout the worst form of "political welfare."

"Bill Clinton may have announced the end of welfare as we know it, but it appears that doesn't apply to his own party," said State Chair **Mark Hinkle**.

On June 23, the City Council approved the \$4 million after private contributions fell below expectations. In addition, the city has pledged \$7 million worth of in-kind services for the convention, which will be held August 14-17 in downtown Los Angeles.

But should taxpayers pay for a partisan political celebration?

"Of course not," said Hinkle. "Forcing taxpayers to foot the bill for a party's private gathering is political welfare of the worst sort and should be eliminated."

Democrats will also get \$13 million from the federal government to pay for their convention.



Colorado Libertarians join rally against Drug Prohibition

■ Libertarians (l-r) Chuck Wright, Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer, and Michelle and Kevin Konieczny rally against Drug Prohibition in front of the state capitol in Denver, Colorado on May 14. At the event, which drew about 120 people, Dr. Glazer said, "I'm not even allowed to talk about the potential benefits of marijuana to my medical patients — like nausea control for cancer patients — because of the hysteria about the drug." Other Libertarians handed out literature and registered new voters.

■ CALIFORNIA

State LP: Squash bill to interrogate 5-year-olds

Hands off our kids: That's the message state Libertarians are sending to the legislature.

In mid-June, the state LP blasted a bill before the state legislature that would require children as young as five years old to be asked questions about whether their parents spank them, keep guns in the house, or watch violent television shows.

"This has to be one of the most frightening bills I have ever seen introduced in the California Legislature," said State Chair **Mark Hinkle**. "Forcing children to report 'suspicious' activity of their parents is a strategy right out of the totalitarian playbook, not something that should even be considered in a free and civil society."

The bill, AB 2068, introduced by a Sacramento Democrat, passed the State Assembly on

May 25, and moved to the State Senate.

"The Senate must kill this bill and strike a blow for every family's right to privacy," said Hinkle. "Let's interrogate violent criminals, not innocent children."

■ CALIFORNIA

LP joins 2nd Amendment march in Los Angeles

More than 100 people — including a contingent of local Libertarians — turned out for the pro-gun Second Amendment Sisters' rally in Westwood (Los Angeles) on May 14.

Despite being outnumbered by a larger "Million Mom March" across the street, "marchers from the LP and the Second Amendment Sisters garnered a lion's share of the unsolicited waves, honked horns, and shouts of support from those driving along Wilshire Blvd," reported local LP activist **Jason Heath**.

Libertarians at the rally in-

cluded U.S. Senate candidate **Gail Lightfoot**, as well as local activists **Dick Venable**, **Mark Selzer**, and **William Weilburg**.

LP members carried placards reading "Pro-Choice on Self Defense," said Heath, and generated press coverage from all local television stations, news radio outlets, and newspapers.

Explaining the LP's pro-self defense position, State Assembly candidate **Mark Selzer** noted in the *Los Angeles Daily News*, "What about Matthew Shepard — what if he had a gun? What about the black man dragged to death behind a truck in Texas? What if he'd had a gun?"

■ COLORADO

FEMA wildfire help would pile 'disaster on disaster'

State politicians should not demand money from the federal government's disaster relief programs to deal with several recent fires, the state LP has urged.

"This isn't about fire, this is about money," said State Chair **Bette Rose Smith**.

After several wildfires burned out of control in Colorado in June, state politicians urged the governor to designate the affected zones as disaster areas, and seek funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

But such a plan would only "pile disaster upon disaster," said Smith.

"Our hearts go out to those who have lost their homes [in the fires]," she said. "But disaster funding will only increase the scope of future disasters, by encouraging more people to move into the forests without taking adequate precautions."

Instead, she said, homeowners should rely on private insurance — rather than passing on the cost of their personal misfortune to "people in Denver, Illinois, or Baltimore."

■ GEORGIA

Dale Ritchey campaign gets Project BAM bump

Libertarian **Dale Ritchey's** campaign for the Georgia State House has started with a BAM — a "Ballot Access Mile."

On June 3, almost two dozen LP volunteers "hit the street in order to walk a mile" for Ritchey, and collect door-to-door petition signatures in Atlanta to help put the candidate on the ballot, said **Mike Powers**, who coordinated the effort.

"Project BAM was a tremendous success," he said. "Prior to this effort, Dale's volunteers had gathered 1,382 raw signatures. On this single Saturday, 343 additional signatures were gathered, bringing Dale's raw total up to 1,725."

According to law, 1,397 signatures are required — but volunteers will continue petitioning just to make sure, said Powers.

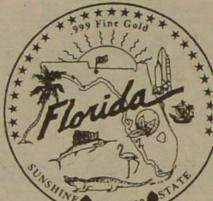
"[We want] to make certain that Dale [is] the ballot," he said.

■ IOWA

'Illegal' beer coasters are a coast-to-coast hit

A beer coaster that gives "illegal" information about the nutritional content of beer has become a nationwide hit, the

Commemoratives



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1845

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- NEW! .999 1/4-oz. Gold \$219
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- Pendants \$17.95 and up

Discounts on \$500 order or more

10% of all sales donated to the Libertarian Party!

Johnson County LP has reported. "From Florida to Maine, New York to Oregon, Ohio to Iowa, freedom lovers and beer lovers are ordering Beer Facts beer mats," said **Christy Ann Welty**, chair of the county party.

The coaster lists percentages of five vitamins and five minerals in Artist Colony Ale — from microbrewer Stone City Brewing Ltd. in Johnson County — along with protein, alcohol, sodium, fat, and carbohydrates, she said.

Such information is illegal, since the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms prohibits brewers from publicizing the nutrient content of their products.

"It's like a shot of sweet freedom with a beer chaser," said Welty about the coaster. "The beer mats are a political statement against government censorship, and they supply information that people want to know."

For information, visit <http://LPJC.home.att.net>. Or write: LPJC, P.O. Box 401, Iowa City, Iowa 52244.

■ IOWA

County party wins fight over candidate listings

The Johnson County LP has won a battle to force the County Auditor's Office to include Libertarians on its public list of candidates seeking office.

On July 4th, county chair **Christy Ann Welty** announced that the County Auditor's Office would begin accepting "declarations of intent" from third-party candidates — which would eliminate the current five-month lag before such candidates could be listed.

Previously, "major" party candidates could file for office in March and immediately be included on the County Auditor's Office candidate listing, which was made available to the media and to voters. But third-party candidates could not legally file for county office until early August, and were excluded from the list until that time.

"This [new] policy makes elections fairer for all the players," said Welty. "These declarations give alternative party and independent candidates a chance to officially record their campaign intentions at the same time as the major party candidates."

■ IOWA

Libertarians fight stench of 'Sewergate' scandal

Libertarians in Clinton Twp. have launched a campaign to clean up "Sewergate" — a simmering controversy over the dumping of raw sewage into the Clinton River.

Local Libertarians — including **David Wejrands**, **Craig Yope**, **Jim Miller**, **Al Titran**, and **Scott Allen**, a candidate for Clinton Twp. Trustee — attended the May meeting of the board to "demonstrate their concern," said local LP activist **Diane Barnes**.

"The high point of the evening

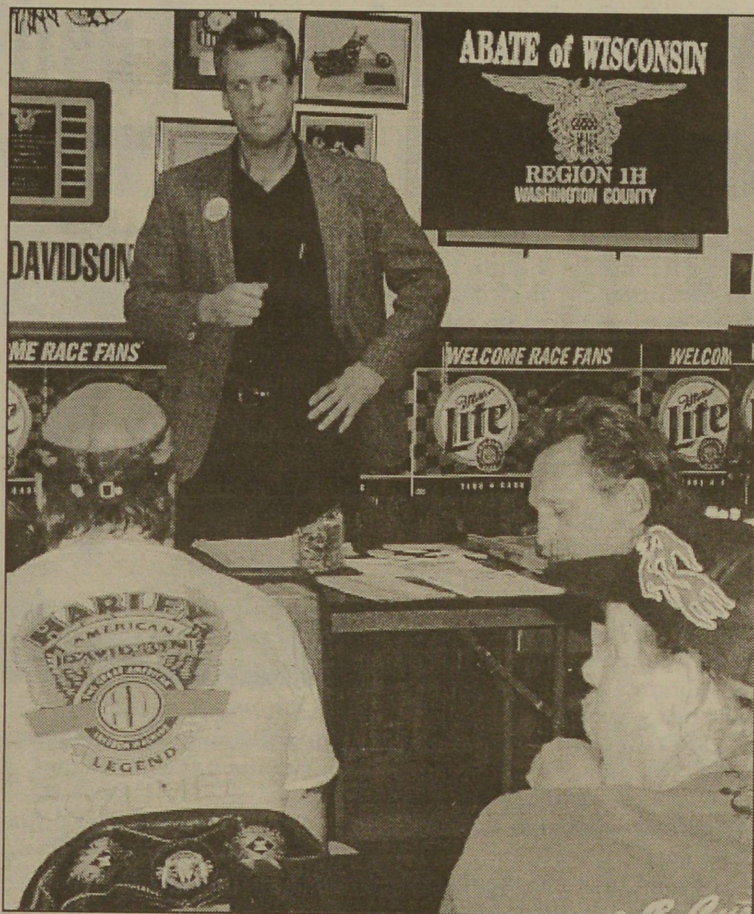


Photo by Lauren Falk

Campaigning for motorcycle rights

Tim Peterson, the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate in Wisconsin, speaks to a meeting of the Washington County **ABATE** (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments) on May 17. Peterson had joined ABATE — a motorcycle rights group — in April, and told the crowd of about 50 people that the Libertarian Party supported them on "personal freedom" issues such as mandatory helmet laws.

was when Al peacefully paraded through the meeting with his 'Clean Up Clinton Twp. Govt.' sign," she said. "This brought cheers from the audience as well as an escort out of the building by the Township security."

The solution to the "Sewergate" scandal is to "prosecute polluting politicians" who have apparently allowed the raw sewage to be dumped in the river, said Barnes.

■ MISSOURI

Proposed 'Bi-State Tax' is just a cash boondoggle

The governors of Kansas and Missouri should veto a proposed "Bi-State Tax" that is nothing more than "a mountain of cash boondoggle," say Missouri Libertarians.

The tax, which has passed the legislatures in Kansas and Missouri, will fund a new tourist attraction — the Science Center at Kansas City's Union Station.

In fact, the Science Center "is a failure [that] is hemorrhaging cash to the tune of \$1.4 million after four months," said **Grant**

Stauffer, Chair of the Jackson County LP.

"It is time to face reality," he said. "[the] Union Station [project] is a smashing failure. Science City has received devastating bad reviews. The cost is too high for a

family of four, and most people will only visit it once."

As such, the "[tax] bill is simply a mountain of cash, a new Big Rock Candy Mountain boondoggle waiting for the pols to decide on what they want to spend the money," he said. "Veto the bill."

■ NEW JERSEY

LP member makes history with first NJ registration

On April 6, at 3:04 pm, **Kenneth R. Kaplan** made history in New Jersey.

The Parsippany resident became the first voter to officially register as a Libertarian, following a lengthy legal battle to allow state residents to affiliate with the alternative party of their choice.

"Congratulations, Ken!" said party activist **John Paff**. "[This is a] hard-won victory — [and a] brand-new opportunity for the Libertarian Party!"

Although the case is still in appeal, state Libertarians won the right to register after a Superior Court judge ruled on March 21 that state laws limiting registration to Democrat, Republican, or unaffiliated were unfair.

The lawsuit had been filed in 1997 by the Council of Alternative Political Parties (CAPP), an umbrella group representing the Libertarian, Constitution, Green, Natural Law, and Reform parties.

■ OHIO

Resolution: Repeal laws that led to gas price jump

The Libertarian Party of Cuyahoga County has passed a resolution urging all candidates for federal office to pledge to "repeal all laws, executive orders and

regulations" that have led to the recent "startling increase" in gasoline prices.

The resolution was approved by acclamation on June 13, reported county LP Vice Chair **David Macko**. The resolution called for:

- The "repeal of Clinton's 4-cent gasoline tax increase and a repeal of all federal gas taxes."
- An "end to all foreign aid to members of the oil cartel."
- The "repeal of all federal laws, executive orders and regulations which hinder the development of alternative sources of energy."

A similar resolution will be introduced at other county and regional LP groups, said Macko.

■ WASHINGTON STATE

Pro-capitalism rally at college sparks catcalls

Other than a few diehards in North Korea or Cuba, who could possibly reject the free market in this day and age?

Students at Evergreen State College in Evergreen, apparently: Five dozen of them turned out to protest a pro-capitalism rally held on their campus on May 22.

The rally, sponsored by two local high school students and supported by LP member **Marti Lewis**, quickly turned into a "verbal sparring match," reported the local newspaper, *The Olympian*.

Evergreen State College students and alumni blasted capitalism as "a system that benefits the few at the expense of the masses," and is guilty of "environmental abuses," the newspaper wrote.

But rally organizer **Cameron Carr** was undeterred. "We showed people that capitalism is not a dirty word," he said.

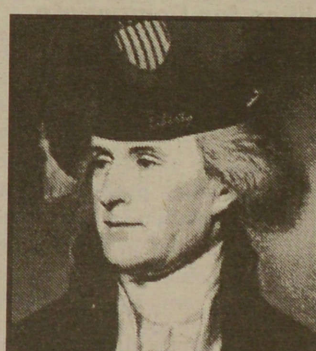
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TALLEYRAND



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BookReview

A "great Libertarian book"

The Great Libertarian Offer, by Harry Browne.
(LiamWorks Books. 287 pages, softbound. \$14.95)

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

In 1996, when he launched his first bid for the presidency, Harry Browne published *Why Government Doesn't Work*, a campaign manifesto that was quickly hailed as an instant Libertarian classic. In 245 pages of crisp, friendly prose, Browne explained why government "doesn't keep the cities safe... doesn't educate our children... [and] can't deliver the mail on time." The book helped recruit a new generation of LP supporters.

The Great Libertarian Offer — Browne's new 2000 campaign book — is, in a sense, a "Bad Cop/Good Cop" sequel to that book. Where *Why Government Doesn't Work* detailed the myriad ways in which government can wrong you, *The Great Libertarian Offer* spends more time explaining how freedom can benefit you. It's Harry Browne in his salesman mode.

Not that *The Great Libertarian Offer* shies away from discussing what's wrong with government. In his introductory chapters, Browne demolishes the myth that "there oughta be a law" to remedy all the ills of the world.

Government is the *least* efficient method to solve problems, he argues, because coercion never works as well as voluntary cooperation; because politicians turn "military, scientific, medical, commercial, or ethical" problems into political issues; and because no program ever turns out as promised. Plus, every time you ask the government to do something "good," another politician will eventually use that power to do something bad.

So what's the solution?

Browne's "Great Libertarian Offer." In other words, dramatically reducing the size and cost of the federal leviathan and — in exchange for giving up their "favorite government program" — freeing Americans forever from the burden of the income tax.

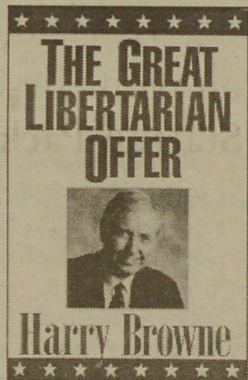
Browne is no believer in baby steps. He proposes reducing the federal budget to about \$100 billion in just six years while selling "unnecessary" federal assets to pay off the national debt and purchase private retirement annuities for those dependent on Social Security. He also provides a year-by-year transitional budget to show how it could happen.

And it must happen quickly, he argues, because "gradualism won't work." Even Libertarians who support a more incremental approach will have to admit that Browne makes some persuasive arguments. If a politician tries to eliminate government programs one by one, he notes, there will be endless debates about which program should go first while entrenched special interests dig in their heels. Also, the enormous reward (an immediate end to the income tax) is needed to persuade voters they would be better off without the smorgasbord of government programs they'd be giving up.

The centerpiece of the book — and perhaps the most useful for LP candidates and activists — are the dozen chapters that address "the issues." In a series of short, hard-hitting essays, Browne discusses policy questions from Social Security to Drug Prohibition, from foreign policy to education, and from medical care to crime. Using statistics, graphs, and anecdotes, he explains why government solutions aren't working, and offers a compelling Libertarian alternative.

It is in these chapters that Browne really shines. In a warm, conversational tone, he explains how a Libertarian government would help most Americans live better lives. When discussing Social Security, for example, he doesn't complain that the program is immoral, but points out that a private retirement system would allow most Americans to retire prosperously, and, more importantly, wouldn't leave "our retirement money laying on the table for [politicians] to grab and spend."

For any candidate trying to "sell" Libertarian solutions to a potentially hostile audience — or any activist trying to explain Libertarian ideas to family or friends — these chapters offer superb examples of how to make persuasive, people-centered arguments for liberty. *The Great Libertarian Offer* is convincing proof that Browne is, quite simply, one of the most effective communicators in the libertarian movement.



Webb-based recall petition effort helps drive out corrupt CA official

When former Libertarian officeholder Sandi Webb launched an Internet-based campaign to boot a corrupt California Insurance Commissioner out of office, she never expected to achieve victory in just 10 days.

But that's what happened: On June 28, Chuck Quackenbush, the embattled head of the state's Insurance Commission, resigned — just a week and a half after Webb started her recall drive.

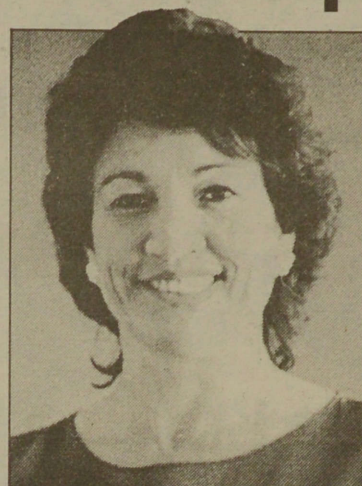
"The Quackenbush recall campaign represented a new era in California politics," said Webb, who had served on the Simi Valley City Council from 1990 to 1998. "We proved it was feasible to mount a low-cost, all-volunteer, grassroots campaign using the Internet."

From June 19, the day the recall website was launched, until the day Quackenbush resigned, California residents had downloaded 11,000 petition forms from www.peoplesveto.org.

Hopeless

That was far short of the 964,325 signatures required to put a recall motion on the November ballot, but, said Webb, "Quackenbush realized his situation was hopeless."

Webb had launched the recall campaign after a series of questions were raised about Quackenbush's financial dealings with insurance companies in the years following a 1994 earthquake.



■ Sandi Webb: "He's a corrupt politician, and corrupt politicians have got to go."

"The evidence is [clear] that Quackenbush pressured insurance companies, under the threat of enormous fines, into paying millions of dollars into foundations he controlled and created," said Webb. "None of the money [went] to earthquake victims."

Webb was particularly interested in the case, she said, because her home had been hit by the earthquake, too, and many of her neighbors had complained about the alleged sweetheart deals between the insurance companies and public officials.

"He's a corrupt politician, and corrupt politicians have got to go," said Webb at the time.

So she set up www.peoplesveto.org, and began the drive to collect almost a million signatures

in just 160 days. She also started a campaign to publicize the site and encouraged California residents to download petition forms and circulate them.

Such an Internet system, said Webb, bypassed the expensive traditional method of mounting a petition drive, which required printing hundreds of thousands of paper forms, and distributing them around the state.

"[It was] a true grassroots movement, making full use of the Internet," she said.

Downloaded

During the site's first 10 days, residents in 42 of California's 58 counties downloaded the petition forms.

"Hundreds of people volunteered to help and collect signatures," said Webb. "Signed recall petitions [were] flooding into our mailbox every day."

As the petition drive picked up steam, state lawmakers announced they would investigate the charges against Quackenbush and several newspapers called for his resignation.

Bowing to the pressure, Quackenbush quit — an event marked on www.peoplesveto.org with a "virtual fireworks" display.

"He saw the writing on the website, and saved us the trouble by resigning," said Webb. "Given the level of outrage, I have no doubt we could have collected enough signatures to toss [him] out of office."

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— Big Mont

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Convention nominates Browne, makes Platform changes

Continued from Page 1

and interviews were taped for later broadcast on the cable network.

The political highlight of the convention came on Sunday afternoon, when Browne won the party's presidential nomination on the first ballot.

Browne, 67, defeated four other contenders for the nomination and the coveted 50-state ballot status that goes with it.

Browne won 493 votes — or 56% — to become the only two-time LP presidential candidate. He also ran in 1996, winning almost one-half million votes.

With 878 credentialed delegates on the floor at the time, 439 votes were needed for a first-ballot victory.

Don Gorman

Coming in second was Don Gorman, a former four-term New Hampshire state legislator, with 166 votes (19%), who had run a spirited, nationwide campaign.

In third place was Jacob Hornberger, the president of the Virginia-based Future of Freedom Foundation, a one-time potential candidate for the nomination who had unexpectedly thrown his hat back into the ring just four days before the convention began. He won 120 votes, or 13%.

Rounding out the race was Barry Hess, an Arizona businessman, with 53 votes (6%), Dave Hollist, a past candidate for U.S. House from California, with 8 votes (1%), None Of The Above, 23 votes (2.6%), and other write-ins, 15 votes (1.8%).

In his acceptance speech, Browne first thanked the delegates for the nomination.

"This is a happy day for me," said Browne. "I thank you and I am honored by your nomination."

Contacting the Browne/Olivier LP Campaign

■ To volunteer to help the campaign or contribute, call (202) 521-1200.

■ To order Harry Browne for President campaign materials or books, call (888) 377-0417, or visit www.HarryBrowneStore.com

■ For more information about the campaign, call (800) 777-2000, or visit the campaign website at: www.HarryBrowne.org.

■ To subscribe to get campaign updates and media appearances, send a message to: Majordomo-LibertyWire@mjlx.HarryBrowne.org. Include "Subscribe LibertyWire" on the first line of the body of the message.



■ A panoramic view of the main Convention Hall, under the watchful eye of the C-SPAN camera. The elaborate red, white, and blue stage reiterated the Convention's theme: "America's Future: Liberty, Responsibility, Community."

Then, speaking to the C-SPAN audience, he said, "I am running for President because it is obvious that no Democrat or Republican is ever going to stop the relentless growth of the federal government."

By contrast, he said, Libertarians always "come down on the side of your running your own life, making your own decisions, keeping your own money — spending it, saving it, giving it away as you think best. We are always on your side — the side of stopping politicians from running your life."

As president, he would end the income tax and "replace it with freedom," replace Social Security with private retirement accounts that politicians can't touch, and end "the greatest public policy catastrophe that has ever hit the American public," the War on Drugs, he promised.

Closer to victory

"If you want to get government out of your life; if you want control of your life, the only way you can make that known is to vote Libertarian," he said. "And if that doesn't give you a victory this year, it will put you one step closer to a victory."

Browne, a resident of Tennessee, is the author of 11 books, the most recent being his campaign manifesto, *The Great Libertarian Offer* (LiamWorks Books). His previous 10 books have sold over 2 million copies, and four of them reached the bestseller list.

Browne became widely known in the early 1970s with *How You Can Profit from the Coming Devaluation*, *How I Found Freedom In an Unfree World*, and



You Can Profit from a Monetary Crisis, which reached #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list. In 1996, he published *Why Government Doesn't Work*.

The race for vice president was more dramatic — taking two days and two ballots — and was highlighted by two unexpected last-minute contenders.

Just days before the convention started, Steve Kubby, the party's 1998 gubernatorial candidate in California, and Gail Lightfoot, current LP candidate for U.S. Senate from California, jumped into the VP race.

The convention also buzzed about the possibility that Don Gorman might re-emerge as a contestant for the VP spot, but he declined in what many observers said was one of the convention highlights — a short speech to the delegates in which he said it would be unfair for him to enter the race at the last minute after other candidates had campaigned so vigorously for the nomination.

The first ballot on Sunday night ended with no majority. Art Olivier won 330 votes (44%), Kubby got 303 votes (40%), Krawchuk won 70 votes (9%), and Lightfoot picked up 7 votes (1%). Write-ins, NOTA, and abstentions accounted for the remaining votes.

After Krawchuk withdrew from the race and threw his support to Olivier, the convention



■ In his acceptance speech, Browne told C-SPAN viewers, "Only a Libertarian will free you from the income tax. Only a Libertarian will unlock the door and let you out of Social Security. Only a Libertarian will end the insane War on Drugs."

voted to have a run-off between the top two contenders: Olivier and Kubby. Before the business session was gavelled to a close, delegates quickly voted, and the results were announced Monday morning.

Emerging as the clear winner on the second ballot was Olivier, with 418 votes (54%). Kubby won 338 votes (44%). There was also a scattering of write-ins and NOTA.

Olivier, 42, was the mayor of Bellflower, California, a city of 67,000 residents, until 1999.

He had been elected to the Bellflower City Council in 1994 and was elected mayor pro-tem in 1997 and mayor in 1998.

On the campaign trail as vice president, he said, he will talk

about how he "eliminated taxes, privatized services, stopped eminent domain, and weeded out corruption" as mayor.

"A former officeholder [who] has actually reduced government brings an added amount of credibility to the campaign," he said.

In elections for party office, Virginia LP activist James W. Lark won a decisive victory in his bid for National Chair. [See story on page 14.]

Platform debate

In platform debate, delegates made a few significant additions and deletions to the party's guiding philosophical document in the areas of abortion, the War on Drugs, and hate crimes. [See story on page 18.]

More than 50 speakers addressed the convention in Main Hall, breakfast, lunch, and break-out sessions.

Highlights included Jack Gargan, former national chairman of the Reform Party, who said that Ross Perot's party had "self-destructed" and was "heading at warp speed into oblivion."

"We blew it — but what an opportunity for the Libertarian Party!" he said.

On Saturday, delegates gave a standing ovation for pop/folk singer Melanie, who joined the party on stage, after performing at a special entertainment event the night before. [See story on page 14.]

Another emotional moment came on Sunday night, when Peter McWilliams was honored with the Champion of Liberty Award. [See story on page 17.]

Camera crews

During the four-day event, camera crews from the Fox TV Network, the Fox News Channel, KABC TV, KNBC TV, the Orange County News Channel, and KCAL TV roamed the floor taping footage for their news broadcasts, and CNN aired the results of the presidential nomination on Sunday.

Newspapers and magazines such as the *Los Angeles Times*, *Maxim*, the *Orange County Register*, and the *Christian Science Monitor* sent reporters, as did the Associated Press and Reuters.

Seven talk show hosts broadcast live from the convention, with 25 to 30 LP guests appearing for about 17 hours on the shows — which were broadcast on about 500 stations around the USA.

The convention generated international interest, with calls from Kyodo News in Japan and from the Mexican News Service.

While final numbers are not yet available, the convention generated at least 3,000 phone and website inquiries about the party, with hundreds more coming each day, estimated Dasbach. In addition, the party's website — www.LP.org — scored several hundred thousand hits a day during the convention.

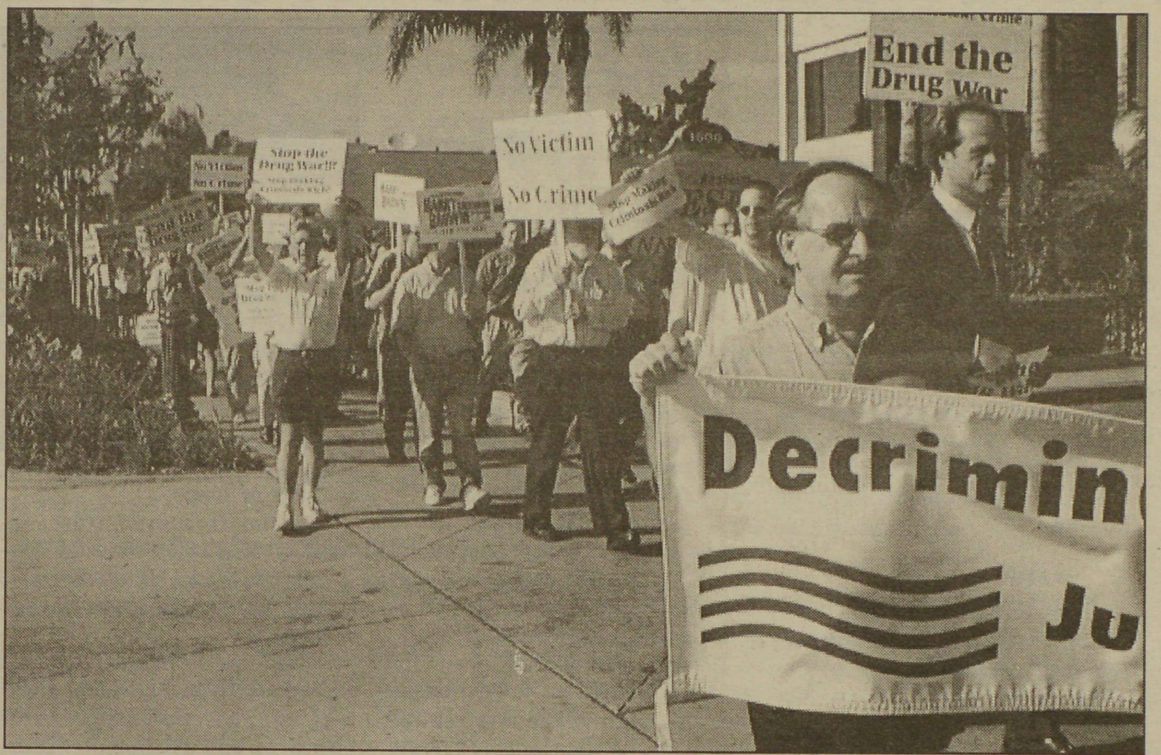
Scenes from the 2000 Libertarian National Convention



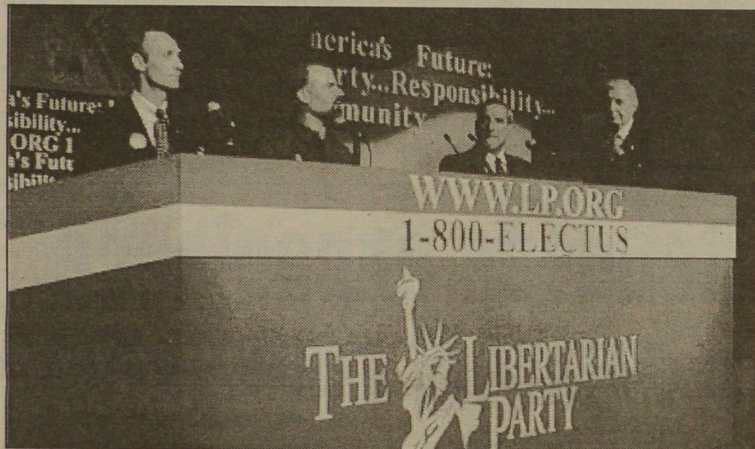
■ Harry Browne (right) shares a congenial moment with challenger Don Gorman, and complimented the former state legislator for the "hard work" he put into campaign.



■ Donna Mancini, the State Chair of the Kentucky LP, announced her state's presidential vote totals dressed in a colorful red, white, and blue sequined outfit.



■ On Monday, July 3, 200-300 delegates and others rallied outside the Anaheim Marriott Hotel to protest the War on Drugs and commemorate the death of Peter McWilliams.



■ The Saturday evening presidential debate: (l-r) Barry Hess, Dave Hollist, Don Gorman, and Harry Browne. The fifth contender, Jacob Hornberger, declined to participate.



■ Delegates visit the booth of Dr. Mary Ruwart and the International Society for Individual Liberty. In all, the Convention Exhibit Hall boasted almost three dozen vendors.



■ A panel of elected Libertarians discusses the challenges of serving in office: (l-r) Fred Collins, Bonnie Flickinger, Roger Fritz, Mark Taff, Tom Tyron, Bill Masters, and Phil Miller.



■ Tom Regnier, a Florida LP delegate, keeps track of the presidential vote total in front of the California delegation.



■ In the Convention's most interesting pop culture moment, Harry Browne is interviewed by John Lydon — a.k.a. Johnny Rotten, former lead singer of the notorious British punk rock band, the Sex Pistols — for his radio show on Eyada.com.



■ Immediately following his nomination, Harry Browne is interviewed by National Public Radio. In all, more than 100 credentialed journalists attended the National Convention.



■ Charles Test, State Chair of the Minnesota LP, reads his state's presidential vote.

Jim Lark elected new LNC Chair

In a decisive first-ballot victory, Virginia LP activist James W. Lark was elected as the Libertarian Party's new chairman at the National Convention — and promised to work to recruit more young people and to better train LP activists.

In voting on the last day of the Convention, July 3, Lark won 353 votes, or 61%.

Runner-up George Phillies from Massachusetts won 152 votes (26%), and coming in third was Gary Copeland from California with 52 votes (9%). Write-ins and NOTA picked up about 3% of the vote.

Great honor

"You have bestowed upon me a great honor, and I shall work very hard to justify your confidence in me," said Lark afterwards.

As Chair, Lark promised to improve the party's outreach to high school and college students, upgrade the "process of generating, recruiting, and training new

JIM LARK:

"I shall work hard to justify your confidence in me."

activists," boost membership retention, conduct a "systems review" of the party's operations, and find better ways to work with the "broader Libertarian movement," including think tanks.

"Although there are many areas of LP activity in which I hope to bring about improvements, [those] five areas will receive special emphasis," he said.

Lark, an assistant professor at the University of Virginia, is the vice chair of the Virginia LP, secretary of the Jefferson Area Libertarians, and the party's national campus coordinator.

He has served as an At-Large Member of the Libertarian Na-



tional Committee (LNC), is an advisor to several Libertarian student groups at the University of Virginia, and worked on the LP Platform Committee in 1991 and 1998. He joined the party in 1984.

In the race for Vice Chair, Dan Fylstra of Nevada won 66% of the vote to defeat Charles Wilhoit of Tennessee and Gary Johnson of Texas.

In the Treasurer's race, incumbent Mark Tuniewicz of Massachusetts won 57% of the vote, besting challenger Terry Savage of Nevada.

And in another win for the incumbent, Steve Givot of Colorado was re-elected as LP Secretary with 62% of the vote, beating Steve Boone of Maryland.

Elected as At-Large members of the Libertarian National Committee — in the order of their vote



■ After the election, new National Chair Jim Lark (right) complimented his challengers — shown here at the Chair's debate on July 2 — for "their devotion to the cause of liberty."

totals — were Ken Bisson (Indiana), Jim Turney (Virginia), Eli Israel (Massachusetts), Lois Kaneshiki (Pennsylvania), and Lorenzo Gaztanaga (Maryland).

Regional Reps.

Selected as LNC Regional Representatives were: Ed Hoch (Alaska) and Mike Dixon (Illinois), Region 1; Scott Lieberman (California) and Joe Dehn (California), Region 2; Sara Cotham (Indiana), Region 3; Michael ("MG") Gilson de Lemos (Florida),

Region 4; Richard Schwarz (Pennsylvania), Region 5; Ken Lindell (Maine), Region 6; and Deryl Martin (Tennessee), Region 7.

Elected as LNC Alternates were: Jim Dexter (Utah) and Mark Nelson (Iowa), Region 1; Dan Wisnosky (Nevada) and Tim Hagan (Nevada), Region 2; Barbara Goushaw (Michigan), Region 3; Ben Scherrey (Georgia), Region 4; Carl Milsted, Jr. (Virginia), Region 5; Dan Karlan (New Jersey), Region 6; and Mary Ruwart (Texas), Region 7.



■ Pop/folk singer Melanie is applauded by LP Secretary Steve Givot (left) and LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger after she joined the Libertarian Party live onstage at the National Convention before hundreds of cheering delegates.

Singer Melanie joins the Libertarian Party

"I'm home," says '70s pop icon to cheering delegates

With a cheerful, "Hi! I'm home," '70s pop icon Melanie joined the Libertarian Party live onstage at the party's National Convention on July 1.

"I've always been a shopper [and] it took me thirty years to find the party of my choice!" she said, before signing her name on a membership form that was projected onto huge video screens around the convention hall.

Delegates welcomed the singer — best known for a string of melodic and slightly quirky pop/folk hits in the early 1970s — with

cheers and a standing ovation.

In a brief speech before joining, Melanie said her instincts had always been libertarian, but, previously, she didn't have a label to describe her beliefs.

After she performed at Woodstock in 1969, she said, she got regularly booked on the anti-Vietnam War festival circuit, where everyone assumed she had "a leftist slant — [but] I felt like a charlatan."

Or, she said, she would perform on the bluegrass circuit, where conservatives would come

See **MELANIE** Page 19

First-time attendees experience the thrill of a national convention

By Rebecca Breedon
LP NEWS CORRESPONDENT

First-time delegates to the National Convention got an exhilarating, behind-the-scenes peek into the world of Libertarian politics — and came away raving about everything from the people, to the excitement, to the sense of being part of history.

"It was a religious experience," said Joel Grus of Seattle, who got involved with the Washington state Libertarian Party just two months ago. "My favorite part was meeting so many people that have the same philosophy as me."

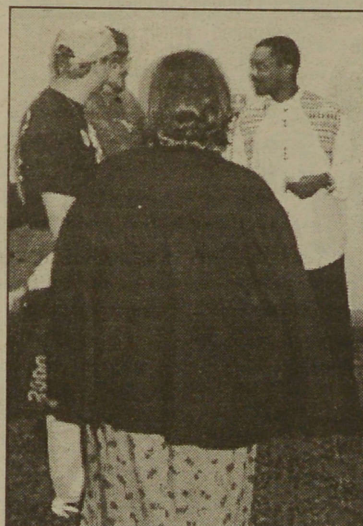
Grus wasn't alone — either in his positive opinion or his status as a first-time delegate at the four-day event in Anaheim, California.

Impressions

In fact, between one-third and one-half of the 900 or so credentialed delegates had never before attended a National Convention — and each one brought away a different set of impressions, favorite memories, and highlights.

For first-time delegate Kelly Rush of Dallas, it was the opportunity to personally meet the candidates for the LP's presidential nomination.

"I couldn't go to the Republican or Democratic conventions and expect to meet Bush or Gore. They're too inaccessible," she said.



■ Reginald Jones (right), a speaker at the convention, said, "The reaction from the people here was awesome."

"[And] there wasn't the brown-nosing here that you would see at the bigger political conventions."

Rush said she became a Libertarian after getting fed up with the excessive income tax that was taken from her paychecks.

Now, the convention has given her new ammunition for her campaign as U.S. Representative in District 30 against "a do-nothing, eight-year incumbent" — and a renewed commitment to work for liberty.

"Now that I'm in, I'm in," she said.

First-timer Reginald Jones, a well-known talk radio host in New York and a featured speaker at

the convention, said he will never miss another Libertarian convention.

"The reaction from the people here was awesome, very gratifying," he said.

The convention impressed not only adult libertarians, but also teenagers.

Fresh out of high school, 18-year-old Sesame Mish of Menlo Park, California said she enjoyed her first convention.

Liberty Youth

Raised by libertarian parents, she said she took an active interest in the Liberty Youth Coalition, a group which attracts young people to take a stand against curfew laws and the Drug War. Now, she hopes to continue her activism in Louisiana, where she will attend Tulane University.

"I want to be someone important in the movement," she said. "I hope to get involved with the Libertarian Party of Louisiana and the Youth Coalition."

From a slightly more seasoned perspective, Richard Friend, 55, of Port Huron, Michigan

See **FIRST TIME** Page 21

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The word is out! Harry Browne is getting favorable attention from areas of the media that previously ignored the Libertarian party and Libertarian candidates. He's been included in the three major, non-partisan polls, Gallup, Zogby and Rasmussen. A major first for the Libertarian Party. He's also been the subject of an Associated Press story distributed to nearly 100 newspapers nationwide. Additionally, he's the only Libertarian qualified to participate in the League of Women Voters online Democracy Project, CBS's online President Match, and AOL's presidency project.

Harry Browne is primed and running hard for 2000. With your help even more Americans will hear of Harry Browne and his persuasive presentation of Libertarian solutions to the problems we face.

This is the year we can make great gains in visibility and new members. Help promote Harry, the LP and Libertarian principles - all at the same time. The Harry Browne Store has numerous outreach tools to assist you. We have products to fit every budget - from the buck in your pocket to discounted multi-packs your organization can buy and sell at a profit. If you can afford to give them away, that's great too!

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3-Pack signs \$12
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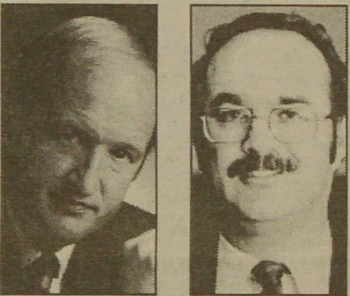
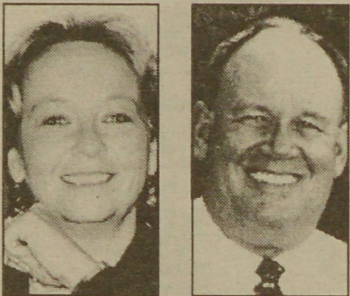
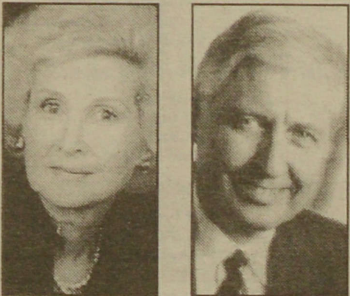
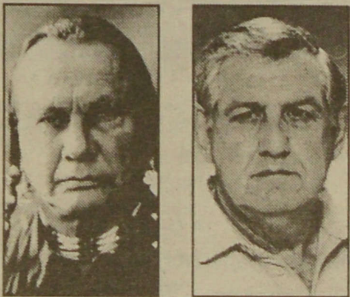
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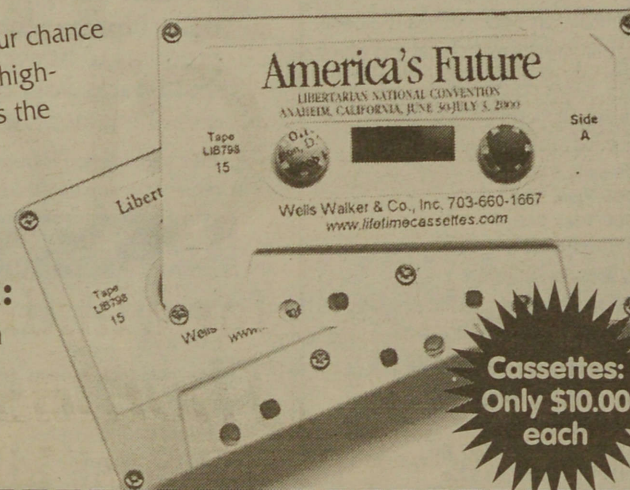
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Tape Session Title

LIB00-01	Welcome: Juan Ros, Steve Dasbach / The Battle on Behalf of Taxpayers: John Berthoud / KEYNOTE ADDRESS: America's Future Hon. Fred Collins, Barbara Goushaw
LIB00-02	Business Meeting
LIB00-03	Libertarian Politics Can Be Fun: Gail Lightfoot, Richard Rider / Liberty is the Cure for Racism: John Clifton, Reginald Jones
LIB00-04	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: Waco: A Survivor's Story: David Thibodeau
LIB00-05	Why America Must End Drug Prohibition: Michele Kubby, Hon. Bill Masters / Persuasion Versus Force: Mark Skousen
LIB00-6a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-6b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-07	How Libertarian Policies Will Heal Our Communities: Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Dr. Mary Ruwart / Why Gov't. Schools Can't Be Reformed: Hon. Roger Fritz, Marshall Fritz
LIB00-08	BREAKFAST 1: What Happened to the Reform Party? Jack Gargan
LIB00-09	BREAKFAST 2: Using Temperament to Improve Communication: David Bergland
LIB00-10	Small Gov't. Is Beautiful! Hon. Phil Miller, Carla Howell / I Am Not Throwing My Vote Away: I Am Voting Libertarian: Hon. Mark Taff, Neal Bortz
LIB00-11a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 9:45-11:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-11b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:20-4:30): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-12	Congressional Campaigns: Where Nat'l. Issues Meet Local Activism: Hon. Tom Tryon, David Nolan / Personal Responsibility is the Price of Liberty: Jo Jorgensen, Michael Cloud
LIB00-13	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: Ayn Rand and the 21st Century: Barbara Branden
LIB00-14	Why I Left the GOP and Joined the LP: Gary Nolan / Revolution! Russell Means
LIB00-15a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-15b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-16	Presidential Debate (Browne, Hollist, Hess, & Gorman)
LIB00-17	BREAKFAST 1: Investing and Financial Privacy: Mark Skousen
LIB00-18	BREAKFAST 2: You Will Do Something Great for Liberty Sharon Harris
LIB00-19a	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING / It's Time to Retire Social Security: Barbara Howe, Michael Tanner / Roll Call of States / Presidential Campaign Platform (Part 1 of 3)
LIB00-19b	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 2 of 3)
LIB00-19c	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
LIB00-20	Mad as Hell! Aaron Russo
LIB00-21a	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING / Why Silicon Valley Should Invest in a Political Start-Up Joe Hauptmann & Na'lah Ali, Dan Fylstra / Results of V.P. Nomination / LNC Chair Nomination & Voting (Part 1 of 3)
LIB00-21b	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 2 of 3)
LIB00-21c	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
LIB00-22	ACCEPTANCE SPEECH Dr. Nancy Lord, 2000 Libertarian Presidential Nominee Harry Browne
LIB00-23	Forum: Candidates for LNC Officers, At-Large, & Regional Rep
LIB00-24a	LNC Nomination & Voting / Judicial Comm. Nomination & Voting / Resolutions (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-24b	LNC Nomination & Voting / Judicial Comm. Nomination & Voting / Resolutions (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-25	Developing & Sustaining a Strong Libertarian Campus Organization: James W. Lark

Tape Session Title

LIB00-26	How to Cut Taxes & Block Gov. Spending: John Berthoud, Richard Rider, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger
LIB00-27a	I Want to Get Elected: Ron Crickenberger, Barbara Goushaw, Aaron Starr, Phil Miller, Tom Tryon, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Fred Collins (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-27b	I Want to Get Elected: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-28	Claiming Our Political Marketshare Through Electoral Reform: Hill, Latham, Redpath
LIB00-29	Privacy: A Winning Issue for Libertarians: Dan Fylstra, Tim O'Brien, Steve Dasbach
LIB00-30	Caring for the Environment: A Libertarian Approach: Dr. Gordon LaBedz
LIB00-31a	Adventures in Public Office: Phil Miller, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Tom Tryon, Fred Collins, Bill Masters, Roger Fritz, Mark Taff (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-31b	Adventures in Public Office: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-32	Using Personal Liberty Issues to Grow the LP: Doug Scribner, George Getz, Barbara Goushaw
LIB00-33	The State vs. Religious Liberty: Dean Ahmad
LIB00-34	Workshop: Communication Skills for Libertarians: Sharon Harris
LIB00-35	Publishing Effective, Professional LP Newsletters: Bill Winter
LIB00-36	Using Education Freedom as an Issue in Your Campaign: Marshal Fritz
LIB00-37	Winning the Debate Over Entitlements: Michael Tanner, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Dr. Ken Bisson

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Peter McWilliams and LP activists are honored at Awards Banquet

Peter McWilliams, the author, LP member, and medical marijuana activist who died in June, was posthumously honored with the Libertarian Party's Champion of Liberty Award at the National Convention's Presidential Banquet on June 2.

McWilliams was one of several LP activists recognized for their work for liberty during the event, which attracted over 500 attendees and was hosted by radio talk show host Gary Nolan.

The Champion of Liberty award — a replica of the Statue of Liberty — went to McWilliams for his heroic struggle against the federal government's ban on medical marijuana, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger, who presented the award.

After showing a filmed memorial to McWilliams — taken from his speech at the 1998 National Convention — the award was accepted by Ann McCormick, sister of McWilliams' friend Todd McCormick, who is currently in jail for using marijuana to treat his cancer.

Dangerous

"Mourning Peter with tears will neither serve him nor ourselves," said McCormick. "These two men embodied the most dangerous of activists. They wouldn't stop until medical marijuana would be available. The War on Drugs is America's drug problem. Peter knew that. So does Todd."

McWilliams was found dead in Los Angeles on June 14. He had choked on his vomit after being arrested and denied the medical marijuana he used to quell the nausea that was a side effect of the drugs he took to battle AIDS and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The Champion of Liberty award is given every two years to the person — not necessarily an LP member — who has done the most to advance liberty.

In other awards:

■ **Richard Rider** of San Diego won the Sam Adams Award for the best party activist. Over the past decade, Rider saved the citizens of California millions of dollars through lawsuits against taxes and lobbying against tax-funded construction projects.

"I'm surprised," he said — and then quipped, "I don't work very hard anymore because there are so many people involved now."

■ **Michael Cloud** received the Thomas Paine Award for best libertarian communicator. The Massachusetts resident is the creator of "The Art of Political Persuasion" tape series and a popular public speaker.

"I'm the Susan Lucci of the Libertarian Party," said Cloud, who had never before received an award in his 25 years of activism. "I will accept this award on behalf



of every forgotten activist and volunteer who never causes a fuss, but just gets the job done."

■ **Ed Clark** won the Thomas Jefferson Award for lifetime achievement. Clark, who lives in California, was the party's 1980 candidate for president, when he won almost a million votes. A Libertarian member for 29 years, he also ran for governor, was the California LP State Chair, and served as a member of the Liber-

tarian National Committee.

■ **Joe Dehn** was presented a special award for his work on the LP website. Dehn created the party's website — www.LP.org — in 1993, making the Libertarian Party the first political party with an online presence.

Also winning awards for membership growth were the state parties of Georgia (in the large state category) and Nevada (small state).

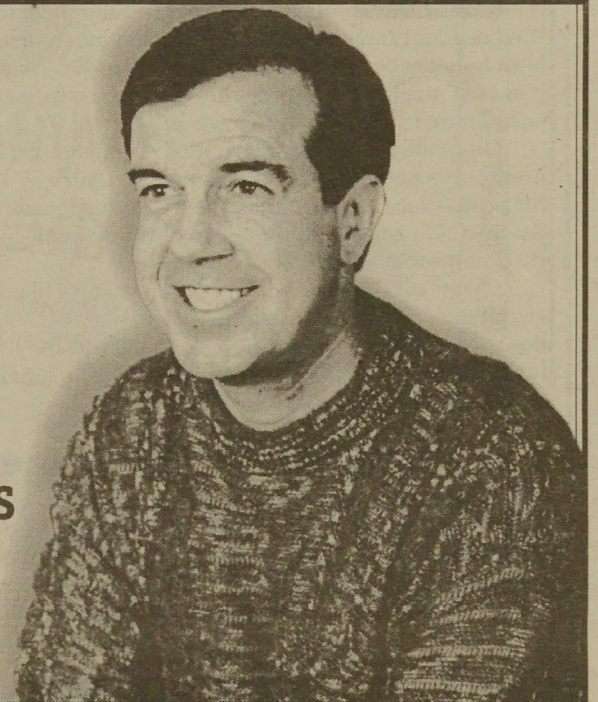
■ **Accepting McWilliams' Champion of Liberty award from LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger was Ann McCormick.**



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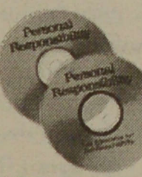
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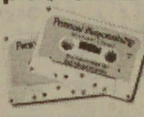
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The Issues

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

Juries: Self-responsibility is dead

A bizarre pair of verdicts in July — one awarding smokers billions in damages, another clearing the government of any wrongdoing in the Waco massacre — suggest the concept of personal responsibility is dead, the Libertarian Party said.

"These jury verdicts say that honest commerce is a crime if it involves unpopular products, and paramilitary assaults by the government are perfectly acceptable," said the party's national director, Steve Dasbach. "The idea of personal responsibility has been turned topsy-turvy."

"It's just too bad the BATF didn't toss packs of cigarettes at the Branch Davidians and encourage them to smoke — because then it might have been slapped with a much-deserved multi-billion-dollar penalty. And too bad Philip Morris didn't burn the homes of smokers to the ground — because then it might have been found innocent of all charges."

On Friday, a jury in Florida awarded smokers \$145 billion in punitive damages. On the same day, a jury in Texas ruled that the federal government shared no responsibility for the death of 80 people in the inferno that engulfed the Branch Davidian compound.

"First, companies selling a legal product to willing adults are slapped with the largest punitive damages in history," said Dasbach. "Then, a federal agency that attacked a church with tanks is cleared of all charges. In both cases, good sense seems to have gone up in smoke."

This Carnivore is after our e-mail

A new FBI cyber-snooping device code-named "Carnivore" — which can scan millions of e-mails a second and could already be scanning yours — may be the biggest threat to Americans' digital privacy ever, the Libertarian Party warned.

"Carnivore threatens to make dead meat out of our Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable search and seizure," said Steve Dasbach.

Carnivore is a hardware/software device the FBI has already installed in Internet service providers' offices around the country. Once in place, Carnivore scans every incoming and outgoing e-mail message looking for telltale words or names, and saves those messages for later retrieval.

The FBI promised to limit Carnivore surveillance to messages from suspected hackers, terrorists, and drug dealers.

The problem with those promises — and with Carnivore in general — is that it gives the government unlimited power to spy on every American who has an e-mail account, said Dasbach.

"The FBI acknowledges that Carnivore will scan millions of e-mail messages from innocent people to find a tiny number of messages from people suspected of crimes," he said. "That's no different than if the FBI rummaged through bags of mail looking for letters from criminals. In other words, Carnivore treats every American like a criminal."

Don't let Senators censor TV

A group of Senators has demanded that the Federal Communications Commission crack down on "vulgar and sexual content" on television — but it shouldn't be up to politicians to decide what you can watch on TV, the Libertarian Party said.

"Whether you think television is too sexy, just right, or not smutty enough, you should oppose this effort by politicians to censor TV," said Steve Dasbach. "Americans don't need sleazy politicians to rescue us from the dangers of sleazy television."

In June, the FCC received an action request from four influential politicians: Senators John McCain (R-AZ), Joe Lieberman (D-CT), Sam Brownback (R-KS), and Robert C. Byrd (D-WV). In their letter, the senators told the FCC the "sheer amount of vulgar and sexual content had grown exponentially" on television, and demanded the FCC investigate whether the networks are guilty of broadcasting "indecent" material.

But Americans, even those concerned about salacious programming, should not give politicians and bureaucrats more power to control what is on television, said Dasbach.

"Do we really want politicians — who are synonymous with sex scandals, war, corruption, and general sleaze — to be the moral arbiters of what adult Americans can watch on TV?" he asked. "Should Washington, DC 20510 really determine whether you should be allowed to watch Beverly Hills 90210?"

Delegates make Platform changes on abortion and children's rights

Delegates at the Libertarian National Convention made some significant changes to the party's platform in controversial areas like abortion, children's rights, and hate crimes.

During platform debate — which lasted for much of Friday and Saturday — delegates both added to and deleted language from the Platform.

In one of the most closely watched decisions, delegates, by a vote of 292-105, removed a section from the "Women's Rights and Abortion" plank that listed specific laws and policies the party opposed, while keeping the statement that "government should be kept entirely out of the question [of abortion]."

The sense was, said Platform Committee Chair John Buttrick, that delegates wanted to remove "what people saw as a laundry list of laws we oppose."

Delegates also voted to make additions to the War on Drugs plank, specifically condemning police profiling policies, civil asset forfeiture, and the use of military forces for civilian law enforcement, while describing Drug Prohibition as "a war on the American people, our Constitution, and our Bill of Rights."

Children's rights

A new "Family and Children's Rights" plank was added, which explained the Libertarian perspective that families have a right to "raise their children without government interference," said Buttrick.

The new plank states: "We believe that families and households are private institutions, which should be free from government intrusion and interference."

It affirms that "parents, or other guardians, have the right to raise their children according to their own standards and beliefs, without interference by government, unless they are abusing the children."

However, it also states: "Parents have no right to abandon or recklessly endanger their children. Whenever they are unable or unwilling to raise their children, they have the obligation to find other person(s) willing to guardianship."

Corrections

■ In the July 2000 issue of *LP News*, the number of signatures required for ballot access in Oklahoma was wrongly stated. The correct number is 43,680. In the same issue, Doug Greene's name was misspelled, and he was incorrectly described as a candidate for public office.

JOHN BUTTRICK:

In some cases, delegates removed "a laundry list of laws we oppose."

Finally, the new plank opposes certain laws that target children, such as "curfews based on age," while noting, "A child is a human being and deserves to be treated justly."

In addition, delegates voted to add language to the platform specifically opposing "hate crime" legislation on the grounds that it punishes "people for their

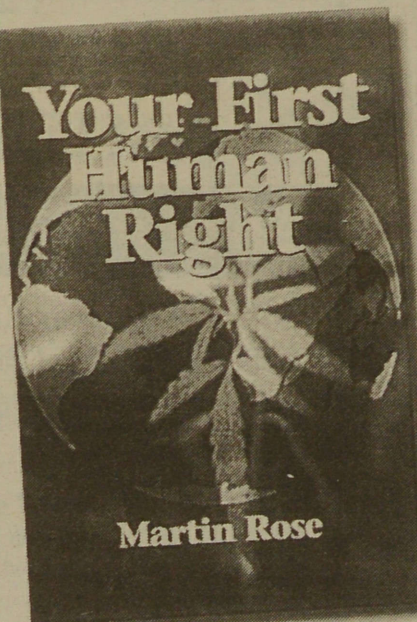


thoughts and speech," while "giving some individuals special status under the law." It passed on a voice vote.

Two significant efforts to add new planks failed: A statement that the LP opposes the death penalty "in all cases" lost on a voice vote, and an effort to endorse proportional representation also failed on a voice vote.

No changes were made to the party's Statement of Principles, despite pre-Convention predictions that an effort would be made to remove the phrase, "We challenge the cult of the omnipotent state..."

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"The best approach to ending the drug war. Martin really hit the point."
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"Every Libertarian candidate should put the First Human Right issue at the very top of their agenda."
— J. Finnerty (Solvay, NY)

"What a great defense for Kubby, McWilliams, McCormick, and others like them. Their first human right was definitely violated."
— S. Carter (Draper, VA)

"Probably the only way to save the small farmer and stop the greenhouse effect. I agree with Martin Rose; restore the first human right."
— E. Scott (Max Meadows, VA)

"The First Human Right could propel the Libertarian Party onto the front page of every national newspaper."
— J. Kirkner (Shawsville, VA)

The single most important question that every politician should have to answer: Do you support the First Human Right? Libertarian candidates should be using the First Human Right approach to ending the drug war, instead of campaigning for total drug legalization that alienates a lot of voters — and hinders Libertarians' chances of recruiting new members that are very supportive of other Libertarian ideas and party Platform. — **Martin Rose, Author**

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Russell Means: Libertarians need more passion

Libertarians need to "feel" the message of liberty if they want to connect with the American public, Indian rights activist and actor Russell Means told delegates at the National Convention on July 1.

"We have the message for every individual in America and the world," he said in a speech that brought delegates in the main convention hall to their feet. "We are the only ones using the word 'free.' [But you must] *feel* being an American, and *feel* individual liberty, and *feel* that you are right!"

"Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead! We are Libertarians! We want to be free!"

Means' speech — and his emotional message — was given added impact by rumors that he



was considering seeking the LP's 2004 presidential nomination.

In 1987, Means had joined the Libertarian Party and sought the party's nomination, but lost in a close race to former Congressman Ron Paul.

In his first speech to an LP National Convention since then, Means touched on liberty, political correctness, and the perils of consumerism — all under the general theme of "Revolution!"

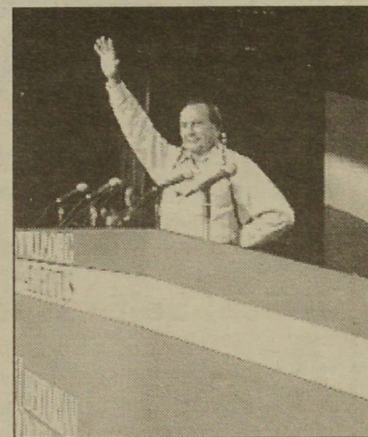
To achieve a revolution in how Americans think about liberty and government, Libertarians need more passion, he said.

"I love this land with every fiber of my being," he said. "It's the land of my ancestors and my future generations."

Libertarians must express that love and passion, he said, "and have faith because we are right."

Means, born into the Oglala/Lakota tribe, was the first national director of the American Indian Movement (AIM) in the late 1960s.

In 1992, he starred in *The Last of the Mohicans*, and since then has also appeared in *Pocahontas* (1995), and *Natural Born Killers* (1994).



■ Russell Means: Libertarians must "feel you are right!"

Melanie joins LP live onstage

Continued from Page 14

up and ask her, "Have you received Jesus into your life?"

She felt out of place in either venue, said Melanie, and always wondered why — until she discovered libertarianism.

Now, "This is my year to come out and say, 'Hi! I'm home!'" she said.

Melanie had elaborated on that theme the previous night, when she performed at a special convention entertainment event.

"I really have the feeling I've come home," she said at the time. "You know, I played Woodstock, and reporters sometimes ask: Whatever became of the Woodstock spirit? I never really had an answer until now. This is what became of the Woodstock spirit!"

She performed again right after joining, singing a song entitled, "Freedom Knows My Name."

Woodstock

Melanie, born Melanie Safka in 1947, first came to public prominence with an appearance at the Woodstock music festival.

Over the next five years, she had a string of hits in the United States and Great Britain, including "Lay Down (Candles in the Rain)," "What Have They Done to My Song, Ma," "The Nickel Song," and "Brand New Key," which hit #1 in 1971.

Over the years, Melanie released 25 albums, won an Emmy Award in 1989 for a song she performed for the television show *Beauty and the Beast*, and served as a spokesperson for UNICEF.

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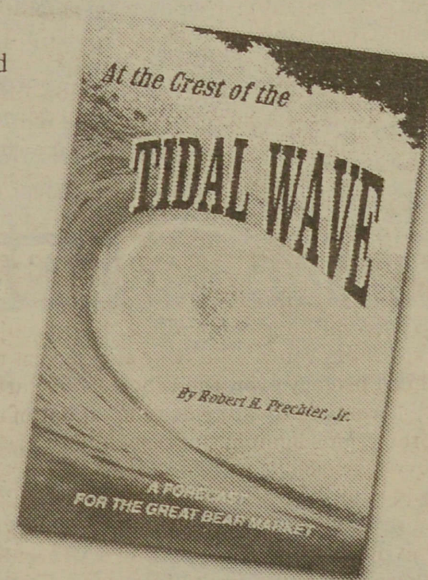
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■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 7th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1997) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **LP Program:** 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. **Cost:** \$1 for 100

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■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

■ **Buttons** (**Cost:** \$1 each or 75¢ each for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

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Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"

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World's Smallest Political Quiz

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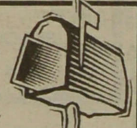
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Goushaw: Voters can 'come home'

Republican and Democratic politicians have squandered America's birthright of freedom, and now it's time for voters to "come home to liberty," Barbara Goushaw told delegates in a high-octane keynote speech that kicked off the Libertarian National Convention on June 30.

"Like the Prodigal Son, America is ready to come home to Liberty, home to self-reliance, and home to the pride in accomplishment and freedom that made this country great," she said to cheering delegates and a live C-SPAN audience.

Goushaw, a longtime Michigan LP activist and founder of the Libertarian Campaign Managers Association, urged voters — whether liberals, conservatives, parents, environmentalists, or any other group — to consider the benefits of a Libertarian America.

"Are you a parent worried about the dumbing down of our children in the government schools?" she asked. "Then I say, 'Welcome home to the party that supports the complete separation of school and state!'"

"Perhaps you're an environmentalist who realizes the Federal government is the worst polluter of them all. But there is a better solution — a private solution that places those precious resources into private hands that would genuinely care for and protect them. So if you're an environmentalist who wants to see solutions that work, I say, 'Welcome Home to the Libertarian Party.'"

50% of everything

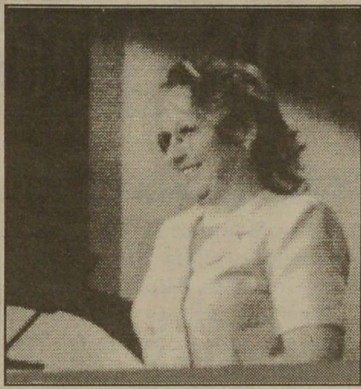
Or perhaps, said Goushaw, "You're a former Democrat, who celebrates the cause of working men and women, someone like me who began to ask, 'How can a party who supports the workers continue to allow them to be taxed out of 50% of everything they earn?' To my fellow former Democrats, I say, 'Welcome Home!'"

"Perhaps you're a former Republican, who is disgusted with your party's lip service to tax reform and individual rights. To the former Republicans, who have discovered that they are actually Libertarians, I say, 'Welcome Home!'"

By contrast, she said, "Democrats and Republicans seek to disarm us, to pacify us and to rule, rather than to lead us. But America has had enough of this."

"More and more, [voters] are looking to the Libertarians as their leaders, to point America in the direction that she is to go — to freedom, to prosperity, to tolerance, and to strength."

"America looks to us and we will be there, ready to say: 'America, welcome home!'"



■ In her keynote speech, Barbara Goushaw invited voters to come "home to the freedom that made this country great."

First-timers enjoy 2000 National Convention

Continued from Page 14

gan, said his favorite part of the convention was listening to the line-up of Libertarian speakers.

"I love to be a part of this Utopian, libertarian world," he said.

Friend said he has been a libertarian since watching the C-SPAN coverage of the 1996 convention.

It was Harry Browne's message, he said, that perked up his ears and convinced him to become first an active Libertarian and then a candidate for U.S. House



(10th District) in Michigan.

And for every delegate who was already running for office, there seemed to be another one planning it in the near future.

For example, Gary Snyder of New York City said he intends to run for a political office soon, in-

spired, in part, by the excitement of the National Convention.

"The seeds are being planted here and now," he said. "It's great just to be among like-minded people who are just as passionate about freedom."

Michelle Konieczny, a young mother from Colorado who joined the Libertarian Party six months ago, echoed his comments.

"I believe in the Libertarian Party," she said "It's wonderful to see that we really will make a difference."

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CAMPAIGN 2000 REPORT

In State Assembly run, James Dan plans to do 'what it takes to win'

One visit to every registered voter in the district may not do the trick, so James Dan is planning two.

The tens of thousands of dollars he plans to raise may not be enough, so Dan has promised to match whatever is contributed — dollar for dollar — out of his own pocket.

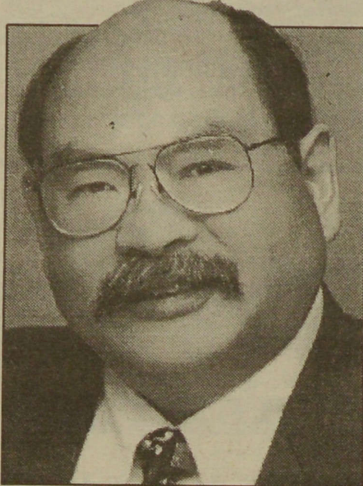
And one direct-mail piece may not be persuasive enough, so Dan has 10 scheduled to drop between now and November.

In other words, Dan, the LP candidate for Nevada State Assembly (District 28), is planning to do "whatever it takes to win" his election, said campaign manager Chris Azzaro.

Highly motivated

"Our goal has always been to win," he said. "And we feel we have an outstanding chance. We are well organized and highly motivated to win this race."

Dan, 49, will go one-on-one in a partisan race against a five-term Democrat incumbent this November. And even though it's considered difficult to defeat an



■ **James Dan:** "We are well organized and highly motivated to win," said campaign manager Chris Azzaro.

incumbent, Azzaro said the campaign has done its homework, and has a realistic chance to emerge victorious.

For starters, he said, there's the district: "[It] is the smallest District in the state, with only 4,400 registered voters." The incumbent won last time with just

900 votes — so "our goal is to get at least 1,000 to assure victory."

The small size also means the candidate can personally meet every voter, said Azzaro.

"Because the district is so small, James can talk to every voter individually," he said. "In fact, he has already completed one full pass through the district, and is starting another one. He has personally spoken to 883 voters, [and] is winning [them] over one-by-one."

Direct-mail pieces

The door-to-door campaign will be buttressed by 10 professionally designed direct-mail pieces, hundreds of road signs and yard signs, and an organized Get Out The Vote (GOTV) effort, said Azzaro.

"We are targeting all of our supporters in preparation for a big GOTV effort during the final weeks of the campaign," he said.

All this activity takes money, said Azzaro, and Dan is planning to outspend the incumbent, who has raised \$30,000 - \$40,000 in

See **JAMES DAN** Page 30

Politics 2000

News from Campaign 2000

■ The Montana LP has filed 13 candidates for statewide and legislative office: **Stan Jones** for Governor, **Mike Kaszula** for Lt. Governor, **Jim Tikalsky** for U.S. House, **Mike Fellows** for Secretary of State, and **Allen Salvesson** for Clerk of the Supreme Court. Running for State Senate are **Lowell Smith** (District 30), **Russell Vogel** (District 31), and **W. Allen Lee** (District 32). Announced candidates for State House include **Erik Jerde** (District 61), **Andy Lochridge** (District 68), **Leonard Stark** (District 69), **E.L. Bernosky** (District 70), and **Fred L. Fekete** (District 75).

■ In Missouri, LP candidate for Lt. Governor **Phil Horras** has announced that if elected, he will do away with the office. "The position of Lt. Governor is to Missouri what an appendix is to the people," he said. "It serves no useful function." In Texas, Congressional candidate (19th District) **Dr. John Turnbow** made a campaign appearance at a smoke shop in Lubbock to call for "complete elimination of all taxes on tobacco."

■ In Iowa, **Tim Borchardt** has collected enough signatures to qualify as the Libertarian candidate for the Johnson County Board of Supervisors. He will file on August 7. In addition, **Steven J. Drahosz** has announced he will run for Iowa House (District 49), and **Christy Ann Welty** has launched her campaign for Iowa House (District 50). In Washington, DC, the Libertarian Party expects to run five candidates this November, announced **Robert D. Kampia**. In West Virginia, **John R. Barnett** will run for State Senate (District 14). And in New Jersey, **Emerson Ellett** has submitted enough petition signatures to qualify to be on the ballot for U.S. Senate.



■ **Christy Welty:** Iowa House

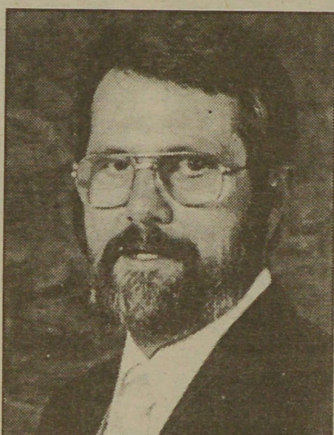
■ In Indiana, Congressional candidate (6th District) **Joe Hauptmann** has linked his campaign website — LessGov.com — with those of his Republican and Democratic rivals. "Voters will be able to see firsthand where each of us stands on the issues," he said. In New Jersey, LP candidate for governor **Mark Edgerton** spoke at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory's annual open house on June 3. And in Massachusetts, LP Congressional candidate (4th District) **David Euchner** spoke at the Gay Pride parade in Provincetown on May 20. "It is no business of the government to decide for you who you can love," he said. "That is a decision for consenting adults to make for themselves."

■ The Hawaii LP has announced a slate of six candidates for November's elections: **Jeff Mallan** for U.S. Senate, **Lawrence Duquesne** for U.S. House (2nd District), **Jim O'Keefe** for Hawaii County Mayor, **Dale Pratt** for Hawaii County Council, **Aaron Anderson** for State House (District 4), and **Wade Thode** for State Senate (District 20). And in Michigan, the LP has nominated 111 candidates — a record number "for the LPM in placing names on the ballot," reported *Michigan Libertarian* editor **Keith P. Edwards**.

■ In Indiana, the **Andy Horning** for Governor campaign has announced it will publish its own newspaper — *The Horning Express*. "The Express will consist of articles about major issues facing Hoosiers this year, written by the Libertarian candidate responsible for that area of state government," he said. In New Mexico, **Bob Ziesmer** has filed to run for the San Juan County Commission (District 4). And in South Carolina, **Leslie Magrath** is running for Richland County Council (District 10).

■ In Arizona, 17 candidates have qualified to appear on the September 12, 2000 primary election ballot, announced State Chair **Peter Schmerl**. Candidates include: **Barry J. Hess II** (U.S. Senate), **Jon Burroughs** (U.S. House, 1st District), **Geoffrey Weber** (U.S. House, 2nd District), **Edward R. Carlson** (U.S. House, 3rd District), **Edward Gaudreau** and **Ernest Hancock** (contested primary, U.S. House, 4th District), **Aage Nost** (U.S. House, 5th District), **Ray Price** (Corporation Commissioner), **Geoffrey Weber** (State Senate, District 9), **Dale Gorney** (State Senate, District 10), **John T. Schmid** (State Senate, District 11), **Wayne Sunne** (State Senate, District 13), **Gary Fallon** (State Senate, District 24), **Frank Aranda** (State House, District 7), **Tim McDermott** (State House, District 24), **Mike Renzulli** (State House, District 25), and **David T. Hardy** (Pima County Attorney).

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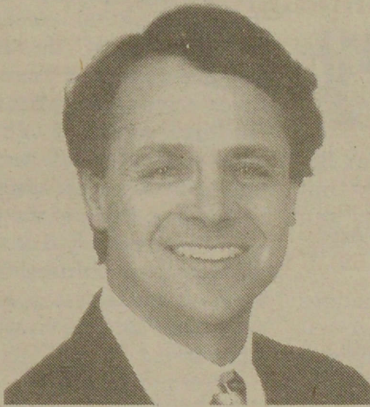
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Crackdown on the War on Drugs ... or End it?

by Jacob G. Hornberger



In a proposal termed SABRE (Substance Abuse Resistance Effort), Virginia Republican governor James Gilmore III recently asked the Virginia legislature to get tough in the state's war on drugs. The governor's proposals include harsher penalties for drug users and drug sellers.

No one, including Governor Gilmore, would argue that the decades-long war on drugs has been successful in achieving its aims. Hardly a month goes by without law-enforcement officers' announcing a new record drug bust, which would seem to be fairly powerful evidence that the war isn't achieving what it's supposed to achieve. And after all, if the war had already achieved its goals, there would be no point in continuing it, much less escalating it.

The purpose of measures such as those that Governor Gilmore is proposing is to diminish both the demand for drugs and the supply of drugs. On the demand side, the hope is that by increasing the punish-

ment a drug user faces if caught, the demand for drugs will be reduced. The analysis is similar on the supply side. The hope is that drug sales will decline because drug sellers must now face a harsher punishment if they're caught selling drugs.

All too often, however, the prospect of facing increased punishment doesn't seriously affect drug users. For one thing, many of them don't believe that they are the ones who are going to get caught. For another, their addiction often causes them to continue consuming the drugs even though the price has increased; it's what an economist would call an "inelastic demand curve," one in which changes in price have a minimal effect on changes in demand.

Harsh penalties on the supply side also have had little effect on the supply of drugs. Why? Because as the price of drugs and the profits from drug sales increase because of a constriction in supply arising from stricter law enforcement, more people are induced to enter the drug trade, which brings supply back up. That is why we see "regular" people, such as airline workers, entering the illegal drug business.

Harsher enforcement of drug laws also has a serious negative

consequence in society. In order to get the money to pay for the artificially higher-priced drugs, the user often resorts to violent means — robberies, muggings, thefts, and the like. (When was the last time you saw a wino committing a robbery to get the money to pay for his habit?)

Why then do so many government officials continue to call for an escalation of the drug war? Some officials are well-intentioned. They honestly believe that their proposals will finally stop people from ingesting harmful substances. But should good intentions play a role in public policy, especially when the policy has been tested for decades and has not only failed but also produced serious negative consequences for society?

There's an alternative explanation, however, for harsher drug-war measures, one that is based on self-interest. No one can now deny that the two financial beneficiaries of drug laws are drug sellers, who make lots of money selling drugs, and government officials, who make lots of money from asset-forfeiture laws.

For example, in 1998, in Chesapeake, Virginia, local prosecutors collected more than \$160,000 in assets, including

\$80,000 in cash. The money was divided among the state, the police department, and the prosecutors. State officials also get a piece of the action when they help the DEA or FBI in a drug bust; this brought \$100,000 to Chesapeake over a three-year period. In Prince George's County, Maryland, investigators recently discovered that the sheriff's department kept a cash seizure of \$45,000 hidden from county officials for seven years, in the hope that the legislature would enact a law that would enable the sheriff's department to keep the money.

In a free society, people should ask why the state should have the power to punish someone for engaging in self-destructive behavior. People should also ask why a decades-long war that has failed and that is corrupting society should be escalated. Recently New Mexico Republican governor Gary Johnson called for an end to the war on drugs. Which state will lead the nation by being the first state to do so?

Mr. Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) in Fairfax, Va.

THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM FOUNDATION

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The Forum

The beginning of the Libertarian Century

I've been accused of being the most optimistic Libertarian that many folks have ever met. Maybe it's true. Maybe it's just a kind way for my friends to tell me they think I'm nuts. Only time will tell, I suppose, but one way or another, I want to present you with some reasons why I think that you should be optimistic, too.

Because I'm here to tell you that we're now in the beginning of the Libertarian Century. The last century, happily behind us now, was not one that was very kind to our classical liberal way of thinking. But I am certain that when the history of the 21st Century is written, it will be called "Liberty Restored."

So different

We stand at the doorway of a time so different from the one we're used to that we still haven't imagined everything it will bring.

To those folks who like big government, I say get out your VCR and make sure to record plenty of The History Channel.

To the ones who really dig the War on Poverty that created more poverty, the War on Drugs that left us awash in drugs, the War

on Racism that causes more racism, and the War on Inflation that jacked up inflation, I say: Better go and get yourself an economy-size case of Rol-aids, because you're going to need it.

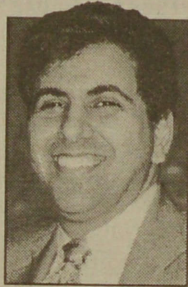
For the rest of us, I think things are looking up for the first time in a long time.

Can you imagine life without the federal income tax? Can you imagine Ted Kennedy sitting on a street corner in Harvard Square with a sign that says "Will Filibuster for Food"? Can you imagine us winning more seats than the Republicans? More seats than the Democrats?

You must. For it's only where our imaginations have gone that our feet can take us.

You should be optimistic for another reason: It's good for you.

Nothing significant has ever been accomplished by the nay-sayers, the critics, the armchair



By Elias Israel

generals, or the Monday morning quarterbacks. Everything of substance that has ever been accomplished in the history of humanity has been done by a small number of people who believed. They believed even though others told them they were crazy. They believed even when they were a tiny minority. They believed.

You must be optimistic, and you must imagine what it will be like when we've won. Because unless you can imagine it, you'll never see it. Optimism alone won't make us win, but its lack will make us lose.

So-called experts

Thomas Edison once said, "I am not discouraged, because every wrong attempt discarded is another step forward." Because of his optimism, even in the face of the so-called experts who said it couldn't be done, he created several completely new industries.

Of course, Edison also said, "Show me a thoroughly satisfied man, and I'll show you a failure." The advantages we have now are considerable, but we have to make use of them.

How do I know that the Lib-

ertarian Party will succeed? Because I've studied the way that social changes take place, and there's something about to happen that will amaze you.

Historically, social changes come slowly at first, gaining momentum in a steady, linear way. But when a new idea or a new product reaches about 10% penetration of its target market something exciting happens: At that point, the adoption rate for the new product or technology usually shoots upward dramatically.

What was a 10% market penetration suddenly can become 50%, then 70%, then 90%. This is what happened to Federal Express, to Microsoft, to the use of fax machines, and a host of other products and services.

This is especially true in "networked" products, meaning those products that are only useful when they come with a network of people to enjoy them with.

Market "penetration" of Libertarian ideas now stands at 6%. According to the most recent polls, about 6% of Americans are hardcore Libertarian. Another 25% or so are at least philosophically libertarian leaning. And, as we have

seen in the last four years, we have doubled our strength in each election cycle.

What does this mean? It means that we're going to reach the magic 10% penetration number very soon, perhaps as soon as the end of the 2000 election cycle.

After we reach that 10% number, everyone will know what a Libertarian is and what we stand for. More and more folks will be joining us every day. And the Republican-Democrat duopoly will finally be a thing of the past.

We have worked at the edges of American politics for many years, because in the 20th Century the tide of history was against us.

But not anymore.

Tide of history

Starting now, the tide of history runs against the statist.

Starting now, Liberty is the norm for social systems.

Starting now, Capitalism is the norm for economic systems.

Starting now, the shift towards smaller government and more personal and economic freedom will become inevitable.

It's an exciting time to be alive, and your children and grandchildren will ask you one day what it was like when everything changed. Get involved and let's build their future together!

■ **About the author:** Elias Israel is a newly elected At-Large Member of the Libertarian National Committee. This essay is reprinted from the July 2000 issue of Massachusetts Liberty.

Watch out! The government wants to 'improve' your software

The federal government wants to do to software what it's already done to the nation's healthcare

In the 1960s, we had by far the best health-care system in the world.

Health insurance was available to anyone, young or old, even those with pre-existing medical problems. Doctors made house calls, and a hospital stay for an appendectomy or other routine operation cost the equivalent of only a week or two of one's income. Every city had free clinics and charity hospitals that took care of those who were short of money.

Then the politicians said, "We're going to improve your health care."

The federal government jumped in with Medicare, Medicaid, the HMO Act, and thousands of regulations. Thirty years later, government now spends half of all the health-care dollars in America, and we can see how well the politicians have helped us:

■ Doctors no longer make house calls and waiting rooms look like Grand Central Station.

■ Charity hospitals have disappeared, and a routine operation can cost as much as a year's pay.

■ Health insurance has been

priced out of the market for those in their 20s or 30s, and people with special medical problems must rely on government insurance.

■ Senior citizens now pay from their own pockets at least twice as much for health care as they did before Medicare began — even after allowing for Medicare's contribution and after adjusting for inflation. And if they need a procedure that isn't approved by Medicare, they're out of luck.

Similar disasters have flowed from government intrusions into education, charity, farming, and many other areas of society. The War on Poverty has escalated poverty in America. The War on Drugs has expanded drug use and produced the worst crime wave in the history of America.

Now the government is going



By Harry Browne

to apply this same expertise to your computer software.

The computer industry is the most dynamic area of the American economy. Prices have dropped to tiny fractions of where they were just five or 10 years ago. And innovation is greater than in any other American industry — as new companies, new products, and new technologies spring up almost every day.

So now the Justice Department and Judge Thomas Jackson are saying, "We're from the government, and we're going to improve your software."

More innovation?

Various skills for the government are saying things like "This will unleash a more innovative environment," or "Now the market is truly competitive and prices can drop." Where have these skills been living the past 10 years?

Ken Wasch, President of the Software & Industry Association, located (where else?) in Washington, DC, actually told *USA Today* (June 8, page 2A) that he envisions "a wave of new software companies that will develop programs for word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and e-mail." Can you imagine a presi-

dent of a software association who isn't aware of WordPerfect, Lotus 1-2-3, Oracle, Eudora Pro, FileMaker, or any of the other successful Microsoft competitors already in the market?

The PBS News Hour interviewed four "experts" — each of whom said that breaking up Microsoft will not only benefit consumers, but that Microsoft will be better off. Since these people seem to know more about running a computer company than Bill Gates does, you can imagine how rich they must be.

Even if every charge of predatory practices and manipulation against Microsoft were true, that wouldn't endow politicians with the ability to know what you need. And that's the central issue in the Microsoft case:

Do the politicians know what's best for you to buy? Or should you make those decisions for yourself?

If the latter, you can simply refuse to buy Microsoft products if you don't like them or you don't like Bill Gates. But if you think the politicians know best, you're saying you trust people like Janet Reno, Bill Clinton, Orrin Hatch, Al Gore, George W. Bush, Jesse Helms, and Teddy Kennedy to

make the right decisions about your personal and business life.

In that case, I pity you.

If Microsoft is broken up, it will be the start of a trend in which politicians, rather than entrepreneurs, decide what choices you can have. And we can look forward to a future in which software innovation will be stagnant and the entire computer industry will resemble today's health-care system.

Big bad Microsoft

And school teachers will be telling children that the government saved consumers from big bad Microsoft — just the way the government saved people from that awful Standard Oil a hundred years ago.

Of course, they won't mention the price cuts and innovation that were the rule before government started running the computer business — just as today's teachers don't mention that oil prices were plummeting until the government broke up Standard Oil.

■ **About the author:** Harry Browne is the Libertarian Party's candidate for president. This essay was originally printed at: www.WorldNetDaily.com.

Peter McWilliams 'killed by the War on Drugs'

Continued from Page 3

trial, a federal judge ruled that McWilliams could not mention his illnesses — or introduce as evidence any of the documented benefits of medical marijuana. In response, McWilliams pled guilty to avoid a 10-year mandatory-minimum prison sentence.

"We had no place else to go," said McWilliams at the time. "We couldn't present our medical marijuana defense, so we would be automatically found guilty, taken into custody on the spot, and begin serving a mandatory 10-year sentence."

"By pleading guilty, we take the crime out of the mandatory-minimum category and permit the judge to use compassion in his sentencing."

Denied access

While out on bail awaiting sentencing, McWilliams was prohibited from using medical marijuana — and being denied access to the drug's anti-nausea properties almost certainly caused his death, said Dasbach.

"First, the federal government arrested McWilliams for doing something that is 100% legal in California," he said. "Then, they put him on trial and wouldn't allow him to introduce the one piece of evidence that could have explained his actions. Finally, they let him out of jail on the condition that he couldn't use the one medicine that kept him alive."

"What the federal government did to Peter McWilliams is nothing less than cold-blooded, premeditated murder. A good, decent, talented man is dead because of the bipartisan public policy disaster known as the War on Drugs."

Ironically, on June 9, McWilliams appeared on the "Give Me A Break!" segment of ABC Television's 20/20, where host John Stossel noted, "[McWilliams] is out of prison on the condition that he not smoke marijuana, but it was the marijuana that kept him from vomiting up his medication."

Lock people up

"I can understand that the federal drug police don't agree with what some states have decided to do about medical marijuana, but does that give them the right to just end run those laws and lock people up?"

"Give me a break! [It] seems this War on Drugs often does more harm than the drugs themselves."

Any libertarian stuff on TV this week?

www.missliberty.com

MARK HINKLE: McWilliams' death "opens a gaping hole in the fabric of liberty."

Five days later, McWilliams was dead.

The owner of Prelude Press, McWilliams was a multi-million-copy-selling author of *How to Survive the Loss of a Love*, *The Personal Computer Book*, and *DO IT! Let's Get Off Our Buts* (with co-author John-Roger), a #1 *New York Times* bestseller.

He also wrote what is widely considered to be the definitive book against "consensual" crimes, *Ain't Nobody's Business If You Do*. First published in 1993, it was called "highly readable" by Hugh Downs of ABC News.

He joined the Libertarian Party in 1998 following a nationally televised speech at the Libertarian National Convention in Washington, DC.

In that speech, McWilliams said, "Marijuana is the finest anti-

nausea medication known to science, and our leaders have lied about this consistently. [Arresting people for] medical marijuana is the most hideous example of government interference. It's an outrage within an outrage."

McWilliams' death was noted by Libertarians in his home state.

Gave his life

"Peter McWilliams was a true hero who fought and ultimately gave his life for what he believed in: The right to heal oneself without government interference," said Mark Hinkle, state chair of the California Libertarian Party.

"His loss opens a gaping hole in the fabric of liberty, but his memory will live on not only in the hearts of grateful Libertarians but also in the lives of the countless patients who will take up the crusade for health freedom."

After his funeral on June 20, McWilliams' mother, Mary McWilliams, said she found a poem written by McWilliams that she wished she had put in the memorial program. It read:

"When I'm gone, let me go / Don't pull me back to this Earth that I've loved and hated so / Wish me well on my journey, as I do on yours / And if we meet again, let's leave that in the hands of God."



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

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

But we need your help to do it. Join us today!

In memory of Peter McWilliams

Continued from Page 3

I must admit that when I learned the tragic news of Peter's death, my spirit was not so generous as his. I thought about the judge who had denied him his day in court and had ordered him to forgo the medication that kept him alive. I suppose he's happy, I said to myself, now that he's murdered Peter.

I'm one of those libertarians who generally tries to look at government policies more as folly than as evil. But sometimes, the evil that government does transcends simple folly.

Peter never wanted to be a martyr. But he wanted to live in a free country, where people respected each other's rights and choices, and he did what he thought was best to keep himself alive and to advance the cause of liberty. He was one of the most joyous people I've ever known, a hero in every sense of the word.

— R.W. BRADFORD, Editor, *Liberty* magazine

There are few in America who give their life, their liberty, and their sacred honor for freedom. Now there is one less. Peter McWilliams can't write any more about the Bill of Rights — each of which he defended. He can no longer extol individual liberty, personal responsibility, and small government. But we can for him.

Good-bye Peter McWilliams. It wasn't nobody's business but yours that you tried to save yourself from AIDS and cancer using marijuana — except the people who love you, support you, and appreciate everything you so bravely stood for.

— CARLA HOWELL, Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. Senate (Massachusetts)

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

I'll receive 12 issues of the monthly newspaper, LP News, and a membership card. I'd like to be a Libertarian Party member in the following category:

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

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

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FROM The Chair

Five targeted areas for LP improvement

To my colleagues: I want to thank you for entrusting me with the chairmanship. You have bestowed upon me a great honor, and I shall work very hard to justify your confidence in me. As an aside, I am very flattered to have been elected as a finalist (along with Richard Rider and Muni Savyon) for the Sam Adams award, which was awarded to Mr. Rider at the convention. To be included in the company of Mr. Rider and Mr. Savyon is a great honor.

Please join me in offering thanks to my distinguished competitors for the chairmanship, Gary Copeland and George Philies. These gentlemen deserve our appreciation for their devotion to the cause of liberty. I look forward to working with them.

I wish to express my appreciation to my Libertarian National Committee colleagues with whom I served during the 1998-2000 term: David Bergland (chairman), Hugh Butler (vice chairman), Steve Givot (secretary), Mark Tuniewicz (treasurer), at-large representatives John Buttrick, Mike Dixon, Bill Hall, and Mary Ruwart, regional representatives BetteRose Smith, Joe Dehn, Terry Savage, Ken Bisson, Chris Spruyt, Jim Turney, Muni Savyon, Eli Israel, Bob Franke, and Geoff Neale, and alternates Ed Hoch, Scott Lieberman, Dan Fylstra, Barbara Goushaw, Gary Ilardi, Richard Schwarz, Ken Lindell, and Deryl Martin. It was an honor and a pleasure to serve with these great activists.

As I mentioned in my chairmanship campaign, although there are many areas of Libertarian Party activity in which I hope to bring about improvements, five areas will receive special emphasis during my tenure as chair:

1) Reaching out to young people, particularly high school and college students. It is crucial that we improve our effort to reach young people through various media. I want to provide resources for developing, testing, and implementing outreach programs.

2) Improving the process of generating, recruiting, and training new activists. We need to do a better job of encouraging members to become activists in their communities; this is particularly true of those who are the lone Libertarian in the community. While the Success '97 and Success '99 training programs were very successful, there are other tools we can use to improve the quality and scope of our efforts. In particular, we need to consider using distance learning techniques to reach more activists.

3) Improving membership retention. Once people become members, we need to do a better job keeping them on the team. I believe that a key to improving retention is to make new members feel welcome and help them become active (without swamping them with work) as soon as they join the party.

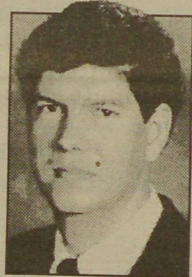
4) Finding better ways to leverage the work of people and organizations in the broader Libertarian movement, especially the think tanks (e.g., Cato, Reason, Cascade, and Heartland) and the education groups (e.g., Foundation for Economic Education, Institute for Humane Studies).

5) Conducting a full-scale systems analysis of the LP and its operations, particularly concerning the flow of information. As the secretary of the Jefferson Area Libertarians (a local LP group in Charlottesville, Virginia), I can attest to the need for improving the flow of information between the LP headquarters and local activists. I anticipate that there are several relatively low-cost ways in which we can improve LP procedures to put more useful information into the hands of local activists.

With respect to (5), I am pleased that Michael Gilson De Lemos, a newly elected member of the Libertarian National Committee, has volunteered his time and expertise to help with this project.

I need and want all the support I can muster in order to realize progress in these areas. To this end, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have ideas concerning how we can improve the LP. You are welcome to contact me at P.O. Box 274, Free Union, VA, 22940, or at chair@lp.org.

Thank you for your work for liberty.



By Jim Lark,
National Chair

Forget those anti-gun lawsuits: More guns will prevent crime

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.



By H. Sterling Burnett
NATIONAL CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS

In early 1998, Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell first proposed suing gun manufacturers to recover costs related to firearm violence in his city.

Though Rendell put his plans on hold, Mayor Marc Morial of New Orleans and Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago have taken up his suggestion and filed suit. Other cities seem likely to file suit in the near future.

Chicago's lawsuit borrows the theory developed by Rendell: (1) guns are a public nuisance and (2) gun manufacturers knowingly flood cities with more guns than they could expect to sell to law-abiding citizens, thus aiding and abetting criminals in obtaining firearms.

The New Orleans lawsuit, which argues that guns as they are currently manufactured are unreasonably dangerous in design, is based upon an unfounded supposition: Gun makers have suppressed the introduction of safety devices that would prevent unauthorized users from firing guns.

In both cities, the mayors argue that public health and safety costs associated with treating and preventing firearm injuries should be reimbursed to the city by the firearm industry.

If they succeed, their lawsuits will establish bad law and bad public policy.

Ask the courts

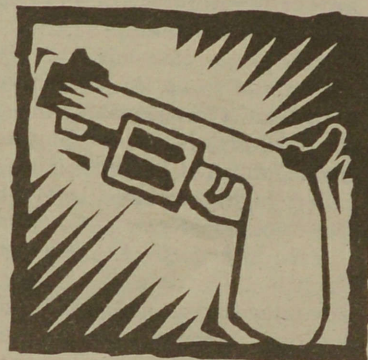
The lawsuits would establish bad law because they ask the courts to legislate. In many similar lawsuits, courts have consistently held that questions concerning whether firearms should be legal and widely available are for legislatures to decide.

In *Wosylow v. Glock, Inc.*, for example, the court ruled, "It is the province of legislative or authorized administrative bodies, and not the judicial branch, to advance through democratic channels policies that would directly or indirectly either 1) ban some classes of handguns or 2) transform firearm enterprises into insurers against misuse of their products."

"Frustration at the failure of legislatures to enact laws sufficient to curb handgun injuries is not adequate reason to engage the judicial forum in efforts to implement a broad policy change."

In addition, the suits would

reverse well-established tort law: Manufacturers are not responsible for the criminal misuse of their product. Should automobile makers be held responsible for vehicular homicides committed by people in the grip of road rage? If gun makers are held liable when criminals misuse guns, where will the lawsuit parade end?



QUESTION:
Reducing gun violence: Do anti-gun lawsuits or more guns keep people safer?

The lawsuits would also establish bad public policy because guns prevent more harm than they cause. Criminals fear armed citizens more than they fear the police.

Why? Nearly 3,000 criminals are lawfully killed each year by armed civilians — more than three times the number killed by police.

An additional 9,000 to 17,000

criminals are wounded by civilians each year.

Studies have shown that citizens use guns in self-defense between 800,000 and 3.6 million times annually (in the vast majority of cases merely showing the firearm prevents the crime), with the most comprehensive study estimating more than 2.5 million defensive gun uses per year.

This far exceeds the number of crimes committed with firearms each year.

In addition, a recent study by economist John Lott examining the impact of "concealed carry" permits found that:

■ Concealed handgun laws reduce murder by 8.5% and rape by 5%.

■ Had liberal concealed carry laws prevailed nationally, there would have been 1,600 fewer murders and 4,200 fewer rapes each year.

However, not every city or state has seen the drop in crime that has accompanied the liberalization of concealed carry laws. Consider Philadelphia, where the idea for a lawsuit first arose.

Pennsylvania liberalized its concealed carry law in 1989, but murder and other violent crime rates are still on the rise in Philadelphia — which demanded an exemption from the liberalized concealed carry law.

Residents in other parts of Pennsylvania, who have the option of legally defending themselves with concealed firearms, have seen violent crime decrease.

While New Orleans and Chicago have filed dangerous lawsuits, a different kind of lawsuit might actually make the public safer. The general public might join crime victims in a class action suit against public officials, like Mayor Morial and Mayor Daley, whose actions make them less secure and increase crime rates in general.

Guns don't increase crime, foolish policies do, and public officials who institute them should be held accountable.

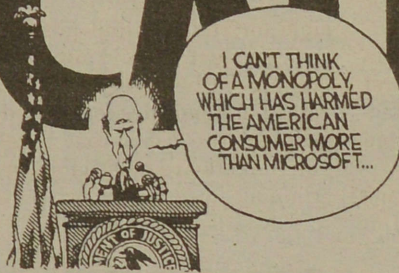
When private citizens take actions that threaten the public's health or welfare, courts can enjoin the action and require compensation for those who have been harmed.

Public officials should be held to the same standard, if not a higher one.

■ **About the author:** H. Sterling Burnett is a policy analyst with the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas, Texas. This essay is reprinted from the January/February 1999 issue of *Intellectual Ammunition*, published by the Heartland Institute. To contact Heartland, call (312) 377-4000. Or visit: www.heartland.org.

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PUBLIC EDUCATION



The Pulse

Readers pledge allegiance

I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the elimination of the Libertarian Party's membership statement." That's a pledge a majority of LP News readers would apparently be happy to sign.

In fact, 54.8% of the respondents of this month's unscientific Pulse question said the party should *keep* its membership statement (sometimes called "The Pledge") which new members must sign to officially join the party.

The statement — "I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals" — reaffirms the LP as the "Party of Principle," argued the pro-Pledge people, protects us against unwarranted association with bomb-throwing anti-government nuts, and sets us apart from other, philosophically wishy-washy political parties.

But 38.1% of the respondents disagreed. The party should *drop* the membership statement, they countered, because it is confusing to most people, drives away potential members, and is too philosophically doctrinaire.

Another 7.1% gave no clear answer, or suggested the party should substitute a different membership statement — with suggestions ranging from more specific language to a more general statement.

Here is a representative cross-section of answers:

KEEP. The pledge is a concise statement of our beliefs. A party is like an army and every army needs a rallying point. Without it all you have is a mob. A mob always falls apart.

— WALTER MOREY, Palm Bay, Florida

KEEP. Membership requires a commitment to the party's principles. If a person isn't willing to make such a commitment, he or she can still vote for Libertarian candidates or contribute on single issue grounds.

— TOM ROWLAND, Dublin, Ohio

DROP. I strongly feel the current statement is too vague and subject to the wildest of interpretations.

— GEORGE F. MUSSMANN, O'Fallon, Missouri

KEEP. Are we a Party of Principle or just a collection of politicians? Will we have Libertarian candidates in our party or do we welcome anyone from Lenora Fulani to Pat Buchanan to represent us? Keep the pledge or join the Demogoglican Republicrats!

— PAUL L. STUDIER, Lake Forest, California

DROP. It is basically a political urine test. The party's opinion seems to be that everyone is the Unabomber until the signed statement is received. Just wanting to join the party should be enough to show that one seeks change within the system.

— PAUL W. CHAMPION, Holly, Michigan

CHANGE. If I may suggest a new membership statement let it be, "I swear to defend the liberty of all, especially those that disagree with me."

— CHARLES MARTIN, Weed, California

KEEP. It's innocuous enough; no one with any sense could disagree with it.

— JAN GABBERT, Dayton, Ohio

DROP. The statement is too broad to be taken seriously, also when and how would the party enforce it?

— RANDY J. LINDOWER, Canton, Ohio

DROP. It is oddly hypocritical to "force" someone to sign a pledge that advocates non-initiation of force.

— MARK HOLBROOK, Delaware, Ohio

KEEP. Elimination of the pledge would be like getting married without vows: "I do, maybe, if I feel like it." Like marriage, implementation of our platform will take a lot of work and will require a total commitment to our cause. I think signing the pledge helps drive that point home.

— CHARLOTTE PATRICK, Edinburg, Virginia

See **THE PULSE** Page 28

The Mailbox

■ Campaign reform

I read with interest the article on "Fixing Campaign Finance" [Libertarian Solutions] in the July 2000 newspaper and agree heartily with you on the "opening up the election process" part.

You set forth two steps in the article [removing ballot access restrictions and making presidential debates more inclusive]. I feel like these are goals rather than steps. It would seem it would be wise for the LP to adopt these two goals as a national focus and set forth specific strategies (steps) for the achievement of each of these that the membership could be involved in at the local/state/national level.

It would seem these two goals would be something to which the general membership could relate — a very good use of Libertarian dollars.

— CLOYCE BANISTER-METZLER-BANE, PH.D.
Golden, Colorado

■ Debate decision

The recent decision by the LNC to withdraw from the presidential debate lawsuit [News Briefs, July 2000] is, I believe, poorly considered and a slap in the face to Libertarian activists everywhere.

For the last 10 years, since I joined the LP, I have fought both for principle and for liberty — and I believe they should both be considered when making a decision of such vital importance to the future of this party.

If the lawsuit is successful — and the Reform and Green parties are allowed to fairly debate while the Libertarians aren't — then they will enjoy an incalculable

advantage that the LP may never be able to recover from.

Every LP member is going to have to make some serious considerations of just how far principle should be placed ahead of liberty. I understand that such a decision is a difficult one to make. But we are being discriminated against by powerful forces that have made a mockery of the term "free and fair elections."

I ask that all LP members bombard the LNC with protests for this decision.

— Kevin Padfield
Kokomo, Indiana

THE DECISION to withdraw from the FEC lawsuit was a slap in the face to activists.

■ Reverse Telemarketing

I'd like to thank Tim Norton for a grand idea that I just tried. ["Turning the Tables," The Mailbox, June 2000]. This is something everyone can enjoy. Especially the first time you try it.



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I telecommute and have rented an apartment to work out of. I'm constantly getting pestering phone solicitations while trying to work. I just received a call from a telemarketer asking me when was the last time I was in the Orlando area.

I responded by saying, "Well, it's been an awfully long time. But, listen, have you heard about the Libertarian Party?" He said no and asked what kind of party that was.

So I started explaining simply about the party and then got to talking about Harry Browne running for president. I asked him if he would like more information. He said he would, so I asked if he had Internet access. He said he did, so I gave him the party's website address.

I neglected to ask him for his name and address to send in to the party HQ for more info, mostly because by this time I was having a very difficult time keeping from bursting out laughing.

It was really working: Reverse Telemarketing.

He sounded pleased to hear about a non-Republicrat choice. He then thanked me for the web address and then said he'd go look into it. Then he said goodbye and hung up without ever getting around to the original purpose of his call.

So here I sit wondering what I missed out on down in Orlando. And chuckling.

— ERIC NEWQUIST
Gulf Breeze, Florida

■ Causing corruption?

I was surprised to read [Affiliate News, June 2000] that the Colorado state LP blames the war

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 28

ThePulse

Continued from Page 27

KEEP. Dropping it would place the LP in a very dangerous situation. In fact, it could lead to the party being outlawed. Without the pledge, a martyr could join the party and kill in the professed name of libertarianism. We don't need those who would initiate force as members.

— BOB MCELROY, West Monroe, Louisiana

DROP. Americans distrust loyalty oaths and litmus tests. In addition, the pledge can only be understood by persons already steeped in Libertarian philosophy, and we need to appeal to a broader audience.

— JIM KLANN, Glendale Heights, Illinois

KEEP. The statement makes it clear to everyone the difference between right and wrong. If such a blaring reminder were removed, people may start to forget exactly what freedom is.

— CHRIS BOGAN, Carmel, Indiana

KEEP. It is the only principle which distinguishes Libertarian Party members from those of any other party or political persuasion.

— Joanna Parker, Ocean Shores, Washington

DROP. It is dogmatic, corrupting, utopian and anarchistic. What good is this all-or-nothing dogma?

— LLOYD SLOAN, Ballwin, Missouri

DROP. It's a moot point, as the government has already initiated force. It's another possible source of confusion that we don't need.

— DAVE HALDY, San Diego, California

Oct. Question: Matching Funds?

The presidential campaign has begun, so the once-every-four-years debate about accepting federal campaign funds has erupted again. Some Libertarians say the party *should* take the money, arguing that it just "reimburses" the party for the cost of achieving ballot access and that not taking it unfairly handicaps our presidential ticket. Other Libertarians disagree: They say taking the money violates Libertarian principles and makes the party look hypocritical (since we're taking advantage of a program we would abolish). The question is moot this year since presidential candidate Harry Browne has already declined to file for federal matching funds (available before the convention), and the party had not reached the 5% vote total needed for general election money. But what about in 2004?

■ **QUESTION:** Should the LP's next presidential candidate accept federal campaign money? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 100 words or less, please.)

■ **DEADLINE:** September 5, 2000

Sept. Question: Presidential Advice?

On Sunday, July 2nd, delegates at the Libertarian National Convention nominated Harry Browne for president. For the following four months, Browne will be the "public face" of the party to 100 million voters. Given the importance of the presidential campaign, what *one piece of advice* would you like to give Harry Browne to improve his campaign? Your advice can be about political strategy, campaign issues, presentation, outreach, media, fundraising — *any* aspect of the process that you think can be improved. And we'll pass on *every* suggestion we receive to the presidential campaign.

■ **QUESTION:** What one piece of advice — strategic, political, issues-based, whatever — would you like to pass on to LP presidential candidate Harry Browne? (Please limit answers to no more than 100 words.)

■ **DEADLINE:** August 5, 2000

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ **E-mail:** Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. (Please include "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ **Fax:** (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ **Mail:** Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

TheMailBox

Continued from Page 27

on drugs for the actions of corrupt police officers.

Personal responsibility has always been advanced by the LP. While the war on drugs certainly may explain why the officers felt compelled to act as they did, saying that the war on drugs "caused" the police officers to accept bribes, sounds exactly like Democrats who say guns "cause" people to commit crimes.

— SANDRA L. ABBEY
Tucson, Arizona

■ A disappointment

The July 2000 issue of *LP News* was a disappointment.

Here we are in a presidential election year with more credible candidates than the party has ever fielded and what is on the front page? A feature on romance and Libertarians! How does that article contribute to growing members, funds, or candidates? Talk about a filler article that should have been published during a slow news year!

Suggestion: How about running profiles of more of the candidates that are trying to grow the membership and party funds?

The biggest disappointment was the editorial "Making Sense of the Million Mom March," in which the Million Moms were described as "evil." Are we running out of ideas to persuade on the basis of principles?

How does calling all those women "evil" help our candidates? Are we in a fear mode? How can we convince potential new members to join when you stoop to the unsavory tactics used by the D's and R's?

Please start behaving professionally!

— JOE CADRIN
Hampton, Virginia

■ Absolute Bullseye

My sincere compliments on the recent column in *LP News*, "Making Sense of the Million Mom March"! [From the Editor, July 2000]. That column, word for word, scores an absolute bullseye, pun definitely intended.

Have you given any thought to attempting to run that in some other publications, such as news or gun magazines?

— ALEX R. KNIGHT III
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

■ Freedom to choose

Chris Struble's letter in the June Mailbox expresses grave concerns for the libertarian cause and personal freedom should the Religious Freedom Restoration Act be passed.

His fears seem to relate to the fact that this act would give religious people the right to discriminate. They would be able to discriminate against others in housing, employment and "hate crimes."

Apparently, Mr. Struble feels the government should be able to force the private, free citizen to hire, fire, rent to, and presumably associate with those people the government wants you to. Never mind your freedom to choose with whom you associate.

If I own my business, why should the government have the power to force me to hire anyone? If I wish to discriminate in my hiring based upon race, sex, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic, I should be free to do so. Use the power of persuasion to convince me that I am doing the wrong thing. But do not use the force of the government's gun. That is coercion and it is wrong.

If Mr. Struble chooses to support government intrusion into the private lives of citizens, so be it. However, do not cloak your statism in a libertarian disguise.

The problem is not that religious people can discriminate based upon this law. The problem is that all citizens should have the right, as free people, to choose with whom they will associate. Libertarians should support this law as just a small beginning in the return to citizens of their personal freedoms.

— KEITH A. LAKES
Xenia, Ohio

I CHALLENGE each LP member to recruit one new member by October 1, 2000.

■ Personal challenge

I challenge each Libertarian Party member to recruit one new member by October 1, 2000.

Since the 1996 presidential election, our national party has increased membership and introduced many potential voters to Libertarian ideas. It's now our turn to help the Libertarian Party become a major force in American politics.

This is not a request for you to work night and day to recruit 100 members, or even 10 members. If each Libertarian member will recruit just one new member it will make a tremendous difference in the upcoming election.

Unlike our national party that sends out [membership recruitment] letters that may or may not reach individuals with Libertarian ideas, you personally know someone who is a potential member. Talk to a neighbor, a family member, your spouse, co-worker, fellow church member or club. In one of these groups there

is one person you know that will join in our pursuit of Liberty.

Don't look to a fellow member and think they will recruit two new members and I can be the one that doesn't need to participate.

If every member meets the challenge to recruit one new member by October 1, 2000, it could help guarantee 5% of the National vote in November. This would guarantee press coverage. Increased press coverage would mean even more new members.

Let's make the Libertarian Party a major contender in the next election.

— TIM NORTON
Cobden, Illinois

■ The computer boom

The anti-Microsoft position of Carlos and Jose Ayala [The Forum, June 2000] seems to miss the major factors in the dangers of monopolies: quality deteriorates while price increases. We see neither of these factors in the boom of the computer software industry.

When I look back to the clunky, clumsy, slow work it took to manage my restaurant business on my 1986 computer, I am amazed at how far the software and operating systems have come in such a short amount of time.

Compare that with the US Postal Service, where service is still slow, and prices continue to increase, in spite of the fact that electronic mail has taken away so much of the traffic that the post office used to handle. This government monopoly is a much better example of the detriment to the consumer than the Microsoft case.

Libertarians well understand, much better than most, that any government-run project or service, due to its non-competitive nature, will always be inferior and more expensive than a free-market example. The only motivation that a government operation has is to propagate itself through spending increases, at the expense of the taxpayer.

— LARRY ROSNER
Santee, California

■ No room for debate

It never ceases to amaze me how many "Libertarians" just don't seem to get it. On the one hand, I feel optimistic when I read about our expanding membership. However, on the other hand, that optimism is tempered by my realization that there are those

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 29

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 28

among us who are not "pure in thought."

I refer specifically to the point/counterpoint type presentation regarding the Microsoft case in the June issue of *LP News*.

I had assumed that the author of the side opposing Microsoft was not a Libertarian, until reading, "Libertarians... we..." They actually state that government can make the economy more efficient and better-functioning! There are even conservative Demopublicans who realize how wrongheaded that is.

To me, this is not an issue that leaves room for debate among Libertarians as is, say, the abortion issue. In the Microsoft case, there is a clear aggressor and a clear victim.

This goes directly to the very heart of what Libertarianism is all about. The patent system example given is a specious argument because in that case the government is defending an individual's private property, not aggressing against it.

To those holding the view that the government's attack on Microsoft is appropriate, I must ask, "What part of non-initiation of force don't you understand?" And I also must beg to differ regarding the closing comment: No, we are not equally committed Libertarians.

— **MIKE THIBODEAUX**

Oscar, Louisiana

■ What monopoly?

The federal government seeks the destruction of Microsoft after proclaiming it to have a monopoly; i.e., "no competitor in the sale of some commodity, or in the exercise of some trade or business."

I cannot help but wonder as I type this letter on my state-of-the-art Apple computer: What monopoly?

— **JACK MODELL**

Leeds, Alabama

■ Absurd proposition

Love the fact that you're packing more and more information into every issue of *LP News*, 40 pages being the latest milestone. However, a bit more editorial discretion is in order.

For example, imagining that the Clinton antitrust case against Microsoft is an open question is really quite beyond the pale. It's one thing to attend a local Libertarian meeting and find a newcomer in attendance who believes

tarian circles as victimless crime laws?

Which is not to say that Microsoft is blameless of all conceivable infractions, only that "anti-trust" crimes are not among them.

— **BRUCE EARNHEART**

Dayton, Ohio

■ Property Rights

In the MailBox [July 2000], Jerry Rivard supported the breakup of Microsoft by arguing that "Microsoft controls the infrastructure in which Windows applications must operate." While this statement is true, it must be recognized that this fact derives

from the more important fact that Microsoft *owns* the infrastructure.

Microsoft owns the Windows line of operating systems, and thus Microsoft alone has sole discretion to decide who has access to Windows.

The fundamental question to ask when considering this anti-trust case is not whether America will be better off with one Microsoft or two, but whether America will be better off with a government which protects property rights or with one which violates property rights.

— **JEREMY CLOUD**

Somerville, Massachusetts

■ Education solutions

The top issue of the people according to national polls is education. This should be a key issue for Libertarians.

Most people believe in an education for all children for good reasons. It is for this that Libertarians need to propose plans to end the anti-competitive behavior of public schools and propose progressive libertarian solutions that will give the poor and middle class a choice in a high-quality education.

All public schools should be privatized, and state and local

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30



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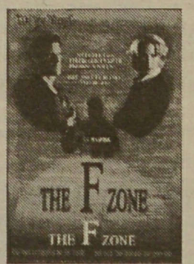
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The MailBox

Continued from Page 29

governments should be allowed to provide general welfare for education. Providing "public" education or using vouchers or tax credits to favor one [type of] education should be illegal.

At this point, Libertarians can work on the local level to move their local government away from education welfare to education charity to improve the choices in education for those that cannot afford it.

— KEITH GARDNER
Decatur, Georgia

Which is which?

The LP News recently referred to the Democrats and Republicans as the "Evil Party" and the "Stupid Party." [The Pulse, July 2000]. Can someone tell me which is which?

— GRANT KUHN
Carlsbad, California

Strange request

The couple's request that their minister omit the phrase "with the power vested in me by the state" seems quite strange to me ["Falling in love, Libertarian style," July 2000]. A union of two persons is a public social contract. Thus government should be properly involved.

The above phrase is one of the most important statements to be included in a marriage ceremony. Government does have some legitimate functions; we libertarians do not have to be anarchists.

— ROLAND O. PETERSON
Waltham, Massachusetts

A UNION
of two people is a social contract.
Thus government should be properly involved.

Can the can

The Forum, June 2000: "Is it time for the party to can the 'cult' [and delete the phrase, 'We oppose the cult of the omnipotent state' in the party's Statement of Principles]?"

Keep the "cult" or I'll can the party.

— ROBERT G. DOSTAL
Iowa City, Iowa

Editor's note: No changes were made to the party's Statement of Principles by delegates at the recent National Convention in Anaheim, California.

Federal imperialism

A recent national poll conducted on behalf of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wilderness Campaign indicated that 65% of Americans favored the creation of three new national monuments in Arizona and northern California.

The survey did not specify

how many of those polled live in the 11 western states and Alaska.

Dave Hill, vice president of the Southern Oregon Timber Industry Association told the *Daily Courier* that the poll reflects a bias from the urban eastern United States and that "two thirds of the population lives east of the Mississippi River."

When one considers that 92.5% of all federal lands are located in the 11 western states and Alaska, I submit that this is not bias. It is pure unadulterated imperialism of the worst sort.

The entire state of Texas could fit into the federally owned land in Alaska.

All six states of New England could fit into the federal land in California and still have room for New Jersey. And all of North Carolina could easily slip into that portion of Oregon owned by the federal government.

And when you factor in the 40 million acres of Indian Reservations and Tribal Entities located in these same 12 states; the tax-paying citizens don't even own half of their own states.

If they had bothered to ask us Westerners, the results would have been at least 65% against any further nationalization of Western lands.

The simple fact is the federal government controls far too much land in the West, and since they don't bother to consult with us or our representatives, I believe it is time for their stewardship of our land to be terminated.

Our elected representatives should begin introducing legislation requiring the BLM and other federal agencies to begin an orderly divestiture of all lands.

— DAVID TERRY
Merlin, Oregon

James Dan: 'Great start'

Continued from Page 22

each of her last three campaigns.

"[The Dan campaign] has raised \$15,000 and has matched all contributions out of his own pocket for a total of \$30,000," he said. "We anticipate a total budget of \$55,000. Think of what we can do with that much money spent on just 4,400 voters!"

The campaign has used polling to determine the three popular issues Dan will focus on, said Azzaro. The issues are:

■ **Repeal of the automobile DMV tax.** "Nevadans pay some of the highest registration fees in the country, [up to] \$500 per year," he said. "James wants to repeal this tax to allow a flat \$35 per-year fee for registrations."

■ **Property tax exemption** on the first \$5,000 of assessed value for every homeowner in Nevada. "This across the board tax cut that would really benefit low-income residents," he said.

■ **Medical Marijuana.** "Nevadans passed a Medical Marijuana initiative in '98 with 58% of the vote," noted Azzaro. "If it passes again this year, it will become part of our state constitution. James wants to make sure the state legislature upholds the will of the people."

Finally, said Azzaro, there is the candidate himself — an individual with name recognition, previous campaign experience, and a base of support.

Dan, the co-owner of a website hosting business, has lived in Nevada for 17 years. For the past three years, he has hosted a talk radio show on KRLV, Las Vegas, and "enjoys a very loyal following

THE RACE HAS
"strong grassroots support, a great candidate, and a weak opponent."

from the show," said Azzaro.

The campaign has already been endorsed by the Nevada Association of Concerned Motorcyclists, the Nevada Rifle and Pistol Association, the Republican Liberty Caucus, and two sitting State Assemblymen, said Azzaro. "Many other endorsements are anticipated."

In 1992, Dan ran for State Assembly and got 18% of the vote in a three-way race with a Democrat and Republican — a record for an LP candidate in Nevada.

The ingredients

Add it all up, said Azzaro, and "the combination of a great candidate, a weak opponent, a topnotch advertising campaign, strong grassroots support, and powerful issues, gives us all the ingredients for a win. We have a long way to go, but we're off to a great start!"

■ To contribute to the Dan for Assembly campaign, write: 1306 W. Craig Road, #158, N. Las Vegas, NV 89032. Call: (702) 633-7867. E-mail: NVdirector@aol.com. Or visit: www.JamesDan.com.

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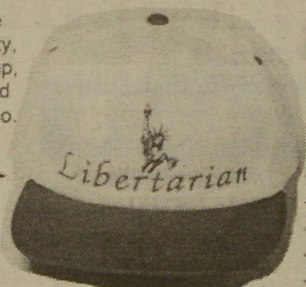
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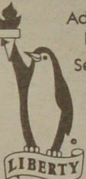
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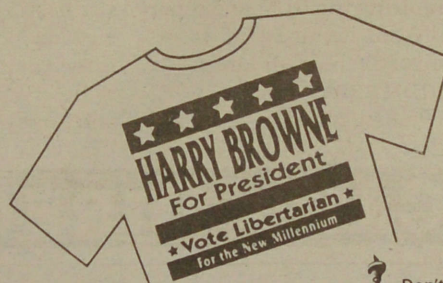
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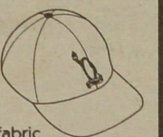
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UpComing

■ July 29, 2000

Maine/Massachusetts Social, Mt. Desert Island, Maine. For information, call Vera Meyer at (781) 321-0210.

■ July 29-August 4, 2000

Cato University, Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Diego, California. A week-long seminar covering history, economics, law, philosophy, and foreign policy, sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include David Boaz (author, *Libertarianism: A Primer*), Virginia Postrel (author, *The Future and Its Enemies*), Randy Barnett (Boston University), Barbara Branden (author, *The Passion of Ayn Rand*), Donald Boudreaux (FEE), and Doug Bandow (Cato Institute). Registration fees start at \$1,100; some student scholarships available. For information or registration, call: (202) 218-4633. Or visit: www.cato-university.org.

■ August 5, 2000

Tennessee LP Convention, I-24 Expo Center, Smyrna. Speakers include Harry Browne (Libertarian presidential candidate), and "every Libertarian candidate for office in the state of Tennessee." For information, call: (888) 960-1776. Or contact Richard E. Pearl, Sr. at rpearl1@hotmail.com. Or visit: www.lptn.org.

■ August 18-19, 2000

Third Annual INS Protest/Fruit Picking Event, Palisade, Colorado. Sponsored by the Libertarian Party of Colorado. For information, call: (303) 947-9479.

■ August 18-20, 2000

Louisiana LP Convention, Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie. Speakers include Michael Cloud (creator, "The Art of Political Persuasion"). For information, call: (877) 457-7352. E-mail: chair@la.lp.org.

■ September 9, 2000

Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) Regional Seminar, Denver Marriott West, Colorado. Speakers include Don Boudreaux ("The Logic of the Marketplace") and Sheldon Richmond ("The Perils of School Choice"). Cost: \$25 or \$10 for students. For information, call: (914) 591-7230. Or visit: www.FEE.org.

■ September 23, 2000

New Hampshire LP Convention, Center of New Hampshire Holiday Inn, Manchester. Speakers include Marshall Fritz (Director of the Separation of School & State Alliance), and Paula Werme (LPNH activist and attorney). For information, call: (800) 559-5764. E-mail: liberty@bit-net.com.

■ September 29-October 1, 2000

2000 Gun Rights Policy Conference, Crystal City Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. Sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Speakers include Alan Gottlieb (SAF) and Massad Ayoob (The Lethal Force Institute). For information, call: (425) 454-4911. E-mail: GRPC2000@saf.org. Websites: www.saf.org or www.ccrkba.org.

■ December 9-10, 2000

Libertarian National Committee Meeting, Washington, DC. Exact location TBA. Open to all party members. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

■ February 16-19, 2001

California LP Convention, Doubletree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Cullene Lang: (916) 362-0855. E-mail: cullene@aol.com.

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InSide

■ **PAGE 1** Convention results: Harry Browne and Art Olivier will top presidential ticket

■ **PAGE 1** In the Bay State, it'll be Carla versus Ted Kennedy

■ **PAGE 3** Medical marijuana activist Peter McWilliams dies



1st Word

"Libertarians truly want to get government off the people's backs. Others, notably Republicans, may claim it, but Libertarians genuinely believe and are dedicated to achieving their belief that the best government is less government."

— Jane Ely, *The Houston Chronicle*, June 9, 2000

"If we can imagine the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the framers of the Constitution were somehow alive today, they would probably be Libertarians."

— Walter Williams, *Southern Partisan*, Fourth Quarter 1999

"[Libertarians are] intelligent, well-informed, articulate, [and] knowledgeable about history and the workings of government. [Their] theme is always the same: Cut down on big government, cut loose most of the laws restraining individual behavior; basically, don't tread on us."

— David Nyhan, *The Boston Globe* (Massachusetts), April 9, 2000