

The Buckeye Libertarian

◆ Freedom ◆ Liberty ◆ Responsibility ◆

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May 1991

Support Your Local Perestroika Movement!

If you read the local news immediately after reading the international reports, you risk getting a severe case of cognitive dissonance. The international wire services are running stories on the dismantling of the Berlin wall, the opening of a stock exchange in the former Communist Party headquarters in Poland, and the admission of socialism's failure by intellectuals everywhere. But in the local news, here deep in the heart of the "land of the free":

•Our taxes are continually going up, to pay for foreign aid, bank bailouts,

and other programs which are detested by a majority of our supposedly sovereign electorate.

•Our schools are run by a government monopoly, which steadily demands more money as it produces more illiterates.

•Our bloodstreams are monitored by government Drug Police.

•Our "two-party" system is really a one-party system; neither party gives citizens a pro-freedom choice.

•The last vestiges of our Constitutional rights are being stripped away, as we read about former Iron Curtain countries turning toward the free market.

Where is our perestroika movement? Where are the Americans who are working to bring about privatization of government monopolies? Where are the Americans who demand an end to government intrusions on the rights of the individual?

We're right here. We're the Ohio Libertarian Party, and we're fighting oppression and tyranny at the local and state levels, while supporting the National Libertarian Party's efforts on the national level. Tyranny does not always take the form of nationwide federal decrees: our rights are also being usurped by local gun laws which contravene the second amendment; by state regulation of our bloodstreams; by local and state taxes, spiraling ever higher; by local government monopolies such as city trash collection authorities; and by the whole menagerie of State, County, City, Township, School District, Zoning Commission, Licensing Board, and other bureaucracies. Each of these levels of government takes away decisions and rights from individuals and private owners and transfers them to the nomenclatures of persons with

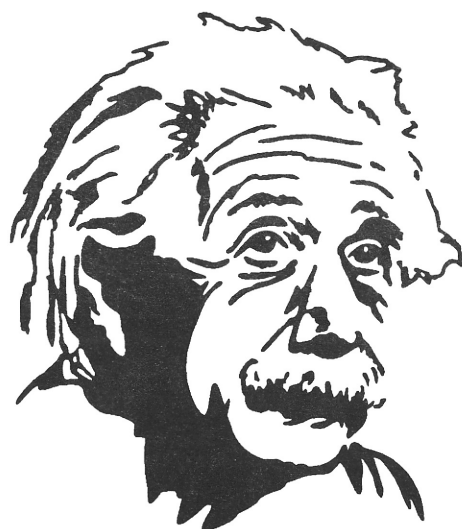
influence at City Hall.

We'd like your help in bringing free market solutions back to American politics. Whether you prefer to help with campaigns, write articles, speak to student groups, or even run for office, we need your contribution. Please consult the Ohio Libertarian Directory in this issue, and get in touch with other freedom-loving people near you.

What's in it for you? At the very least, you'll meet other people who believe in limited government and individual rights; who share your aversion toward the attempts by others to control your life. You'll also get access to sources of information on matters ranging from home schooling to life extension, from the rights of juries to free market solutions for ecological problems. And you'll have the satisfaction of seeing at least a few elected local officials speak out against taxes and bond levies, against regulations and licensing for every aspect of our lives.

So join the Ohio Libertarian Party! After all, as Ben Franklin said, "If we don't hang together, then assuredly we will all hang separately."

—Matthew Gaylor



Everything that is really great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labor in freedom.

—Albert Einstein

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Bear Arms!**



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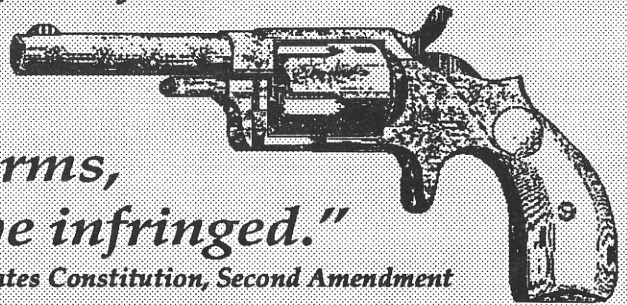
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*"... the right of the
people
to keep
and bear arms,
shall not be infringed."*

—The United States Constitution, Second Amendment



Congress Assaults the Second Amendment

Many Americans will admit that the freedoms enumerated in the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights are slowly being whittled away, piece by piece. Of late, the controversial (some have even called it "embarrassing") Second Amendment has fallen prey to this retreat from individual liberty; the people's right to keep and bear arms has not endured. Take, for example, the May 8th passage of HR7 in the U.S. House of Representatives. HR7, commonly known as the Brady Bill, easily passed the House. It mandates a seven-day waiting period for all hand gun purchases, allowing time for an optional background check, i.e. approving the purchaser. In other words, the government decides whether or not you are permitted to own a hand gun. The original intent of the Second Amendment was to prohibit this kind of government control! Incidentally Ohioans sponsoring this bill include Edward F. Feighan and Mary Rose Oakar representing, respectively, Ohio's 19th and 20th Districts.

The House had ample opportunity to defeat this bill, including alternate legislation. HR 1412, the Staggers Bill (Harley Staggers, D-WV), would have instituted an immediate checking process via an 800 telephone number, thus eliminating the seven-day wait that gun rights advocates found so distasteful in the Brady Bill. Some gun rights organizations actually endorsed HR1412. They were so afraid of the Brady Bill's passage, that HR 1412 was seen as a necessary compromise. In this computer age, however what guarantee do we have that the names of

potential gun owners will not be "filed away" during this checking process? A national registry of gun owners is the likely outcome, meaning that Big Brother is now watching you (and every American) buy a gun. It is probable that legislation similar to this will be introduced in the Senate, juxtaposed with the Brady Bill, as it was in the House. Don't be fooled into believing that the instantaneous checking process is harmless! In reality, it is must a more insidious approach to the abridgement of our Second Amendment rights.

Supporters of HR1412 tried to amend the Brady Bill to include the instantaneous checking process; representatives wouldn't approve it. House members then tried to use the "recommit for instruction" avenue to send the Brady Bill back to the committee, quoting President Bush's vow to veto any gun control measure not attached to a crime prevention package; this didn't pass either. Clearly, the House was determined to carve away a big piece of the Second Amendment, regardless of logic and reasoning.

It's time to stop this congressional assault on our Bill of Rights! The Brady Bill still requires Senate approval before going to the president to be either vetoed or signed into law. Contact your senators; take a stand for the Bill of Rights and against the Brady Bill. Write or call:

Senator John H. Glenn
200 N. High St. #600
Columbus, OH 43215
(614)469-6697 or (202)224-3353
and
Senator Howard Metzenbaum
1240 E. 9th St. #2915
Cleveland, OH 44199
(216)522-7272 or (202)224-2315

PRO

People's Rights Organization
P.O. Box 2652
Columbus, Ohio 43216
(614) 445-8102

We Defend Your Second
Amendment Rights

Ohio Libertarian Directory

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Alliance, Ohio 44601
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200 Talsman, #1C
Canfield, Ohio 44406
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Freedom's Final Frontier

In 1405, the Ming Emperor Yongle sent out a great exploration fleet of 162 vessels under the eunuch admiral Zheng He, which reached Calicut in India. The fleet returned safely, and the program continued. By 1433, the Chinese government's sea exploration program had reached Kilwa in Africa, Jidda in the Red Sea, and Hormuz in the Persian Gulf. A sample return mission (launched 1416, recovered 1419) even brought back a giraffe for the Emperor. The ships used in this program were huge, ranging up to 1600 tons and almost 450 feet in length; some reportedly had more than ten masts. They definitely gave the Chinese the technological ability to conquer the vast spaces between the continents, and potentially to discover and colonize the Americas before the Europeans. However, the whole effort was run as a governmental prestige program. No colonies were planted; no attempt was made to profit from trade. The program proved to be just as much an eunuch as its admiral. Then suddenly, the program was cancelled, the ships were scrapped, and even many of the expedition's records were destroyed. When the Europeans finally arrived in China almost a century later, they found a stagnant totalitarian state. Private ownership of oceangoing vessels with more than two masts was prohibited. Does this sound familiar?

The United States government has spent hundreds of billions of dollars on something called a space program. But just like the Chinese Sea Program, it has been run as a prestige project and as a way of transferring pork barrel money to influential states (that's why the mission control center for Cape Canaveral, Florida, is in Houston, Texas). The government has kept private property rights and capitalism out of space as much as possible, and thus prevented the development of self-supporting space transportation systems, industries, and colonies. When the government lost interest in its Moondoggle, it scrapped two Saturn V rockets and three Saturn I-class vehicles, together with an operational nuclear upper stage engine (NERVA). Each Saturn V could lift 125 tons into orbit; the Shuttle carries only 29 tons, when it doesn't explode. Today we are farther from space

Only when private individuals can own and trade extraterrestrial resources will the dream become reality.

colonization than in 1969. The U.S. government doesn't even own a manned spacestation to repair its own satellites; when a fuse blows and incapacitates a spy satellite, they just hit the taxpayers up for another billion or two and launch another one.

The New World of the Americas was developed by private traders and colonists. Without them, the New World would not have been profitable, and the European explorations would have been just as fruitless as those of the Ming. Mankind has the technology to colonize space—to bring new life and new civilizations to dead worlds. But this huge, complex task cannot be done by a government bureaucracy like NASA. Only when private individuals can own and trade extraterrestrial resources will the dream become reality. Free markets must be established in satellite broadcasting frequencies, orbital transportation systems, and even in space 'real estate': the close-approach asteroids and the Moon must be put up for sale. Ad Astra!

—WHW

Support FIJA

FIJA means Fully Informed jury Amendment, Act, or Association.

FIJA would require by state law that judges resume telling jurors about their right to vote their consciences when deciding on a verdict. Jurors would have to be told they have the right to acquit someone because they believe that the law itself is wrong, or is being wrongly applied, even when the facts of the case would support a conviction.

For more information write to:

FIJA National
PO Box 59
Helmville, MT 59843-9989

Warning: The Surgeon General May be Harmful to Your Health

The quality and length of our lives are controlled only by the amount of freedom we possess.

Many people and organizations in our society consider the "natural" rate of aging and death to be necessary. Fine. They have the right to die, and Libertarians support their right to end their own lives. Unfortunately, far too many of these groups are concerned with ensuring that other people suffer poor health, senility and early death. This is not acceptable.

Death by aging evolved as a tactic in the age-old war of one DNA molecule against another. Species can attain a higher rate of genetic recombination, and thus a higher rate of evolution, when adult organisms are removed from desirable environmental niches by aging. The optimum lifespan varies from species to species; some insect adults live only one day, while creosote bushes 10,000 years old have been reported. The redwood and the bristlecone pine can live over a thousand years; the sea anemone can live at least 180 yrs. Man lives longer than most mammals, and about twice as long as apes of similar size; apparently a long lifespan was helpful to the survival of primitive tribes, perhaps because it made the experiences of grandparents available to their offspring.

Some organisms can vary lifespan to adapt to different conditions. Many poikilothermic ("cold-blooded") species live longer in colder weather. Rats live longer (up to double their "normal" span) if their food is restricted. This allows the rats to survive famines, and then to resume a rapid rate of genetic turnover during better times.

Many artificial methods have been developed to modify the life spans of laboratory animals. This article looks at a few of these methods and outlines some of the political barriers to their further development and application to humans. The point is not that any of these presently known techniques is a panacea for human ills; the point is that our lifespans, health, and even intelligence are not immutably fixed by Nature. The quality and length of our lives are controlled only by the amount of freedom we possess.

Antioxidants. Vitamin C, Ethoxyquin, BHT, beta-carotene, and vitamin E are just a few. These chemicals reduce the normal "wear and tear" on cells from metabolic chemical reactions, cigarette

smoke, chemical pollution, nuclear fallout, etc. In animal experiments, many antioxidants have been shown to increase the average life spans of various rodent species, at least partially by reducing heart disease. They also protect against ionizing radiation damage. There have been many studies showing benefits to humans in particular tissues, e.g., lower incidence of cataracts in elderly persons who take vitamin C. The FDA periodically campaigns to turn vitamins into prescription drugs, which would remove our access to even these modest life extenders.

CoQ10. Dietary supplements of this coenzyme increase the capability of poorly oxygenated tissues, such as heart muscle served by clogged arteries, to use oxygen. It is used by millions of Japanese as a preventive heart medicine. Tests on laboratory animals show an increase in their life spans.

Lipofuscin removers. Chemicals called lipofuscins accumulate in old nerve and skin cells, slowing down the normal chemical reactions of the cell. Chemicals such as DMAE and centrophenoxine cause this 'aging pigment' to be removed. Centrophenoxine is used to improve mental function in nursing home patients in Europe. Long-term intake of centrophenoxine has succeeded as a life-extending regime for mice, adding 40% to their life spans.

Hormone replacement. This sort of therapy is already used in humans; post-menopausal women routinely replace female hormones to prevent osteoporosis. But hormones can do far more. Hormones can control the expression of genes (which genes are turned "on" or "off"); thus they control many aspects of aging.

Thymus gland hormones, required for proper immune system function, are absent in older animals due to the atrophy of the thymus gland. This reduces the ability of the immune system to properly respond to threats such as cancer. The replacement of these hormones has been demonstrated to

cause an increase in the lab rat's life span. Other hormones are also not supplied in the correct quantities as organisms age; recent experiments with growth hormones in humans have demonstrated considerable rejuvenating effects. Experiments with synthetic derivatives of the hormone dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) have demonstrated both an increase in maximum span and a pronounced anti-cancer effect resulting in an increase in average life span (in rats). Trials of DHEA on obese humans have caused muscle growth and reduction in fat percentage. DHEA levels fall to 5% of their youthful levels in 60 year olds, so this hormone may be very significant in aging.

An implanted device similar to the controlled-release insulin pumps already in use could be used to maintain hormone levels at youthful levels. While this may not be the complete solution to aging, it could certainly extend the productive, active years of life. Rodent experiments have only been conducted on one hormone at a time, with all others being allowed to degenerate normally. If five or six of the most important hormones were simultaneously controlled and kept in balance, a doubling of the healthy human lifespan is conceivable.

Some researchers, such as Donner Denckla, believe that harmful hormones are made in older mammals. His experiments suggest that old animals make a hormone in their pituitary glands which prevents the body from using thyroxine, and that this is how the "self-destruct clock" in your genes kills you.

Parabiosis. In this procedure, an old rat's bloodstream is tied into that of a genetically identical young rat. The technique has also been successfully used on cockroaches. In spite of the stress this arrangement must cause the animals involved, the results reported are impressive—a 60% extension of life span. Variations on this technique are likely to be used in humans soon. Frozen storage of your own blood can provide you with a "crisis transfusion" during an operation, a

bout with cancer, an IRS audit, or other stressful procedure. Still more effective, culture of stem cells removed from your young bone marrow could provide an inexhaustible supply of all types of blood cells. Culture of other types of cells could be useful, allowing the creation of banks of custom spare parts which would not be rejected by your immune system.

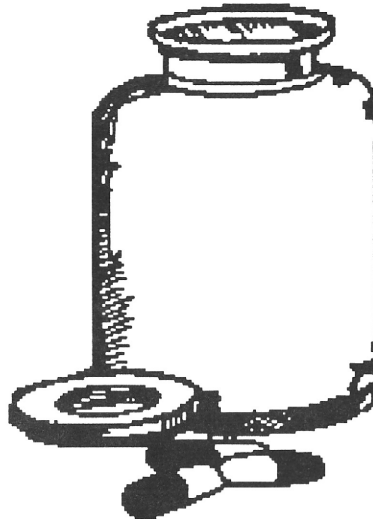
Axenia. "Axenia" is biological jargon for the unnatural condition of living without trillions of micro-organisms trying to kill you. Rodents raised in pathogen-free environments have longer average lifespans. This is rarely mentioned in discussions of human life extension, but this could be important as humanity moves out into space. After all, as far as we know Earth is the only place in the universe where microbes evolved to eat us! Many current medical procedures are dangerous only because they suppress the immune system; in an axenic environment, this suppression would not be as harmful. For example, cancer treatments often fail because they destroy the rapidly-dividing immune system cells along with the rapidly-dividing cancer cells. Many diseases of old age are "autoimmune" diseases, where the body's own defensive antibodies attack healthy tissue; these diseases could be dealt with more easily if our immune systems weren't necessary for everyday survival.

Genetic engineering. Ultimately, the solution to genes that are programmed to kill you, is to change those genes. This is possible through the use of viruses which can insert new genes into your existing cells (this is another technique which would benefit from axenic surroundings & immune suppression; otherwise your immune system will try to destroy the beneficial viruses!). Viruses are now used to genetically engineer plants, and experiments are being done on chicken embryos. So your own chromosomes can eventually be reprogrammed to maintain all your organs in a youthful condition. The only limitation on genetic engineering (other than politics) is that it will take a lot of work just to learn what all the DNA in the human chromosomes does, let alone develop replacement genes. Thus the cruder life extension techniques are still very important as stop-gap measures; a hormone-replacement system which *only* doubles the life span would enable someone born today to reach the year 2130 or so, by which time genetic technology should be ready to make more

extensive repairs and improvements.

Cryonics. If you have a presently incurable disease, what do you do? You go to the future and get some better technology! Cryonics provides the best potential method of doing this (the other is relativistic spaceflight, which tends to be energy-intensive). Some organisms, such as some insects, and certain species of Minnesotan frogs, survive freezing without any special preparation at all. Even human tissue cultures survive freezing if the rate of cooling and thawing is carefully controlled. Blood cells are routinely frozen and revived, as are human embryos. Unfortunately, special techniques will be required to freeze complete human bodies, because it is important that all the brain cells survive, for one thing. Ice crystals cannot be allowed to form uncontrollably within cells but they can be prevented by perfusing cells with chemicals which control crystal formation, as in those Minnesota frogs.

Cryonics is very politically unpopular and its opposition has caused many difficulties for cryonics companies. Under current law they must wait until a patient dies to freeze them, even if the case is hopeless. This causes extra damage to the freeze. Also due to political opposition, very little research has been done, in spite of encouraging experiments going back to the 1960s. A recent development may change this, however; a Cryonics organization in California (Alcor) has recently received five million dollars for cryonics research from a private donor.



Once the political obstacles are removed, cryonics provides a possible cure for any disease or trauma (short of a direct hit with a thermonuclear bomb). It would also make emergency medical services far more effective, as the victim could be frozen until transported to better medical facilities.

The Political Problem

Only a very small percentage of the biological discoveries of the last thirty years have become available to the American citizen; an even smaller percentage of those have become legally available. Even Americans with terminal diseases are not allowed to experiment with new technologies. Products are routinely kept off the market for years by the FDA and other agencies. Although new discoveries are made every day, the average adult life expectancy is little different than it was in 1960, or in 5,000 BC. This situation will not change until there is a free market in biotechnology.

At present, to get a new drug or vaccine approved by the FDA costs about \$231 million, and there is always the financial threat of disapproval. Therefore, no drug which will produce less than two hundred thirty-plus million dollars in profit can be developed. If the drug only treats a disease affecting a small group of people, too bad. The product must fit within certain bureaucratically-developed categories to be marketed. A tooth decay vaccine has existed for years, but it cannot be sold — because tooth decay is not an officially recognized disease. Drugs cannot be sold for improving intelligence and memory in normal humans, although some drugs approved for other uses are effective in this way. One has to admit a certain logic in these government policies, as smarter citizens with better memories would quickly eliminate many government agencies... Nor can safer replacements for the common drugs of abuse, e.g. cocaine, alcohol, nicotine, chocolate, be marketed. There is no category for 'recreational' drugs.

It is appropriate to say something about the concept of "safety" at this point. Nothing is perfectly safe. Different people respond differently to identical drugs. As our knowledge expands, hazards are found in previously "safe" substances, and safe uses are found for lethal poisons (e.g. the use of ricin and monoclonal antibodies in cancer treatment). A molecule does not become "safe" because the FDA says so; it

becomes safer as we accumulate knowledge about how to use it. If safety were the only issue, then private testing labs like Underwriter Laboratory (UL) could do a much better job than the FDA, without interfering with the individual's rights or private research at all. The issue is not safety; the issue is control. Specifically, is the individual going to control his/her own bloodstream, or is its composition to be decided by someone else?

The current drug war gets even more government agencies involved in policing the U.S. bloodstream. The BATF ensures that no alcohol manufacturer contaminates its lethal product with damage-reducing (and therefore hangover-reducing) B vitamins. The DEA keeps the price of traditional recreational drugs high, and the quality low, while preventing the sale of new and safer alternatives. For instance, there is a drug with similar effects to alcohol, without the liver damage, which has been developed. It even has a "sober-up" pill to go with it. How many lives are lost each year in traffic accidents because this sober-up pill is not available? Meanwhile, state governments operate liquor stores, and the Department of Agriculture subsidizes the production of tobacco.

There is also the factor that because illegal drugs are illegal (and possibly contaminated), the information on their effects is lost. If someone is going to destroy his/her brain with a chemical, the least we can do is research them as they are doing it. Think of all the lab rats that could have been saved!

The solution is not to change individual laws. The solution is to completely eliminate the FDA, the DEA, the BATF, and any other government agency which

seeks to restrict individual rights. Most individuals are perfectly capable of controlling their own bloodstreams. Private testing labs, such as Underwriters Laboratories, could offer safety testing at far lower cost, as discussed earlier. The terminally ill could try the best "risky" experimental treatment they could find. If adults want to try unapproved cancer cures, that's their business.

This happy situation is not likely to come about soon in the U.S., because too many politicians depend on the drug War issue to get elected. In fact, things will get even worse if the Congress passes any of the socialized medicine bills which have been introduced.

Until Libertarians are able to pass laws re-establishing a free market environment for doctors and drug companies, it will be up to individuals to secure their own sources of life-extending products and information. Other nations have indigenous equivalents of the FDA, but fortunately they do not all ban the same treatments. (This might lead some to believe that their rules were developed for political expediency, rather than scientific standard.) This allows the informed (and wealthy) individual to shop around. There are even companies, such as Pharmaceuticals International, which will ship non-FDA approved drugs into the United States. In addition, many life-extending products are legally available through prescription, though the FDA forbids advertising them for such uses. *The Buckeye Libertarian* will continue to alert its readers to any new sources of information in this truly "life-and-death" area.

—WHW

Thomas J. Zuber Attorney

- Personal Injury Claims
- Workers Compensation
- General Practice

895 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43206
(614)444-6861

Sources:

1. *Medline* (On CD-ROM at Ohio State University, among others). This service allows you to search for all papers written about a particular chemical or technique, or by a particular scientist. It is organized by year, allowing you to search for the most recent papers first. It is the quickest way to locate really up-to-date info.
2. *Life Extension* (1980) and *The Life Extension Companion* (1984) by Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw (especially the bibliography).
3. *Living Longer, Growing Younger* by Paul Segall, 1990.
4. *Beyond The Helix* by Carol Kahn, 1985.
5. *Prolongevity II* by Albert Rosenfeld 1985.
6. *Life Extension Revolution* by Saul Kent, 1980.
7. *Mind Food and Smart Pills* by Ross Pelton, 1989.
8. *The Immortalist* (newsletter), 24041 Stratford, Oak Park, MI 48237.
9. *Reason Magazine* (covers developments in the regulation of biological technology).
10. *Pharmaceuticals International*, 539 Telegraph Canyon Rd., Suite 227, Chula Vista, CA 92010-6492, (800) 365-3698.

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Marrou In '92

The Buckeye Libertarian endorses Andre Marrou as the Libertarian candidate for the 1992 Presidential election. We believe that Marrou has the necessary combination of a principled Libertarian stand and practical, winning political experience to make the 1992 presidential campaign a record-breaking year for Libertarians. For those few people who may not already have heard of Mr. Marrou, here is a brief biography:

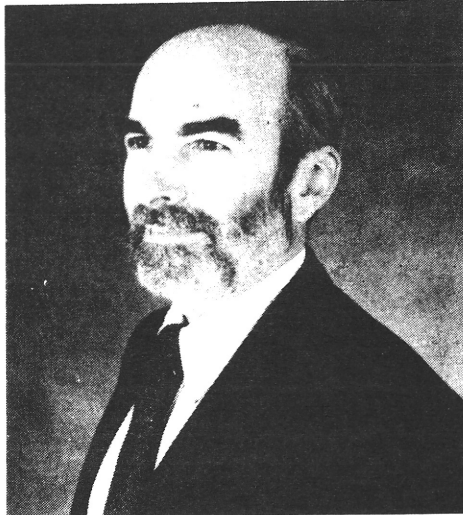
- Born 1938 in Nixon, Texas (ironic historical foreshadowing?).
- Graduated from MIT in chemical engineering in 1962.
- Worked as an engineer for ten years, including six years as an engineering manager.
- Owned and operated his own restaurant supply company in Alaska in the mid 1970s.
- Served as Alaskan State Legislator from January 1985 to January 1987.

Andre Marrou is one of the few Libertarians who has demonstrated the ability to run a winning Libertarian campaign. While in office, he was known as the "conscience of the legislature", and was able to bring about the defeat of several laws aimed at increasing government's role in Alaskan life. He was also instrumental in the success of the Libertarian Party-sponsored initiative which totally abolished Alaska's personal income tax.

Since his successful term in office, Marrou has divided his time between working as a commercial real estate broker in Las Vegas and assisting other Libertarian candidates running for office. In 1990 alone, he was an advisor and fund-raiser for at least eleven Libertarian Party campaigns and candidates.

When he spoke at the Ohio Libertarian Convention in April, Mr. Marrou showed himself to be an impressive and knowledgeable speaker. He projects a calm, reasonable image, but there is no doubt of his passion for liberty. He states the Libertarian position clearly and simply, but without condescension.

In his convention remarks, Marrou gave a clear summation of the Libertarian position on defense; that we should defend our own country, but not be drawn into interfering in other's quarrels. This is very important in a Libertarian candidate; he



Andre Marrou

must be able to explain to the average voter that Libertarians are not anti-defense, just anti-intervention.

When the subject turned to campaign strategy, it was obvious that he had given the matter a lot of thought. He examined the defects of the 1988 Libertarian presidential campaign, and outlined his proposed media strategy. He criticized the '88 campaign for using no television. His '92 campaign will rely heavily on carefully targeted cable TV ads, which he stated are necessary to give credibility to his campaign. In a country that watches six hours of TV a day per capita, it is hard to argue with him.

The Marrou campaign will have a direct impact on the Ohio Libertarian party. In addition to providing valuable publicity, which will help us in recruiting and in educating the public, it could break the ballot access barrier. If Marrou and his running mate can obtain 5% of the vote, the Libertarian party name will be allowed to appear on the ballot in the next election. This would be a great help to our state and local candidates and be a great step toward making the Libertarian Party an effective alternative to the Republican and Democrat parties.

We urge all those who can to support the Andre Marrou campaign. Contact them at:

Marrou for President
4750 E. Sahara
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104
(702) 431-3848

House to Vote on BBA in May

The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to vote this month on the Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA). You may recall that the amendment failed in the House last year by just seven votes. While the BBA will not eliminate the governmental spending spree that is ruining our nation's economy, it is a worthwhile beginning.

Anti-government spending organizations such as the National Taxpayers Union (NTU) are organizing letter-writing campaigns urging support for this amendment. They are hoping for a deluge of constituents' mail to influence this year's vote. Like-minded libertarians and anyone else who supports the Balanced Budget Amendment should join the battle by writing to their representatives. Adding a sentence or two about the dire need to get off-budget items included in the balancing act couldn't hurt either.

If your representative voted against the BBA last year, your postcard or letter to him/her could be crucial. U.S. Representatives can be reached at: House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515. Telephone (202)224-3121.

—RRB



Take a Stand.

Join the Libertarian Party of Ohio.

Help us make 1991 a banner year for freedom!

Membership Application:

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Phone () _____

Address _____

zip code

Choose one:

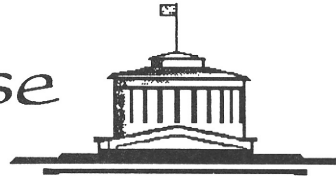
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"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

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The Statehouse Report



News from the Ohio Legislature

April was an eventful month for our state legislators. Putting aside the debate on the biennial budget, they had time to ponder critical issues such as whether or not polka should be the state dance (HB325 introduced by democrat Ronald Suster) or whether or not Columbiana County should be designated as part of the Appalachian region (HB328). Both bills have been referred to committees (for more pondering, no doubt).

Several bills have been introduced to create more offices and commissions (as if our state government is currently lacking in bureaucracy). Republican Gary Suhadolnik came up with SB71 to create an Office of Environmental Development and Recycling. Of course, corporate tax increases are included in the bill. Democrat Marc Guthrie is convinced that we need to license x-ray technicians (oops, something the government forgot to regulate) and wants to create the a state Medical Radiation Technology Board (HB378) for that purpose. I'm sure there will be licensing fees (taxes) associated with this venture. And the Ohio Commission for Agricultural and Rural Development would be created by HB385 (Wise). We can easily guess how it will be financed, but what is its purpose?

Senator Cupp of Lima gets the "new taxes" award of the month for his crime victim tax levy bill (SB32). As we see it, SB32 will only create more victims—Ohio taxpayers. Why not let criminals make restitution for their crimes instead of forcing innocent citizens to pay? Cupp also introduced a bill to increase unemployment taxes (SB14). What a guy!

The liquor sales privatization bill is still outstanding, being tied up with the budget bill. Libertarians throughout Ohio should let their state legislators know that they support SB101. The bill, which is expected to save \$40 million over the next two years, is not perfect. It limits the number of private liquor outlets to 500 and prohibits one person or corporation from owning more than eight stores. But it's definitely a move in the right direction and deserves your support.

The democrats recently introduced their idea of a state budget. Their "creative" counter-proposal to the Voinovich budget includes taxing video rentals and magazine subscriptions and spending the state's "rainy day" fund (whatever that is) in order to add over \$300 million to the state's coffers. In this critical planning period, we must make our voices heard. Write your state legislator today and urge him/her to vote for lower taxes and decreased government spending.

DLB



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