

FLP NEWS

Number 9

July 1984

SPECIAL

New York Ballot Access Drive Begins August 7th !

AN ALL-VOLUNTEER DRIVE PLANNED by Tom Lowy

The Chapters are mobilized, the petitions are printed and the membership ready to go. On August 7th, the Free Libertarian Party will begin its 1984 "All Volunteer" New York State Ballot Access Drive. Our goal is 40,000 signatures statewide to put the David Bergland-Jim Lewis Presidential ticket on the state ballot. Libertarians from counties and towns in every region of New York have pledged over 42,000 signatures.

In addition to the Bergland-Lewis petition drive, thirteen FLP candidates have declared themselves for local, state and Congressional races, and will be conducting petition drives too.

John Francis, FLP State Chair, has urged every New York Libertarian to help make the 1984 Ballot Access Drive a resounding success. "If every member gives a few days of his or her time, the petition drive can be quickly completed and the important campaign work begun. We want Dave Bergland qualified for the New York ballot before the end of August.

Bergland caps and buttons have been ordered by the State Committee for all petition drive volunteers. Campaign literature and petition boards are also available. Call your Chapter or County Chair today to schedule your time and pick up these items.

Remember, this year has seen a record-breaking federal budget deficit, the threat of war, new taxes and tax increases, mandatory seat belt laws, the ominous Simpson-Mazzoli bill, threats to civil liberties on every government level--we cannot afford to sit back and let someone else do the work. This year, act as though your liberty depended on what you do--because it does. ■

VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE: 1984 STYLE by David Bergland

(This essay on income tax and the IRS was written earlier this year by David Bergland, the Libertarian Party candidate for President. It is being published now in the FLP News even though the April 15th tax deadline has passed because the issues Bergland raises still remain.)



The filing deadline for federal income taxes is once again approaching. As in the past, this annual event is marked by a flurry of IRS public-relations activity praising the U.S. tax system as the greatest system of "voluntary compliance" in the world.

Despite the rhetoric of "voluntary" action, a formidable array of criminal penalties, mandatory informing, and a growing army of IRS collection agents directly enforce this "voluntary" payment of taxes. This system extracts an ever increasing percentage of our earnings to fund a government run amok with unrestrained spending.

...continued next page

Not until May 3, 1984, will the average U.S. worker finish earning enough money to pay his or her taxes. Every cent earned for four months starting Jan. 1, 1984, goes to government. The day on which workers start working for themselves is called "Tax Freedom Day" by the Tax Foundation. This date has been computed ever since 1930. In that year the date fell on February 14. By 1960 the date was April 18, and by 1976, May 1. According to the Foundation, the average worker spends two hours and 40 minutes of each eight-hour work day earning money to pay federal, state and local taxes.

The total share of GNP to be taken by Federal taxes in fiscal year 1984 is 18.7%. The scheduled rise in social security taxes will increase this share to 19.4% in 1989, assuming no legislative changes. Current pressures in Congress to increase taxes and to eliminate the protection that indexing provides against inflation-caused "bracket-creep" will no doubt further increase the government's share.

Yet it is hard for Congress to increase taxes since many of the usual sources for additional revenue are running dry. In recent years two politically popular methods of increasing taxes have been "soaking the rich" and "catching the cheaters." However, despite the myth that the rich do not pay taxes, Treasury Department data for the last several years show that the top 10% income-earners pay over 50% of the taxes, while the top 50% income-earners pay 90% of the taxes. Recent studies have shown that even if the top earners are taxed at 100%, the resulting increase in revenues would be modest.

The underground economy is now estimated to cost the Treasury about \$80 billion in uncollected taxes. However, the Treasury's own figures suggest that it would cost more in IRS funding than would be collected in taxes to close down these underground entrepreneurs.

Despite these realities, the President's 1984 budget calls for \$34 billion more taxes from so-called "loophole closing" over the next three years. In addition, efforts to toughen up compliance are an annual feature of the Congressional agenda. The years 1976 through 1982 saw the passage of four major tax acts aimed at getting more money from existing taxes. The latest, the "Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982," is neither equitable nor fiscally responsible. Instead, it introduced a substantial number of enforcement provisions, most of them based on mandatory withholding and penalties for failure to inform on others.

A sure sign of despotism is an effort by a government to encourage its citizens to spy on and inform on their neighbors. Under the name of "voluntary compliance," this latest Act, authored by Senator Robert Dole (R.-Kansas), has raised mandatory informing on others to a new high.

In order to enforce these many new provisions, the IRS continues to request substantial increases in its funding. The IRS workforce now numbers in excess of 89,000. Under President Reagan's budget plan, the IRS budget for fiscal year 1985 would rise by \$206 million--an increase of 6% over 1984 levels. Total IRS budget authority would climb to more than \$3.5 billion.

Most of this spending increase is to be devoted to new efforts to close the "compliance gap." About 1,900 positions and \$64 million would be devoted to beefing up compliance, while \$42 million and 435 new positions will be used to enforce new-fangled withholding rules. The crack-down on taxpayers will also be made more severe by the Justice Department's plan to add 150 new positions and to spend \$8.3 million on a "major tax prosecution/litigation initiative."

The front line of defense against government tyranny in other areas has traditionally been the court system. Yet access to justice is severely limited when tax compliance is at issue. The United States Tax Court is the only court which enables a taxpayer to dispute the IRS before having to pay the assessed tax deficiency. But the Tax Court is overburdened and stacked against the taxpayer. The Tax Court backlog now exceeds 70,000 cases, representing more than a three-year backlog. The backlog has been rising steadily in recent years. At the same time, interest charges on disputed taxes have been increased several times. The interest rate on tax deficiencies is now based on the prime rate and compounds daily. So the major beneficiary of the delay in the courts is the IRS.

The chances for taxpayer victories in Tax Court are not high. Under the Tax Court system a taxpayer has the "burden of proof"--you are guilty until you persuade the court that you are innocent. And this is no easy task, considering who the judges are. Of the 35 Tax Court judges, over 75% have previously worked for the IRS and related agencies charged with the collection of taxes. Further, 50% of these judges had spent the better part of their careers before becoming judges working for the government. Small wonder that taxpayers win 6% of their cases in Tax Court.

...continued next page

By contrast, in the U.S. District Courts taxpayers win 37% of their cases. Unfortunately, the price of justice in the U.S. District Courts is that the taxpayer must first pay the alleged tax deficiency and then sue for a refund.

Other major features of the Tax Court system are the principle that allowance of deductions is a matter of legislative grace, and the principle that the rules on deductions should be construed strictly against the taxpayer. These principles are similar to the "tax expenditure" concept which is found everywhere in the thinking of the IRS and Treasury Department. Basically, the politicians and bureaucrats claim that all of your income rightfully belongs to

the government, and it is only through the grace of Congress that you are permitted to retain what the government permits you to retain.

George Orwell's 1984 describes a government-imposed language, called "Newspeak." The purpose of this altered language is to disguise what is really going on and to ensure the conformity of the subject population to the will of the rulers. America has not yet been swallowed up in the totalitarian nightmare portrayed by Orwell. But the U.S. Government's rhetoric about the "voluntary" nature of the taxes we are forced to pay is nothing but Newspeak. And the IRS and its tax system are certainly outposts of Orwell's nightmare that are already in our midst. ■

Spreading the Word by John Francis

World Research Inc., producer of such films as THE INCREDIBLE BREAD MACHINE, THE POVERTY TRAP, THE INFLATION FILE, etc., will provide to any public access TV station copies of its films to be shown on local television.

This is a great way to spread libertarian ideas and at no cost to you or the FLP. All you need do is provide WRI a contact person and a phone number. World Research will take care of the rest.

This arrangement is only for chapters within New York State. The name of the person to call at World Research is Janet Cahill at 800-972-3635. ■

Giant Bergland Signs by John Francis

Dottie-Lou Brokaw can arrange for you to purchase giant signs for Bergland. These are suitable for car or for lawn.

The sign is \$7.00 and the frame is \$20.00. It is a great way to have thousands of people see the Bergland name and the name of the party at very low cost.

If you are interested, contact Dottie-Lou at 607-753-9176 ■

YES!

I want to help the Bergland-Lewis Campaign.
Enclosed is my contribution of:

☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other _____

☐ I would like to pledge \$ _____ per month from _____ to _____

☐ Please charge my contribution/pledge to: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Name (print) _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Signature _____

Phone _____

Occupation* _____

Employer* _____



Make checks payable to: **BERGLAND FOR PRESIDENT**
7887 Katy Fareway, Suite 384
Houston, TX 77024

*Optional (Federal law requires us to ask)



Wanda A. Hudak

Campaign '84 Candidate Profile

Wanda Hudak, a life-long resident of Broome County, is the FLP candidate for Broome County Executive. She declared her candidacy in early April, stating: "I think people are going to be very surprised at the support we're going to generate."

Campaigning with the slogan, "...the definite difference!", Wanda has already demonstrated the support she can muster. As a long-time activist in Jaycee Women, she has already received backing from several former state and local officers of the organization. In a recent appeal to fellow members, they described Wanda's "outstanding leadership abilities" and urged support for her campaign.

The Jaycee Women motto, "Leadership Development thru Community Service," first attracted Wanda Hudak in 1972. "I've always worked for social justice issues," she says. Wanda has been involved in programs for battered women, handicapped children and American Indians. In 1975, she became the first woman to formally address the Six Nations Iroquois Confederation. That same year, she was elected Vice President of the New York State Jaycee Women.

Wanda's involvement in community service goes back 20 years to her decision to become a Registered Nurse. She studied at Binghamton General Hospital and received her state license in 1963. Wanda recently established a pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS) counseling service in Endicott, a village in Broome County. She deplores the current way PMS is treated by the medical establishment. "Narcotics, valium and anti-depressants are the wrong way," she claims, recommending instead the use of progesterone. Her counseling service "offers women choices" and does not accept government money.

Wanda lives in the Broome County village of Endwell with her husband, Keith, and their two children, Linda and Philip.

Wanda Hudak first became involved in Libertarian politics during the 1982 Northrup campaign. A former Democrat, she joined the FLP last year and is currently Vice Chair of her chapter.

Is Wanda Hudak the FLP candidate with "the definite difference?" Linda Jowett, Broome County FLP Chair, says "Wanda is one of the best candidates that we have ever come across." And she was recently described by Libertarian Party VP candidate, Jim Lewis, as "a dynamite candidate."

The Hudak campaign has focused on several important local issues. Wanda has pledged to eliminate the 3% Broome County sales tax over a three-year period. She is very critical of the county housing code "which hurts the elderly more than anyone else and costs \$1 million to enforce." She has also denounced a county plan to build a garbage-burning plant in Broome County at a cost of \$80 million, proposing instead a plan that would involve a privately-owned firm in nearby Pennsylvania, at a great savings to local taxpayers.

The Broome County FLP has planned a vigorous campaign for Wanda Hudak. Nine prime-time local media speeches are planned. An intensive door-to-door petition drive is being organized. The Hudak campaign intends to identify at least 1000 committed voters, 200 of which are to be recruited as poll-watchers. A "Friends to Elect Wanda Hudak" committee is already working to build broad support for her race. "I am going for 'The Win' with everything in my power." ■

(The Hudak election committee welcomes contributions. Make your check payable to "Friends to Elect Wanda Hudak," P.O. Box 1114, Binghamton, NY 13902.)

Regional Report by Tom Lowy

BINGHAMPTON

The 3rd annual "Friends of Liberty" picnic and pool party was held Sunday, June 24th, at the home of Bill Lockwood. While a rainy day discouraged the "pool" part of the event, it did nothing to hold back the enthusiasm of the Broome County libertarians. A number of FLPers from other parts of the state were present, including Dottie-Lou Brokaw (Cortland), Jim Ratigan (Oswego County) and Mike North (Ulster County)....Jim Lewis, Libertarian Party candidate for Vice President, was the featured speaker at the party. He reported that since beginning his campaign he has visited 31 states and made over 200 media appearances. Commenting on the recent LP election victory in Placer County, Calif., he said that Toni Nathan, the LP's first candidate for Vice President (1972), has a good chance of winning a county commission race in Oregon. He also reported another LP election win, this time in New Hampshire, where the Libertarian candidate won a town council seat at a total campaign cost of \$700. Lewis also talked about the future of the Libertarian Party and the importance of selling our ideas to the American people. "What we have failed to do is run our campaigns with a sales and marketing approach. We must build a sales organization to knock on doors and follow-up leads. Every libertarian should get a book on basic selling"....Jim McKeown, Broome County activist and National Coordinator of the LP's Campaign '84, gave a brief report at the picnic on Libertarian Party campaigns nationwide. There are to date (June 24) almost 320 announced Libertarian candidates, 180 of whom are running for local or state offices. The balance are seeking election in Congressional or U.S. Senate races....Wanda Hudak, FLP candidate for Broome County Supervisor, also addressed the assembled libertarians. She spoke about the local issues that her campaign is focusing on and the importance of having many people involved in the campaign. ■

NEW YORK CITY

An "Independence Day" party was held at the Brooklyn home of John Francis, FLP State Chair. Members from four of New York City's five boroughs enjoyed a backyard barbecue and laid the groundwork for the August petition drive. Petition pledge sheets were completed and individual goals chosen. The New York City chapter has set a goal of 10,000 signatures by the end of August. A "Grand Prize" will be given to the person bringing in the

greatest number of signatures--tickets for two to the FLP Election-Eve Victory Party in Manhattan....Bob Falk, Vice Chair of the New York City chapter, has declared his candidacy for the 11th Assembly District in Manhattan's Lower East Side....Tom Lowy, Secretary of the City chapter, has also declared his candidacy for the 15th Congressional District, which covers most of New York City's east side....New York City Chair, Fred Cookinham, reports that the chapter is now "tabling" in different locations around Manhattan. The chapter is concentrating in areas where petitioning will be done in August. An FLP table was set up in Washington Square Park in Greenwich Village on "Gay Pride Day," an annual June event in New York City. Fred urges other chapters around the state to add "tabling" to their activities. "It's enjoyable and the names you get represent potential growth for the party"....On Saturday, June 30, Fred Cookinham was a guest on "What's on Your Mind," a talk-show on Fordham University radio station, WFUV-FM. The topic was "Victimless Crime Laws." Fred discussed the Libertarian approach to these laws and answered call-in questions from listeners. ■

ULSTER COUNTY

Mike North of the Ulster County town of Saugerties will soon declare his candidacy for the 26th Congressional race. He has called a campaign organizing meeting for July 11 to determine if a viable campaign can be mounted. The Broome County FLP Executive Committee will be at this meeting and plans to endorse Mike's candidacy if all goes according to plan. The 26th C.D. stretches from Ulster County on the Hudson River, through the Southern Tier counties of Broome and Tioga, up to and including Ithaca in the Fingerlakes Region. Parts of Delaware and Sullivan counties are also included. The size of the district presents logistical problems, but there are many opportunities as well. Mike is planning a busy schedule of leafleting, tabling, media interviews and speaking engagements. He sees his campaign as an excellent opportunity for building local FLP organizations in counties that have little, if any, libertarian presence right now. If you want to help his campaign, call Mike North at (914) 679-2733. ■

Letter of the Month

Many FLP members around the state are writing letters to the editors of their local newspapers. The FLP News will feature a "letter of the month" each issue. Please send us your published letters. The featured letter for this issue is by Randolph Warsager, a member of the New York City Chapter. It appeared in the June 18 issue of the New York Times in response to an editorial endorsing the recent Supreme Court decision upholding the use of eminent domain by the state of Hawaii to force large landowners to sell their property.

Legality vs. Morality

To the Editor:

Contrary to the suggestion of your editorial, there is nothing at all startling about the Supreme Court's decision to support the expropriation of private property at the expense of individual rights.

Unhappily, the history of the Court is filled with decisions that allow the Federal Government to violate the rights of individual citizens, rights which it is the purpose of the Court to protect and nurture. It is therefore not convincing to justify the present decision by appealing to previous decisions by that body which allowed private property to be transferred from one owner to another. Common sense can be a powerful analytical tool, and it recoils at the use of judicial power to force such transfers.

You are flatly wrong if you assume that, because no official voice has been raised against it, the principle of eminent domain is unquestioned. Sadly, morality and legality are entirely separate enterprises and almost never occur together. It does not follow from the enshrinement in our law of the principle of government seizure of private property against the will of the owner that it is moral to commit such acts.

When an individual or group of individuals do not wish to sell their property but are literally forced to (as the image of the "Federal bulldozers" suggests), then there is no possible "just" compensation. The seizure of their property is unjust and cannot be made otherwise by unwanted and, by definition, inadequate payment.

RANDOLF WARSAGER
New York, June 2, 1984

(Reprinted from the New York Times,
June 18, 1984)

Election Victory in California!

Erik Henrikson, a California libertarian, won a stunning election victory on June 5th, defeating the incumbent in a two-way race that pitted Libertarian Party politics against "politics as usual." Backed by more than 15,000 voters, Henrikson won election to the Placer County Board of Supervisors. He defeated his opponent by a margin of 129 votes. Two other LP candidates garnered more than 18,000 votes, but were not elected. This means that over 33,000 Placer County voters backed the Libertarian Party. The Wall Street Journal reported Henrikson's success in a June 8th editorial, underscoring the importance of this election victory. The Placer County libertarians have a campaign debt of \$6000 and welcome contributions. Send your check payable to: Placer Taxpayers' Coalition, P.O. Box 165, Loomis, CA 95650. ■

Free Libertarian Party Candidates

The following is a list of Free Libertarian Party candidates for local, state and federal races in New York State:

Dave Kahn (New York City) - 17th Congressional District
Bob Falk (New York City) - 62nd Assembly District
Tom Lowy (New York City) - 15th Congressional District
Howard Lebowitz (White Plains) - 87th Assembly District
Art Svensson (Pine Bush) - 39th Senate District
Daryll Mentro (Montgomery) - 95th Assembly District
Wanda Hudak (Endwell) - Broome County Executive
Steve Becker (Penfield) - 59th Assembly District
Dave Hosely (Webster) - 130th Senate District
Mike North (Saugerties) - 26th Congressional District

George Carmody (New York City) - 26th Senate District
Jim Ratigan (Minetto) - 117th Assembly District
Steve Jones (Poughkeepsie) - 96th Assembly District

Central New York Picnic Planned

The Central New York Chapter of the Free Libertarian Party is holding "Petition Drive Kick-off" picnic on August 4th, 1 p.m., in Cortland. This will be a "dish-to-pass" picnic, so bring something for the table. For more information, call Dotti-Lou Brokaw (607) 753-9176. ■

Otsego County Libertarians

Eric DelGiacco, the recently appointed Otsego County Chair, would like to hear from other libertarians in the area. Give Eric a call at (607) 286-9401. ■

Petitioning

Many people say: "I don't have time." If you are one of those people, stop and think. How many people do you come in contact with every week? Plan to carry a petition around with you and get the signatures of the people you see anyway. This is going to be a tough ballot drive. Every signature will count. If you can get 20--or even 10--it will help.

Ed Clark says, "I heartily endorse *A Liberty Primer*. I think it is an excellent tool to deepen the understanding of those who want to learn more about liberty." To order your copy, send \$7.95 to: Genesee Valley Society for Individual Liberty, Box 10224, Drawer CFLP, Rochester, NY 14610

Bergland For President NY Libertarian Party Petitioning Tips 1984

Petitioning is a numbers game, so choose a place that will provide a good flow of people: Events like county fairs, concerts, art & craft shows, etc., or just a busy street corner. Check the "What's Doing" listing in the local newspaper for public events in your area.

Your image and attitude are important. Dress neatly. Be friendly — SMILE!

If at all possible, attend one of the petition rallies held in your area. If you are unable to attend, be sure to get your petition forms, blue BIC pen and other supplies before the drive begins. If you have any questions get them answered as soon as possible, you don't want your signatures tossed out on a technicality.

Petition with someone else whenever possible. Set time periods and number-of-signature-goals for yourself in advance.

No one likes to be the first to sign. Have at least one signature on a petition page before you ask someone you don't know to sign. Ask your friends or family to start a few pages.

Experiment a bit to find an approach that is comfortable and productive for you. A good example is:

PETITIONER: (Smile) Excuse me sir/m'am, are you a New York State voter?

VOTER: Yes.

P: Would you sign our petition to put an independent candidate for President on the ballot this November? (Look voter in the eye & smile, while extending the petition form and move the pen toward their hand for ease of signing)

V: (Takes pen to sign)

P: Just enter today's date, here, and sign your full name and address (point to the next available line).

V: (Completes the line, except for ward/assembly and election district numbers - which we'll do later)

P: (Take pen back & check completeness of name and legibility of address) Thanks, hope you'll consider voting for David Bergland this November (handing brochure - previously not visible) here's some information about him.

Many people may hesitate to sign and ask questions like:

V: Who is the candidate?

P: (Extend the petition form for them to see and point to the "David Bergland" nomination line) David Bergland, have you heard of him?

V: I've never heard of him.

P: If we can get him on the ballot, it will give you an additional choice this November (Extend petition & pen for ease of signing again)!

V: What's his platform?

P: He believes people should be free to do what they want to do; but at the same time they must be held personally responsible for their own actions.

Periodically turn in completed petition forms during the drive so the lengthy processing job can be started well before the filing deadline.

Don't try to decide which people look like good prospects -- you would be surprised how wrong you can be -- just ask people as they come along.

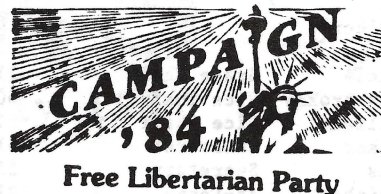
Many people say "No". You shouldn't care. Let them go (sometimes people will come back and ask to sign after they reconsider) and find the people that will say "YES"!

Contact: Bill McMillen, Petition Drive Coordinator
41 Weston Dr., Clifton, NY 12065 518-371-2366

Ballot Drive Signature Goals

Following is a list of ballot drive petition signature goals for FLP Chapters and county organizations around the state:

Binghamton	2,000
Buffalo	3,000
Capitol District	3,000
Central New York	3,000
Genesee County	500
Hudson Valley	4,000
Nassau County	4,000
New York City	10,000
Plattsburg	4,000
Suffolk County	500
Westchester County	3,000



Petition Pledge Sheet

I will petition for the Bergland campaign on these days:

	Dates	days		evenings
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday				

I prefer to petition in:

(City / Area / Neighborhood)

My petition goal is: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone(day/evening) _____

Turn this pledge over to your local drive coordinator.

FLP DIRECTORY

State Officers:

John Francis	State Chair	212/376-9269
Dottie-Lou Brokaw	Vice Chair	607/753-9176
Bill McMillen	Vice Chair	518/371-2366
Bill Stocker	Treasurer	516/883-1892
Dawn Davis	Secretary	518/399-1293
Fred Cookinham	At-Large	212/627-6973
Reed Halstead	At-Large	914/761-1174
Margaret Piasecki	At-Large	518/758-6377
Chuck Steber	At-Large	518/399-9539
George Wager	At-Large	518/462-7543

Chapter Leaders

Alex Knight	Buffalo	716/648-4161
Bill Stocker	Nassau	516/883-1892
Linda Jowett	Binghamton	607/723-3689
Bob Straub	Suffolk	516/422-0147
Mark Schonfeld	Westchester	914/946-0536
Don Davis	Albany	518/399-1293
Dave Hoesly	Rochester	716/671-8821
Dottie-Lou Brokaw	Central NY	607/753-9176
Dale Tierney	Plattsburg	518/563-0440
Fred Cookinham	New York City	212/627-6973
Arthur Svensson	Orange	914/744-3698
David Miller	Genesee	716/768-8330
Tom Hazard	Cortland	607/756-6585
Steve Jones	Dutchess	914/471-2344
Jim Ratigen	Oswego	315/342-4456
Eric DelGiacco	Otsego	607/286-9401
Gary Carlson	Yates	315/536-3052



Free Libertarian Party

Staff for this issue:

John Francis
Tom Lowy
Stanley Wolf

Copy Deadline:

First of the month
for the next month's
issue. Send copy to:
FLP NEWSLETTER
225 Lafayette Street
Room 911
New York, NY 10012
(212)226-6483



Free Libertarian Party, Inc.
225 Lafayette Street

Suite 911
New York, NY 10012

ADDRESS
CORRECTION
REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL