

Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 30, Issue 7, July 2002



RICE EXHORTS FOR MORE ACTIVISM -- RDA-SNI PROTESTS IN SAN JOSE ARE EXAMPLE

by Marv Rudin

San Jose's ongoing machinations to force owners off their land in various neighborhoods using blight as the excuse and eminent domain as the tool were featured at the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County's quarterly meeting July 11th held at the Fish Market on Blossom Hill Road in San Jose.



Allen Rice

Allen Rice gave a rousing speech titled "Libertarian Politics in the 21st Century" to the 17 attendees and Dennis Umphress successfully proposed two resolutions, one related to Rice's topic and one related to the Medical Marijuana issue that Dennis and other local Libertarians have been actively supporting in conjunction with ASA. Two members not seen at previous LPSCC meetings - Al Jeffries and Cathi Brown - were present. Jeffries, a retired HP executive and long time party member, said the location being close to his home this time made attending more inviting.



Allen Rice delivering forceful speech on political activism

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The meeting, which was preceded by no-host cocktails at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00, got to the speech by Rice quickly, as there were no urgent reports by officers and committee chairs, or floor business other than Umphress's two resolutions, and a report by Secretary Joe Dehn, who is also western regional rep to the Libertarian National Committee, of highlights of the LP's annual national convention held over the July 4th - July 7 period in Indianapolis, Indiana was given after the aforementioned speech and resolutions voting.

In a forceful and riveting speech from a Libertarian perspective, Rice gave a short history of the assault on private property being orchestrated by the members of the San Jose City Council who are also the members of the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, employing the so-called "Blight Ordinance" and "Strong Neighborhoods Initiative" as tools. Rice said he sees this situation as an opportunity for the LPSCC to increase the strength of the Party as the redevelopment activities continue to alienate many residents.



Cathi Brown & Al Jeffries at 1st LPSCC meeting

Umphress said he was proposing a resolution against eminent domain to enable him and others representing the LP to express an official position of the party against the San Jose land grab, particularly the immediate one taking place against the Tropicana Shopping Center. His wording "Be

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SAN JOSE SNI/TROPICANA-DDA RDA LAND GRAB FIGHT ENGENDERS MANY STORIES

by Marv Rudin

The continuing LP struggle launched by Allen Rice against San Jose's eminent-domain-enforced SNI/Tropicana-DDA land grab took on many facets in July. It triggered a potpourri of related stories, which follow.

IS RDA THE SOLUTION OR CAUSE?



Collier follows up on speeches to SJ City Council

Zander Collier arranged for a Univision (the big Hispanic broadcast network) reporter to visit the Tropicana Shopping Center on July 21st and interview the merchants confronted with San Jose's vote to oust them under threat of eminent domain. While accompanying the reporter, he encountered a microcosm of the personal disruption caused San Jose's land grab policy, reporting as follows: "I was at the Tropicana shopping center today talking with some of the merchants. A gentlemen rode up on his bicycle and, in broken English, asked whether the houses behind the mall might be seized as well. I responded that I did not know. As we conversed, he stated that he had considered putting in a new driveway and skylight into his house. He won't be doing this now for fear that the house will be seized regardless of his improvements. This of course now begs the

question: Is the RDA the solution to blight, or the cause?

COST OF PUTTING RESOLUTIONS IN MERCURY NEWS WOULD FAR EXCEED PLAN



Dennis Umphress

Dennis Umphress reports that ads consisting of resolutions passed at the July 11th CC meeting and budgeted at the July 13th Excom meeting, turned out to be much more costly than anticipated, saying "It means \$750 for the first day and \$525 for each day after that. We wanted to run each Central Committee resolution - the one opposing eminent domain and the one opposing DEA medical marijuana suppression - several times each. I think we should pass (Editor's note: meaning not at these prices). If anyone wants to get prices for the Metro or Times group feel free to take over this project."

Umphress said that since the too-costly price quotes, an SJMN rep has contacted him claiming they can do much better. But at press time no better offer had yet been received.

COPIES OF JUNE SCL NEWS ACT AS OUTREACH TO TROPICANA MERCHANTS GROUP

Dennis Umphress reports "I gave Dennis Fong and Rich DeLaRosa copies of the June Santa Clara Libertarian at last Friday's meeting. I told them they could see how the LPSCC views the issue by reading what was printed.

RICE AND UMPHRESS ALMOST ELECTED TO TROPICANA STEERING COMMITTEE

In response to a question from Publicity Chair Ed Allison, Dennis Umphress reports, "Yes, we are in touch with Rich De La Rosa and his org. Allen Rice and myself were almost elected to the steering committee to set up a structure for his org. We are both happy that we weren't elected, as we are short on time for this type of project. The website for this org can be found at www.sjblight.org. The website has a schedule of upcoming meetings and other events.

YOU'RE INVITED TO LPSCC ANNUAL PICNIC, SAT. NOON AUGUST 17TH

by Zander Collier

Hello All,

We will have our summer picnic on Saturday August 17 at Doerr Park in San Jose beginning at noon and concluding when people feel like it. If you would like to oversee the deliberations of the Executive Committee, show up at 10:00 am. The park is located at the corner of Park Wilshire and Potrero Drives in San Jose (see map).

The park has public restrooms, a baseball diamond, a basketball court, tennis courts, a soccer field, a swing set and sandbox, shade trees, walking paths, plenty of parking, and several tables with barbecue grills. There is also a fenced area with a play structure if anyone might be bringing children. Currently, I am expecting about 25 people.

This means a combination of links, burgers, chicken breasts and garden burgers for 25. It means soda, beer, and wine for 25. It means potato salad and green salad for 25. It means chips, cheese, and chili beans for 25. It means paper plates, cups, and utensils for 25. It means ice for 25. Oh yeah - and charcoal. And buns!

Most importantly, it means being prepared that more than 25 people could be interested in showing up. However, It also means I'm probably going to need some help. If you could volunteer to help me with the preparations (or clean up!) I would be most appreciative. If you make a mean macaroni or potato salad, please step forward. Can you contribute a green salad? Let me know. I have already secured the park, the cups, the utensils, the paper towels, and the charcoal. I even have enough spatulas for barbecuing on multiple grills. Paper plates and ice will be easy. Required will also be condiments (ketchup, mustard, relish, mayo, salad dressing, pickles), and extra serving spoons.

Please take the opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers, or anyone else you may think would enjoy our company. And rest assured, we're not interested in proselytizing. Just come out, and bring out for a good time. You will also have the opportunity to meet with people like Dennis Umphress, our candidate for Senate, and hear about his efforts putting together the very successful DEA protest. Come meet Robert Arne and learn about how he's in the community right now fighting for school choice and starting up a private school. Come hear Allen Rice talk about the fight against the San Jose City Council and the Tropicana Shopping Mall. Marv Rudin and Mike Laursen may be available to talk about a renewed fight in Mountain View or somewhere else in the county to rollback the Energy Tax.



Activities Chair
Zander Collier

COMING EVENTS...

Central Committee Meetings: 2nd Thursday in October/January; Location to be announced

LTE Sunday - 3rd Sunday of month, 3:00pm - 5 pm;
Stoddards Brewery and Eatery, 200 E. Campbell Ave. at 2nd, Campbell

Executive Committee Meetings Normally 1st Saturday of month, 10:00am
Usually on 1st: *Saturday of month* at Rosegarden Library, Naglee & Dana Aves, San Jose

Speakers Meetings 2nd Thursday in months without central committee meeting
Cocos Restaurant, Sunnyvale (Oakmead Pkwy & Lawrence Expy)
Next speakers meeting: *Thursday 12 Sept.*
Come at 7pm for dinner, meeting at 8pm

We're out there making waves. Come learn! Thanks! Zander Collier (408) 369-1866

UMPHRESS AIMS TO MAXIMIZE PARTY'S USE OF BALLOT TO GAIN OFFICES AND PUBLICITY

by Marv Rudin

The November elections are fast approaching, and with them, ballot entry deadlines. Dennis Umphress ran for and was elected LPSCC Campaign Chair in January 2002. In July he continued to demonstrate that he takes the commitment seriously by collecting and disseminating information about opportunities for candidate filings and ballot measure arguments.



Dennis Umphress

STATE DISTRICT CANDIDATES' BALLOT STATEMENTS

Ballot statements of state district (partisan) candidates are a way to advertise the LP principles to the voters in Santa Clara County, but the government doesn't support this way of assuring an informed electorate. Instead it pretends to charge them for the actual costs of such statements (Editor's note: I wonder - would the registrar sign under penalty of perjury for such accounting as CEO's are now being asked to do :-)), At it's July meeting, the LPSCC Excom voted to support 50% of a candidate's statement up to a cumulative limit of \$3000 (first-come, first served).

Umphress checked on charges and reported "I just spoke with the SC ROV and the statement fees just for SCC are, based on printing costs for all registered voters in each district:

SENATE	District 10, \$1,600		
ASSEMBLY	District 20, \$890		
	District 21, \$3,260		
	District 22, \$4,490		
	District 23, \$3,480		
	District 24, \$5,180		
	District 27, \$920		
	District 28, \$1,110		
	Total \$19,330	Grand total \$20,930	50% = \$10,465

This might explain why no candidates have taken the LPSCC up on it's offer to cover 50% of the fee. Even if the candidate wants a subsidized statement they still need to come up with a substantial sum of \$."

LOCAL OFFICES

On opportunities to run for local offices, Umphress said on the LPSCC eboard:

"The filing window for local offices is from July 15 to August 9. To see a list of local offices that could be filled in the November election go to: <http://www.sc.ca.lp.org/lpsc-leo-2002.html>

Most, if not all, local offices have no filing fee. Just fill out a few forms and you are on the ballot. To find out which offices you can for call the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters at 408-299-8639. Give them your residence address and they will tell you which districts you live in."

BALLOT MEASURES

Umphress has kept a close tab on ballot measures being submitted to the county registrar's office. At the end of July he reported to members on the LPSCC eboard:

"There will be four local ballot measures in the November election.

1. Los Altos School District wants to increase the parcel tax by \$333 per year. This money would be used for a variety of purposes. 2/3 approval needed to pass.
2. Cambrian School District wants a \$20,975,000 bond for school site improvement. 55% approval needed to pass.
3. VTA advisory. No tax impact.
4. VTA priorities. Should money be spent on highways... as a priority? No tax impact.

LPSCC GETS A LITTLE RADIO COVERAGE

by Marv Rudin



"Free and Clear" Co-hosts - a Demo, an LPer, and a Reform

The LPSCC doesn't often get publicity over the radio waves, but it happened twice in July, once on big KGO 810 AM covering the whole Bay Area, and once on little KKUP 91.5 FM covering all of Santa Clara and Cupertino.

National LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach appeared for 10 minutes on the afternoon of July 18th on KGO on the Jarrett and Jones show to discuss the topic of Bush's citizen-informers program, TIPS.

Your reporter filled a last minute invitation from co-host and long-time local Libertarian Don Cormier (also one time LPSCC



Reporter at mic spouting LP seditious ideas like freedom

Newsletter Editor) to appear July 10th representing the LPSCC on his local morning talk show "Free and Clear" on KKUP 91.5 FM at its studio in Santa Clara.

Conversing on air with Don and his co-hosts Democrat Yolanda Reynolds and Reform Party leader



Reynolds & Cormier check paper for issues

and U.S. Senate candidate Valli Sharpe-Geisler, I got a little feedback on the impact the Allen Rice led protests at the June San Jose City Council meetings. Reynolds said she was impressed at seeing and hearing those LP protesters. She said she is also against pushing people off their property. But other than that she kept to the usual government-addicted demo line.



Valli Sharpe-Geisler reforms KKUP controls

We got no calls till near the end of the hour, a man named Steve called to say he liked the Libertarian philosophy I'd describe. He then called back after

the show wanting to talk to me. I hope I persuaded more than one by expending the hour + travel time. But one is better than none!

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If you live in the Los Altos School District or Cambrian School District now is the time to step forward with any complaints or comments on these measures. I would like at least one resident to be available to sign an argument against these measures as a co-author."

To which Robert Arne responded "Dennis: I don't live in the Cambrian district, but my school is right next to it.

I'd be really eager to help you on that issue."

Zander Collier responded with "I can write/sign the Cambrian ballot measure argument. I live smack in Cambrian. They tried to pass a similar bond measure in a special election last year and I voted against it. Looks like they're at it again."

And Allen Rice, who has become active with the San Jose Measure F Bond Oversight Committee advocates the use of Prop 39 to hold the feet of the public education establishment to the fire when they try to go for bond money to support their habit of overspending to under-educate. He suggested "Re the Cambrian School District Bond, someone out there should closely watch the documents filed for the measure by the School Board. If they do not submit a detailed plan of how much will be spend at each school, for what, they are in violation of Prop 39. Los Altos will probably not bother to even pretend to file such a document; they should be attacked for trying for that "blank check" in the text of the argument against."

Volunteering Can Be Fun

By Laura Stewart

OK, if you're reading this article you fit into one of two categories.

First, folks who are familiar with the Libertarian outreach booth concept called "Operation Politically Homeless." For you, I'll keep it short and simple in this one paragraph: I need your help staffing OPH booths every weekend (and some weekdays) in September and October. If you volunteer, we'll be at art and wine festivals, farmer's markets, gun shows, flea markets, and many other events. Details are at <http://www.sc.ca.lp.org/lpsc-volunteer-oph.html>, along with a form where you can let me know which dates/locations you can volunteer for. Or email me at OPH2002@harmless.fastmail.fm, or leave me a message at the Santa Clara LP office: 408-243-2722. It's very simple: the LP will only be at the events you sign up for. No volunteers, no booths!



OPH booth - a proven way to gain LP registrations

(And if you can, come to a "dress rehearsal" for all volunteers: Sunday, August 25, any time between 9 AM and 1 PM. We'll be at the Santa Clara Farmer's Market on Franklin Street between Monroe and Madison Streets, one block north of Homestead Road.)

Now for the rest of you: What is "Operation Politically Homeless" and why should you volunteer to help with it?

"Operation Politically Homeless" is the admittedly corny name for the logical extension of the "World's Smallest Political Quiz" or "Diamond Chart" that you see on the front page of most Libertarian Party web sites. It was invented by the Advocates for Self-Government and is highly recommended by the Libertarian Party's Campaign Director Ron Crickenberger. The OPH concept is that because of the false left-right spectrum many people believe they have no "political home" because they don't know about Libertarianism.

Setting up a large poster-sized version of the Diamond Chart at a place with busy foot-traffic, we simply ask passers-by to answer "10 quick questions". [MARV: ANY ROOM TO PRINT THE QUIZ IN THIS ISSUE?] There is no judging, no arguing. After a very brief explanation of the 2 dimensions of personal and economic freedom and how Libertarians are neither "left" nor "right", we show them where on the Diamond Chart their answers would place them. We place a sticker with their initials in that location...a simple gimmick, but it is what draws more and more people over, eager to take the quiz, curious about where "their" location will be and what it means.

Different folks enjoy staffing OPH's for different reasons.

Some see the primary purpose of OPH as a screening tool. They're most excited when someone scores 100-100 and gives us their address for follow-up. If that's you, great! Come on out and help us find more libertarians for the Libertarian Party.

Me, I get a bigger thrill out of the fact that people are learning what the word Libertarian means. I think it's just as valuable when a 0-0 scorer learns what libertarianism means...so they can tell the folks who disagree with them "you're a Libertarian!" (Mary Margaret Glennie of Colorado was once a Republican city council member who'd never heard of Libertarians. A government-lover who was appalled at her pro-freedom stance told her "you're no Republican, you're a Libertarian!" She checked it out and found out that's what she was...she became one of the most prominent LP activists in Colorado for a number of years. But where did her critic learn the word Libertarian? I like to imagine that it was at an OPH where he scored 0-0.)

But the number one reason for volunteering to staff an OPH booth is: it's fun.

"Wait a minute," I can hear you say. "I'm an introvert, I don't want to spend hours having to talk with people. I'm a well-read intellectual. Maybe you can guilt me into doing this once to help you out, but there's no way I'm going to have fun listening to ignorant flag-wavers tell me how great the government is."

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EXCOM AUTHORIZES \$4000 FOR PUBLICITY AND APPOINTS BROWN TO VICE CHAIR POSITION

by Marv Rudin

The LPSCC's July Executive Committee meeting held at the Rose Garden Library meeting room in San Jose, apparently included the following actions:

- (1) Voting to authorize spending up to \$3000 to subsidize 50% of candidate statement fees
- (2) Voting to authorize spending up to \$1000 for multiple ads carrying the LPSCC's resolutions opposing eminent domain, and opposing the DEA's usurpation of California's legalization of medical marijuana
- (3) Appointment of Cathi Brown to fill the vacant Vice Chair position.

"Apparently" is the applicable word because your reporter was unable to attend the meeting due to an unpredictable transportation problem that morning, and, as of press time no, minutes of the meeting were yet available, excepting for messages on the LPSCC eboard.

Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress was authorized to manage the two spending authorizations. As of press time, he said no candidates have submitted a statement for approval (as was required by the Excom's authorization), probably because their campaigns aren't funded at the commensurate level for such an investment (see article on page 2)

In an interview, Brown expressed an ambition to help grow the party in addition to her duty to fill in for him if the Chair is absent. Asked about her Libertarian roots, Brown said "I became active with the LP while working to get an initiative onto the ballot in Arizona." She dropped out for several years, but now has decided to get back into action. She said she feels she can make a contribution as Vice Chair by not only filling in when the Chair is absent, but also by re-enlivening the Speakers Meetings. She wants to invite outsiders to speak and to attend, as well as to continue to train Libertarian speakers at the meetings. For the next meeting, coming up Sept. 12th, she said she plans to line up as speakers Dennis Umphress and a comedian she knows from a local Toastmasters club. And she wants to publicize the meetings to attract not only Libertarians but as many outsiders as possible. In that regard Brown has lost no time getting started. She's already arranged with the manager at Cocos, after the recent Speakers Meeting on Aug. 8th to put up an announcement sign at the restaurant about the LPSCC speakers meetings regularly held there. ■



Cathi Brown

Santa Clara Libertarian -- Schedule of Publication to Year End

<u>COVERAGE PERIOD</u>	<u>FINAL EDIT</u>	<u>PUBLICATION</u>
August Issue:	September 10th,	printed & bulk mailed September 20th
September Issue:	October 11th,	on web site October 14th
October Issue:	November 15th,	on web site November 18th
November Issue:	December 13th,	printed & bulk mailed December 20th
December Issue	January 10th	on web site January 13th

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it resolved that the LPSCC supports property rights and opposes the use of eminent domain by the San Jose Redevelopment Agency to seize land for the purpose of turning over that land to a private developer." passed unanimously without amendment.

Umphress then gave a report on the Medical Marijuana protests in San Jose against the recent federal crackdown on the CA-legal distribution clubs and individuals needing marijuana as a medication. Again, to have an official position by the local party which he could represent as a party Chair and as a candidate for U.S. Congress, he proposed a resolution basically asking that the U.S. respect state law under Proposition 215, It was worded as follows: "Be it resolved that the LPSCC supports California



Umphress introduces, two resolutions



Rice speaking, Ray Strong (I) at Fish Market Restaurant

Proposition 215, believes the decision to use marijuana as medicine is best made between doctor and patient, and opposes the DEA enforcement of federal law over California state law." In the debate, your reporter asked if somehow the fact that the Constitution does not authorize the federal government to have power over marijuana, and gives the state that power under the 10th Amendment, be included in resolution. Cathi Brown then moved to amend with a very compact change in wording, by replacing the words "over California state law" with "which unconstitutionally usurps California law."

Dehn's report described how new LNC Chairman Neale was elected after none of the three candidates got a majority on the first ballot, changes in the regions, tightness in finances and California member turnout at the convention being much lighter than in past years. ■

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Hey, if guilt will get you out to your first one, I'll take it. But I know you'll only be back for more if you find you enjoy doing OPH's. And I think you'll be pleasantly surprised to discover how much fun this is.

What's the number one thing that scares us introverts? Small talk. As Scot Kjar writes in The OPH Manual "The idea of going out into crowds, meeting hundreds of people in a single day, and chatting with each of them for a few moments is not the way I would normally care to spend my day.

"But with OPH, it's OK. You see, I don't have to make idle chitchat with people. I don't have to try to remember anyone's name. I don't have to worry about whether I know anything about the local sports team, or a particular TV show, or the latest gossip. None of that has any relevance at an OPH booth."

Instead, by following a simple script that is already laid out for us, we're in a win-win transaction with the visitors to our booth: they have fun taking the quiz, they're interested to find out what it tells them about themselves, they learn what Libertarian means, and (often) they go get their friends and drag them over to take the quiz with "Hey, this is fun, you gotta try it!"

So, will you give it a try? Please go to <http://www.sc.ca.lp.org/lpsc-volunteer-oph.html>. This page lists the times and cities for each event we want to staff during the next 2 months, and gives you a simple form you can submit to let us know which shifts you might be willing to volunteer for. Alternatively, just drop me an email at OPH2002@harmless.fastmail.fm, or leave a message for me at the Santa Clara LP office: 408-243-2722.

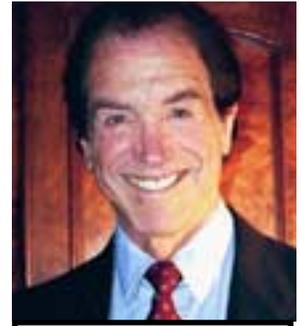
Once I hear from you, I'll contact you to confirm your availability for specific shifts, and provide directions. Some prefer to "wing it", but for everyone else I'll provide written instructions, a training video, and/or classes to help you get ready, whichever you prefer. Of course the OPH booth itself and all materials are provided...all you have to provide is yourself!

Remember, we will only be at the events you sign up for!

OPINIONS

Share your thoughts on making our party more successful and advancing the individual freedom with responsibility movement

WOULD HELPING TROPICANA MERCHANTS PAY LAWYERS IN BROWN ACT LAW SUIT BE BEST USE OF LPSCC FUNDS?



Marvin B. Rudin, Editor

Apparently the San Jose city council violated the Brown Act, which prohibits private discussion by a majority of members on any matter on which the council will vote. The evidence of violation was that 5 of the 11 members, led by Mayor Gonzales, issued a paper in favor of taking the Tropicana Shopping Center, and a 6th member, Linda LeZotte, publicly said she was called by one of the 5 and persuaded to vote with them. In the aftermath, was a proposal that the LPSCC put up \$2000 to help the Tropicana merchants pay legal fees for a Brown Act suit. Fortunately the city council, apparently acknowledging their violation, and realizing the Brown Act is a paper tiger - they need only meet again for a revote - decided to call a Tropicana revote meeting (it's August 27th). In the first vote, 2 voted against, 1 short of the 3 needed to stop the seizure (by self-imposed rule, 2/3's of 11 council members, which calculates to $\Rightarrow 8$, must be FOR). The only chance of the Tropicana merchants and other opponents of the seizure to stop it is to at least change 1 FOR vote and get 3 opposed this time. But even that may not stop the seizure, as the rule is self-imposed and therefore easily changed by the council to a majority requirement.

Whether the threat of a Brown Act suit turns out to be the wedge that enabled reversal of the decision by a revote or not, a question of LPSCC policy remains. The question is, are law suits a good way to spend party funds, and if so on what kind of matters and to gain what benefits? I admit that there maybe exceptions, but I am generally opposed to law suits if (1) total cost is unpredictable; (2) The issue of the suit does not clearly fit a Libertarian principle; (3) The Libertarian name is unlikely to get good publicity from the suit. As an example, although donating funds for a Brown Act suit by the Tropicana merchants would have gained a warm spot in the hearts of the merchants, it would have had the following drawbacks besides ultimate cost uncertainty:

(A) No important Libertarian principle would be disputed by the suit. The Brown Act is a means of getting broader input into democratic decisions. But democracy is not a primary principle of Libertarianism because it leads to tyranny by majority. It's better than a king or dictator, but we prefer a government with powers limited by a constitution that protects minority rights from a democratic majority.

(B) The LPSCC or its principles would be unlikely to get much if any good exposure. I'm willing to bet that a significantly higher percentage of voters care about eminent domain forcing them off their property just to give a sweetheart deal to a developer than care about something as legalistic and of no relevance in their lives as the Brown Act. Being served with a notice that one's property is subject to condemnation by the city isn't easy to ignore. A law suit against too many council members conferring privately is too arcane for most people to care about. How does a belligerent attitude toward a city council which a majority of voters elected, and employing as a basis a legal technicality like the Brown Act, impress people with Libertarian principles? Maybe it'll impress them with Libertarian hate for government officials and willingness to harass them, but not with Libertarian principles. ■

HOW BEST TO BENEFIT LP FROM FIGHTING EMINENT DOMAIN?

Two of three ways to fight the eminent domain based land grab by San Jose are being explored by citizen groups with which the LPSCC can affiliate. One - the threat of a Brown Act suit - has been used to try to delay and maybe reverse implementation of the Tropicana DDA agreement which would turn the Tropicana property over to Blake Hunt developers. The second is to put an initiative on the ballot for an ordinance that would prohibit the use of eminent domain. Such an initiative will require petition signatures of at least 5% of the electorate. But if such an initiative were put on the ballot and passed, it appears that San Jose, unlike Mt. View, has nothing in its charter preventing the city council from voting to overturn an ordinance passed by a vote of the people. Perhaps it's unnecessary to be stated in the charter because San Jose is chartered under A state law that implicitly prevents it. But if not, the third way to block eminent domain and one that could not be overturned by a city council vote, would be to petition for election of a Libertarian oriented - at least with respect to eminent domain - charter commission committed to write a charter making eminent domain illegal. It would be very difficult because it would require petitions signed by 15% of the electorate. The petitioning could be a long drawn out process. But it could also be a long drawn out publicity generating process gathering the signatures, one with which the LPSCC and other E.D. opposing groups (e.g., SVTA) could gain much valuable public visibility. ■

Editor's Note:

Had a Libertarian outreach experience? Converted someone?

Write about it to the editor! email or phone - see at right

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This is the publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit political organization.

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY



of Santa Clara County

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The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business).

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

Signature: _____

Membership Application

- \$25 **Basic**
- \$100 **Sustaining**
- \$250 **Sponsor**
- \$500 **Patron**
- \$1000 **Life**

Plus an additional contribution to the LPSCC:

- Monthly pledge**
- One-time donation**

Total:

Payment Method:

- Check payable to:** Libertarian Party
- VISA or MasterCard or Discovery or E-Gold (circle one)**

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder Name: _____

Signature: _____

New Renew