

Outreach

Selling the benefits of freedom

By HARRY BROWNE

The computer revolution has transformed America dramatically. The revolution has succeeded not just because of technological progress, but also because the technology has been sold effectively to the American people.

That revolution has a great deal to teach us about how freedom will come to America.

Companies such as Microsoft, IBM, Apple, and Lotus have converted millions of people into computer users. But suppose they had tried to do so by imploring their prospects to learn about such arcane matters as binary numbers, open and closed gates, loops, and calls. Suppose they had told people that they couldn't use computers until they had read a sufficient number of books to understand the inner workings of computers.

Had they done so, today there would be only a few thousand computer users, and computers would still cost hundreds of thousands of dollars apiece.

Instead, computer companies prospered by showing people the benefits of computers:

- You can write a letter, a report, an essay, or even a book — and edit it endlessly without ever having to retype anything but the words you want to change.

- Anyone who understands simple arithmetic can use a computer spreadsheet easily to investigate and test complex business or financial plans.

These benefits were so dramatic and so compelling that once people began using a word-processing program, they never went back to a typewriter. Once they used a computer for anything mathematical, they never went back to a calculator.

As a result, there are tens of millions of computer users today. Most of them still don't know how computers get the job done, and they never will. Their sophistication is limited to recording a few repetitive tasks. But they are committed to using computers and they'll never again settle for anything less.

At the same time, some people who were exposed to computers *did* become inspired to learn more about the workings of them. Some of them have become skilled

see **Selling** on page 9

Major-party status for West Virginia LP

The Libertarian Party of West Virginia has become the state's first new recognized political party since 1924.

Dr. Wallace Johnson, the LP's gubernatorial candidate, won approximately 16,000 votes, 2.6 percent, in the November election, and earned the LP major-party status.

Major-party status gives the Libertarian Party the right to run candidates in any West Virginia election in 1998 and 2000 without having to petition for ballot access. Johnson needed to win at least 1 percent of the total gubernatorial vote, or approximately 6,200 votes.

"We are elated," said John K. Brown, chair of the state LP. "This was the first step necessary in building a major political party in West Virginia. Now we will no longer spend much of our time, effort, and money just to get on the ballot. Our next mission is to field local candidates in 1998 and 2000."

"I'm happy with the vote total we received," Johnson

First new political party in WV in 72 years

said. "It could have been higher, but people seemed to vote with their fears in mind and not their hopes. If I had a dollar for every person who told me, 'I'd love to vote for you, but I'm afraid candidate X might win,' I'd be a very rich man."

The LP accomplished what Ross Perot's Reform Party and many other third parties have failed to do during the past 72 years. The victory was a formal acceptance of the ideas of minimal government, but also an indictment of the failures of the Democrats and Republicans, according to Brown.

"Libertarians are fiscal conservatives who defend individual liberty," Brown said, "and as we educate the public of our philosophy we will continue to grow. Our future is looking bright."

Libertarian Party NEWS



January 1997

The Party of Principle

VOLUME 12 • NUMBER 1

Happy 25th LP celebrations across the country

Libertarians across the country—from South Carolina to California—celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Libertarian Party in December.

In South Carolina, members met at the Eagle's Nest in West Columbia to recognize both the LP anniversary and the anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights.

South Carolina LP state Chair Rodney Travis invited "all freedom loving Americans to join us in celebrating liberty... and take a few moments to re-read the Bill of Rights, remember the sacrifices our forefathers made for those precious liberties, and reaffirm your own dedication to the defense and preservation of these freedoms."

"Sadly, government now has strayed very far from the original vision of limited powers. Today there is no aspect of our lives—public or private—that government regards as exempt from its jurisdiction and control," Travis said.

Special guest speaker at the South Carolina gathering was Jo Jorgensen, the 1996 Libertarian Party vice

see **Celebrations** on page 5

Libertarian Party: 25 years and growing

The Libertarian Party celebrated its 25th anniversary on Wednesday, Dec. 11, marking a quarter century as America's most politically active, successful, and influential third party.

"We've established ourselves as the most important third party of the latter half of the 20th century," said Steve Dasbach, LP national chair. "Now we're working to become the dominant major party of the first half of the 21st century."

In passing the quarter-century mark, the Libertarian Party becomes one of only eight parties in American history to remain politically active for 25 years.

During those years, the party has run thousands of candidates for public office, elected hundreds of officeholders, racked up tens of

millions of votes, and grown to include 125,000 registered voters in 28 states, "remarkable accomplishments, given the humble nature of the party's beginning," Dasbach noted.

It was on Dec. 11, 1971, that eight individuals met in Colorado Springs, CO, and formally voted to form the Libertarian Party.

The impetus? The imposition of wage and price controls by President Richard Nixon—and the belief that Republicans and Democrats had drifted too far from the original libertarian vision of the nation's Founding Fathers.

"Over the previous four months, we had been operating under the name 'Committee to Form a Libertarian Party,'" recalled David Nolan, one of the founding members. But growing concern over Nixon's "authoritarian" presidency made the group decide, Nolan said, that "a new political party, dedicated to

the uncompromising defense of individual liberty, was needed now!"

Since then, the Libertarian Party has helped to fundamentally shift the nature of American political debate—despite the fact that it has yet to elect a congressman or president.

"Libertarian ideas that were considered outlandish 20 years ago—like privatizing government services, ending the War on Drugs, replacing Social Security with private retirement accounts, and so on—are part of mainstream politics now," Dasbach said. "Libertarianism has become one of the most powerful intellectual forces in America."

Indeed, the party's philosophy—a mix of left-wing-style defense of civil liberties and right-wing-style advocacy of free markets, overlaid with a healthy distrust of government power—has permeated the nation's political dialogue.

see **Anniversary** on page 6

1996 Libertarian Party election results

Connecticut

Carl Vassar	State Senate, District 22	696	2%	
Joe Bucciarelli	State Senate, District 25	705	2%	
Willey Moore	State Senate, District 32	709	2%	
Rich Loomis	State House, District 60	353	5%	
George Eggert	State House, District 66	1,331	13%	3-way

Indiana

James Satterthwaite	State Senate, District 30	954	1.9%	
Tony Satterthwaite	State Senate, District 32	653	1.6%	
Mark Marich	State Senate, District 33	691	2.4%	
Jeff Satterthwaite	State Senate, District 36	2,487	8.9%	
Mark Rumps	State House, District 27	486	2.1%	
Colin Roney	State House, District 35	488	2.4%	
Joe Gravagna	State House, District 38	1,935	8%	
Thomas Hallett	State House, District 40	417	2.3%	
Scott Baker	State House, District 49	2,043	12.8%	
Rebecca Sink-Burris	State House, District 61	1,957	15.2%	
Jason Godsey	State House, District 86	643	2.5%	
Bo Pogue	State House, District 87	417	1.8%	
John Pasqua	State House, District 88	722	3.9%	
John Currotto	State House, District 90	319	1.5%	
Dan Ferris	State House, District 93	1,527	9.2%	
Mike Neal	State House, District 94	365	1.9%	
Andrew Horning	State House, District 96	360	2.3%	
Scott Upton	State House, District 98	300	2.3%	
Webster Smith	State House, District 99	333	2.4%	
Frank Brogan	State House, District 100	240	2.3%	
Heather Harrison	Center Township Board	110	2%	
Bradley Klopfenstein	Center Township Board	129	2.1%	
Robbin Stewart	Center Township Board	162	5.7%	
Paul Yearwood	Center Township Board	175	3.5%	
Kay Matthews	Center Township Board	131	3.1%	
Eric Barnes	Lawrence Township Board	66	2.1%	
James Wolfinger	Lawrence Township Board	232	2.2%	
Mark Cudworth	Lawrence Township Board	139	3.2%	
Joseph Hauptmann	Lawrence Township Board	134	4.1%	
Andrew Van Vlyman	Perry Township Board	65	1.4%	
Bryan Van Vlyman	Perry Township Board	89	1.9%	
Robert Place	Pike Township Board	55	1.5%	
Timothy Copeland	Pike Township Board	51	1.5%	
James Rainey	Warren Township Board	106	10.4%	
Jake Winkles	Warren Township Board	95	2.3%	
Lila Satterthwaite	Warren Township Board	152	4.5%	
J.L. Sosna	Warren Township Board	84	3.6%	

Indiana

Robert Shuford Jr.	Washington Township Board	192	3.1%	
Eric Peterson	Washington Township Board	94	1.8%	
Gary Proksch	Washington Township Board	282	4.7%	
Kenneth Fary	Washington Township Board	189	2.5%	
John Calderone	Washington Township Board	112	1.5%	
Donald Lee Dewees	Washington Township Board	169	2.1%	
William Winkles	Wayne Township Board	67	1.9%	
Rich Gagnon	Hamilton County Council	6,516	4.8%	

Maine

Richard Eaton	State House, District 28	842	24.3%	2-way
Wayne Leach	Winslow Town Council, District 1	~390	40%	

Michigan

James Kuhn	Berrien Co. Commissioner	494	13.5%	
Jerold Coon	Kalkaska Co. Prosecutor	156	2.8%	
Bart Tinder	Lenawee Co. Sheriff	1,253	3.7%	
Mike Woodall	Arcadia Township Turstee	111	6.7%	

Massachusetts

Kevin Hayes	State House, District 5		18%	4-way
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Missouri

Karen Brown	Jefferson Co. Commissioner	2,121	7.1%	
Dave Ericson	Jefferson Co. Commissioner	1,351	4%	
Dave Holden	Jefferson Co. Sheriff	2,510	3.8%	

New Hampshire

Albert Carista	State House, Belknap Co.	151	4%	
Relf Fogg	State House, Carroll Co.	476	10.8%	
Stephen J. Varone	State House, Cheshire Co.	253	14.9%	
William Discipio Jr.	State House, Rockingham Co.	289	6.3%	

New Jersey

Dino D. Toro	Commercial Township Committee	458	40.7%	2-way
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North Carolina

Henry Weyerhaeuser	New Hanover Co. Board of Education	4,704	18.6%	
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Libertarian Party NEWS

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Editor Emeritus

Karl Hess • 1923-1994

Editor • Randy Langhenry

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LP to High Court: Abolish the Brady Bill

The Supreme Court should abolish the Brady Bill altogether rather than struggle to decide which government officials get to enforce it, the Libertarian Party said recently.

"The highest court in the land shouldn't be dividing up the power to violate the Bill of Rights among federal, state, and local bureaucrats," said Steve Dasbach, Libertarian Party chair. "Instead, it's the Supreme Court's responsibility to defend the Second Amendment—and every other basic civil right—against usurpation by government."

In arguments before the Supreme Court, sheriffs from Arizona and Montana challenged the Brady Bill as an unconstitutional infringement on state and local governmental authority. The legislation, signed into law in 1993, requires local governments to conduct criminal background checks on handgun purchasers and mandates a five-day waiting period.

"The nine justices could have used this case as an opportunity to reaffirm the constitutional right to keep and bear arms," Dasbach said. "Instead, they let the case degenerate into a legalistic argument over which government agency—state or federal—is best equipped to violate that right."

"But the question isn't whether to delegate such power to a state bureaucrat or a federal one," he said. "It's whether the court will recognize that rights belong to the people—not to the government. After all, the Second Amendment is designed to defend citizens against government. The Founding Fathers would be outraged to see this basic, fundamental right tossed up for grabs while the Supreme Court watches."

The high court's refusal to stand up for the Second Amendment is particularly disturbing, Dasbach said, because gun con-

trol isn't just unconstitutional—it also doesn't work.

For example, he noted, proponents of the Brady Bill claim that criminal background checks kept guns out of the hands of 100,000 felons. But according to the U.S. Department of Justice, only seven people who failed the background check were brought to trial—and only three served time in prison.

"That either means the Brady Bill put 99,997 felons back out on the streets to terrorize innocent Americans, or that many of these 100,000 people were actually law-

abiding citizens erroneously identified as felons," Dasbach said. "Either way, the Brady Bill is a failure."

In fact, the supposed targets of the law—criminals—seem to be the only ones unbothered by it, Dasbach said. As evidence, he pointed to a recent Justice Department survey of convicted felons showing that 93 percent had obtained their guns illegally.

"Criminals are apparently deterred, however, when citizens are allowed to purchase guns to defend themselves," Dasbach said.

Since passage of Florida's law allowing citizens to carry concealed weapons, more than 258,000 people have received permits. FBI reports show that the murder rate in Florida has fallen 22 percent, while the national rate has risen 14 percent in the same period, he noted.

Noting that President Clinton said recently that "people are alive today" because of the Brady Bill, Dasbach countered, "The evidence suggests that far more people are dead today because of it. That's why, if the Supreme Court wants to save innocent lives, it should abolish the Brady Bill."

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Affiliates

Registrations climb in CA; special election in VA

California

LP activist **Mark Hinkle** reported that the latest statistics from the Secretary of State's office showed that there were 76,682 registered Libertarians in the state as of late 1996. Hinkle said that number showed an increase of more than 5,000 registrations since the spring of 1996.

Source: affiliate member

Florida

The LP of Duval County is participating in the state Adopt a Highway program. It has been assigned a section of Beach Boulevard in the Jacksonville area. **Randy Graves, Steve Massie, Doug Price, and Olin Calvin** picked up seven bags of trash in late November to partially fulfill the group's obligation. Signs are up identifying the LP's section of the highway.

Source: affiliate newsletter

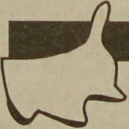
Massachusetts

Libertarians in the state were energized by the recent elections and have committed themselves to a new objective: Campaign 1997-98 and the Liberty Drive "100 in '98." The drive is a commitment to run 100 Libertarians for local, state, and federal offices in the state during the next major election.

Source: affiliate newsletter

Vermont

Just before to the November elections, the Vermont State Supreme Court handed down a decision upholding the arrest, prosecution, and conviction of a Vermonter who, while under the influence, was operating a motor vehicle in his own driveway. The court's rationale was that a driveway is really a public thoroughfare that accommodates delivery trucks, mail vehicles, meter readers, visitors, etc. The court found that



National pulse

News from the states

as such, for the protection of the citizenry, the rules governing public thoroughfares are extendible to private driveways.

The state LP points out that "the immediate consequence of this ruling is a new vulnerability in the lives of free citizens, if, for example, one wishes to leave a car on blocks in the driveway of one's property, or if one's vehicle parked there has a cracked headlight, or has expired tags. Even worse, it means the police will henceforth have the right to patrol, inspect, and regulate" private driveways to ensure the rules for public thoroughfares are being enforced.

The state LP is calling on the state legislature "to enact legislation at the earliest opportunity that specifically affirms the inviolability of private driveways as inalienable portions of private property, subject to the same constitutional protection."

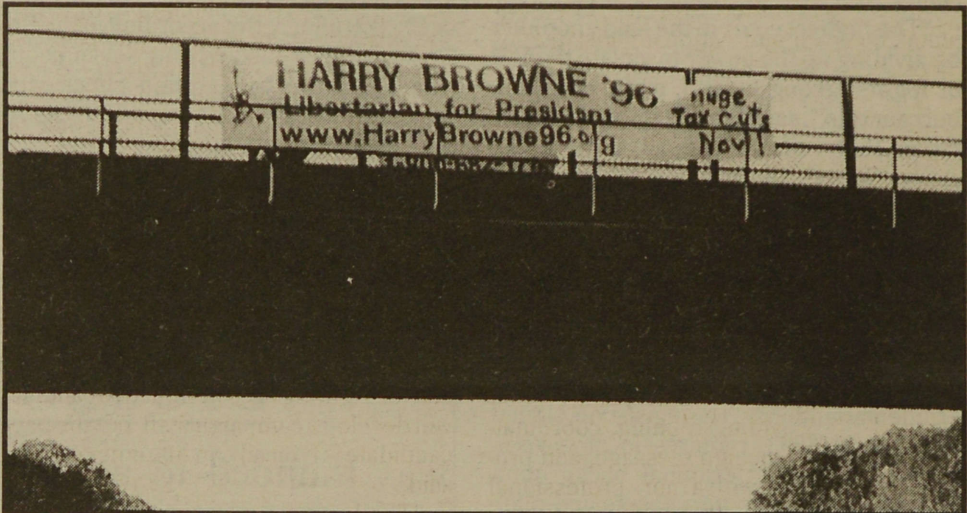
Source: state newsletter

Virginia

John Buckley, former LP state chair, ran in a special election for the state House of Delegates in District 35 in mid-December, after the NEWS deadline. Buckley ran as an independent, since the LP is not a qualified party in the state, but with the endorsement of both the Libertarian Party and the Reform Party. It was a three-way race. The special election was conducted in a very short time period, lasting only about three weeks.

Buckley, 43, has lived in Vienna for 24 years and was elected to the House of Delegates in 1979, when he became that body's youngest member. At the time, he was a member of the Republican Party.

Buckley stated his personal priorities as



BANNER DAYS - Some Massachusetts Libertarians thought the high techies on Boston's Route 128 needed an eye opener for their morning commute, so they produced a 20-foot Harry Browne for President banner. Holding it on overpasses over Route 128 and the Massachusetts Turnpike, the Libertarians let more than 100,000 potential voters see their commitment to Browne, as well as the 800 telephone number and web address.

a member of the House of Delegates would be to "cut taxes, cut state spending, and support term limits at all levels of government." He said he believed the priorities of state government should be "fighting crime, improving transportation, and providing quality education," adding that he supported "parental choice in education, the most exciting reform in education in decades."

Buckley said he was conducting a very active campaign, and in fact had "more signs up than the other two candidates combined." He said a very low voter turnout was expected, and with no incumbent in the race, the outcome was unpredictable.

The NEWS will report the results of the election in a future issue.

Source: candidate

The state party has a new address: Libertarian Party of Virginia, P.O. Box 28263,

Richmond, VA 23228-0263.

Source: national office

Wyoming

Members of the Laramie County Libertarians elected the following officers in December: **Kevin Burt**, chair; **Craig A. McCune**, vice chair; **Rhonda McCune**, treasurer; and **Robert V. Mitchell**, secretary.

The Laramie Libertarians began planning for future activities. Anticipating another optional sales tax, the group will seek closer cooperation with Citizens Opposing Spendthrift Taxation, a local citizen watchdog group.

Burt said several members discussed candidacies for local, county, and state races in 1998. "The outlook for liberty in Laramie County is very optimistic," Burt said.

Source: affiliate party officer

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Campaign committee formed in Michigan

The Libertarian Party of Michigan has formed a committee to assist LP candidates for state and national legislative offices.

The Libertarian Party of Michigan Congressional Committee (LCC) will begin identifying potential candidates now, and will work toward preparing those candidates for races in 1998. The LCC also will provide campaign support services for candidates throughout the campaign.

"The purpose of the LCC is to ensure the highest possible caliber of LP congressional candidates to achieve the best possible 1998 election results by recruiting good candidates, providing training, coordinating a unified campaign message, and providing candidates with a more professional image through support services, campaign research, and professional materials," organization coordinator Doug MacDonald said.

The LCC is a "hybrid," a cross between the full-fledged campaign committee and the services of the party campaign coordinator, explained MacDonald.

"The typical campaign coordination supplied by the party is limited to the time one person has available to work with scores of candidates," he said.

"With such limitations, the campaign coordinator must spend virtually all of his or her time dealing with generic preparations for many candidates campaigning at many different locations for many different offices at different levels of government and for 'fighting fires.' The active candidate will develop a campaign staff, but the paper candidate is typically on his or her own," he said.

"The local races are where the serious action for victory will take place," MacDonald explained. "Libertarians can win races at the local level, at least in Michigan."

The LCC will serve as a surrogate campaign committee for the many paper candidates at the congressional level, according to MacDonald.

"By narrowing the scope, the LCC can provide more in-depth support for the congressional candidates, which will encourage more campaigns of a more professional appearance and free up some of the campaign coordinator's time to deal more effectively with the local candidates and the occasional fires," he said.

Celebrations

continued from page 1
presidential candidate.

In Utah, Libertarians gathered in Salt Lake City for a celebration organized by activist Kaylin Robinson. The party featured champagne, a cake, and speeches recalling the history of the state Libertarian Party.

There were at least four California celebrations of the LP's 25th anniversary.

On Dec. 11, the date of the formal founding of the party, Libertarians gathered in a San Luis Obispo Chinese restaurant for a champagne toast and the cutting of a birthday cake. California LP state Chair Gail Lightfoot led a toast and quoted national Chair Steve Dasbach's message, saying, "We've established ourselves as the most important third party... Now we're working to become the dominant major party of the first half of the 21st century."

Afterward, she and regional Chair Gary Kirkland cut a red, white, and blue cake decorated with Lady Liberty.

Libertarians from most of the eight Los Angeles County regions celebrated the occasion on Saturday, Dec. 14, at the home of former state Chair Ted Brown, with current state Chair Gail Lightfoot leading the toast.

On Sun., Dec. 15, Chair and Executive Committee Member Allan L. Swain led the Shasta Region in a toast and cake ceremony. He also invited Shasta County Registrar of Voters Ann Reed to take part and to discuss the new state open primary procedures.

Later in the week, San Mateo Region held its celebration.

State Chair Gail Lightfoot said she plans to make the LP birthday a regular event. "The timing is great. It gives us a reason to relax and think about what was accomplished on the state and national level, and to get motivated for the year ahead."

Lightfoot also is planning an event to celebrate the 25th year of the LP in California in May of 1997.

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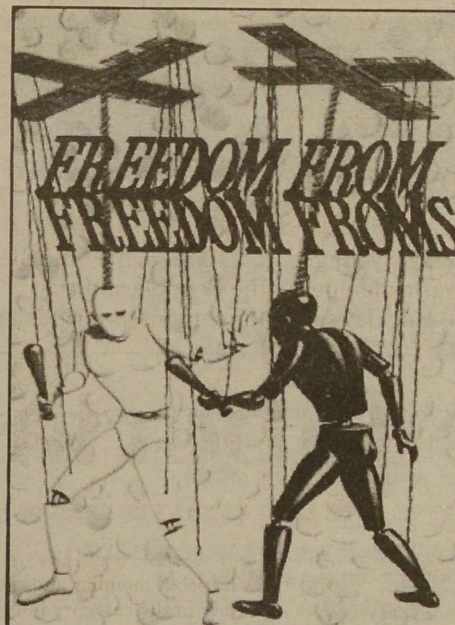
With a sudden vacancy announced in mid-November, this special election will be all over on December 17. That's less than four weeks for an entire campaign. But it's an incredible opportunity for a Libertarian to make a mark when there are not so many

other races competing for media attention.

Things happen quickly in politics. Libertarians have to be ready to leap into the fray in order to be taken seriously. The only way to effectively take advantage of these opportunities is to have a strong, grassroots party infrastructure in place.

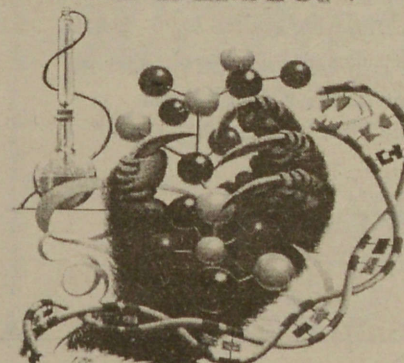
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It's been decades since the civil rights movement, but race relations are deteriorating. We still fail to judge people by their character rather than by their skin color. We've made even less progress towards legally recognizing, let alone socially accepting, the private lifestyle choices of our fellow human beings. Yet we stand on the brink of technological breakthroughs which could pose far tougher problems. Genetically engineered human and non-human beings and Conscious Computers are coming our way. **Are we ready?** Will we allow them to vote, to defend themselves, to own property? Or will we simply say that since they're not human, they have no rights? Slavery, Part II? We'll face these and many other vexing problems, equipped with two main ideologies. **Welfare Statists on the left, coercive busybody moralists on the right.** Socialists give us **freedom from housing discrimination** by punishing us for advertising our houses as having **walk-in closets**. By doing so, they say, we convey our intent to discriminate against those in wheelchairs! Witchburners give us **freedom from sin** by protecting us from "lewd" Calvin Klein ads. Perhaps **genuine freedom and broad-mindedness** could provide some solutions. Instead of sponsoring quarrels between the NAACP, NAAWP, NAACC, and so on, we'd be better off with the NAACB (Non-exclusive Association for the Advancement of Conscious Beings). We definitely need **Freedom From Freedom Froms** when the "freedoms" that our leaders foist on us are false ones. If you love **real freedom**, vicious political satire, and science fiction, **Freedom** is written just for you!

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Anniversary

continued from page 1

This influence hasn't escaped the notice of the media. Libertarianism has been called "the real inspiration behind the Republican revolution" (New York magazine, 1995), "the de facto philosophy of a generation [for] the youth of the 1990s" (*USA Today*, 1995), and "the cutting-edge politics of the time" (*The Village Voice*, 1996).

"The Libertarian Party today wields influence far beyond its ranks," acknowledged the Congressional Quarterly's Researcher (1995). "In Washington, libertarian positions now form part of policy debates on issues ranging from health care and government regulation to welfare and tax policy."

Beyond its philosophical inroads, the Libertarian Party also has helped redraw America's political map, rewrite the record books on third-party success, and reform the nation's ballot access laws:

- **Political Map:** "Americans used to think that politics was a straight line from left to right," Dasbach said. "Now, every credible political scientist understands that politics is actually a four-way spectrum that includes libertarianism and authoritarianism. In 1996, you can't talk about political philosophy without acknowledging libertarianism."

- **Political Success:** The Libertarian Party has elected state representatives in New Hampshire and Alaska, mayors in California and Utah, and hundreds of other candidates to local and county offices. The

party now has about 170 members serving in public office, giving "the party a status that no third party has enjoyed in decades," wrote the Congressional Quarterly's Researcher (1995).

"The Libertarian Party provides a case study in how a grassroots organization works to establish itself as a third voice for a frustrated electorate," wrote *The Hill* newspaper (Washington, DC, 1996).

- **Ballot Access Reform:** "Through relentless lobbying and lawsuits, we have made it easier for newer parties like the Reform Party to get on the ballot," Dasbach said. "Every new political party is walking down the trail we blazed."

Richard Winger, publisher of Ballot Access News, agreed: "The Libertarian Party is directly responsible for significant improvements in ballot access in 20 different states," he said.

During its 25 years, the Libertarian Party has watched numerous other challengers to the two-party system come and go: The Citizens Party, the New Alliance Party, the Constitution Party, and the Populist Party, to name just a few.

They've also watched Republicans and Democrats scramble to remain relevant while support for the two-party system has plummeted, Americans' distrust of government has soared, and the libertarian-friendly Internet has emerged as a new force in politics.

"For 25 years, Republicans and Demo-

Happy 25th!

crats have been hoping that we'll shut up and go away," Dasbach said. "But there's no chance of that. Every time they suggest a new tax, or create a new bureaucracy, or impose more censorship, or get America involved in another futile, bloody war, or subsidize their corporate clients, the Libertarian Party will be there to point out their sins."

When the American public eventually grows tired of the politics-as-usual of the two older parties, Dasbach said, the Libertarian Party will be ready to replace them.

"We've spent 25 years keeping Republican and Democratic politicians honest," he said. "We plan to spend the next 25 years

keeping them unemployed."

And after 25 years in the third-party trenches—a quarter century after he cast one of the votes to officially form the Libertarian Party—David Nolan remains as confident as ever of eventual victory.

"With membership and public awareness at record levels, we are poised to play a significant role in the battle for individual rights in the 21st century," he said. "As the American people recognize the failures of excessive, intrusive government, our ideas are increasingly accepted as mainstream and practical, and I am confident that the Libertarian Party will achieve substantial victories in the years ahead."

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How to:

Run a successful voter registration/outreach table

By **PATRICK NESTLEHUT**

As vice chair of the Libertarian Party of Sacramento, CA; in 1996, I organized several voter registration and outreach tables at local shopping malls. When I started, I had no experience doing this sort of thing and neither did anyone else in our local region. I had observed the local Democrats and Republicans performing this activity often and I felt strongly that we should be doing the same. This produced a strong sense of accomplishment amongst our activists. We were "out there" and really "doing something."

At one point, when combining our registration efforts with the "Stop The Browne Out" petitioning campaign, we even managed to attract the attention of a reporter from a major local news and talk-radio station. A simple press release faxed to local media was all it took, and we found ourselves being interviewed while the Republican table across the way looked on with envy.

We learned a great deal, and I hope to share some of that education in this article. I urge all local regions around the country to conduct grassroots outreach on a regular basis. Not only does this help with membership goals, but it creates an LP presence within the community.

For more information, please visit our website at:

<<http://www.cwo.com/~meister>>.

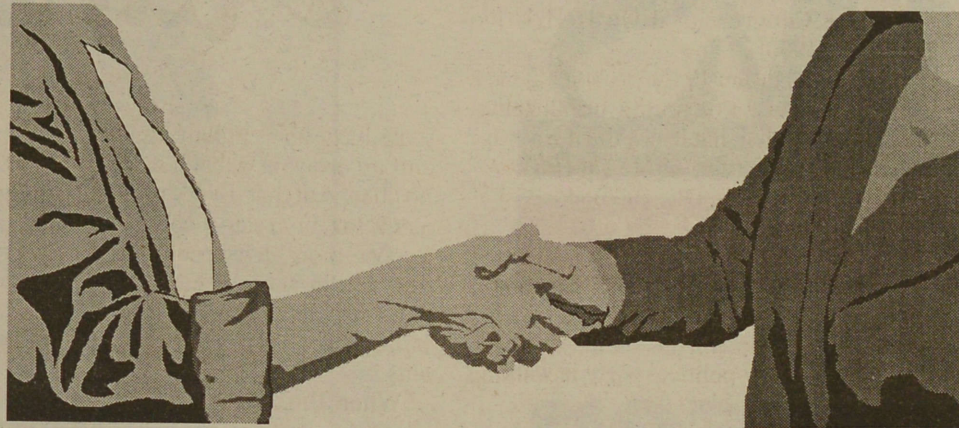
Enjoy!

Step 1:

Get in touch with a local retail shopping mall. This is a good bet for a low-cost outreach. Ask for customer service or the information booth. This is normally referred to as a "free-speech activity." Either have the mall's rules faxed to you or go down in person and pick them up. Review the rules. Sometimes a mall will charge you if you intend to hand out material but will charge nothing if you simply allow shoppers to approach your table and ask for information. You may have to provide copies of all material you intend to distribute to satisfy the mall's insurance requirements. After you have reviewed the rules, apply for a date and time-window. Ask if certain locations are available or if locations are assigned. If possible, get a location near fast-food outlets or common areas. Any area where shoppers may take a break or congregate is good. Try to get a major entrance. People are more inclined to be interested when they first step into a mall, particularly on the weekends. I recommend doing this only on weekends. Weekdays attract a demographic that is a tough sell. Folks tend to want to get in and out on the weekdays and often have no time to dally.

Step 2:

Make sure you have plenty of manpower. Shopping malls typically will provide both the table and chairs, usually accommodating two to four persons. Try to get an eight-hour shift and schedule your activists in two- to three-hour shifts. This way they are



fresh and enthusiastic about talking to the people. Try to have a single activist who will stay all day and coordinate the shift changes. Ideally, this person should be an officer of the local party affiliate, preferably the chair or vice chair. This lends authority to the activism and allows the public to know our officers are concerned enough to conduct outreach in person.

Step 3:

Make sure you have plenty of outreach materials. The Nolan Quiz from the Advocates for Self-Government is always a winner. Send one of your activists out into the mall (if the rules allow) and politely ask any bored-looking shopper, "Would you like to take the world's smallest political quiz?" If they say no, thank them and move on. Do not pressure anybody. We aren't selling vacuum cleaners. Remember that our intent is to not only expose the public to the LP and its principles but also to breed a positive image. Regardless of what they score, be sure to give them the quiz to take home. If they score Libertarian or if they seem even a little interested, offer them some pamphlets (ISIL is a good source). If they want to debate, go for it. Take the Advocates' advice and try to find common ground first. Remember, the public is distrustful and skeptical of new politics. They (rightly) believe that political parties have agendas that are destructive to their lives. We know that is true except for ourselves. Find that common ground first. Try to figure out what their concerns are and show them, in the friendliest terms possible, how freedom works better than government. Explain the difference between the LP and other parties, but do it softly. If you get strident, they'll tune you out. Remember that communicating with the man-on-the-street requires an entirely different approach than communicating with other Libertarians.

Step 4:

Make contacts. If people seem interested, and particularly if they seem to support freedom-oriented solutions, get them on your mailing list. Use your region's newsletter. Sign them up for a free three-month subscription. (Don't forget to have a membership application form on your newsletter!) If you have a web page, tell them about it. If you have an info phone-line, tell them about it. If you've been in the news

lately, tell them about it. Remember to be articulate, be friendly, be a Libertarian. But **DON'T PRESSURE**. Nothing will turn them off like pressure. If they seem really interested, invite them to your business meetings and ask them to get involved. Tell them you need their help. Solicit their input. Nothing flatters like soliciting a stranger's opinion.

Step 5:

Follow up. Be sure to get the names for free subscriptions to the person who handles the party's database. Try to mention the event in the chair or vice chair's column. People will connect with this. If there was a conversation worth mentioning, mention it. If any of these folks contact you, cultivate them. Make them feel needed, encourage them. If they come to a meeting, try to have them sign up for something (dues paying, manpower for upcoming event, etc.).

Step 6:

Thank your activists. Take everybody to pizza and beer. Mention those individuals who helped out in your newsletter, on your web page, or your TV show (if you have one). In an ideal world, activists would need no motivation other than the desire to

fight for freedom. In the real world, activists are motivated by recognition among their peers. This has another advantage. Dormant members may notice the recognition being received by the others and then feel inclined to participate themselves.

Tips:

1. Grass-roots comes from the bottom up. Leadership comes from the top down. If you are an officer of your party, get out and pound the pavement. Lead by example. You took the responsibility, now use it. If you aren't an officer, you still can lead by example. Call your officers, tell them you want to get out there and you want them with you. If they're dragging their feet, do it yourself! Run for office (of the party) the next year, if needed.

2. I can't stress this enough: **BE FRIENDLY**. Your goals should be outreach and name-recognition. Registration is just the gravy. If a Democrat wants to register at your table, do it with a smile. Same for Repubs, Greens, etc. Give them some material if they'll take it and thank them. Maybe they'll read something they like and change their mind. Maybe in a couple of years, they'll be looking for a political alternative and they'll remember how friendly those Libertarians were.

3. Have a nice look to your table. Spend a few bucks and get a nice banner to go across the front of the table. Example: three-line vinyl banner, about 5 feet long. First line: "Register to vote" (Helvetica font), second line: "Courtesy of" (Italic font), third line: "The Libertarian Party of . ." (Poster-Bodoni font). A Statue of Liberty graphic makes a nice touch. This can be had for \$30 to \$40, a small investment that can be very useful.

4. Have fun! This shouldn't be drudgery. It should be exciting. This is true grassroots work.

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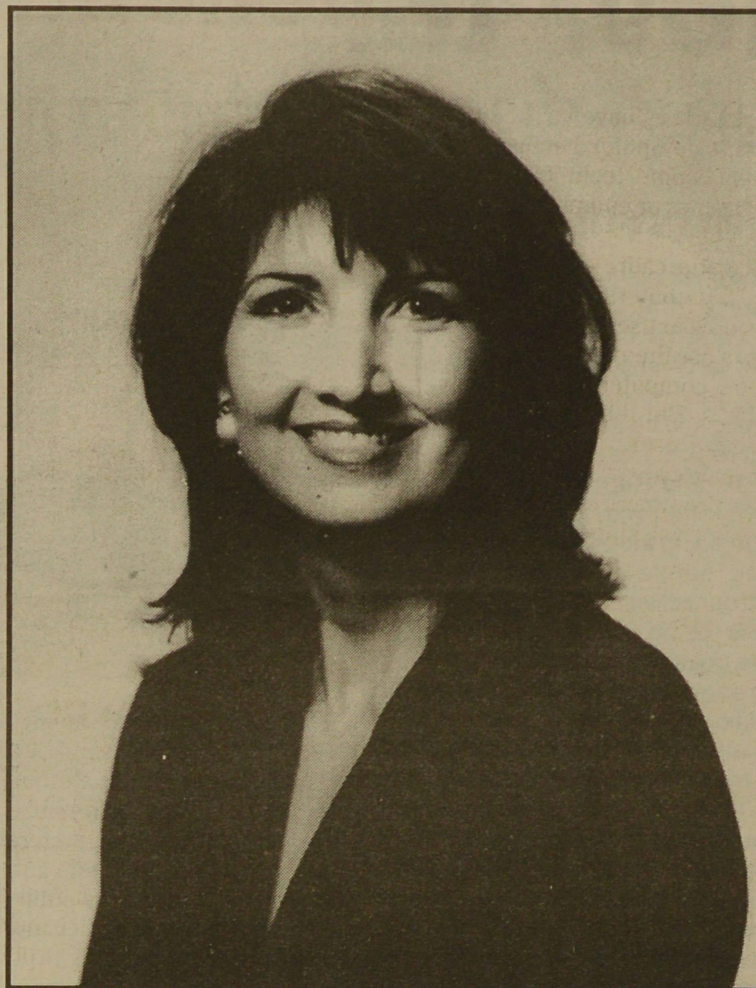
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NEWS

INTERVIEWS

Jo Jorgensen

1996 Libertarian Party Vice Presidential Candidate



Jo Jorgensen was the 1996 Libertarian Party vice presidential candidate on the ticket with presidential nominee Harry Browne.

Jorgensen, of Greenville, SC, is the president and part-owner of DegiTech, Inc., a software company. She was the 1992 LP candidate for U.S. House in South Carolina, and during that campaign established her ability to appeal to the younger generation of voters.

Jorgensen served as the vice chair of the South Carolina LP and as marketing director of the national LP. She has done petitioning for Libertarian Party candidates in several states and is a popular speaker at LP conventions.

Jorgensen was interviewed by Randy Langhenry, NEWS editor, in early December 1996.

NEWS: How do you feel about the 1996 campaign? How do you feel about the results?

Jorgensen: I thoroughly enjoyed campaigning and meeting all the people I did and gaining valuable experience. I must admit that I was one of the many Libertarians who thought we would reach 2 million votes, so I was shocked by the results, but overall we ran a good campaign, brought in a lot of people, and received the second-highest vote total in LP history.

NEWS: Could you give a short description of your experiences in the campaign?

Jorgensen: I invested the first two months of my nomination getting Harry's name and message out to as many people as possible through talk radio with Operation Drumbeat. My post nomination traveling began months into the campaign.

From the day I announced my candidacy for VP until election day, I campaigned in 32 states, most of those before the nomination.

NEWS: What was your most exciting moment of the campaign?

Jorgensen: I had so many exciting and enjoyable experiences with so many local Libertarian activists all across America that asking me to choose my favorite would be like asking me choose which of my daughters is my favorite. I simply can't do it.

NEWS: What lesson did you learn from all your contact with the media and public during the campaign?

Jorgensen: I learned that if I explained our ideas persuasively they were eager to hear us out.

NEWS: What are your political plans for the future?

Jorgensen: I'm going to consult with and help in any way I can anyone who chooses to run for the presidential or vice presidential nomination so they can learn from my experiences without having to pay the price I did.

NEWS: What do you think the LP needs to do between now and 1998? 2000?

Jorgensen: We need to grow the party to the point where a sizable number of people call themselves Libertarians.

During the election I thought it was just a matter of getting our message out to all those people who are fed up with big government and who would vote for us if they just heard our good ideas. I was wrong.

Shortly after the election I discussed the results of both my race and Jon Coon's race with Michael Cloud. Michael pointed out to me that in the end, people vote their party line. Republicans voted for Republican candidates, Democrats voted for the Democratic candidates, and Libertarians voted for the Libertarian candidates. The only way to get our vote totals up is for more voters to be calling themselves Libertarians in the months and years before the election.

I'm sure there were many cases where people did hear Harry or myself or Jon and decide to vote for us because they thought we had good ideas. In fact, there were many radio listeners who called in to me and said just that. But there will never be enough disaffected voters out there to put us into any high-level offices. We simply have

to have more Libertarians if we are to get anywhere.

NEWS: In light of the vote totals, is it realistic to believe that the LP can elect candidates to state house and higher political offices in the foreseeable future?

Jorgensen: It depends on how hard local Libertarians work on building their local parties and their candidates' campaigns without depending on the national party.

Jon Coon and Barbara Goushaw built their campaign from the bottom up and didn't wait for national to bail them out. Just look at Jon's numbers compared to the other three-way races in his state. If more candidates worked on their campaigns the way Jon and Barbara worked on theirs, we'd elect hundreds of Libertarians to state-level offices. If Jon and Barbara continue their work, he will be elected at some point. Many office-holders even in the Democratic and Republican parties had to run several times before being elected the first time.

Also, so many times I've heard of local parties who decide which candidates should receive that party's resources. I've even heard of local parties discouraging candidates from running because there weren't enough resources to go around to all the candidates.

Jon and Barbara didn't co-opt their local party—they brought in new members. Campaigns should be a vehicle to bring in new members, not use up the old ones we already have.

Selling the benefits of freedom

continued from page 1

writers of macros, others have learned to program in various computer languages, still others have become technicians or systems administrators or computer trainers.

These people are the cadre — those who understand how computers work. They can show others how to use them, make it easier for others to use them, or be there to help and reassure computer users when they have problems. But they are a small minority of computer users.

Computers became a part of American life because their promoters sold the *benefits* — not the inner workings — of computers.

Reaching out

Selling freedom is no different.

If we expect people to sit still to learn about the “binary numbers” of freedom — rights, natural law, free-market economics, and such — the libertarian philosophy will never appeal to more than a small minority of Americans. No philosophy or discipline of any kind has ever inspired a large number of people to engage in such deep commitment and intense study.

Christianity is a good example. It is the world's most popular philosophy — providing the basic premises on which most social issues are argued. But while hundreds of millions of people believe its central precepts, only a small minority — its cadre — can quote the Bible or argue effectively against its critics. Most people simply believe.

People don't buy a product or service because they understand how it is made, or because they approve of its effect on society. They buy when they're convinced it will change their lives for the better.

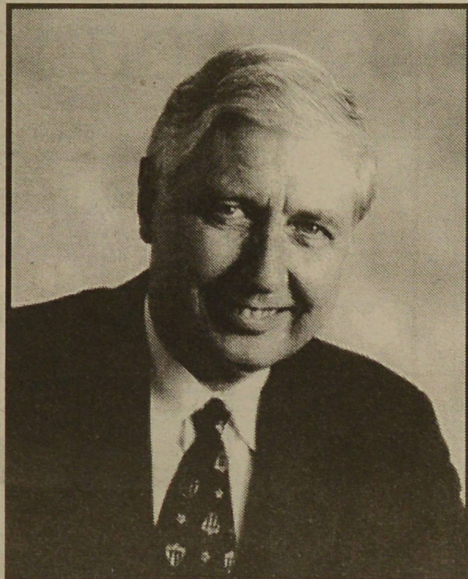
If we want to expand liberty, we have to sell it in terms that demonstrate the benefits each individual will realize from it:

- You will never have to pay income tax again. What will you do with the money they're taking from you now? Will you put your child in a private school where he'll be exposed to the values and education *you* want him to have? Save up for that business you've always wanted to go into? Support your church or favorite cause in a way you've never been able to do before?

- When we get the government out of Social Security, your parents and grandparents will be safe once and for all — and you'll never again have to pay that 15 percent payroll tax, money you know is going down the drain.

- We can dramatically reduce crime in your neighborhood by ending the insane War on Drugs — ending the criminal black market in drugs and ending the incentive for pushers to hook children and adults on drugs.

On almost every issue, it is the libertarian side that has the real, tangible, personal benefits to sell. The American people have never bought those benefits because we haven't offered them in clear-cut terms to a



Harry Browne

Commentary

large enough audience. Most Americans have never been shown the price they have to pay for government and the profit they could reap from freedom.

When we learn to sell the benefits of freedom, and when we have amassed the resources necessary to expose all Americans to those benefits, we will transform America.

Even as we do, most Americans won't understand *why* freedom works better than force. Many people are unable to generalize, and they will have to be resold the freedom side on every single issue. But as we win one issue and then another, benefit after benefit will accrue — and most Americans will come to accept the general rule that freedom is more attractive than government. A great many of them will begin to approach each issue with the assumption that freedom works better than force — and the peddlers of coercion will find it harder and harder to make a compelling case to win an issue. By winning one major issue after another because of the benefits we offer, we can eventually make America a free country.

In the process, some people will be inspired to learn more about freedom — to understand *why* freedom works, to want to understand the philosophy behind it — in other words, to understand the “binary numbers” of freedom. These people will augment today's small libertarian cadre. They will be the technicians, the trainers, the system administrators, the programmers of freedom.

The libertarian cadre is very important. We need it to be as large as possible. We need a greatly expanded Libertarian Party to provide a force so big, so powerful, so well-financed that we will never again be ignored by the press or the American people.

We need to encourage those who are already on our side to become members of the Libertarian Party for the benefits they will receive — news of libertarian legislative triumphs and setbacks, news of what libertarians are doing elsewhere, sales advice to help convert one's friends, training programs, social events tied to some political purpose, and other events that make it enjoyable to be in the party.

“*The time will never be better for selling freedom. Let's not throw away that opportunity by trying to do the impossible — by trying to turn everyone we meet into a libertarian scholar. Instead, let's focus on the benefits we have to sell — the tangible benefits that will vastly improve the prospect's life.*”

But we must realize that the cadre will always be a small minority of the American people.

Revolutions

No revolution has ever succeeded by convincing the majority of the people on every tenet of the revolution's philosophy. Neither has there ever been a revolution in which all the revolutionaries wanted the same final outcome. Revolutions succeed because a small group of people, coalescing around the issues they agree on, manage to sell the majority a few benefits that will come from the revolution.

This is the only way the libertarian revolution will succeed. We can't expect to convert the vast majority of the American people into philosophical clones of ourselves. We're not even clones of each other, so why should we believe that others will be?

We are not trying to save the souls of the American people. We are not trying to turn them into libertarian scholars. We are not trying to impose a dogma on others — or even to get everyone to agree that we're right. We are trying to create the conditions whereby we can live in much greater freedom than we have now.

We have to show the American people the compelling benefits that will come from measures that expand freedom.

Picking the Issues

We must pick our issues carefully — expending our limited resources only on the battles that can expand freedom and can help people see more clearly the difference between freedom and government. I think there are three rules to apply when considering where to use your limited time and money:

1. **Benefits:** An issue should offer the average person a dramatic change for the better in his own life — such as being free from the income tax forever, or being able to use for his own retirement what he now loses to the Social Security tax, or being safer in his own neighborhood if the Drug War is ended.

2. **Relevance:** Every argument on an issue must add to the foundation that makes the next issue easier to argue. So we should fight battles only when the issue is a clear-cut example of the difference between government and freedom. Issues like the flat tax (which

merely rearranges the burden of big government) or school choice (which doesn't reduce the size or power of government) are mushy. They don't serve to show that freedom is more attractive than government.

3. **Aggressiveness:** We must always be on the offensive — seeking to *expand* freedom, not to defend what little freedom is left. Conservatives lose ground continually because they always fight battles that the enemy has chosen — and they either win (leaving things as they were) or lose (making things worse). We should become involved in a fight against a tax increase only when we can use the issue to show that the tax itself should be repealed or reduced dramatically. We should fight a new FDA takeover only if we can use the attempted power grab to demonstrate that the FDA itself should be eliminated. And as we become stronger, *we* must be the ones to initiate the battles — battles of our choosing — so that the opposition has to defend the *status quo* against our attempts to expand freedom.

We Have the Message

Because we have so many benefits to offer, our task is much easier than that of most revolutionaries. The vast majority of Americans already recognize that government is way too big, that it doesn't succeed in keeping its promises, that it causes more harm than good, that their lives would be better if we could just reduce government's interference.

The time will never be better for selling freedom. Let's not throw away that opportunity by trying to do the impossible — by trying to turn everyone we meet into a libertarian scholar. Instead, let's focus on the benefits we have to sell — the tangible benefits that will vastly improve the prospect's life.

In the process, some people *will* decide to join the cadre. Some may become libertarian scholars.

But, even more important, if we focus on the benefits of freedom, most Americans will help us make this a free country.

Harry Browne was the 1996 Libertarian Party presidential candidate.

Talking points

A look at campaign finance reform and more

Real campaign reform

"It's a commonplace that touching the big entitlement programs—the ones available to the middle class—is 'political suicide.' The president exploits this fact when he plays chicken with Republicans who want to reform those programs. All of which shows that we really know that democracy's critics were right. Too many voters are already bought—not by corporate campaign donors, but by the government itself. Worst of all, we accept this as normal, healthy politics even as it threatens to ruin us.

Curbing private spending is a superficial reform that may even backfire by eliminating the equalizing power of private money, thereby increasing the advantages of incumbency. The only reform that could really help would be to curb the buying of votes with government money. That means following the counsel of the philosopher John Stuart Mill, and limited the franchise to taxpayers who don't get income from the government.

This means that if you receive money from the federal (or state, or local) government, you shouldn't be allowed to vote in the next federal (or state, or local) election. This is no more an insult to the voter than dismissal for cause is an insult to a prospective juror. It's a precaution in the interest of protecting the integrity of the electoral process—and a precaution we should have taken long ago, before fiscal responsibility became 'political suicide.'

Joseph Sobran, *The Washington Times*, Nov. 26, 1996.

Power corrupts

"The central fallacy of the 'reform crusade' is the repeated statement that the main problems in our political system are caused by private money. It's certainly true that the prevailing setup links cash with favors, that this is rife with the potential for abuse and that these problems need addressing. But the obvious source of this abuse is not the outside private interests but the government itself—a point reformers seldom mention. Blaming the problem on private donors is like saying we side-walks are the cause of rain.

We need only note in this regard the tremendous clout that government wields in terms of taxes, subsidies, contracts, mandates and regulations. Any of these can spell disaster or prosperity for businessmen, farmers, bankers, doctors, retirees, landowners and just about everyone else that you can think of. The mere existence of this enormous power affecting every aspect of our lives would be enough to bring the 'special interests' running, and always does so."

M. Stanton Evans, in *Human Events*, quoted in the *Washington Times*, Nov. 26, 1996.

Cyber censorship

"No regulation of computer network indecency should pass constitutional scrutiny," writes Solveig Bernstein, assistant director of telecommunications and tech-

Libertarian talking points

Marc Beauchamp

Editor

nology studies at the Cato Institute, in a new Cato study, "Beyond the Communications Decency Act: Constitutional Lessons of the Internet."

The study examines and rejects many proposals for government censorship of the Internet. Legislation banning speech deemed "harmful to minors" would still ban much amateur speech because of the difficulties of restricting access. The use of "site rating labels"—forcing content providers to label and rate their sites for content—would unconstitutionally compel speech and place extraordinary burdens on entities with large collections of works, such as libraries.

Mandatory labeling is invasive and oppressive when applied to casual speech in chat rooms, newsgroups or private e-mail. "For spontaneous computer speech," mandatory labeling is "the equivalent of requiring the labeling of conversations around a backyard barbecue."

Private-sector alternatives to government censorship include software filters and services from Internet providers who offer access to child-safe materials. "In America, we do not need the government to tell us what is and is not indecent," Bernstein says. "Civil society has solved this perceived problem on its own, so the government cannot legitimately claim that it has any interest in content control."

"Any court prepared to recognize the reality of what computer networks offer will realize an amazing opportunity to restore the First Amendment. We can only hope that the courts will recognize this opportunity and take it."

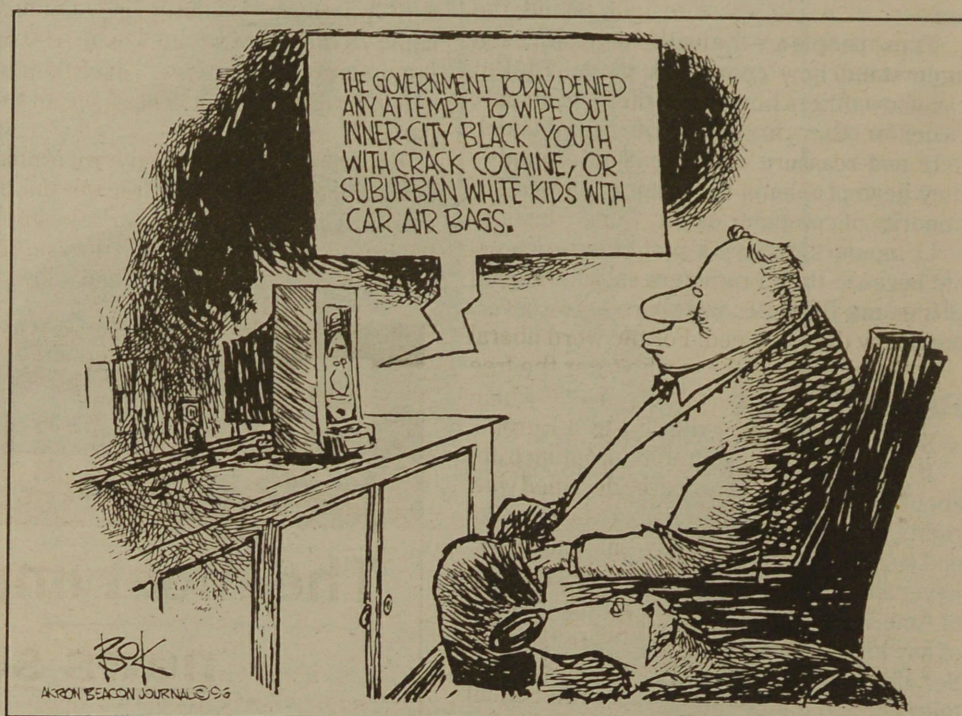
Cato Institute Internet web page at: <http://www.cato.org>.

Locking out Sam

"The sixth annual Thomas S. Szasz Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Cause of Civil Liberties has been awarded to Philip Zimmermann, the developer of Pretty Good Privacy (PGP), a powerful yet easy-to-use software program that allows anyone to secure e-mail from prying eyes.

"When President Clinton sought to control how people could encrypt their electronic 'papers,' Mr. Zimmermann thwarted that power grab by writing PGP and giving it away," says Andrea Rich, president of the Center for Independent Thought (CIT), which established the award honoring Mr. Szasz, an author, for 40 years as a defender of individual rights.

When PGP ended up on the Internet, a federal grand jury was asked to investigate Mr. Zimmermann for illegally exporting cryptography. After two years in legal limbo, the government finally dropped the case. "As a result of Zimmermann's heroic efforts, military-grade cryptographic software is accessible to all, enabling people worldwide to maintain their privacy against government and other intrusion," says the



CIT president."

"Inside the Beltway" column, *The Washington Times*

Journal stoned

"You were absolutely right in your Nov. 7 editorial that votes on most of the initiatives on the Nov. 5 ballot showed 'that the era of big government is over' in a 'clear message of restraint [of government] and empowerment [of individuals].' Term limits fared well; taxes, racial preferences, and costly regulations were generally rejected.

In both California and Arizona, voters resoundingly backed initiatives that offered alternatives to the repressive and increasingly futile war on drugs. Californians voted to allow sick people to use marijuana to relieve pain. [Arizonans] voted not only to allow doctors to prescribe marijuana for therapeutic purposes, but to stop incarcerating people convicted to personal possession of marijuana, while requiring tougher sentences for those who commit violent crimes while under the influence of drugs.

It's too bad that an editorial page that has such a healthy skepticism about the Food and Drug Administration's efforts to protect us all from life-saving and pain-relieving drugs can't see the California and Arizona victories as part of that same trend toward individual empowerment and less government."

Cato Institute Executive Vice President David Boaz in a letter to the *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 15, 1996.

What 'revolution'?

"The Republican 'revolution' was doomed from the start. The reason is due to the fatal flaw in the moral, political, and economic philosophy of the Republican Party. Since the time of Franklin Roosevelt, post-FDR Republicans have preached the free-enterprise, private-property, limited-government line of their pre-FDR Republican predecessors. In real life, however, post-FDR Republicans have lived the life of the lie. For they have embraced and supported every single socialistic, welfare-state

scheme that has been implemented in America in the 20th century.

Old-age assistance. Government-guaranteed health care. Public schooling. Economic regulations. Trade and immigration controls. Central banking. Monetary regulations. Welfare. Public roads. Progressive taxation. Yes—all of the things that still exist in socialist Cuba, Vietnam, and North Korea are ardently and enthusiastically embraced in the U.S. by present-day Republicans.

The unexpected takeover of both houses of Congress was the Republican Party's worst nightmare. Before the election, Republicans could safely campaign for office by claiming that, if elected, they would: dismantle Roosevelt's New Deal programs and Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs; abolish the Departments of Education, Commerce, and Energy as well as the Internal Revenue Service; end funding for the National Endowment for the Arts; and place a moratorium on economic regulations.

The congressional elections of 1994 flushed Republicans out into the open. Once the elections were over, the fatal flaw—the life of the lie—was exposed for all to see. Not only was nothing of substance abolished or dismantled, there was not even an attempt to do so.

Despite the free-enterprise rhetoric, the Republican 'revolution' was never about freedom for the American people. Rather, it was what it has been since 1932—a way to win Republican control over the lives and fortunes of the American people. While it raised the hopes of many advocates of freedom, it is not surprising, in retrospect, to understand why the Republican 'revolution' turned out to be a fizzle."

Jacob G. Hornberger, *Freedom Daily* (Future of Freedom Foundation), June 1996.

What's 'liberal'?

"The word is: The word 'liberal' is out. Hardly anyone will admit to being a liberal anymore, meaning a tax-and-spend, guilt-

see **Talking points** on page 11

Talking points

continued from page 10

manipulating, counter-cultural statist out of touch with the regular guy. Even left-wing activists prefer the term 'progressive.' Of course, the Democrats are as liberal as ever, as we've come to understand the term. That is, they identify more with the government than with the governed. But this approach is an electoral loser. People believe they are being governed—taxed, regulated, and otherwise pushed around—to death. Never in the history of American polling has the federal government been so unpopular. If 'liberalism' is about supporting and expanding this system, liberals will indeed have to find a new ideological cover.

May they succeed! For the word liberal really belongs to those who favor the free economy and society: the sense in which the word is now used in Eastern Europe. The authentic liberal tradition, dating from the 17th century, is properly identified with the intellectuals and popular movements who struggled against government power.

Liberalism was born in Spain, when the followers of St. Thomas Aquinas discovered how economic freedom works to build a prosperous society. The writings of the late-scholastics, centered around the School of Salamanca, bloomed into a worldwide movement of 'los liberales.'

In France, the liberals included A.R.J. Turgot, Jean Baptiste Say, and Fredric Bastiat. In Britain, Richard Cobden, John Bright, and Herbert Spencer. In Austria, Carl Menger, Eugen von Bhm-Bawerk, and Ludwig von Mises. In America, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, and William Sumner.

Liberals in this classical tradition understand the connection between welfarism and tyranny, big government and empire, central planning and poverty. Their goal is to establish the rule of law, decentralize government, and let capitalism flourish."

Llewellyn H. Rockwell Jr., president of the Ludwig von Mises Institute.

Your taxes at work

"Wrist guards and elbow pads help keep in-line skaters out of the emergency room, but it was unclear whether kneepads helped prevent fractures, a report said Wednesday. An estimated 22.5 million Americans have tried in-line skating and as many as 99,500 people have wound up in emergency rooms, roughly half with some type of broken bone.

Dr. Richard Schieber and his colleagues at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta collected data from 91 hospital emergency departments for an eight-month period, then compared the injuries of skaters who did and did not use protective equipment."

Reuters news service, Nov. 27, 1996.

Waste, ahoy!

San Diego's Naval Training Center opened a new \$5.1 million chapel just in time to hold graduation for the facility's last recruit class. The base closes next year.

The Army's Fort Sheridan near Chicago officially closed three years ago. Yet construction on a \$3.3 million addition to classroom buildings used by the Navy is scheduled to begin soon.

And in Orlando, the Navy just spent more than \$13 million to build a dining hall and personnel center on the Florida base slated to close in two years.

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution, Oct. 13, 1996.

Death and taxes

"The issue of estate taxes is resonating with Americans, primarily baby boomers, some 78 million of whom will turn 50 during the next two decades. These boomers will inherit \$15 trillion in assets from their parents.

Experts point to one significant problem prohibiting the smooth transfer of that wealth: A limit of \$600,000 can be bestowed tax-free to one's heirs—about the value of a house in an upscale suburb and a low six-

figure savings account. 'Above that level, the IRS takes you up to a 55 percent rate,' says John Fenton, principal of Tillinghast-Towers Perrin, a New York-based firm that compiles research on the financial-planning industry.

Estate taxes can have a huge economic impact. The IRS raised more than \$15.2 billion from estate taxes in 1994 alone. Rescinding estate taxes would increase the gross domestic product by 79.2 billion, create 228,000 new jobs and bolster savings by \$630 million by the year 2000, notes the Center for the Study of Taxation.

The estate tax can and should be re-

pealed,' Stephen Moore, director of the fiscal-policy studies at the Cato Institute, told Congress last summer. Leading political players such as Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici of New Mexico introduced an array of bills to change the way estates are taxed but the levy of 'envy and class warfare,' as the Heritage Foundation calls it, persists."

Insight, Dec. 2, 1996.

Send clippings to Talking points, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503; or e-mail contributions, suggestions, or comments to: mbeauchau@ix.netcom.com

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Letters

Thoughts on election, collectivism, the 2nd, more

Legislation

Rep. John Shadegg (R-AZ) will probably be re-introducing, or bringing before Congress, a bill (HR 2270, the Enumerated Powers Act) which will require the U.S. Congress to include on all legislation a clause requiring specific constitutional authorization. There is an identical bill in the Senate that was sponsored by Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-MI). Such a requirement will re-direct the attention of our senators and representatives to the 10th Amendment.

I encourage all Libertarians (and other concerned individuals) to obtain a copy, and support this bill by contacting your senators and representatives, to urge them to vote in favor of it.

Wayne Leach
Secretary
LP of Maine

Why-oming?

I was looking at the election results reported in the December issue of the NEWS. The average Libertarian vote appeared to be only a couple percent, but there were a few exceptions. I would hope that the Libertarian Party would look at the races where Libertarians won or did very well and see what can be learned about how to run.

I found Wyoming especially interesting. While none of the Wyoming Libertarians won, they did receive an average of 11.5 percent of the votes statewide. More than half of them received more than 15 percent. I don't know what they are doing in Wyoming, but the rest of us should look at it and use it as a starting point for 1998.

Fred Johnson
fred@galesburg.net

Inclusivity

What was "disappointing" about the Browne campaign was not the vote totals per se, but rather the interpretation of those totals. To say, as Chairman Dasbach said, that "[t]here is nothing wrong with our message or the way we're promoting it" is nothing short of self-delusion.

After years of marginal vote results, of negligible press coverage, of insignificant electoral success, the LP should now make a decision: Remain a fringe element in perpetuity or recast its goals and strategies to become a real force in American politics. The former alternative may appeal to individual Libertarians' personal sense of well being, but, make no mistake, it has little to do with reshaping the civic



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

landscape. Indeed, by continuing to stick to a caustic, in-your-face, holier-than-thou message, even a good messenger like Harry Browne will get less than 0.5 percent of the vote. It's that simple.

And that's a shame. The basic thrust of the libertarian message—limited government, low taxes, social tolerance—is a *mainstream* position. One need only view the LP convention speeches of Browne and Jo Jorgensen to understand my point. While much of Browne's speech was appealing, it was peppered with exclusionary rhetoric. He flirted with anarchistic outcomes; extolled the virtues of drug legalization; and advocated—with little elaboration—pardoning convicted felons. All perfectly fine grist for a college philosophy class. All perfectly off-putting to a national TV audience.

Jorgensen's speech, on the other hand, was inclusive. It reached out to the skeptical, comforting them that it was OK to be disillusioned with the Republicans and Democrats, and that Libertarians shared their frustrations with the current state of affairs. Above all else, it was non-threatening. It posited plausible solutions to today's problems.

A proposal: Advocate positions that advance liberty and can *plausibly* be enacted within eight years. Push the envelope, but don't posture as if to *destroy* the envelope.

The alternative is the status quo, which, we'd all agree, is unacceptable.

R. Capozzi
Arlington, VA

Draft Harry now

Over the next four years we will be building on the terrific job Harry Browne has done in creating name recognition for both the party and himself. Unfortunately, *his* name recognition largely will be lost when our candidate in 2000 runs, since presumably he/she will not be named "Harry Browne."

If we follow our tradition of not having a repeat presidential candidate, then we will lose much of the effort, time, and money Harry has invested over the past two years. I would like to propose that we consider a draft "Harry Browne in 2000" movement so that the Harry Browne for President Campaign can continue where they left off in '96. It would be a shame to lose much of this momentum the next time around.

Michael R. Edelstein
San Francisco, CA
75533.2676@compuserve.com

Outta here

It is time to wake up and smell the coffee. In Harry Browne, we had the best candidate that we have ever had and he worked very hard for us. But still the vote total was dismal. The truth is that we are trying to sell freedom, and most Americans don't want freedom. They are lazy slaves looking for a blind master.

Forget trying to educate them—they



know enough about libertarianism to reject it. Let us save ourselves by getting away from them. Let us use our money and time wisely by forming a libertarian enclave (call me John Galt, if you must). As many as possible should move to one area, buy land, and through control of local government, start to live freer. Maybe the Republic of Texas has possibilities?

One thing is for sure, given the American public's support of the Democratic welfare state and the Republican police state, if we want freedom we will have to free ourselves. No one ever successfully petitioned for their own freedom.

Richard V. Vajs
Fort Walton Beach, FL

Target

In order to be a Libertarian, one must be capable of individual thought. Republicans and Democrats have an easy time of it. No thought is required. They simply vote a straight party ticket and let the politicians make their decisions for them.

To win future elections, we Libertarians must target the 54 percent of eligible voters who stayed home this year and recruit them into the Libertarian camp.

Richard Whitelock
Ionia, MI

College memberships

I read with interest Kris Williams' comments about membership dues (Nov. 1996 NEWS). One thing I can't figure out is: Why isn't there a student membership rate of, say, \$10-15? It seems to me that it would be a wise move. After all, they are a part of the future. . . an important part.

Similarly, it might not be a bad idea to consider a "poverty-level income" dues rate. The ideas of the platform will spread like wildfire in the urban low-income areas of our country once this whole anarchy Cadillac reaches critical mass.

John Elmer
St. Cloud, MN

Different college

One thing I'd like to see done is the abolishment of the Electoral College, as we are now in the information age and as such, election results are quicker today than in colonial times. Further, an elector

can vote opposite of the actual popular vote, thus skewing the results.

Jim S. Czech
Ballwin, MO

'Government. . .' doesn't work

"Government Doesn't Work" was a great statement, but it doesn't work. Many uninformed people, by the tone of this statement without knowing what the Libertarians stand for, believe we are advocating anarchy—no government at all, rather than one based upon our Constitution as it was written.

I suggest a statement like, "Unconstitutional Government Doesn't Work," or "Big Government Doesn't Work," or a combination of the two. [Big government] doesn't work because it is too wasteful and cumbersome as it overlaps and duplicates laws contrary to the 10th Amendment, usurping the power of the people and their states.

Like the Russians, we want to peacefully shed the Socialist government.

R. Richard Fusilier
Opelousas, LA

Reflections on the elections

Our basic freedoms are eroded away
By a government we are forced to pay.
The Leviathan grows, and we seem content
In becoming the slaves of the government.
Its arms grow and force us to fear.
Why doesn't it let us play it by ear?
It treats us like children, and we scream and shout.

How long will it take us to figure this out?

Matthew Niemi
Hermitage, PA

House fund

On Aug. 8, 1996, I sent a letter to the NEWS about a house I just repossessed, and I was looking for help in turning it into a beacon for the Libertarian Party. As of this date, I have received a total of five Federal Reserve Notes (FRN's) for materials to be used in the house. I see the Libertarian Party really isn't interested in growing past the point they are currently at, otherwise I would have seen more than five FRN's in the mail, unless everyone

see **Letters** on page 14

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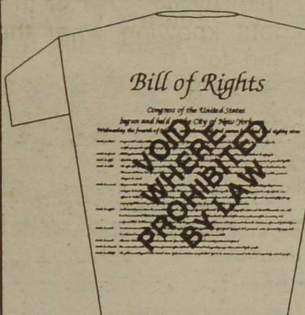
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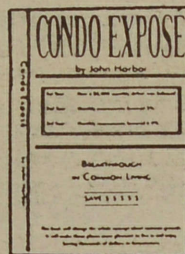


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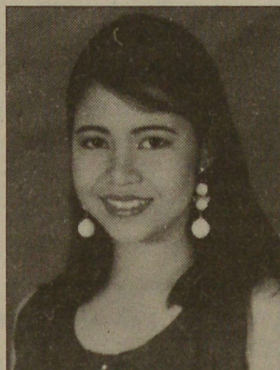
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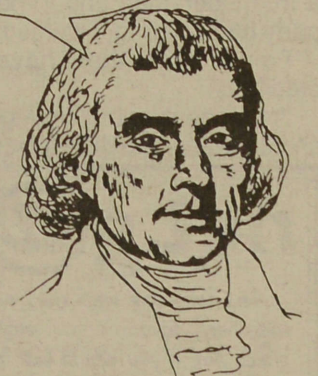
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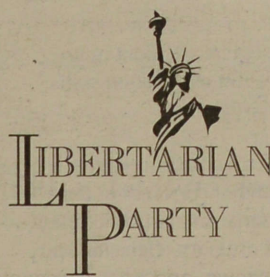


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IDEA!

Letters

continued from page 12

was just too busy with the campaign of Harry Browne.

If anyone out there who is a true Libertarian wants to see the party grow by leaps and bounds like I do, they can contact me directly. I hope that in all the U.S., there are more than three or four Libertarians that care enough to help the party grow. If anyone has any ideas as to how to get people motivated to help the cause of liberty, please contact me with your suggestions. As soon as we can get this house livable, our state party membership chair, who also was the LP's 1984 vice presidential candidate, Jim Lewis, will be moving into it and creating greater opportunity for advancement of the cause of freedom.

William H. Russell
399 Laurel Hill Ave.
Norwich, CT 06360-6935
860-886-1683

Overlooked

I have received the last several issues of the NEWS and have noticed some statements referring to the state of Michigan which I feel need to be, if not corrected, at least mentioned. By the way, I am a member of the party having fully endorsed, supported, and campaigned vigorously for Harry Browne—the best candidate our party has had since Ed Clark.

In March 1988, I became the first Libertarian to win elective office [in Michigan] under the party label. I defeated Republicans and Democrats for office in Addison, MI; not only did I defeat them, I was the leading vote getter.

I have been disappointed I have been left out of articles mentioning Libertarians running in partisan races who have won. I cannot believe I am not even given mention in the party's single sheet chronological history of Libertarian races—won or lost. This was an historic feat and should be given the attention it's due.

Could it be that I left the party briefly? After years of never telling anyone my reason it is now time. I went to Hillsdale College to hear Ron Paul—our 1988 presidential candidate. I heard him waffle, change positions from person to person, and simply sound and act like a typical politician. It was then I believed he was not a true Libertarian and if that's what our party had come to, I wanted no part of it.

Facts since then have given me credibility.

I'm no genius, but I'm a good judge of character and would like to be remembered

for a great accomplishment, with the help of people like Joe Overton, Emily Salvette, and Virginia Cropsey, for our party in 1988.

Rev. Dr. James W. Clifton
Chrisman, IL

Collectivist?

I resent being referred to as a "collectivist" by Bob Rowe (Dec. 1996 NEWS). Comparing a labor union with libertarianism is simply ludicrous. Labor unions rely upon coercion to stifle individualism among the work force and artificially escalate prices for end consumers. In short, a labor union is nothing more than a price support program for incompetent labor (competent workers succeed through individual accomplishment, they've no need for bureaucratic monopolies). This in itself is not a problem as I respect the right of all individuals to strike whatever deal they can with their employer—as long as I'm still free as a business owner or consumer to resist the extortion demands of collectivist labor. The real problem lies in the fact that unions use the "big hammer" of government to hold the general public hostage.

Libertarianism, on the other hand, is about freedom and self-accountability, about the concrete rights of the individual versus the abstract rights of the group. As a responsible individual who is still free to choose (sometimes), I go out of my way to look for the union label... so I know where not to spend my dollars.

Kevin Paul Hamilton
Roswell, GA

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Although I have been a member of the Libertarian Party for an even shorter period of time than Bob Rowe, I was appalled at his description of the party as "collectivist." As a reader of the works of Ayn Rand, I am aware of the age-old conflict between the two major schools of thought in government—collectivism versus objectivism. Collectivism is based on the assumption that the individual does not matter, that only the group is important. This is the viewpoint of the LP's political rivals, without exception. All of them believe that the group is more important than the individual—that government knows best. Simply because Libertarians have formed an organization to promote common goals does not make us collectivist. The whole founding concept of the LP is the right of the individual. To say that the party is collectivist is like saying that black is white, or night is day.

Once upon a time, unions were useful organizations—they protected the individual from the ravages of business. But that time is long gone. One only need look at the example provided in "Talking points" under "Labor pains" for the most recent example. Many Libertarians, like Mr. Rowe, want to cut government on all fronts—except their own personal government cushion. I sympathize; I'd like to save space exploration. But waiting for NASA to get us to Mars is like waiting for the government to cut taxes. Whatever our own pet government program, we can't keep it. Either we're objectivist or collectivist. If Mr. Rowe wants to preserve the ideal of unions—protecting the workers—then he is best served by organizing "wildcat" strikes, unorganized workers simply agreeing to walk off until the management makes a better offer. The effective time of unions is long gone.

The day the LP becomes collectivist is the day I jump ship for the secessionist Unity City proposed by Mr. Hinton, because on that day we will have become what the popular media accuse us of being—merely another offshoot of the Republican Party.

Jay McIntyre
Doylestown, PA

The Second

Don H. Wacker (Nov. 1996 NEWS) claimed the Second Amendment was never written to protect an individual right to own firearms. In all the published writings in 1787-1788 debating ratification of the U.S. Constitution and the need for a Bill of Rights, there is not one shred of evidence supporting Wacker's position. There are, however, voluminous writings by such "wild-eyed nuts" (to use Wacker's language) as Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, George Mason, Patrick Henry, and other Founding Fathers that unanimously support their opinion [that] Americans have an inalienable right to keep and bear arms.

James Madison is credited with writing the Second Amendment. He wrote, "Americans have the right and advantage of being armed—unlike the citizens of other countries whose governments are afraid to trust the people with arms." The language of the Second Amendment refers to gun ownership as "the right of the people," which should convince anyone. The fact many judges in the late 20th Century ignore the clear meaning of the Bill of Rights in order to advance their political and social agenda is irrelevant.

If Mr. Wacker is looking for a political

party that is contemptuous of the Bill of Rights, particularly the Second Amendment, he's in luck. They call themselves Democrats.

Karen White
Canistota, SD

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

In the 2,389 pages comprising "The Debate on the Constitution," there is not one sentence supportive of [Don Wacker's] peculiar interpretation of the Second Amendment. Federalists and Anti-Federalists alike agreed Americans had an inalienable right to possess firearms. The Federalists wrote that this and other individual liberties were so obvious it was unnecessary to adopt a federal Bill of Rights, as no future government would dare abrogate such rights. The good news is the Anti-Federalists prevailed and gave us a Bill of Rights; the bad news is the government we have now routinely violates these rights under the guise of "making us safer."

The Second Amendment clearly states the right to bear arms is a "right of the people," not a right of the government. Richard Henry Lee, George Mason, and James Madison declared the "militia" referred to all people capable of bearing arms. This was codified in the Militia Act of 1792, which is essentially intact in the U.S. Code today.

Our Founding Fathers may be "wild-eyed nuts" to Mr. Wacker, but I suggest they have a more accurate notion of the Second Amendment than he does.

James L. Waller
Sioux Falls, SD

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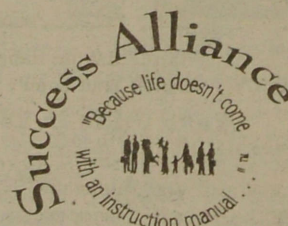
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net.g@ins

The following web sites are some LP members' favorites you might want to check out. If you would like to offer your favorite web pages—they don't have to be political—send them to: net.g@ins, c/o NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503, or e-mail your list to <lpnews@mindspring.com>.

- > <http://www.silcom.com/~taxabo>
The Tax Abolition Network.
- > <http://www.mebbs.com/klitten/>
Libertarian Party of Linn County, Iowa.
- > <http://www.sepschool.org>
The Separation of School & State Alliance home page.

Make a New Year's Revolution!

Help the Party
Grow in 1997!

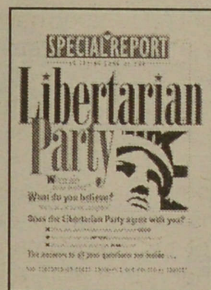
A new year is dawning . . . and Libertarian ideas are more popular than ever! More than ever before, Americans don't trust the politicians and bureaucrats, think the government is doing too many things that should be left to the private sector, and fear the power of Washington, DC.

In 1997, will you do your part to fan the flames of this modern American liberty revolution?

Will you make a resolution to tell your friends, neighbors, and family about the Libertarian Party? Will you hold an LP outreach at a gun show . . . at a taxpayer's meeting . . . at a small-business gathering?

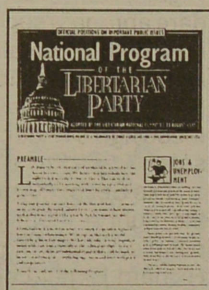
We're ready to help you. We've got the lively brochures, hard-hitting flyers, entertaining "outreach" booklets, and informative books you need. Order today!

A new year is dawning. It's time to make a liberty "revolution" resolution!



■ **Special Report.** 20 pages, blue & black ink. Comprehensive introduction to the LP, explaining how a Libertarian society would benefit the reader. With convenient one-piece, attached response form/envelope.

Cost: Sample: \$1.00 or \$50 for 100



■ **LP Program.** 4 pages, maroon ink. Details LP positions on education, employment, political corruption, health care, and crime. Provides steps the LP would take to solve these problems.

Cost: Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100



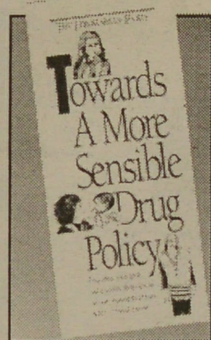
■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Flyer. New, improved 2-color version! (blue & red). Hard-hitting outreach to gun owners, listing 10 compelling reasons why the Libertarian Party deserves support.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



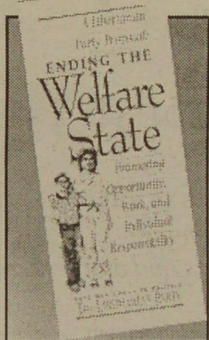
■ **Is there another phrase that so accurately captures the mood of voters in America?** "Enough is Enough!" says it all — and now you can say it too, by proudly displaying this two-color (red & blue) 24" x 18" yard sign. Plus, it provides the solution: "Vote Libertarian!" Perfect for before and after elections. Printed on sturdy foamboard.

Cost: \$8.00 each



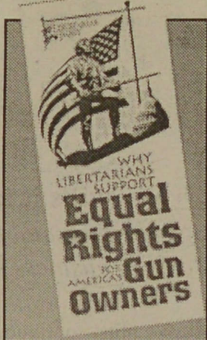
■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is sensible, workable, and beneficial.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



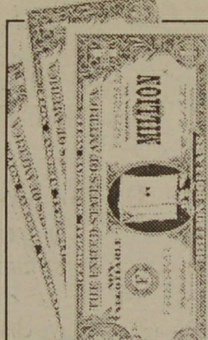
■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and responsibility.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



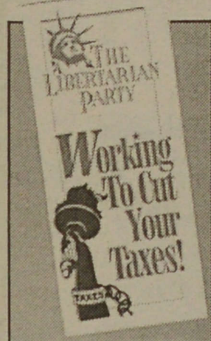
■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains the LP's pro-2nd Amendment position.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



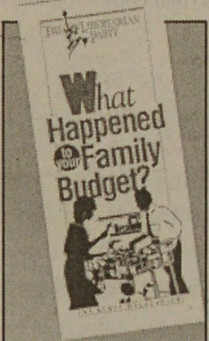
■ **"Million Dollar Bill."** Green ink. Front: A faux \$1,000,000 bill. Reverse: Highlights excessive Federal spending and the LP's tax-slashing alternative.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



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

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



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

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's innovative five-point Operation Safe Streets "crime-control" program.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



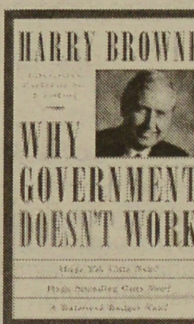
■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). New introductory brochure; gives general overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

Other Great LP Products

Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. 245 pages, hardbound. The "instant classic" from the party's 1996 presidential candidate. In it, Browne explains why government doesn't work — and will never work as well as private, voluntary solutions. Also offers a detailed plan to reduce the size of government by 90%. **Cost:** \$11.95 each (includes special \$2 per book shipping & handling charge)



Literature

■ **Libertarianism in One Lesson** by David Bergland. 126 pages, 6th edition. The classic introductory work about Libertarianism by the party's 1984 presidential candidate. Contrasts how liberals, conservatives, and Libertarians view issues. **Cost:** \$8 each or 5 for \$25

■ **LP Fact Sheets:** 2-page LP history (political highlights from 1971 to 1995) and 2-page bibliography (over 150 books about Libertarianism). Sold as a set only. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. A concise overview of Libertarian philosophy, covering free markets, social issues, political action, and more! **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths, and an excellent low-cost hand-out! **Cost:** \$1 for 100

Tools for Campaigning

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

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

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape compilation of TV ads by LP candidates, from State Representative to President. (For information only; not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

Buttons

Cost: All buttons are \$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

Miscellaneous Items

■ **High-quality, lined windbreaker,** blue with LP logo and party name on front. Available in M, L, XL. (Specify on order form.) **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk, with several different sizes and versions of the LP's Statue of Liberty logo. **Cost:** \$3 each



■ **Liberty Teddy Bears** 12" high. Cute brown bear with blue shirt. "Liberty Bear" on front, LP logo on reverse. Makes a wonderful holiday gift! **Cost:** \$20 each

Bumperstickers

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

■ **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," second line your choice (specify on order form): ★ "800-682-1776" ★ "Defenders of Liberty." **Cost:** \$40 each

To Order:

Indicate 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 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add 15% for Post Office box addresses.

Ready-to-use Literature

Quantity	Amount
_____	Booklet: "Special Report"
_____	Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____	Brochure: "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
_____	Yard Sign: "Enough Is Enough/Vote Libertarian"
_____	Booklet: 1995 LP Program
_____	2-page LP history/2-page bibliography. (Package.)
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	Libertarianism in One Lesson book
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____	NEW! Why Government Doesn't Work book

Yard Signs

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

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

LP Statue of Liberty logo master

Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

Libertarian TV Ads

Large & Small Banners

Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5'w)

Please check preferred second line:

☐ "Defenders of Liberty"

☐ "1-800-682-1776"

Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5'w)

Total Due

Merchandise Total

RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day shipping

RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

[] Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)

[] Bill my Visa [] Bill my MasterCard

Acct. #

Expires

Signature

Name

Membership ID# (On label)

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State

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Employer

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.

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Libertarian Party Information

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Perry Willis

Director of Communications

Bill Winter

Staff

Tonya Hamilton • Dollie Parker

Tiffany Rodney • Kris Williams

Daniel Smith • George Getz

Daniel J. Gallagher

Watergate Office Building

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Washington, DC 20037

Telephone: 202-333-0008

Fax: 202-333-0072

New member info. only:

800-682-1776

Office Hours: Monday-Friday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Steve Dasbach

4523 Morning Wind Place

Fort Wayne, IN 46804

219-432-7145

76060.3222@compuserve.com

LP NEWS

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770-536-5243

Fax: 770-287-0800

lpnews@mindspring.com

71610.3614@compuserve.com

Randy Langhenry, editor

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Feb. 15, 1997:

Massachusetts LP
Convention, Best Western Crown
Plaza Hotel, Marlborough.

April 4-6, 1997:

Pennsylvania LP Convention,
Hilton Hotel, Allentown; for
information call 610-264-3692.

May 2-4, 1997:

Michigan LP Convention,
"Libertarianism in the 21st
Century," Holiday Inn, Traverse City;
for information call 616-941-1306.

Special events include Casino Night
and workshop on "Why and How to
Build Affiliates."

May 24-25, 1997:

Florida LP Convention,
Sheraton Hotel, Maitland; for
information call 407-578-3797.

Send upcoming event notices

early to:

NEWS, P.O. Box 3391,
Gainesville, GA 30503



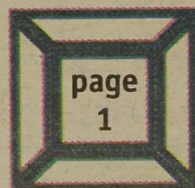
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Watergate Office Building

2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100

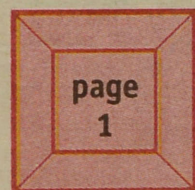
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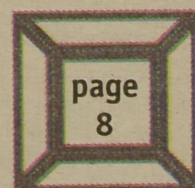
Reaching out

Harry Browne on selling
the benefits of freedom



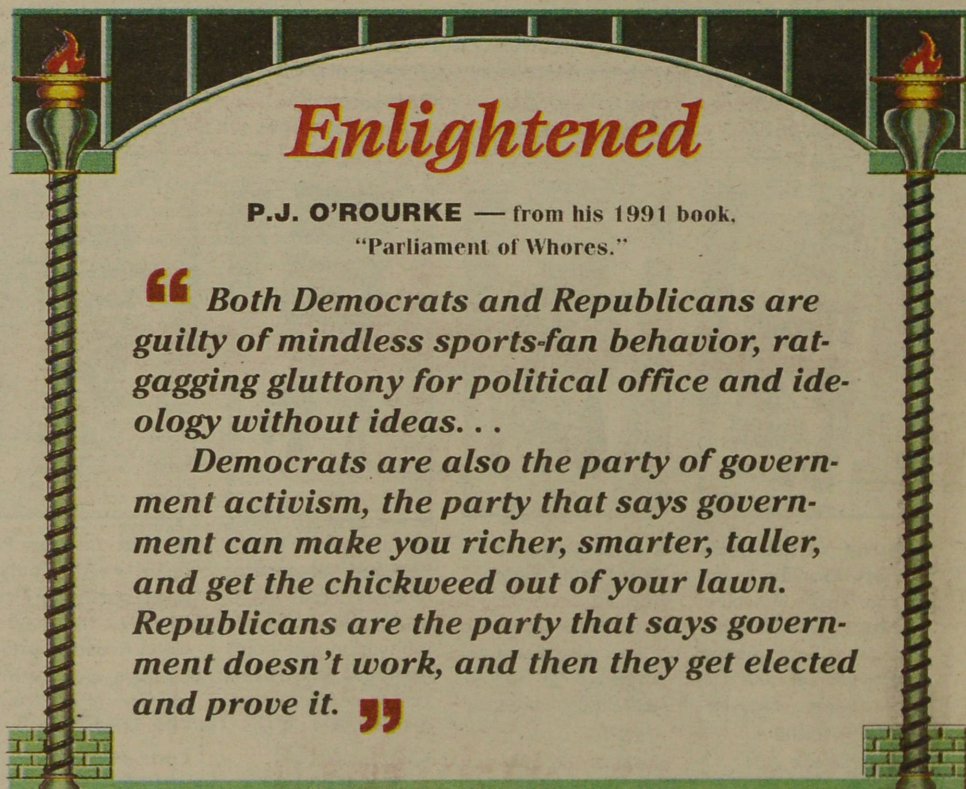
Silver anniversary

Libertarian Party
reaches a milestone



Just said Jo

An interview with
VP candidate Jo Jorgensen



Enlightened

P.J. O'ROURKE — from his 1991 book,
"Parliament of Whores."

"Both Democrats and Republicans are
guilty of mindless sports-fan behavior, rat-
gagging gluttony for political office and ide-
ology without ideas. . .

Democrats are also the party of govern-
ment activism, the party that says govern-
ment can make you richer, smarter, taller,
and get the chickweed out of your lawn.
Republicans are the party that says govern-
ment doesn't work, and then they get elected
and prove it."