

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle

November 1997

The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 12 / Issue 11

UPDATE: CAMPAIGN

## LP runs in 158 races

From positions on small town boards all the way to the governor's office, an unprecedented number of Libertarian Party candidates are seeking office this year.

At least 158 LP candidates in 19 states will be on the ballot in November — which appears to be a new record for the party.

"As far as I know, this is a record number of candidates running in an off-year election for us," said Ron Crickenberger, the party's National Director.

Leading the list is Pennsylvania, which has 53 candidates on the ballot for local office — including candidates for sheriff, district attorney, judge of the traffic court, mayor... and even town coroner.

"By getting on the ballot in our cities, counties, and townships, we earn our place in the public debate," said Tim Moir, State Chair of the Pennsylvania LP.

### Grass-roots activism

Coming in second is Connecticut, with 32 Libertarian candidates on the ballot.

"For us to be the alternative to the incumbent big-government parties, we need to expand our ballot presence many times over," said State Chair Carl Vassar. "This shows that our grass-roots activism is paying off."

Crickenberger said much of the credit for the increase in candidates belongs to the party's growth over the past three years — "we have more people to draw candidates from," he said.

And for all the Libertarians running for office, he offered a big "thank you — I consider our candidates to be the true heroes of the party; the people who are on the front line for liberty."

■ [For a complete list of 1997 candidates, see page 7.]



■ 1996 Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne at the press conference in Washington, DC on October 7th, announcing support for Congressman Ron Paul's new ballot access bills. He is flanked by fellow 1996 presidential candidates Howard Phillips of the U.S. Taxpayers Party (right), John Hagelin of the Natural Law Party (far left), as well as Russ Verney, National Chairman of the Reform Party.

## Libertarians speak out for 'fair election' bills

*New legislation from Congressman Ron Paul would roll back petitioning requirements and open up presidential debates*

The Libertarian Party has launched a national campaign to build public support for two new ballot access bills sponsored by Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) — legislation that would tear down the barriers that third parties face.

The kickoff of the campaign: A press conference in Washington, DC, on October 7th that showcased an all-star line-up of third-party luminaries and generated nationwide publicity for the proposed bills.

Speaking before an array of television cameras and dozens of reporters, participants blasted Republicans and Democrats for passing discriminatory laws that keep third-party challengers off the ballot — and strongly en-

dorsed Congressman Paul's proposed legislative antidotes: HR 2477 and HR 2478.

Speaking for the Libertarian

Party was National Director Ron Crickenberger, who said: "The last decade has seen people around the world willing to fight and die for the right to cast their vote for the candidate of their choice.

"That's why the Libertarian Party — and hundreds of thousands of Libertarian voters — are willing to fight for this legislation. We believe all Americans should have the right to vote for the candidate of their choice."

Also participating in the press conference at the National Press Club were four of the five major third-party presidential candidates from the 1996 election, including Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne, as well

See **BALLOT ACCESS** Page 2

## Sabrin earns spot in debates

*NJ gubernatorial candidate sprints to November 4th*

With a war chest of half-a-million dollars, and a trio of TV debates to bolster his campaign, New Jersey Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Murray Sabrin is heading towards the November 4th election with a sense of optimism, he said.

"We've got tremendous momentum — and it's continuing to build," said Sabrin. "People are realizing that there's a third choice: the Libertarian Party. Even if we don't win, we've achieved tremendous visibility for Libertarian ideas."

Sabrin's campaign got a boost in late September when



■ **MURRAY SABRIN:** "We've achieved tremendous visibility." Sabrin received a check for

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## What happened to America's ballot fairness?

Over the past 100 years, how much more difficult has it become for third parties to get and stay on the ballot?

*Much more difficult,* says a new study from the Brennan Center for Justice.

"The research shows a shocking contrast between the ease of getting a new party on the ballot back then, versus today," said Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*.

According to the study, ballot access laws have doubled, tripled, or quadrupled in difficulty between 1889 and 1996.

■ **DEADLINES:** At the turn of the century, a new party could turn in petitions to get on the ballot in September or October — just one or two months before the election — in every state. By 1996, the median deadline had been pushed back to July.

■ **PETITION SIGNATURES:** Before 1964, the number of signatures required for a new party to get its presidential candidate on the ballot in every state was one-tenth to two-tenths of a percent (of the number of registered voters). By 1996, that requirement had increased by 250% to 500% — to an average of one-half percent.

■ **RETENTION:** From 1892 to 1936, a new political party had to receive an average of 1% of the presidential vote total to retain ballot status. By 1996, that had increased to 3%.

"Ballot access requirements of today are far harsher than they were before 1964," summarized Winger.

# Ballot access bills

Continued from Page 1

as Ralph Nader (Green Party), John Hagelin (Natural Law Party), and Howard Phillips (U.S. Taxpayers Party). Representing the Reform Party was national chairman Russ Verney.

Despite their wildly divergent political philosophies, all the participants said that Congressman Paul's bills would help "level the playing field" for third-party candidates by reducing signature requirements for federal elections and opening up the presidential debates.

Specifically, the **Voter Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2477)** requires states to establish "fair and uniform ballot access standards" for candidates seeking federal office.

Under the bill, a candidate for president, vice president or senator would qualify for the ballot after submitting signatures equal to one-tenth of 1% of the number of people who voted in the most recent election for such office in the state, or 1,000 signatures, whichever is greater.

For House candidates, the number of signatures required would be one-half of 1% of voters in the most recent election.

### 100,000 signatures

Had Paul's bill been in effect during the 1996 election, third-party presidential candidates would have qualified for the ballot in all 50 states after collecting approximately 100,000 signatures — rather than 700,000.

Paul's other bill, the **Debate Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2478)**, prohibits presidential candidates who accept taxpayer-provided matching funds from participating in debates that exclude candidates qualified for the ballot in at least 40 states.

Candidates who refuse to take part in "open" debates would have to return the government money to the Treasury.

Although he was unable to

## CRICKENBERGER:

*"When it comes to political parties, Republicans and Democrats believe two is enough."*

appear at the press conference — due to a vote on the House floor — Paul issued a strong statement in support of a more open election system.

"My two pieces of legislation will open the system to more debate, more dialogue, and more points of view — allowing Americans to see that they have a broader choice than is often presented. My legislation will empower Americans, rather than further restrict them," he said.

"Open elections and debates benefit all Americans, and embracing the First Amendment should be Congress' Number One priority as we debate campaign reform."

Paul was the Libertarian Party's 1988 presidential candidate, before returning to Congress as a Republican in 1996.

Participants at the October 7th press conference elaborated on Paul's sentiments — and provided their own reasons to support HR 2477 and HR 2478.

For example, Crickenberger stressed the "mathematics" of restrictive ballot access laws.

### Numbers game

"Politics is a numbers game, and the number that everyone here has in common is nine million. That's how many Americans voted for third-party candidates in the last presidential election," he said.

"But unfortunately, Democratic and Republican politicians are stuck on a much smaller number: Two. When it comes to political parties, they believe two is enough. They've written laws to ensure that only two candidates appear on the ballot and only two candidates are heard in the debates."

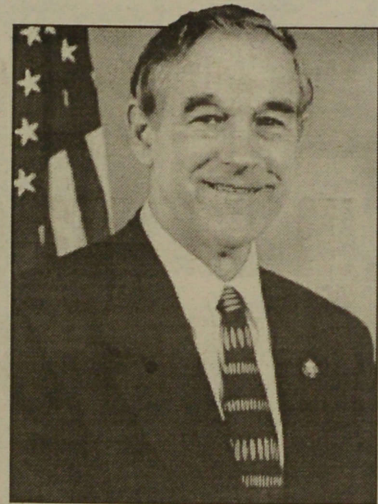
Browne took a more ideological tack, arguing that restric-

tive laws deprive voters who support smaller government from hearing their viewpoint expressed in presidential debates.

"Three-fourths of Americans want a government that is smaller and less expensive," he noted.

Yet despite this, what Americans heard during "the defining moment in the debate for Bob Dole, between him and Bill Clinton — was that he wanted the government to grow by 14% while Bill Clinton wanted it to grow by 20%. Where was the person who believed the government does more harm than good?" asked Browne.

The other participants echoed those sentiments: Verney blasted the "viewpoint discrimi-



■ CONGRESSMAN RON PAUL: "More debate, more dialogue, and more points of view."

nation" practiced by the "status quo parties." Nader criticized the "two-party dictatorship that conspires to exclude smaller parties from the ballot." And Hagelin decried "the erection of legislative barriers to challengers [to the Republicans and Democrats]."

## BALLOT ACCESS REFORM: TAKE ACTION!

# HR 2477 & 2478: How you can help

**W**ant to help get Congressman Ron Paul's Voter Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2477) and the Debate Freedom Act of 1997 (HR 2478) turned into law?

Here's how: Our first step is to line up more co-sponsors. Via letter or telephone call, contact your Congressional representative and your two U.S. Senators. Let them know you're a constituent, and urge them to co-sponsor HR 2477 and HR 2478.

Write to: Your Congressional Representative, c/o U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC, 20515. Your U.S. Senators, c/o U.S. Senate, Washington, DC, 20510.

Call: The Congressional switchboard at (202) 225-3121 or (202) 224-3121 and ask for the offices of the two Senators from your state, and the House Representative from your district.

Ask for their commitment to co-sponsor HR 2477 and HR 2478. Tell Congress that it's time to level the playing field for third-party candidates, and make some or all of the following points:

■ It is the job of Congress to make sure that federal elections are fair, open, and representative of the great diversity of ideas in our nation.

■ Remind Congress that just 30 years ago, African-Americans had to struggle for fair election laws and equal voting rights. Like then, this is an issue of *basic civil rights*.

■ When it comes to debates, any candidate who takes money from taxpayers should be willing to debate all qualified candidates. If he or she is not willing to do so, they can simply decline taxpayer funds.

■ In the last election, 90 million Americans didn't vote. A fresh infusion of competition would be healthy for the political system, and would restore the faith of many disenfranchised voters.

Remember: Be polite, be brief, and always personalize your letters. (Don't make it look like a form letter, or it will be ignored.) Also: Always let them know that you're a constituent. Politicians care about the opinions of people who can vote them into — or out of — office. Ask for a firm commitment to co-sponsor these bills. Finally, ask for a follow-up letter *confirming* their position.

## LPNEWS

**Libertarian Party News** (ISSN 8755-139X) is the official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of the USA. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published in this newspaper do not necessarily represent official Libertarian Party positions unless so indicated.

### EDITOR:

Bill Winter

### PUBLISHER:

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

SEND NEWS, LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ART, OR ADVERTISING TO:

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Attn: LP News

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington DC 20037

SEND ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGES TO ABOVE ADDRESS:

Attn: Membership Department

### EDITOR EMERITUS:

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# Coalition falls short in campaign to stop Congressional raise

*Press conference doesn't convince Congress to repeal its "sneaky," bipartisan \$3,000 pay raise*

The Libertarian Party and a group of other allied organizations took their crusade against a Congressional pay raise all the way to the steps of the Capitol Building — but ultimately fell short in their efforts to get Congress to return a \$3,000 salary hike.

Libertarians took part in a September 23rd press conference outside the Capitol Building, in which a broadbased coalition — along with a few members of Congress — blasted the House and Senate for voting themselves a "sneaky, back-door" pay raise.

Speaking for the Libertarian Party was National Director Ron Crickenberger, who said: "The American people have a message for Congress — and that message boils down to one 4-letter word: *Don't*. Don't think you'll get away with raising your pay without a vote — because you won't."

Crickenberger said Congress had committed a "Capitol offense" by using a sneaky parliamentary procedure which allowed themselves to get a pay raise without having to specifically vote for one.

## A devious way

Why did Congress raise its pay in such a devious way? Because every time Congress has tried to raise its pay, the American people said *no*, he noted.

"So Congress resorted to sneaking the pay raise through — and again we're telling them



■ At a press conference in front of the Capitol Building in Washington, DC, LP National Director Ron Crickenberger speaks out against the Congressional pay raise: "Hey Congress — what part of *no* don't you understand?"

*no*. Ask the American people whether politicians deserve a raise, and the answer is *no*. Hey Congress, what part of 'no' don't you understand?" he asked.

The press conference was organized by the Congressional Accountability Project, and also featured U.S. Term Limits, Citizens Against Government Waste, and the Coalition for America.

Several Congressional Representatives also appeared to criticize the pay hike, including Rep.

J.D. Hayworth (R-AZ) and Rep. Linda Smith (R-WA).

The U.S. House passed the pay raise on September 17th. The provision to raise the pay of members of Congress to \$136,673 a year was buried in the mammoth bill to fund the Treasury and general government operations.

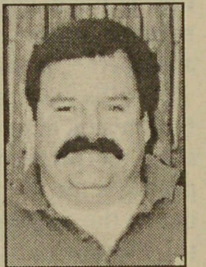
On October 2nd, the U.S. Senate passed a similar bill, and President Bill Clinton signed it into law on October 10th.

# Vermont Libertarian gets gun law voided

It took him five months, but a Libertarian activist in Vermont finally succeeded in overturning an illegal gun law in the city of Barre.

Now, he's setting his sights on repealing the same law in the neighboring cities of Rutland and Montpelier.

On November 12, 1996, the Barre City Council overturned an ordinance which made it illegal to carry a loaded firearm within city limits — thanks to a campaign by LP member Evan Hughes.



"I was challenging this ordinance [because of] my very strong Libertarian beliefs," he said.

Hughes' campaign began in early 1996, when he was arrested for carrying a gun in Barre. He pleaded not guilty — and, with the help of the Second Amendment Foundation, filed a motion to dismiss the charge.

His argument: The law was in violation of state statutes, which prohibit cities from regulating the carrying of firearms.

When presented with this evidence, the judge asked the Barre attorney to explain why their ordinance was legal. He couldn't, and criminal charges against Hughes were dropped.

## Similar anti-gun laws

But Hughes didn't drop the issue. Instead, he did more research and discovered that Rutland and Montpelier had similar anti-gun laws.

"I began a campaign to encourage those two cities to repeal their ordinances," he said.

Hughes mailed the pertinent state laws to both cities, along with the results of his court case. When the cities' attorneys announced that they would continue to enforce the illegal laws, Hughes contacted the state's ACLU.

And although the issue has not been resolved yet, Hughes said he now has additional legal firepower on his side — the ACLU.

"[An ACLU] lawyer advised me that the ACLU is poised to challenge these illegal ordinances if they are enforced," he said.

# Murray Sabrin

*Continued from Page 1*

\$322,791.76 on September 26th — making him the first third-party candidate to qualify under the state's law.

Now, thanks to ELEC's belated ruling, Sabrin is scheduled to participate in televised debates with incumbent Republican Christie Todd Whitman and Democrat Jim McGreevey on October 21st and 24th. In addition, Sabrin was invited to participate in another debate on October 18th.

All three debates are scheduled to be broadcast on New Jersey TV, but, at press time, no final decision had been announced by C-SPAN about a national broadcast.

Sabrin's dramatic entry into the race shook NJ's two-party system, and attracted considerable media attention to the college professor-turned-candidate — especially because 26% of voters say they are undecided about their gubernatorial choice.

And no matter what the final vote total is, Sabrin said his campaign has been a success: "I think our ideas are being taken seriously. We're talking about ideas that people want to hear about."

# Oregon Libertarians oppose plan to "waste" lottery funds

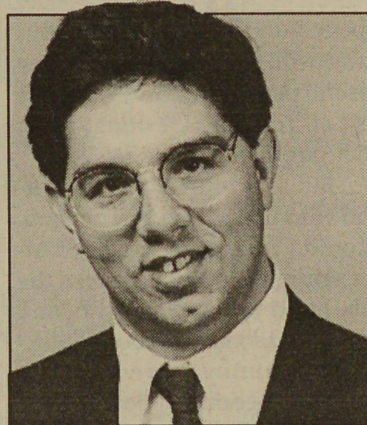
Oregon Libertarians have launched a high-profile campaign against Ballot Measure 52, an initiative that would divert \$150 million in state lottery revenue to Oregon's public schools.

"Ballot Measure 52 is nothing but a creature of partisan politics," said Richard Burke, Chair of the Mainstream Liberty Caucus, an affiliated group of the Oregon Libertarian Party.

To fight the proposal, Libertarians have scheduled two televised forums sponsored by the League of Women Voters. They also submitted a Voter's Pamphlet argument which will be mailed to every voter in the state. Finally, a "letter-to-the-editor" campaign will be waged.

"We hope to make an impact on the election while building a presence for the Libertarian Party," said Burke.

Ballot Measure 52 — which will be decided by mail ballot on November 4th — would divert



■ RICHARD BURKE: "We hope to make an impact."

money from state lottery proceeds to public schools for the building of new government schools and the maintenance of existing ones.

Burke said Libertarians oppose the measure because Oregon schools are already slated to receive \$4.2 billion, the largest school budget in state history — and the legislature has rejected proposals to save money

by giving parents more control over their children's education.

"Oregon's legislature squandered their chance to improve education while saving tax dollars," said Burke. "Proponents argue that the measure gives Oregonians a way to pay for public schools without raising taxes. We see it as wasting more money."

In addition, the measure is just a way for legislators to "pass the buck," said Burke.

"Republicans wanted to spend \$4.1 billion while Democrats wanted to spend \$4.3 billion," he said. "Rather than work out a figure, they allocated \$4.2 billion and presented voters with Ballot Measure 52."

The Mainstream Liberty Caucus, based in Portland, was organized to present Libertarian ideas and candidates in a way that is "designed to appeal to the mainstream electorate," and to conduct campaigns for selected Libertarian candidates and ballot measure positions, said Burke.



# Crickenberger steps up as National Director

*Party's Political Director takes over top spot after Perry Willis resigns in September*

**A**fter almost four years as Libertarian Party National Director, Perry Willis stepped down from that position in mid-September, party chairman Steve Dasbach announced.

Taking his place is the LP's current Political Director Ron Crickenberger, who will serve as Interim National Director.

Willis will continue to play an active role in the party, and will concentrate on prospecting and membership growth projects, said Dasbach.

"While we're sorry to see him leave [as National Director], this will let Perry focus even more on those areas where he's an expert," he said.

Willis will continue to write fundraising letters and membership recruitment direct mail packages for the party — focusing on the ongoing project to try to grow the party to more than 200,000 members by the year 2000, Dasbach said.

During Willis' tenure from

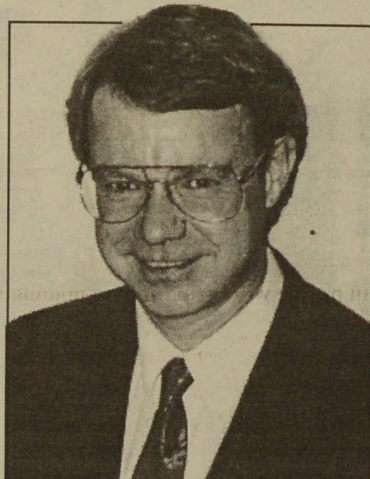
1993 to 1997, the Libertarian Party saw its paid membership double to 23,000, moved its headquarters from a shabby section of Washington, DC, to the prestigious Watergate Office Building, and tripled in strength financially, to an organization with a \$2 million annual budget.

Willis said he decided to resign because he realized that more work needed to be done in the area of membership recruitment.

## Set the stage

"I am proud to say that during my four years as National Director, the Libertarian Party has seen more growth in membership than at any other time in our history," he said. "But to my mind, this progress has merely set the stage for what comes next — a concerted effort to catch the Democrats and Republicans in the area of dues-paying membership."

The only way for him to accomplish that ambitious goal, he



■ Ron Crickenberger: He'll "work a little harder for the cause of Liberty."

said, is to concentrate on that project — without the distractions that come with the job of National Director.

"It has been clear to me that I could not execute this [membership growth] project and remain as National Director," he said. "That is why I have decided to step down, so that I can concentrate on that area where I think I can do the most good for the party. For all of my 17 years in the Libertarian Party, I have championed one idea above all

else — that the only way we will ever be able to compete with the older parties is to be as big as they are. [By resigning], I am merely changing my role, not my goal."

Crickenberger took over for Willis effective September 18th — and said he looks forward to the challenge of serving as National Director.

"My initial reaction when Steve Dasbach approached me about taking over as National Director was, of course, shock," he said. "Perry has taken the office from three employees in a run-down tenement house to a staff of nine in the Watergate. He has presided over the greatest growth period in the party's history. Those shoes would be very hard to fill. But I have never been one to step back when people I respect ask me to work a little harder for the cause of Liberty."

## Candidate support

And despite the promotion, Crickenberger said he still plans to devote considerable time to LP candidate support.

"The Political Director portion of my position will not disappear," he said. "Perry has been

## HIS COMMITMENT

*"is to continue to expand our growth in membership and candidates."*

spending 25 to 30 hours a week on National Director work, with the rest of his long schedule devoted to development and fundraising. After some initial adjustment to the new duties, I expect to still be able to devote 30 to 40 hours per week to our candidates."

Dasbach said he looked forward to working with Crickenberger as new National Director.

"Ron has demonstrated — both during his years as an activist and during his time so far as Political Director — that he has the skills needed to become an outstanding National Director," he said.

Crickenberger has been ac-  
See **CRICKENBERGER** Page 9

## PERRY WILLIS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR: 1993 - 1997

# Willis: It was the worst of times, it was the best of times

*Former National Director Perry Willis looks back at the LP's journey from the slums of Washington to the Watergate — and his role in making it happen*

By Perry Willis

Former LP National Director

**O**n September 17, 1993, I climbed out of a taxicab in Washington, DC. In front of me was a row of disheveled townhouses. The one I wanted was numbered 1528.

It had a garish Statue of Liberty painted on its front door, bars on its windows, and rotten, sagging curtains that were visible from the street. There was also graffiti on the sidewalk. This was the Libertarian Party's national headquarters.

I stepped forward and knocked on the door. Eventually, someone answered and I was led up a narrow flight of unpainted stairs. On the second floor I found a cramped, dust-covered warren of broken desks, piled with paper and clutter.

I then went to the third floor and found more of the same, only worse. The entire building had the air of a place where too

few people were trying to do too much with too little.

I then went to the bottom floor where I was intending to live for the next three months. It was the worst of them all. In order to save money half of it had been rented to a rather strange person specializing in the art of creating filth. Obviously, I would have to search hard for some clean place to lay my head for the night.

## A furry centipede

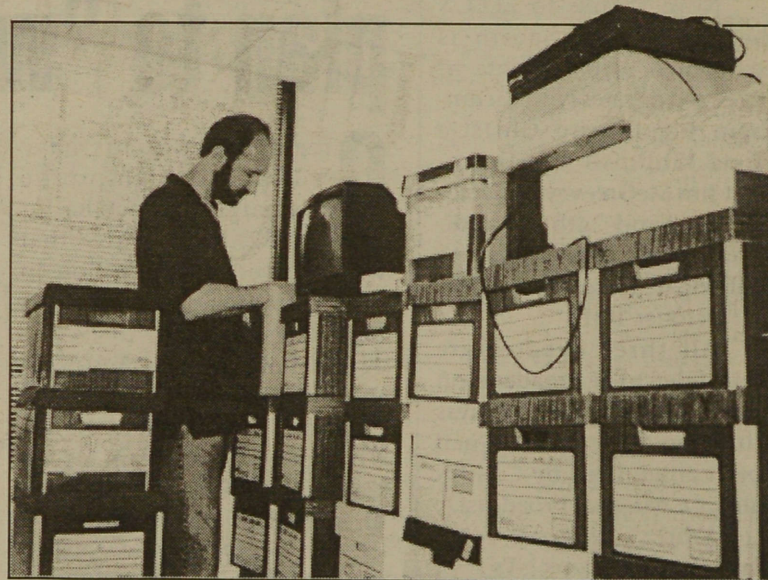
A short time later the last staff member departed for home and I was left alone in the dark and dreary building. I settled down on a lumpy couch in what passed for the National Director's office. A few feet away an air purifier struggled against the encroaching dust. I contemplated a furry centipede creeping across the ceiling, and pondered how I had come to be there.

I had been National Director once before and had no desire to return. When the position had

opened up I hadn't applied. But I was willing to smooth the way for the person who did want the job, and came to Washington for that purpose.

But as it turned out, the person who had applied for the job, shouldn't have. He resigned after a month and I was offered the job. I said yes, and then no, and then, after some hard but productive bargaining, gave my final consent. I became National Director for the second time, but under conditions that made it possible I might achieve something.

I took over an organization with unpaid bills, declining membership, a deficient staff, and a decaying infrastructure. But we also had assets. *Incredible assets.* We had dedicated members, eager to help us succeed. We had a National Chair, Steve Dasbach, with long experience, who had learned the lessons of the past, and who had an extraordinary ability to build consensus. He was also dedicated to hiring



■ One of Perry Willis' proudest days as National Director: The move into the Watergate Office Building. Willis is shown here unpacking boxes as he moved into his new office.

good people and then letting them do their jobs. That was something new.

## Top-notch people

We had an excellent new national committee, full of top-notch people, like Hugh Butler, the new Treasurer.

We had the multi-talented

Bill Winter, who would turn out to be the best partner I ever had.

And last, but far from least, we had Stuart Reges, the old National Director, who had wanted to wash his hands of the party, but who was willing to help me carry my new burden. I couldn't have done it without him.

See **PERRY WILLIS** Page 11



# How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World

by Harry Browne shows how you can use libertarian ideas and principles in your personal, business, and social life to make yourself happier, richer, and freer than you ever dreamed possible.

Most Libertarians are too busy complaining about government to take back their personal freedom.

You could be a lot freer than you are.

Even if the IRS gets really nasty. Even if the BATF stays armed and dangerous. Even if Congress is in session.

## Why You Are Not Free

Freedom is living your life the way you want to live it.

Government tries to fold, spindle, and mutilate your life, liberty, and property.

Government tries to stop you from living your life the way you want to – and force you to live the way it wants you to live.

Government tries to restrict and restrain and regulate you in many ways.

But there are a lot of other areas of your life where you put up with unchosen burdens, needless restrictions, fictitious duties and obligations, and unwanted relationships.

Why are you giving in to these needless interferences with your personal freedom?

What's keeping you from living your life the way you really want to live it?

"Traps," says Harry Browne. Traps are unexamined and unchallenged anti-freedom beliefs.

False assumptions, myths and illusions.

You were exposed to these anti-freedom

traps throughout child-

hood, taught

them in public

schools, at

church, and by

people who want

more govern-

ment. People who

believe that

government works.

• What are the 14

most common anti-

freedom traps - and

how are they

sabotaging your work

and relationships?

• What are the two

biggest mistakes you

can make about

individualism - and how

are they hurting you and

everyone you deal with.

• What is the Group Trap -

and how is it keeping you

from doing what's best for

you and those you love?

• What is the Previous

Investment Trap - and how

does it chain you to past

mistakes?

• What is the Morality Trap -

and how is it used to crush and

cripple your spirit?

• And what about the Burning

Issue Trap? The Utopia Trap?

The Rights Trap? And the rest?

Let Harry Browne show you why these traps are treacherous,

how to avoid and escape them, and the libertarian alternative.

"... I'm now free to live my life as I want to live it. Despite all-time high taxes, I pay ridiculously few taxes. Despite my irregular life style, I live my own life without interference from society.

Everyday of my life is mine to use as I see fit. My time isn't committed to the state, to society, to a treadmill, or to fruitless relationships with people with whom I have nothing in common.

I haven't needed to hide my head in the sand to achieve this. I have valuable relationships – personal, professional, and romantic. I make far more money now than when I was restricted – and it takes far fewer hours to make it.

I'm involved with people who add to my life, and I'm independent of those who would take from it.

... **How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World** is not an autobiography. The title was chosen to let you know that at least one person has accomplished the freedom you seek, and that it can be done without changing the nature of the world."

- **Harry Browne**

## How You Can Be Free

You can use your libertarian ideas and principles to live the life you want to live.

You don't have to change other people's minds.

You don't have to convince others that you're right.

You don't have to sell out, settle, compromise, or conform.

Nor do the people you deal with.

If you had the only copy of **How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World**, if no one else could read it or accept its conclusions, you could still break free now.

And, in the process, you could free the people you deal with everyday.

You can free yourself from many restrictions and burdens of government. You can free yourself now from business problems, insecurity, exploitation, or the treadmill.

You can put freedom into your relationships, your marriage, or your family.

And you can free yourself from guilt, social pressure, unchosen obligations, demanded duties, and even emotional blackmail.

## A New Life

"A book should be an ice pick to break up the frozen sea within us," said Kafka.

**How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World** says "Yes."

"Two libertarian books changed my life – **Atlas Shrugged** by Ayn Rand and **How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World** by Harry Browne."

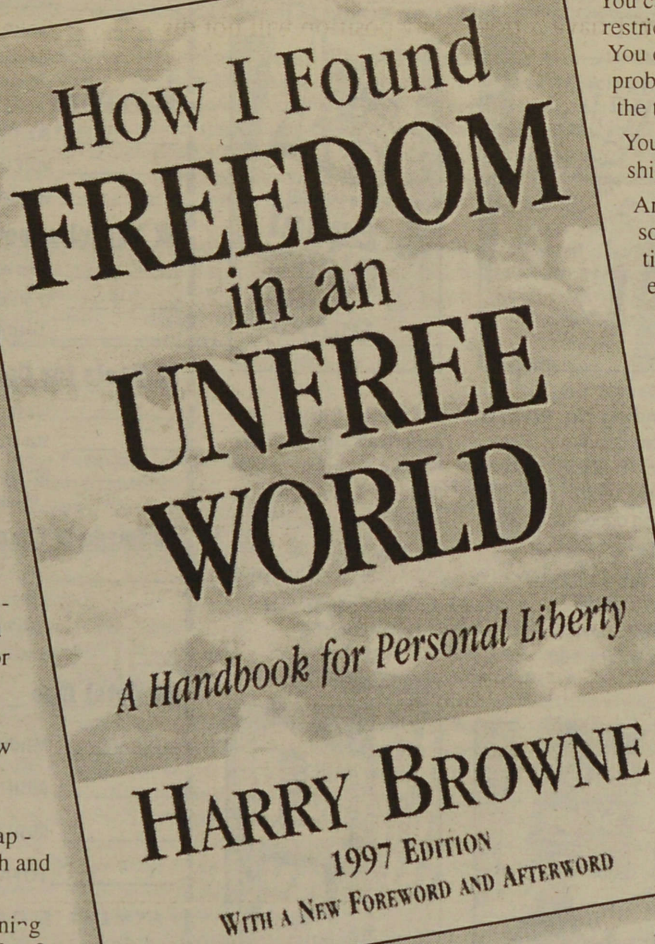
– Michael Cloud

"The greatest gifts are given by the truly selfish - by those who find and follow their loves no matter what.

From this man's love of freedom, then, has come this book, a gift of power and of joy for whoever yearns to be free."

– Richard Bach

Author of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull* & *Illusions*



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## LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

### Libertarian Party Literature

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

■ **1996 Libertarian Party Platform.** 24 pages; 2-color (red & black). "Official" party positions (updated at the '96 National Convention) on individual rights, the economy, taxation, poverty, & other political issues. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$50 per 100

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting outreach to gun owners. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95 (includes \$2 s/h charge)

■ **Enough Is Enough/Vote Libertarian Yard Sign.** 2-color (red & blue) 24" x 18," on sturdy foam-board. **Cost:** \$8.00 each

■ **LP Fact Sheets:** 2-page LP history (political highlights '71-'96) and 2-page bibliography (150 books about liberty). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy. **Cost:** \$1 each

### Miscellaneous Items

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

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

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

### Bumperstickers

**Cost:** \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** Back in stock! (Blue & red — big 15" x 3.25" size)

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

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-682-1776** (Blue & white.)

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

### Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You choose second line: ★ "800-682-1776" ★ "Defenders of Liberty." **Cost:** \$40 each

### Tools for Campaigning

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. **Cost:** \$3 for set

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (Not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

### Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ 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

■ **LP Special Report.** 20 pages, blue & black ink. Comprehensive introduction to the LP, explaining how a Libertarian society would benefit the reader. With convenient, attached response form/envelope. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$50 for 100

**To Order by Mail:** The Libertarian Party  
2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100 • Washington, DC 20037  
**To Order by Phone:** (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221  
**To Order by Fax:** (202) 333-0072

# THE CURE FOR TIRED OUTREACH!

Have your outreach efforts lost their zip? Are you depressed because your local group doesn't have polished, persuasive LP literature to hand out to voters? Are you suffering from the dreaded Tired Outreach Syndrome?

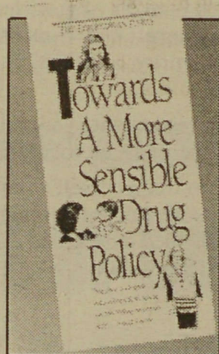
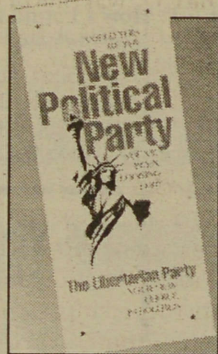
➤ Well, you've come to the right place! We've got everything you need to run a top-notch outreach booth, or successful LP campaign, or effective direct-mail recruiting effort.

➤ No matter what you're lacking, we've got it: Attractive Libertarian Party windbreakers for your volunteers to wear. Big, bold Libertarian Party banners to announce your presence. And a pan-

ama of items — bumperstickers, colorful brochures, books, yard signs, buttons, introductory booklets, and much more—to put into the hands of prospective Libertarians.

➤ Our prices are low, our selection is large, we can offer instant shipment (call for details). Call, fax, or mail your order today — and put some life back in your outreach efforts!

## LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

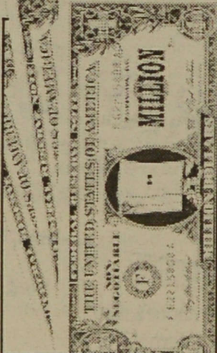
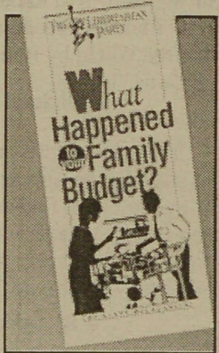
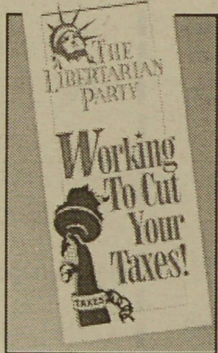
★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for general audience.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Working To Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). Outlines how the Libertarian Party would drastically reduce taxes and government spending.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **What Happened to Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how government impoverishes the "typical" family through taxes and inflation.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's 5-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties and the public.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

■ **"Million Dollar Bill."** Green ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive Federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day outreach efforts.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢  
Or \$5 for 100

## ORDER FORM

Indicate the quantity you wish to order below.

There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add 15% for Post Office box deliveries. **Federal law** requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Ready-to-use Literature

Quantity	Amount
_____	Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____	Brochure: "Is This/New Political Party?"
_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____	Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____	Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	Tax Day Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill
_____	2-page LP history/2-page bibliography. (Package.)
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____	Why Government Doesn't Work book
_____	1996 LP Platform
_____	1995 LP Program
_____	Booklet: "Special Report"

### Yard Signs

\_\_\_\_\_ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

### Bumper Stickers

\_\_\_\_\_ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me . . . I Voted Libertarian  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!

### Buttons

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian  
 \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

### Miscellaneous Items

\_\_\_\_\_ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL  
 \_\_\_\_\_ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk  
 \_\_\_\_\_ "Liberty" Teddy Bear

### Tools for Campaigning

\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian TV Ads  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Statue of Liberty logo master  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

### Large & Small Banners

\_\_\_\_\_ Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" h x 5' w)  
 Please check preferred second line:  
☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-682-1776  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" h x 5' w)

### Total Due

\_\_\_\_\_ Merchandise Total  
 \_\_\_\_\_ RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day shipping  
 \_\_\_\_\_ RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange  
 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

### PAYMENT & ORDERING INFO:

☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)  
☐ Bill my Visa ☐ Bill my MasterCard

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 Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership ID# [On label] \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer \_\_\_\_\_



# CANDIDATES'97

Here is a complete list of LP candidates running for public office in the 1997 election, and the offices they are seeking. (Not on the list? Call Ron Crickenberger at (202) 333-0008 Ext. 227.)

■ **ARIZONA:** **Dan Dougherty**, Tucson (City Council Ward 6)

■ **CALIFORNIA:** **Anthony Santangelo**, Carpinteria (Sanitary District Director) • **Gregory Gandrud**, Carpinteria (Sanitary District Director) • **Mark Dierolf**, Harnell (College Board) • **Aaron Gray**, Santa Barbara (City Council)

■ **CONNECTICUT:** **Douglas Tolles**, Bethlehem (First Selectman) • **George Eggert**, Bethlehem (Selectman) • **Ann Morse**, Guilford (Finance Board) • **Ron Johnson**, Guilford (School Board) • **Richard Greene**, Guilford (School Board) • **Hugh Baird**, Guilford (First Selectman) • **Frank Lowe**, Guilford (Selectman) • **Harvey Margeret**, Waterbury (Mayor) • **Michael Puschaver**, Oxford (Board of Finance) • **Richard Green**, Oxford (School Board & Zoning Commission) • **John Joy**, Oxford (Zoning Board) • **Carl Vasser**, Trumbull (Town Council) • **Rebecca Abrams**, Willimantic (Zoning Appeals Vacancy) • **Kenneth Mosher**, Willimantic (First Selectman) • **Roger Morlin**, Willimantic (Selectmen) • **David Lambert**, Willimantic (Selectmen) • **Joseph Santa Lucia**, Willimantic (Selectmen) • **George Yonclas**, Willimantic (Selectmen) • **David Abrams**, Willimantic (Selectmen) • **Ron Ricard**, Willimantic (Zoning Appeals Alternate) • **Elizabeth Smith**, Willimantic (Assessment Appeals) • **Roger Leclair**, Willimantic (Assessment Appeals) • **Henry Fournior**, Windham (Assessment Appeals) • **Marvin Edelman**, Windham (Board of Education) • **Joan Goetschius**, Windham (Board of Education) • **Steven Edelman**, Windham (Board of Finance) • **Theodore Misak**, Windham (Board of Finance) • **Brian Tilton**, Windham (Board of Finance) • **Robert Langworthy**, Windham (Selectmen) • **William Rood**, Windham (Selectmen) • **David Gauthier**, Windham (Zoning Appeals) • **Carlton Harris**, Windham (Zoning Appeals) • **Jon Day**, Windham (Zoning Appeals Alternate) • **Angel Figueroa**, Windham (Board of Education)

■ **FLORIDA:** **Michael J. Benjamin**, Hialeah (Mayor)

■ **GEORGIA:** **Jim Stachowiak**, Grovetown (City Council)

■ **IOWA:** **Roger Fritz**, Roland City (Council)

■ **ILLINOIS:** **Steve Givot**, (School Board Unit 220) • **Jim Young**, (School Board Unit 300)

■ **MASSACHUSETTS:** **Rich Eramian**, Lynnfield (City Council) • **Ronald Jepson**, Saugus (Council)

■ **MICHIGAN:** **Michael J. Enright**, Ann Arbor (City Council Dist. 40) • **Boyd Stitt**, Ann Arbor City (Council, Ward 3) • **Fred Collins**, Berkley (City Council) • **Dan Marsh**, Grand Rapids (City Commission, Ward 3) • **Bill Carver**, Roseville (City Council) • **William H. Bradley**, South Haven (Mayor) • **Paul Soyk**, (State Senate Dist 12)

■ **MINNESOTA:** **Bob Odden**, Minneapolis (City Council Ward 9)

■ **NORTH CAROLINA:** **Ray Ubinger**, Durham (City Council Durham) • **Robert Koch**, Greensboro (City Council At Large) • **Michael Ruff**, Greenville (City Council At Large) • **Ann Cizek**, Wilmington (City Council, At Large)

■ **NEW JERSEY:** **Murray Sabrin**, (Governor) • **Betty Florentine**, (Assembly Dist 10) • **Chris Kawa**, (Assembly Dist 10) • **Earl Dickey**, (Assembly Dist 15) • **Bob Figueroa**, (Assembly Dist 15) • **Jeff Polacheck**, (Assembly Dist 24) • **Tom Fischette**, (Assembly Dist 39) • **Janice Presser**, (Assembly Dist 8) • **Leon Maclin**, (Assembly Dist 32) • **Don Jamison**, (Boro Council) • **Karl Klepac**, Gloucester County (Freeholder) • **Carl Peters**, Hopewell (Township Committee) • **Jeff Pleiffer**, Jackson (Freeholder) • **Dino Toro**, Millville (Township Committee) • **Len Flynn**, Morganville (Freeholder) • **Darrin Young**, New Providence (Freeholder) • **Tom Abrams**, Princeton (Township Freeholder) • **Steve Nagle**, (State Senate Dist 10) • **Bob Mondgock**, (State Senate Dist 30)

■ **NEW YORK:** **Ed Argood**, Woodbury Heights (Freeholder) • **Jeffrey Brown**, Nassau County (Court Judge) • **Dave Harnett**, Hyde Park (Town Council) • **Richard Cooper**, Nassau County (Controller) • **James Harris**, Nassau County (Clerk) • **Al Cooper**, Nassau County (Court Judge) • **Dan Conti**, Nassau County (District Attorney) • **Dave Edmondson**, Nassau (County Legislator) • **Vince O'Neil**, Nassau (County Executive) • **Stephen Edmondson**, Nassau (County Legislator, Dist. 5) • **Rebecca Turmo-Wilber**, Woodstock (Town Council)

■ **OHIO:** **Dave Domanski**, Toledo (Mayor) • **Don Jaynes**, Toledo (City Council) • **Thad Wineinger**, Toledo (City Council) • **Tom Berkebile**, Toledo (City Council)

■ **PENNSYLVANIA:** **John Famularo**, Philadelphia (City Controller) • **Ken Krawchuk**, (Commissioner Abington Township Ward 4) • **Nancy Walter**, (Commissioner Abington Township, Ward 6) • **Chad Lucabaugh**, (Constable Conewago Township) • **Fred Crocker**, Martinsburg (Constable) • **Richard Wileczek**, York County (Controller) • **Bobbie Barnhart**, York County (Coroner) • **Michael Nixon**, (Council Dover Borough) • **Karl Spangler**, (Council Dover Borough) • **Warren Conrad**, (Council Red Lion Borough) • **Leon Williams**, Philadelphia (District Attorney) • **Richard Piotrowski**, Richland Lower (Inspector of Elections) • **Arlan Diefenderfer**, Richland Upper (Inspector of Elections) • **Tim Moir**, (Inspector of Elections 5th Ward 14th Division) • **Dan Dougherty**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 1-3) • **Larry Gubard**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 11-2) • **Daniel Kujala**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 15-1) • **Roberta Krawchuk**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 4-2) • **John Donovan**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 6-1) • **Stephanie Heckman**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 6-2) • **Dianna Reiser**, (Inspector of Elections Abington Township 7-2) • **Bill Johnson**, (Inspector of Elections Dallas Township 5-South) • **Obie Mild**, (Inspector of Elections Norristown District 2-2) • **Christopher Zabala**, (Inspector of Elections Norristown District 3-1) • **Bart Smith**, (Inspector of Elections Ridley Township Ward 6, Precinct 1) • **George Brusstar**, (Inspector of Elections Upper Merion) • **Arthur Farnsworth**, (Inspector of Elections West Rockhill Argus) • **Joseph Sabatina**, (Judge of Elections 53rd Ward 18th Division) • **Dan Sarandrea**, (Judge of Elections 56th Ward 31st Division) • **Richard Greene**, (Judge of Elections Abington Township 6-1) • **Phillip Janusz**, (Judge of Elections Ward 12, Division 14) • **Michael Speranza**, (Judge of Elections Warminster District 6) • **Betsy Summers**, (Judge of Elections Wilkes-Barre 6-1-6) • **Peter Bonczewski**, (Judge of Elections Wilkes-Barre 6-14-6) • **Steven Gilber**, Philadelphia (Judge Of Traffic Court) • **Joseph McCarthy**, Philadelphia (Judge of Traffic Court) • **Kurt Natter**, Adams County (Jury Commissioner) • **Brian Barnhart**, York County (Jury Commissioner) • **Brandon Santiago**, Lancaster (Mayor) • **Jason Fritchlee**, York City (Mayor) • **Michael Baldwin**, York County (Recorder of Deeds) • **Katherine Collins**, Coatesville (School Director) • **Joseph Lisowski**, Coatesville (School Director) • **Michael Zigler**, (School Director Red Lion School) • **David Rovka**, (School Director Suburban School) • **Rodney Miller**, Adams County (Sheriff) • **Daniel Anderson**, Hopewell Township (Supervisor) • **John Spence**, Windsor Township (Supervisor Lower) • **Mark Wicks**, Bethel Township (Township Supervisor) • **Allan Kriedier**, Spring Township (Township Supervisor) • **Mark Messics**, Upper Macungie (Township Supervisor) • **Thomas McGrady Jr.**, West Bradford (Township Supervisor) • **Tom Schlegel**, Berks County (Treasurer)

■ **RHODE ISLAND:** **Robert Rilee**, Newport (City Council Dist. 1)

■ **VIRGINIA:** **Steven Kirkpatrick**, (County Commission) • **Robert Buchanan**, (House of Delegates Dist 31) • **Marta Howard**, (House of Delegates Dist 35) • **Gary Alexander**, (House of Delegates Dist 36) • **Kip Karl**, (House of Delegates Dist 44) • **Shelby McCurnin**, (House of Delegates Dist 72) • **Reed Halsted**, (House of Delegates Dist 73) • **Jim Vencill**, (House of Delegates Dist 13) • **Tom Jamerson**, (Soil & Water Board)

■ **WASHINGTON:** **Jim Campton**, Federal Way (School Board Dist 1) • **John Gearhart**, Palouse (City Council) • **John M. Tyson**, Thurston County (Fire District 3, Position 1)

## Florida Con/Con gets an earful from the LP

When the Florida Constitution Revision Commission extended an invitation for public comment at a series of statewide hearings, they probably didn't expect a tidal wave of Libertarians.

But that's what they got: Libertarian speakers at every one of their 11 meetings around the state in July, August, and September—advocating proposals to limit the power of state government.

"We displayed the most consistent presence of any political group in the state," said party activist Tom Regnier.

Libertarians presented 20 specific proposals to the Commission, which meets every two decades to consider changes to the state's constitution.

### Liberty Coalition

The proposals were all endorsed by the Constitution Liberty Coalition (CLC), an alliance formed by the Florida LP which included the American Liberties Coalition, the Southern League, and the Conservative Party.

"The CLC was one of the few groups to present a package of suggestions for changes to the state constitution — changes that would limit the power of government and put more choice back into the hands of individual citizens," said Regnier.

Libertarians proposed to:

■ Protect the "human right of property ownership, rather than statist environmental controls."

■ Oppose tax-funding of political campaigns — which is

"just more political welfare."

■ Guarantee protection of political participation rights for all citizens by reforming ballot access laws.

■ Grant property tax relief for families that privately educate or homeschool children.

"This coalition is a symbol of the Florida LP's maturing into an active player in state politics," said State Chair Nick Dunbar. "We're showing that we can form alliances with like-minded groups and make our views known to the powers that be."

The Constitution Revision Commission will weigh all the suggestions it received, and could recommend some for placement on the November 1998 ballot.

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I pledge 10% of the profits of these items will be equally divided & contributed to:

1. The National Libertarian Party
2. The Libertarian Party of Florida
3. The LP of Seminole Co., FL
4. The LP Presidential Candidate in 2000

—Karl Williamson, Chair LP of Seminole Co., FL



### 50/50 JERZEES GOLF SHIRT

50/50 Heavyweight Jersey Knit  
White Golf Shirt. Two pearlized button  
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LP Logo on upper left front  
**M - XL \$18.95 w/o pocket**  
**M - XL \$19.95 with pocket**  
Add \$2.00 XXL

### CAPS

Top Quality, 100% cotton, low profile,  
6-panel cap. Khaki top with stone washed  
Navy visor. Fabric strap size adjuster w/  
brass buckle. Red, White, & Blue LP logo  
embroidered emblem on front. **\$12.95**

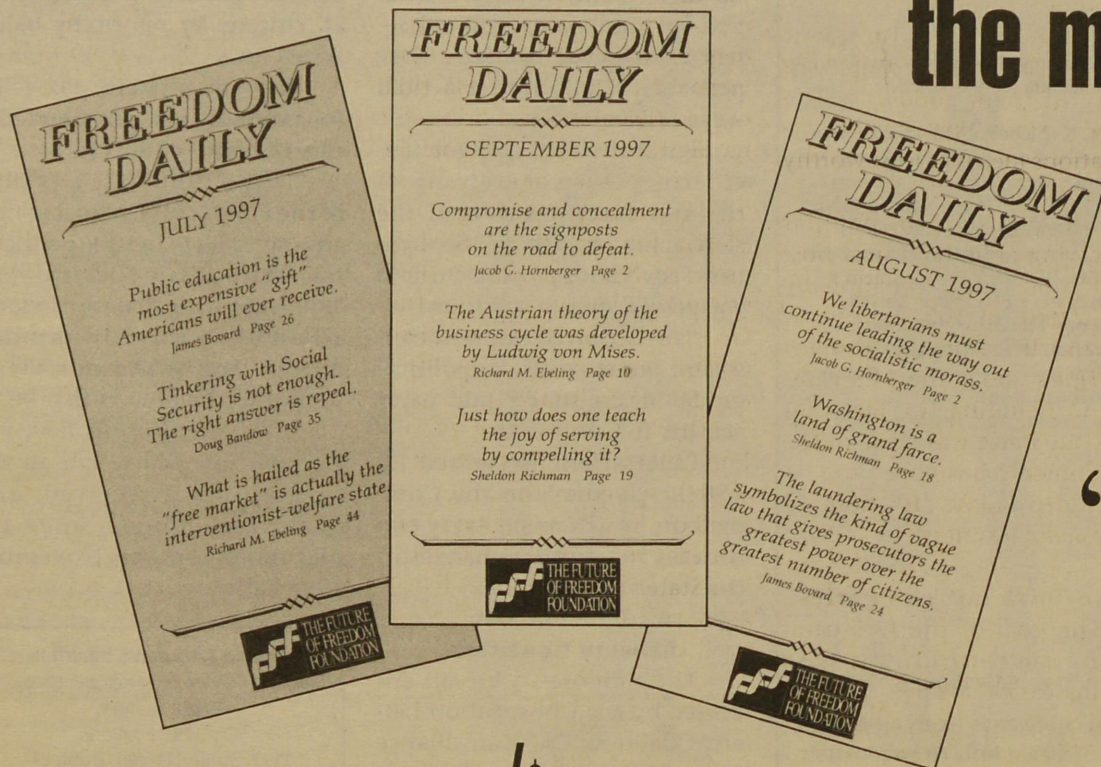
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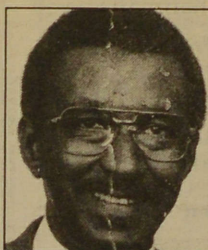
— David F. Nolan  
founding member, Libertarian Party

**Ron Paul**  
1988 LP presidential candidate,  
current member of Congress

“With uncommon discipline and uncompromising devotion to principle, FFF is at the forefront of the freedom movement.”

**Walter E. Williams**  
chairman of economics department  
George Mason University

“The Future of Freedom Foundation is carrying on the fine tradition of freedom in a manner that would make its predecessors proud.”

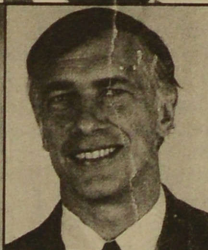
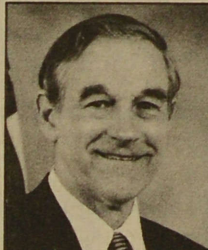


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— Robert W. Poole, Jr.  
publisher, *Reason* magazine



**Edward H. Crane**  
president, Cato Institute

“The Future of Freedom Foundation continues to be an important, principled organization in the ongoing effort to achieve a free society.”

**Doug Casey**

investment advisor and author of  
*Crisis Investing for the Rest of the '90s*

“The Future of Freedom Foundation is doing the best work—not just good, but the best—in getting the value of freedom before the public. They’re thoroughly sound and completely uncompromising.”

**Murray Rothbard**

(1926–1995)  
author of *Man, Economy, and State*

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# Racial classification campaign picks up more endorsements

The Libertarian Party's campaign to abolish the federal government's "official" racial categories has won a flurry of endorsements over the last several months — ranging from radio talk show host G. Gordon Liddy to a newspaper in Oklahoma to a well-known political commentator.

David Horowitz, president of the Center for the Study of Popular Culture and popular television commentator, said in August, "I applaud the Libertarian Party's Just Say No to Racial Classifications campaign. I am against these racial categories — this is truly American Apartheid."

Horowitz, a 1960s leftist turned 1990s opponent of "political correctness," has long been

**"LIBERTARIANS are a party of ideas, many of them good..."**

an opponent of race-based politics, which he has called a "racial/ethnic spoils system [which has made us] a race-conscious society in a way that would have been unthinkable just a generation ago."

On August 17th, the *Daily Oklahoman* (Oklahoma City, OK) wrote a supportive editorial about the campaign — the first

newspaper endorsement of the party's anti-classification efforts.

The editorial noted: "Our supposedly colorblind society forces people, under penalty of law, to declare their race on census forms. The Libertarians' campaign aims at getting Americans to refuse declaration or race. . . The choice is yours."

The newspaper also wrote: "Libertarians are a party of ideas, many of them good . . . The party's Just Say No to Racial Classifications idea is at least worthy of discussion."

On August 25th, popular right-wing radio talk show host G. Gordon Liddy — nationally syndicated on 100 stations — read an article from the *Washington Times* about the LP's campaign, including the fact that someone's race was none of the government's business.

Added Liddy: "It's none of their damn business!"

## Five "official" categories

The goal of the LP's campaign, launched in July, is to eliminate the U.S.'s five "official" racial categories from all government forms, and to urge Americans to refuse to disclose their race on the 2000 census forms.

"We want to use this campaign to build public awareness of how politicians exploit racial classifications to further divide the nation along racial grounds," said LP National Chairman Steve Dasbach. "Every single American can strike a blow for a more tolerant, colorblind society by saying 'no' to the census takers and 'no' to racial classifications."

# Ron Crickenberger

*Continued from Page 4*

tive in the LP since the mid-1980s. During that time, he has done "just about every type of job there is in the party — [including] campaigns from presidential down to city council, organizing rallies, and collecting over 5,000 volunteer petition signatures in five states," he said.

## Winning campaign

He was a member of the Libertarian National Committee (1989-1997); served on the LP of Georgia Executive Committee (1986), as state vice chair (1987), and State Chair (1989); was the Southeast Coordinator of the Ron Paul for President campaign (1988); served as the volunteer head of the LP Campaign Committee (1991-1997); received the "50-Stater" award for his ballot access work in 1992; and managed the winning campaign of

Bruce Van Buren to the Avondale Estates City Commission (1995).

During his tenure as LP Campaign Committee chair and Political Director, the number of Libertarians in public office increased by 176% — from 76 four years ago to 210 today.

Now, as National Director, he said, "My commitment to the members of the Libertarian Party is to do everything I can to continue to expand our growth in membership, candidates, and campaigns. And I also think that the most important thing I can possibly do for our candidates is build them a much larger Libertarian Party."

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# TALKINGPOINTS

## Distrustful teens, SWAT frenzy, and the lessons of kosher food

### Doubtful teens

A majority of teenagers have little trust in the government, with 79% saying they believe corruption and dishonesty are widespread, according to a survey. The survey was conducted among 938 young people between the ages of 13 and 17.

— *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* (Texas), August 4, 1997

### Militarizing Mayberry

There has been a dramatic rise in the number of Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams and a rapid expansion of their roles since the early 1980s, according to a new study by Peter Kraska, a professor of police studies at Eastern Kentucky University.

Kraska said his research shows that the rise in SWAT teams and their activities closely follows the increase in resources used to fight the anti-drug effort. "The drug war created the atmosphere for this kind of pro-active policing," said Kraska.

Kraska surveyed 690 law enforcement agencies serving cities with populations of more than 50,000. According to his survey, 90% have active SWAT teams. In the early 1980s, only 60% of these cities had such units. The researchers found that even in smaller cities and rural communities two of every three police departments have SWAT teams, a trend that Kraska calls "militarizing Mayberry."

The SWAT teams wear camouflage, body armor and gas masks, and use weapons such as "flashbangs" (a diversionary de-

**MARC BEAUCHAMP**  
EDITOR

vice), submachine guns, explosives and chemical weapons. Kraska's survey shows that the SWAT teams receive training by active and retired military experts in special operations. Some units also have helicopters and armored personnel carriers at their disposal.

— *Newsbriefs* (National Drug Strategy Network), July 1997

### "Loiterers" unwelcome

The citizens of Salida City, Colorado, in an effort to wipe out the scourge of "loitering," passed a bill earlier this year that stops adults from spending more than five minutes in a public place after 11 p.m. The ordinance outlawed the disgraceful practice of people staying too long in one location, which it defined precisely as "any two points within two hundred feet of each other." Despite trivial objections that this makes waiting in lines at theaters illegal, supporters have stuck to their position following a few initial compromises.

— *AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION* press release, September 2, 1997

### Hillary's anti-individualism

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton epitomizes some of the problems individualism faces in contemporary America. In her book *It Takes a Village*, (she calls) on all 250 million Americans to raise each child. Of course, we

can't possibly all take responsibility for millions of children.

Even when the government doesn't step in to take children from their parents, Clinton sees it constantly advising, nagging, hectoring parents: "Videos with scenes of common sense baby care — how to burp an infant, what to do when soap gets in his eyes, how to make a baby with an ear ache comfortable — could be running continuously in doctors' offices, clinics, hospitals, motor vehicle offices, or any other place where people gather and have to wait." Sort of like the telescreen in 1984.

Clinton told *Newsweek*, "There is no such thing as other people's children." These are profoundly anti-individualist and anti-family claims.

Libertarians sometimes say, "Conservatives want to be your daddy, telling you what to do and what not to do. Liberals want to be your mommy, feeding you, tucking you in, and wiping your nose. Libertarians want to treat you as an adult."

— *DAVID BOAZ*  
*A Libertarian Primer*

### Every 49 seconds

Nearly 642,000 total marijuana arrests were made by state and local law enforcement during 1996, according to the latest edition of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Report. This figure is an 80% increase since 1990 and pushes the total number of marijuana arrests under the Clinton administration to approximately 2.1 million. The 1996 yearly ar-

rest total for marijuana violations is the highest ever recorded by the FBI.

Of the 642,000 arrests made for marijuana in 1996, approximately 85% (545,700) were for simple "possession."

"This data confirms what The NORML Foundation has been maintaining all along," states Executive Director Allen St. Pierre. "The FBI data clearly demonstrates that Clinton's war on marijuana smokers is the toughest ever waged in our nation's history. These new FBI statistics indicate that one marijuana user is arrested every 49 seconds in America."

— *THE NORML FOUNDATION*  
Press release, October 7, 1997



**ONE MARIJUANA user is arrested every 49 seconds in America.**

### Fuming over tobacco ban

Milwaukee Brewers manager Phil Garner is no fan of the decision to ban chewing tobacco from the All-Star game.

Puffing on a cigar, Garner said: "I'll probably catch some flak about this, but for me the question goes more and more toward individual liberties. Yes, I would prefer that the kids didn't do it, and if we were role models to that extent, I would prefer that we didn't do it."

"But to what extent do you go because you're a role model to exterminate your individual liberties? Because once they go, you don't get them back; you don't get them back without a revolution. Unfortunately, in my lifetime, I've seen individual liberties slip away and I think it's a serious problem in our society."

— *The Charlotte Observer*, July 7, 1997

### Wrong about rights

Pop quiz: How many U.S. Senators are there? One in two Americans doesn't know the answer is 100, according to a survey on the U.S. Constitution. And two in five don't know the government has three branches, let alone what they are.

The survey also found that:

- Sixteen percent incorrectly think the Constitution declares Christianity the official U.S. religion.

- Thirty-five percent wrongly believe that the document declares English the premier language.

- Twenty-four percent cannot name any of the First Amendment rights, and only 6% can name all four—freedom of speech, press, assembly and religion.

— *THE ASSOCIATED PRESS*  
September 16, 1997

### Dangerous food

The recall of 25 million pounds of ground beef because of suspected E. coli contamination has rattled consumers and sparked a national debate about whether government food safety inspection practices are adequate.

What are we to do? First, we must use modern technology to address the problem of food contamination. Irradiation, very similar to giving food an X-ray, completely destroys any bacteria or pathogens that might be present. It is inexpensive and widely used abroad. The Food and Drug Administration steadfastly refuses to legalize irradiation of beef.

Second, we need to get government out of the food inspection business. Private food quality assurance programs have proven far more thorough, effective and technically advanced. Consider their track record in the Kosher food industry. Approximately 130 private organizations certify Kosher food for 8,100 companies producing 36 million Kosher products each year. Their record is sterling.

— *JERRY TAYLOR*  
Cato Institute, *Washington Times*, September 4, 1997

### Best and brightest

During a House Science Committee trip to the Mars Pathfinder Mission Control Center in Pasadena, panel member Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX) made this remarkable query: "Did the Pathfinder mission succeed in taking pictures of the American flag planted by astronaut Neil Armstrong in 1969?"

— *Washington Times Weekly Edition*, September 21, 1997

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# Perry Willis

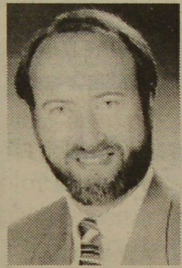
Continued from Page 4

I came to the job with a set of firm strategic convictions, built up over 13 years of activity.

First, some things need to be done by pros. Steve Dasbach and Bill Winter shared this conviction. We had to professionalize, and so we did.

Second, the best way to travel a long distance is through a determined series of small steps. I called this idea *relentless incrementalism*. Steve Dasbach agreed and translated it into a mandate that we take the time to fix problems so that they *stayed fixed*.

Third, membership growth is the key to eventual success. This was the model Bill Winter had used in New Hampshire, and Steve Dasbach had already adopted it as a core strategy for the national party. We were all



■ Perry Willis

on the same page from day one.

Fourth, the best way to recruit new members is to discover people who are *already* philosophical libertarians, and waste no time trying to convert people who aren't.

I called this "discovery before persuasion."

Fifth, a sufficiently large membership would allow us to implement something I called Operation Everywhere — a concerted program of advertising and grass roots activism that would make us visible to everyone, everywhere, every day.

## More in four years

These are the concepts that have helped us to accomplish more in the past four years than in all of the LP's previous history. We have gone from a staff of three to ten. From a rundown townhouse to the Watergate Office Building. From no media coverage to constantly expanding media coverage. From declining membership to a membership *twice* what it was four years ago. From a poor organization to a multi-million dollar enterprise.

I am proud of what I accomplished as National Director, but on September 17th, 1997, that tenure came to an end — four years to the day since I arrived in Washington, DC.

I have done what I could do as National Director, and now I am taking on a new role, to ensure that we recruit enough members to implement Operation Everywhere. My thanks go out to everyone who has helped to make all of this possible.

# THE ROAD TO VICTORY

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*That's right: It's only eight months until the biggest LP event of the year — the 1998 Libertarian National Convention.*

The theme of the convention: "The Road to Victory."

The convention will be a celebration of the growth of the Libertarian Party over the past several years, and is your opportunity to help chart the course of the party through the year 2000.

As a delegate, you will:

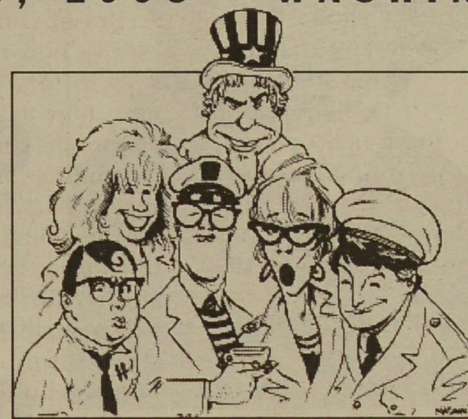
- Debate and vote on the LP Platform.
- Select the LP's leadership for the next two years.
- Hear a fascinating line-up of speakers, experts, and panels.
- Meet hundreds of fellow Libertarian activists from all over the nation.

The convention will be held in Washington, DC — which means that it's an ideal convention to which to bring your *entire* family.

There's plenty to keep *anyone* busy in Washington, DC: Art museums; national monuments; the White House; historic Georgetown; world-class restaurants; theater; the Smithsonian Museum; the Potomac River & Parks; and Arlington National Cemetery.

Plan to be a part of the 1998 Libertarian National Convention.

Plan to be part of the "Road to Victory"!



## Capitol Steps

**W**ho says politics has to be deadly serious? The Capitol Steps don't — and they'll bring their unique brand of musical comedy to the Libertarian Party's 1998 National Convention to prove it.

The Capitol Steps, Washington DC's preeminent political satirists, will perform on Thursday, July 2nd.

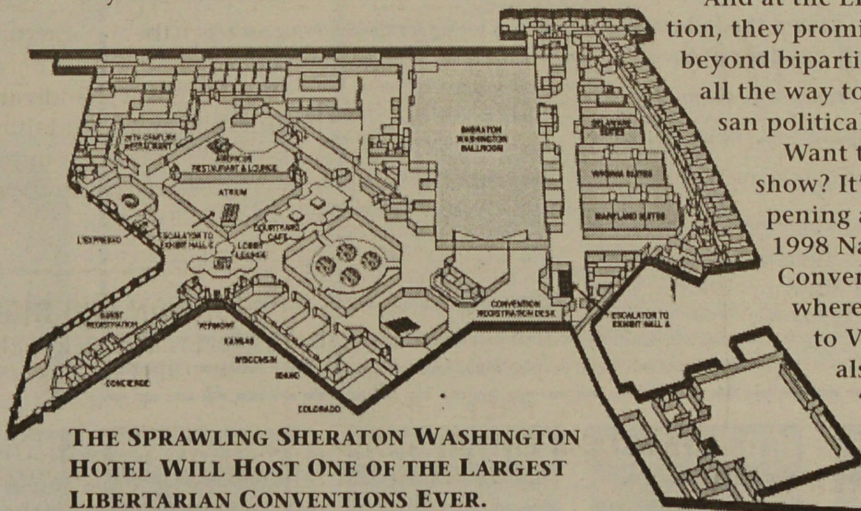
What can Libertarians expect?

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, "Sharp edged political humor." The *Washington Post* called them "high energy political satire." And the *Boston Globe* wrote: "Up-to-the-minute parodies of political shenanigans."

Former Capitol Hill staffers with a talent for singing and satire, the Capitol Steps have become a "must-see" for visitors to the nation's capital.

And at the LP convention, they promise to go beyond bipartisanship — all the way to *tri-partisan* political satire.

Want to see the show? It's all happening at the LP's 1998 National Convention — where the "Road to Victory" is also the "Road to Comedy."



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July 2 - 5, 1998. (Thursday to Sunday.)

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The Sheraton Washington is a world-class convention hotel — and the largest hotel and meeting place in the nation's capital. It has 1,505 guest rooms and 46 meeting rooms — including a 30,000 square foot ballroom, which will serve as the main convention hall for the Libertarian Party.

### EVENTS

- Election of party officers
- Election of the National Committee
- LP Platform debate and changes
- Major speakers (to be announced)
- Huge vendor & exhibitor area
- Candidate training sessions
- Gala banquet & awards
- 4th of July fireworks
- The Capitol Steps

### PRICES & RESERVATIONS

Convention package prices will be announced in the next issue of *LP News*. Starting next month, early reservations (at special discount prices) will be accepted. Complete details will be featured in the December *LP News*.

(For delegates, all the business sessions of the convention are free.)

### LODGING

Special discount room prices of only \$105 per night have been negotiated at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Phone: (202) 328-2000.

### DELEGATES

Official delegate counts for each state will be announced shortly after December 31, 1997. Each state party will select its delegates in accordance with its own bylaws.



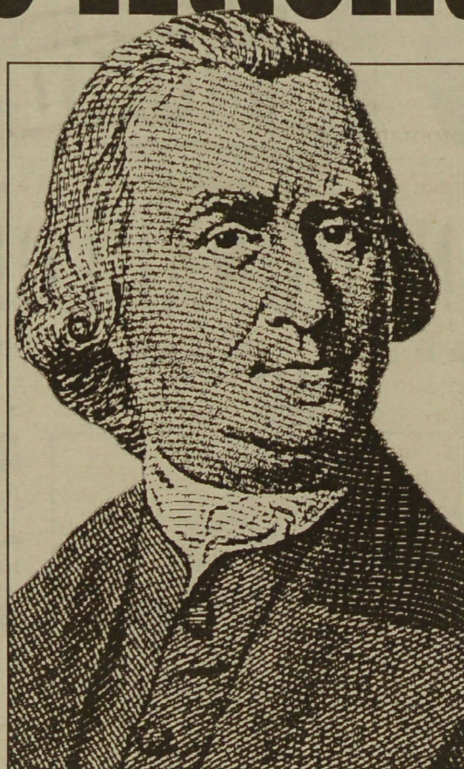
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Success '97 are two-day, intensive leadership workshops being held by the LP around the USA.

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Atlanta. (Dates below.) Sessions are held Saturday and Sunday, with a gala banquet each Saturday night.

**Q What can Libertarians learn at Success '97?**

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political victory. Success '97 is your chance to acquire the skills you need to build LP affiliate parties — or to run a successful campaign.

**Q Who can attend Success '97?**

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**Q What if I want to attend?**

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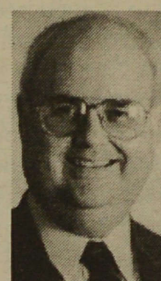
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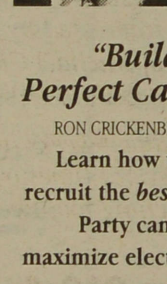
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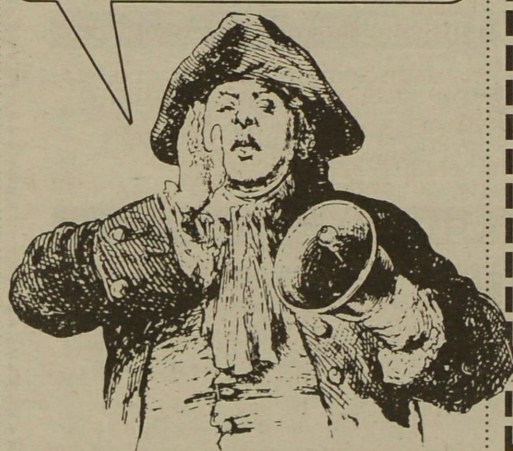
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September 27 & 28, 1997  
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**WEST COAST**  
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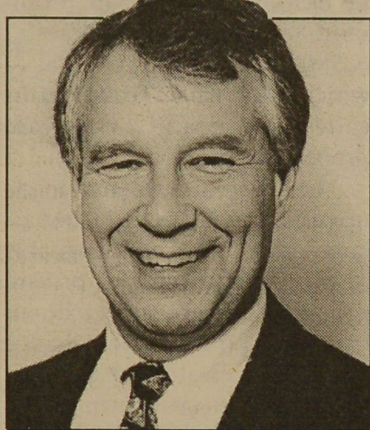
# Wisconsin LP prepares plan to oppose tax-backed hotel

Libertarians blast \$42 million project in Madison as corporate "giveaway"

**W**isconsin Libertarians are organizing to halt a proposed city-backed hotel and convention center from being built in downtown Madison — a project which they call a "sweetheart deal" for a developer and "a financial loss waiting to happen" for local taxpayers.

Their first goal: To try to get the issue on the ballot via referendum to let local voters decide.

"Tax-funding for the convention center and hotel is a very bad plan all around," said LP member Chris Dollard. "We will ask the city council to place the proposed plan up for referendum — if they refuse, we will force the



■ Wisconsin LP State Chair Jim Mueller

referendum through a petition drive. Once we accomplish that

first step, then we can concentrate on killing the project on Election Day."

The proposed plan would give the Marcus Corporation a brand new \$42.8 million hotel — "and the taxpayers will foot almost all of the risk," said Dollard.

And that risk could be significant, he said.

"Every public and private study has reached the conclusion that this convention center and hotel will never be profitable. And the small chance that it is profitable hinges on the downfall of other hotels in the city," said Dollard. "Do we want taxpayer dollars to be used for the benefit of a new business, at the expense of existing businesses?"

Dollard and Wisconsin LP State Chair Jim Mueller have also met with an attorney to discuss potential legal options to fight the corporate giveaway, and are also meeting with community activists who oppose the plan.

Dollard said it's important for Libertarians to fight the plan because "the risk falls to the taxpayers of Madison"—and because the LP must "take up the fight for liberty, one issue at a time!"

## Libertarians offer a Valentine's Day cruise

**L**ooking for a *Libertarian* way to celebrate Valentine's Day? Here's one suggestion: Take the special Valentine's Day cruise being offered by the Northeast Indiana Libertarians.

"This is a chance to spend Valentine's Day on *The Love Boat* with other Libertarians nationwide," said Ken Bisson, who is coordinating the trip.

The cruise takes place February 14-21, 1998, on the boat *The Sun Princess*. Sailing from Fort Lauderdale, FL, the ship makes stops at the Bahamas, Jamaica, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel.

Price: \$964 per person (including taxes and port charges).

"If you want to do something special for Valentine's Day, this is for you!" said Bisson, who is the Region 3 LNC Representative.

Interested? "I will be keeping an e-mail list and sending updates to those considering this trip," said Bisson.

For information, send Bisson a message with subject 'Cruise' at: kbisson@usa.net.

# HowTo

## Get the 'L-word' in the newspaper more often

By James W. Harris

**W**ant to get the word "Libertarian" mentioned in the newspaper more often? The good news is that most newspapers provide significant forums for Libertarian ideas to get covered. Here are some examples. . .

■ **"Questions on the News" columns.** Some newspapers have a feature like the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* "Q & A on the News." These popular features answer readers' questions about items in the news. It's very simple to put this kind of feature to work for you: Just pick up the phone, call in, and ask a relevant Libertarian-oriented question.

One recent example: When the *Journal-Constitution* ran a story about Georgia's Senatorial candidates, but didn't mention the LP candidate, I simply called "Q&A On The News" and asked what they could tell me about him. The result was a long (and positive) paragraph, complete with picture.

This past year, when the Republican Party announced the theme of their convention would be "Restoring the American Dream," I called "Q & A" and asked if that wasn't the title of a best-selling Libertarian book a decade or so back. Result: a brief interview with Libertarian Party Communications Director Bill Winter on the topic!

One point: This works best when you tie it in to a specific news event, news story, or personality in the news. So phrase your questions with that in mind. And don't make your call obvious propaganda. Use the feature as it's intended — to give people additional information on news stories.

■ **Local meeting announcements and coverage.** Small papers are hungry for copy. Many of them will not only run announcements of an upcoming local Libertarian meeting, they might even run a photo of the speaker. Look at the paper, see how they handle similar events, and try it.

Larger papers, too, have "Events" sections. They might not give as much coverage, but even a date, time, place, speaker, and topic announcement in a major paper can be a big boost. Find out how your local paper(s) handle these events, and keep them aware of what you're doing.

You never know: Two years ago, some Atlanta Libertarians arranged an event featuring Harry Browne. They wrote up an excellent press release, and — surprise! — the "Events" section of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* devoted a large section to the announcement, naming it the "Event of the Day."

■ **Local news about Libertarians.** Many Libertarians have won awards for local LP volunteer work, have been nominated for important positions in local organizations, or have been chosen as delegates. These are great opportunities for coverage, especially in smaller community papers.

I wish every Libertarian group would send out a simple press release, perhaps with a head shot or action photo, of events like the following:

◆ **Election of officers to local or state positions.** "Joe Jones was named secretary of the LP of Nebraska at that state's convention last week. Jones, a local businessman, has been active with the party . . ." and so on.

◆ **Naming of delegates.** Each election year, LP members elect delegates to state and national conventions. This is potentially big news: How many people, after all, are named delegates to conventions? Press releases, including, if possible, photos, to local papers about these people would give great publicity for Libertarian organizations, and make them seem more important and more "real" to local folks.

**Editor's note:** This is Part II of a three-part series. Next month: Which newspapers to target, and organizing your efforts. This essay reprinted from the Winter 1997 issue of *The Liberator*, a publication of the non-partisan Advocates for Self-Government. Information: (800) 932-1776.

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— Jim Lewis, 1984 LP vice-presidential candidate

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# AFFILIATE NEWS

## Jail taxes, judges, & speed limits

### Colorado

Libertarians are active in a campaign to stop a proposed tax increase — which could cost taxpayers over \$7 million.

State party members organized a forum at an October 23rd Boulder city council meeting to oppose a plan to hike property taxes by \$7.2 million. The money would be used to expand the Boulder County jail.

"We've had a flat crime rate, yet the incarceration rate keeps going up because authorities are jailing people for non-violent crimes," said **Judd Ptak**, the Colorado LP's legislative director.

### Florida

When it comes to ballot access, Florida residents agree with Libertarians: The system needs to be more fair.

A September poll by Rasmussen Research shows that a whopping 79% of Floridians favor reforming the state's ballot access laws, which are among the most restrictive in the nation.

Libertarians sent the results of the poll to the media to generate support for their campaign to reform Florida's "discriminatory" laws — which require third-party candidates for statewide office to collect over 240,000 signatures to get on the ballot.



### Ideas, information, and balloons

Ideas were discussed and information was distributed by members of the LP of Wisconsin when they staffed a booth at the State Fair in early August. Shown here: Past State Chair Ron Emery talking with a fairgoer.

Metro Milwaukee LP Chair Bob Collison, who headed the booth project, said 4,500 balloons were distributed to children and senior citizens — "but more important was the reception we received from the many fairgoers. Gone are the days of the snide comments and weird looks. In their place are people who are fed up with the two old parties."

"These results are testimony to the wisdom and sense of fair play of Florida voters," said State Chair **Nick Dunbar**.

### Florida

Hoping to curb activist judges — "who make the law

rather than interpreting it" — the state LP joined forces with a number of other groups at a Citizens for Judicial Reform meeting in Orlando.

State Chair **Nick Dunbar** represented the LP at the gathering, which was prompted by the state Supreme Court's nullification of a popularly enacted tax limitation amendment. Also attending: The Christian Coalition, the James Madison Institute, and Judicial Watch.

Attendees explored a number of options to curb the power of judges, including competitive non-partisan elections, term limits for judges, and a recall process, said Dunbar.

### Kentucky

It's never too early to start ballot access work for the 2000 election — so the state party kicked off its petitioning drive in October.

"Imagine! [We could get] the 2000 presidential drive out of the way three years early," said State Chair **Carl T. Wimmer**. "Getting this drive over early would bring several advantages, such as giving us the chance to better allocate our financial resources for candidates near election time."

The state LP has hired a professional petitioner to start gathering the 5,000 required signa-

tures, and is asking party members to volunteer to help as well.

### Maine

Who should decide if you can cut down trees on your own property?

A referendum question in Maine would give the state government that power, so the state LP has joined the group "Common Sense for Maine's Forests" (CSMF) to fight the proposal — which State Chair **Dick Eaton** called "an assault on private property rights."

CSMF is "an alliance made up of conservatives and Libertarians," said Eaton, and its goal is to protect the right of private property owners to cut down trees on their land. The alliance has already created a legal fund for besieged property owners and enlisted the support of talk radio station WVOM in Bangor.

### Montana

Montana is the one state without a daytime speed limit on

its highways — and LP State Chair **Mike Fellows** wants to keep it that way.

Fellows is fighting an effort to call the Montana legislature into special session to set a daytime speed limit, which was abolished in December 1995. Currently, the state requires that motorists drive at a "reasonable and prudent speed."

Yes, there has been a slight increase in state highway fatalities this year, said Fellows, but it's caused by "negligence rather than speed." And politicians calling for the special session — which would cost taxpayers \$35,000 a day — are like "Chicken Little running around saying the sky is falling," he said. "They don't have any hard evidence for their claim."

### New Jersey

A citizens' group headed by LP member **John Paff** has won a victory against the property seizure policy of the Somerset County Courthouse.

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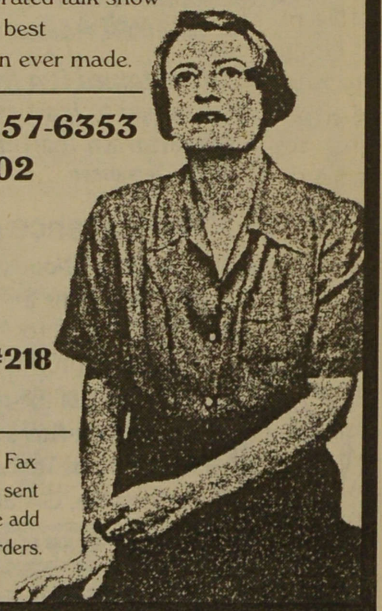
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Members of the group, Citizens for Justice/Somerset County (CJSC), witnessed an incident in March in which a sheriff's officer refused to return a penknife that a man had left behind so he could pass through a metal detector.

After three written requests to return the knife were denied, the group sued the sheriff. The county counsel conceded that the group's legal argument was correct — and ordered the sheriff to return the knife.

Although the penknife in question was a small item, the principle of the case is important, said Paff: "People should not be deprived of their property without due process of law."

## Ohio

Libertarians in Toledo took on a formidable array of special-interest groups as they fought a proposed income tax renewal for city residents — but lost in a special election.

On September 9th, city voters approved a four-year extension of the \$48 million tax, which had been endorsed by the local Democratic and Republican Parties, the Teamsters Union, the United Auto Workers Union, the Chamber of Commerce and various public employees unions.

Standing in solo opposition: Libertarian Party candidates for City Council, who were angrily scolded by politicians for opposing the tax. But **Thomas Berkebile**, LP candidate for City Council, said city officials didn't need a new tax, but needed "to go work on their budgeting skills. There's a lot of waste going on."

## Oregon

Proportional representation — that's the goal of a ballot initiative that Libertarians are working to place before voters for the November 1998 election.

Under such a system, a party would be awarded seats in the State House based on the percentage of the votes it received — so if Libertarians got 10% of the vote, they would be entitled to 10% of the House seats.

Oregon LP member **Jon Zimmer** is a chief petitioner for the drive, which requires 97,681 signatures to appear on the ballot. Working with the LP are the Pacific and Socialist parties.

## Vermont

Libertarians are playing a leading role in a campaign to challenge the state's new property tax law, which deprives towns of the power to set their own tax rates and lets the state government impose one uniform, statewide formula.

LP State Chair **Chris Costanzo** told a group of elected officials opposed to the law at an

August 28th meeting that "the Libertarian Party is behind you 100%. This tax increase has nothing to do with running the government but everything to do with redistributing wealth."

The proposed law "has struck a nasty chord with voters," said Costanzo — so it's important that the LP "be visible in denouncing this legislation and reminding people that we were among its earliest opponents."

## Wisconsin

Madison Libertarians struck a blow for "automobile and

property rights" when they criticized the City Council for cracking down on backyard parking in early September.

The City Council voted on September 2nd to renew enforcement of the 1966 ban on commuter parking — a law which will increase parking costs, reduce the number of city parking spaces, and reduce real estate values, argued Libertarians.

In response, local LP members are starting a project to "research and author a proposal to privatize Madison parking," said State Chair **Jim Mueller**.

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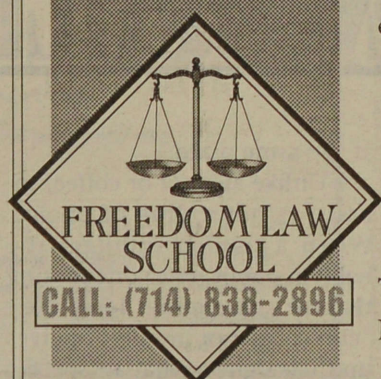


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# THE ISSUES

**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.

## 60,000 gun-toting bureaucrats

A new report revealing that almost 60,000 federal employees now carry weapons has prompted the LP to come out in favor of gun control—for the federal government.

According to a study by the General Accounting Office (GAO), an astounding 60,000 government employees in 45 different agencies now carry guns as a routine part of their job.

And it's not just law enforcement agents: Poultry inspectors, park rangers, and disaster aid workers are all allowed to carry weapons — in addition to special agents from the Small Business Administration, NASA, the Department of Education, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and even the Department of Veterans Affairs, noted Steve Dasbach, national LP chairman.

"Federal employees have gone nuts — *gun nuts*," he said. "It's time to impose a waiting period on the federal government, while the American people conduct a background check on these armed and potentially dangerous bureaucrats."

## Uncle Sam says: Just say no to sex

Uncle Sam doesn't want you to have sex. In fact, the government is so determined to stamp out unapproved sexual activity that it's spending \$50 million to teach young Americans the joy of sexual abstinence, the Libertarian Party noted.

"A Congress that can't say no when it comes to wasting money thinks it can teach American teenagers to say no when it comes to sex," said Dasbach.

In October, the federal government handed out \$50 million in grant money to states to promote abstinence until marriage. The new "just say no to sex" program is intended to cut down on teenage pregnancies and reduce government welfare costs.

But the only thing the program will accomplish, said Dasbach, is to illustrate the difference between Republicans and Democrats.

"Democrats want the federal government to spend our money to encourage irresponsibility — through welfare programs that subsidize children born out of wedlock," he said. "Republicans, on the other hand, want the federal government to spend our money to lecture us about responsibility — through advertising campaigns that encourage abstinence."

"Only Libertarians think that sex is none of the federal government's business. We think that sexual decisions should be made by individuals, families, and churches. And the consequences of those decisions should be the responsibility of the same individuals, families, and churches — not the government," said Dasbach.

## The IRS is terrible... so let's give it more money

The IRS is a "troubled agency" that is "terrorizing innocent Americans and wrecking our lives," Congress says — so why did it vote to increase the agency's budget by \$600 million?

That's the question Libertarians asked in late September after politicians listened to three days of Congressional hearings about IRS abuses.

"You don't increase a bully's allowance just before you spank him," said Dasbach. "But that's exactly what Congress did."

"Politicians voted to give the Internal Revenue Service \$600 million more — so IRS agents can file more erroneous tax assessments, target more defenseless mom-and-pop businesses for harassment, use more fake names to cover their crimes, and drive more taxpayers to suicide," he said.

"America heard in graphic detail the crimes committed by the IRS — and learned how the IRS breaks the law, tramples our rights, and rifles through our pockets," said Dasbach. "But just one week before they held that public hearing, these politicians voted to increase the budget of the agency they are now criticizing. Libertarians want to know: If Congress wants to rein in the IRS, why did Congress give it *more* money to terrorize *more* Americans and wreck *more* lives?"

# Protect food from federal 'safety'

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

By Sheldon Richman

Future of Freedom Foundation

The record recall of hamburger meat from the Hudson Foods plant in Nebraska should prompt us to ask whether the government should be certifying the safety of America's food supply.

That may come as a shock. Doesn't the E. coli-contaminated beef show that we badly need government inspection? It seems we do not. The federal government has been inspecting meat for decades, and yet this contamination occurred. There was a worse outbreak in 1993 (the "Jack-in-the-Box" case), and the government is using the smaller scale of the current case to show that it is getting better at its job of keeping food clean.

But I would suggest that there is another way to interpret what is going on. Contrary to the claims of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, government inspection *doesn't* make you safer. It makes you more vulnerable.

It does so by removing food safety from your list of daily concerns. Some people would say it is good that we don't have to think about food safety. That is supposed to be the great benefit of having government take charge of the matter.

But since, as we've just been reminded, government cannot guarantee that food is untainted, are we really better off for thinking we need not be concerned? Maybe if we were not under the illusion that the government was certifying the safety of ground beef, nearly 20 people in Colorado would not have gotten sick.

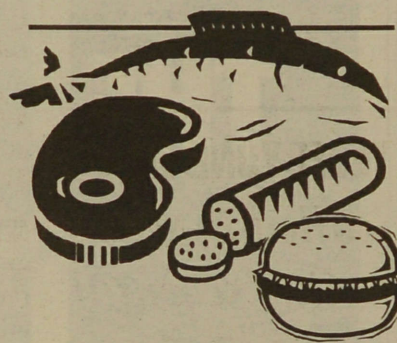
When government assures people that it is looking after

## LIBERTARIAN Solutions

something, it invariably lulls them into believing that they need not look after it themselves. Everyone sees the USDA seal on meat packages.

The upshot is that if government presumes to keep our food safe, we will be *less* vigilant and therefore *less* safe.

Does this mean there should be no inspection of meat plants? No. Only that there should be no



**COMPETITION**  
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government inspection. Competition is the best protector of consumers.

The perverse result of government inspection is that it removes safety as a factor of competition. If all companies are subject to the same government safety certification, they will not regard it as worthwhile to compete on the basis of safety. Minimum standards will tend to become maximums. Compliance with government standards will be a defense against lawsuits. (The exception proves the rule: Hebrew National, which makes kosher meat, brags that it answers to a "higher authority.")

In general, the government monopoly on certification neutralizes safety as a competitive issue. That's bad.

To see this point, imagine a food industry unregulated by government. Companies seeking to make profits will go to great lengths to assure their customers that their products are safe. Their advertisements would address the issue. They would brag that their procedures are better than their competitors'.

But that's not all. We would see the emergence of a *competitive* private inspection industry. Inspection companies would build reputations and profits on records of competence and honesty. Food companies would then make much of the fact that their plants are looked at by the inspectors with the best reputations. Private inspectors, whose profits would depend on reputation, would be less likely to become corrupt than the faceless inspection bureaucracies of the government.

This is not just theory. The safety certification of electrical appliances is performed not by government, but by Underwriters Laboratories, a private organization. Before a product gets the coveted UL stamp, it must meet rigorous standards. After decades of service, Underwriters Laboratories has such a sterling reputation that anything carrying the seal engenders confidence.

UL has been at it so long that safety is no longer a competitive factor. But that is only because of the *confidence* UL has worked so hard to achieve. There is no short cut to that situation.

Competition is the consumer's best friend, his best assurance of safety. Taking safety out of the competitive realm, therefore, is not in our interest.

When government says it is taking care of us, it lulls us into a false sense of security. But a false sense of security is worse than no sense of security at all.

# THE MAILBOX

## Smoking "assault"

Every libertarian seems to understand that a person's right to swing their fist stops at the tip of another person's nose.

But 91% of them can't seem to understand that a person's right to burn tobacco should stop

at the same place.

Unlike alcohol or coffee, tobacco is not a drug of choice. When a smoker indulges the habit in public, everyone sharing that air space either loses their "choice" to not indulge, or gives up their right to that air space.

It appears that the only libertarians capable of grasping the truth about secondhand smoke are those of us who suffer from respiratory allergies. That 9% of the population know, first hand, that tobacco smoke is a form of

See MAILBOX Page 17



# THE MAILBOX

physical assault — not just a controversial scent in the air.

**GRANT W. KUHN**  
Carlsbad, California

## The gift of membership

When I recently decided that I could afford to give a little money to the Libertarian Party, I chose to follow the lead of a fellow Libertarian. I paid for the membership of an associate whom I knew had Libertarian leanings, but still thought of himself as a Republican.

He filled out the application and I wrote out the check and sent it forward. All I asked of him was that he read the information sent by the party — and consider doing the same deed for someone else in the future.

**MICHAEL J. ECK SR.**  
Hammon, New Jersey

## Pay raise fallout

While listening to the radio I heard that our Congress has voted itself another raise. My first reaction was outrage. Then I thought: Should I really be upset? Everyone who called in to the show was hurling scornful remarks at Republicans and Democrats alike.

I sat and listened for a while to what sounded like a lynch mob. These same people voted to put these clowns in office; now they are all crying foul. They don't have any right to be angry — after all they are just getting what they voted for.

The Republicrats are driving

voters straight to our party — and I hope they keep up the good work. This will be good for the LP in 2000.

**DANIEL MARKS**  
Belle Chasse, California

## The NRA favors GOP

In the October issue of the *LP News*, a writer takes me to task for stating that the NRA only supports Republicans. Let's look at some facts.

When the Democrats passed the Brady Act and the Clinton gun ban, the NRA's response was immediate, vigorous, and continuous, as is proper for a pro-gun organization. When the Re-

killed concealed carry laws in their states by veto, the NRA went into attack mode. Governor Bill Graves, who happens to be Republican, did the same thing in Kansas, and the response from the NRA has been zero.

And let's not forget Bob Dole, who voted for the Gun Control Act of 1968, voted for a national waiting period during the Bush administration, and saved the Brady Act from certain defeat by filibuster. While the NRA stopped short of an outright endorsement, they repeatedly claimed that his record was "solidly pro gun."

Defending gun rights is, indeed, supposed to be the NRA's prime reason for being, but for the past two years, the NRA has given support or, at worst, a free ride to Republicans who shred the Second Amendment. Faulting the NRA for this is not ideological snobbery.

**CHRISTOPHER L. MINA**  
Kansas City, Kansas

## NRA endorses Libertarians

Re: Michael Skovan's letter (October *LP News*). The NRA does endorse Libertarians. The Libertarians endorsed may not win, but if they are the only ones in any particular race who return or answer the questionnaire, they will be endorsed.

It is only in those races where there are two contenders, both of whom answer in a manner that pleases the NRA, that the Libertarian may get short-changed by a lack of endorsement.

The NRA, in particular, prefers Republicans over Libertarians when it comes to winning — as Republicans have a proven track record of winning.

**HOWARD WILSON**  
Andover, New Hampshire

## Give back the money!

Murray Sabrin has been given space to espouse an anti-libertarian position, ("Matching Funds: Where I Stand," September *LP News*) yet equal time has not been given to the opposing point of view.

Dr. Sabrin states: "For a political party to give candidates options and then for a candidate to be criticized for exercising an option flies in the face of what the LP is supposed to stand for — individual choice."

I am not aware of the LP ever giving candidates this choice. All Dr. Sabrin can fairly say is that

See MAILBOX Page 18

# THE PULSE

## Time for an "image" makeover?

**D**oes the Libertarian Party have an "image" problem? You bet, say a large majority of Libertarians — but they disagree on what causes it and how to fix it. A whopping 77% of the Libertarians who responded to last month's Pulse question agreed that the LP's public image needs work.

Only 5% disagree, while 9% said the party "sometimes" has an image problem, and 9% gave no definite answer.

But what causes this image problem? Almost every answer was different — ranging from general ideology, to specific issues, to voter education, to Ayn Rand's influence, to the party's name. Here's a sampling of responses:

■ Libertarians are hampered by one thing — the name. The name "Libertarian" has inevitable connotations with two other words: libertine, and of course liberal.

— LOUIS CHANDLER, Monroeville, Pennsylvania

■ The LP seems too much like a conservative party. This is because of too much emphasis on the Constitution and the Founding Fathers, neither of which our movement is about. It is about individual rights, not tradition.

— KEITH MITCHEL DONAT, Shaker Heights, Ohio

■ A lot of people don't know enough about us. Folks don't trust something that they don't understand. We need a short, compelling explanation of what we are about.

— RON CLARK, Litchfield, Illinois

■ The party appears to be associated with very few incremental reforms and a large number of radical ones. Advocacy of immediate, sweeping change in all areas simultaneously is inevitably going to alienate voters.

— STEVEN DUBOIS, Salina, Kansas

■ Any image problem that we have is surely the result of our nonconformity, our iconoclasm, our refusal to accept the Republican/Democrat hegemony. There's nothing we can do about this except persist.

— BILL MURLEY, Holiday, Florida

■ A good part of the public thinks that Libertarians believe in the Social Darwinist notion of "Survival of the Fittest" [because] Libertarians have been implicated in the Randian attack on altruism. It is about time that the Libertarian movement emerge from behind Ms. Rand's shadow.

— ROBERT MAYNARD, Williston, Vermont

■ Singing to the choir and pretending that facts, not feelings, sway opinions will never get us into office. Our success is in telling our friends, one-on-one at the precinct level, that we defend, for every individual, the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

— DANNY PEELE, Raleigh, North Carolina

## December Pulse Question of the Month

**L**ast month marked the 40th anniversary of the publication of Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* — considered to be one of the most influential books on the modern libertarian movement. **QUESTION:** What *one* book most influenced your journey to libertarianism? And why? (Please keep your answers to 100 words or less.)

**Who can enter?** Any LP member or subscriber to *LP News*. Include your name; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month, please. **Deadline:** December 10th, 1997. Send responses:

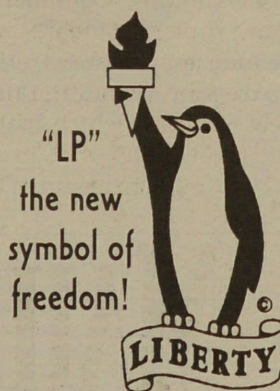
■ Via e-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include the word "Pulse" in the subject line.)

■ Via fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse)

■ Via mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: *LP News*/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

## Why "LP" — The Liberty Penguin?

- Donkeys and elephants dominate American politics.
- Lady Liberty is synonymous with the Empire State of New York.
- The befuddled masses yearn for a new beacon of freedom.
- Penguins symbolize cool.
- Penguins are personable, polite and principled.
- Penguins are popular.
- A penguin at play is a picture of freedom.
- Politics is not particularly pretty, but penguins are.
- The polity is primed.



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Carolina Beach Rd, Wilmington NC 28401



# THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 17

we do not prohibit it outright. I am, however, aware that the LP Program specifically states that we support: "Ending government funding of any political party or candidate."

Although we recognize the need for Dr. Sabrin to "play by the rules," he still has the option of accepting this money and then returning it, either to the state or to the taxpayers directly.

It's not too late: Dr. Sabrin, please give the money back!

**GREG DIRASIAN**

Jensen Beach, Florida

## Return it to the taxpayers

Like many other Libertarians, I was proud of Harry Browne when he made the decision, based on principle, to reject federal matching funds during the 1996 campaign. I was later surprised by the fact that few people outside of the party seemed to know or care about this decision, however.

I got to thinking about matching funds again after reading about Dr. Sabrin's campaign. New Jersey law mandates that Dr.

## IMAGINE THE headlines:

**"Libertarians give back \$4,000,000!"**

Sabrin would have to accept matching funds in order to be eligible for the televised debates. The issue then became, given the fact a Libertarian accepts matching funds, what should he/she do with the money?

Then it hit me. What if our candidates accepted matching funds, and then turned around and mailed the money back to individual taxpayers? Obviously, it would be futile to send back an equal fraction of the money to every taxpayer, but what if we aggregated the money into \$100 increments, and mailed it out to random taxpayers across the country? The "Great Giveback" would almost assuredly arouse

media attention. Imagine the newspaper headlines: "Libertarians give back \$4,000,000!"

When Harry Browne refused matching funds, that unused money was just redirected to other government programs. We could do even better than that by accepting the money and then returning it to the taxpayers.

**ERIC MARQUIS**

Fruitland, Idaho

## Pro-choice on abortion

Josh Corn's concern (September LP News) that the LP doesn't respect the moral values of all its members because of its pro-choice stand really got me riled up.

One of the problems with this debate is that the dichotomy is all screwed up. It should be either pro-abortion/anti-abortion or pro-choice/anti-choice. As the party of freedom, of course the LP is going to be pro-choice in the latter grouping. *Freedom means having a choice!*

So please Josh, realize that the pro-choice stand respects the moral values of not only those who are *for* abortion but those who are *against* it. By taking a pro-choice position, the LP is ensuring us that it will never enact legislation to prohibit abortion or force it upon us either.

**CINDY POWELL**

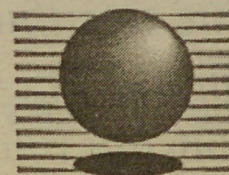
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**You can help change that by joining the Libertarian Party!** We're the only political party that is fighting — with 100% of our energy — to lower taxes, to reduce the size of government, and to defend the Bill of Rights. With your support — and your 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.**

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Join the Libertarian Party today!**

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

I have enclosed \$25. I'll receive 12 issues of your monthly party newspaper, LP News, and a Libertarian Party membership card.

**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.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

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☐ Enclosed is \$25. I'd rather not join the party just yet. Instead, please sign me up for a one-year subscription to the party newspaper, LP News (12 monthly issues).

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(No corporate checks, please.)

Or: Please bill my ☐ Visa

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ACCT. #

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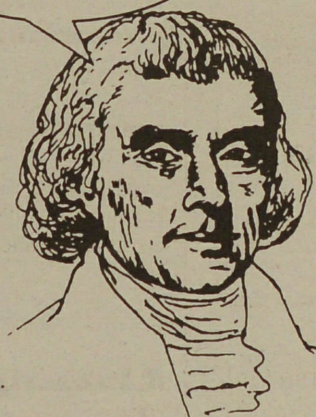
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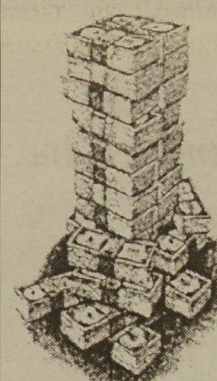
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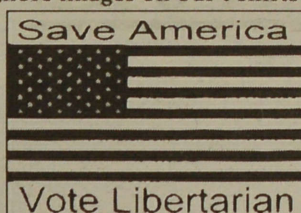
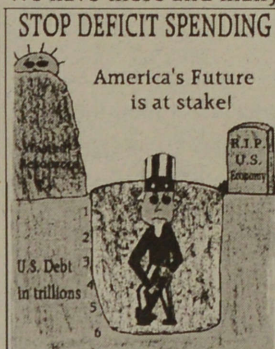
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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## October 30, 1997

**Heartland Institute's 13th Anniversary Benefit & Dinner**, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois. Speakers include Tanya Metaksa (NRA). For information, call 847-202-3060.

## November 8-9, 1997

**Success '97**, Denver, CO. For information call 202-333-0085.

## November 15-16, 1997

**SLAM! State Libertarian Activists' Meeting**, Las Colinas Wingate Inn, near Dallas/Fort Worth airport. For information, call Texas LP Chairman Jay Manifold at 972-405-8634.

## November 21-22, 1997

**Separation of School & State Alliance Conference**, Arlington, Virginia. Speakers: Howard Phillips, Joseph Sobran, & John Taylor Gatto. For information, call 888-338-1776.

## December 13-14, 1997

**Libertarian National Committee Meeting**, Washington DC. For information call 202-333-0085.

## January 10 & 11, 1998

**Success '97**, Atlanta, GA. For information call 202-333-0085.

## February 14-16, 1998

**California LP Convention**, Hyatt Regency-Los Angeles Hotel, Los Angeles, CA. Speakers include LP National Chairman

Steve Dasbach, Radio talk show host Gene Burns, Dr. John Hospers, and 1980 LP presidential candidate Ed Clark. For information call (562) 428-8113. Or via e-mail: LauraMcf@aol.com

## February 20-22, 1998

**Pennsylvania LP Convention**, Marriott Hotel, Harrisburg, PA. For information, call (717) 292-6028

## March 21, 1998

**Tennessee LP Convention**, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville, TN. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger and 1996 presidential candidate Harry Browne. For information call (615) 773-7090.

## May 2-3, 1998

**Washington state LP Convention**, Seattle, WA. Speakers include Harry Browne and Michael Cloud.

## May 9, 1998

**West Virginia LP Convention**, Holiday Inn Charleston House, Charleston WV. Speakers include National LP Chairman Steve Dasbach, author Mary Ruwart, and 1996 gubernatorial candidate Wallace Johnson. For information call John Brown at (800) 950-3421.

## July 2-5, 1998

**Libertarian Party National Convention**, Washington, DC; for information call 202-333-0008.

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# INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** *Third parties rally for Ron Paul's ballot access legislation*

■ **PAGE 3** *Coalition falls short in anti-Congressional pay raise campaign*



# FIRST WORD

**L**ike many news-drenched Americans, I paid only casual attention to the standoff at Waco, Texas, between the Branch Davidians and two agencies of the federal government. I came away with the vague impression that the "cult" was a group of gun-toting crackpots. Watching William Gazecki's remarkable documentary *Waco: The Rules of Engagement*, it is pretty clear that the original raid was staged as a publicity stunt, and the final raid was a government riot — a tragedy caused by uniformed boys with toys.

Whatever happened at Waco, these facts remain: It is not against the law to hold irregular religious beliefs. It is not illegal to hold and trade firearms. It is legal to defend your own home against armed assault, if that assault is illegal. It is impossible to see this film without reflecting that the federal government, from the top down, treated the Branch Davidians as if those rights did not apply.

— Film Critic Roger Ebert, September 19, 1997