

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle

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Harry Browne wins 376,000 votes; 26 Libertarians elected to local office

Presidential vote is "disappointing;" Congressional candidates set record

In what may turn out to be the closest election in U.S. history, Libertarian Party presidential candidate Harry Browne has apparently won just over 376,000 votes.

With more than 99% of the precincts reporting as of mid-November — but with more than a million absentee ballots still to be counted — Browne and vice presidential candidate Art Olivier won a less-than-expected 376,123 votes, or about 0.4% of the total, according to the Associated Press.

The Libertarian Party performed better at the local level, electing at least 26 people to office in Florida, Alabama, Michigan, Wyoming, Texas, Arizona, and California.

The party's record-setting slate of U.S. House candidates won a combined 1.66 million votes — the largest cumulative vote total ever won by third-party Congressional candidates.

"There has never been a minor party — or any party other than the Republicans and Democrats — that ever got even a million votes for U.S. House," said

Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*. "I think it's stunning."

And across the country, at least 3.3 million individual Americans voted for Libertarian candidates.

"According to our figures, LP candidates won at least 3,362,829 unique votes — whether they were cast for Browne, a U.S. House candidate, or another state-level candidate," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "We got that number by adding up the highest vote total partisan Libertarian candidates received in every non-overlapping geographic area around the USA."

Larger pool

"If nothing else, that 3.3 million number shows there is a much larger pool of LP support than was indicated in the top-of-the-ticket vote total," he said.

In the presidential race, Browne won about 100,000 fewer votes than he had in 1996 — and only about one-half of what pre-election polls had been predicting.

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■ Libertarians like Tracee Avery — shown above holding a sign at a campaign rally in Macon, Georgia — were "Wild About Harry" Browne, but were apparently unable to counteract the "wasted vote" fears of most Americans. Browne (center) appeared at dozens of campaign events like the one held at the Macon Coliseum, but ended up winning a "disappointing" 376,000 votes on Election Day. [Photo by Beau Cabell/The Macon Telegraph]

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Harry Browne will launch foundation

Election 2000: Some reasons to be cheerful

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

No "spin" is possible: We were shellacked in the presidential race. Harry Browne's vote total — probably below 377,000 when the final count comes in — was disappointingly low. Heart-breaking low. Shockingly low. (Pick your adjective.) It was lower than the polls

predicted. It was lower than his vote total in 1996. Frankly, it was lower than anybody expected. But, in retrospect, those 377,000 votes shouldn't come as a complete surprise. In a presidential race that may go into the history books as the closest in U.S. history, potential third-party voters "returned home" to the two major parties to cast a vote against George W. Bush or Al Gore — depending on



whether they were more scared about having Mr. Stupid or Mr. Boring in the White House for the next four years. All third parties suffered.

Ralph Nader's vote dropped by 46% from pre-election polls. Pat Buchanan lost 52% of his expected vote. And Browne saw his vote fall off by 36% to 52% (depending on which poll you believed). Browne had the additional problem of running against two celebrity third-party candidates; Nader with his fawning media and flock of worshipful celebrities (Susan Sarandon, Eddie Vedder, See **OPTIMISTIC** Page 2

NewsBriefs

Atlas Shrugged movie: Fall 2001

The script for the planned TV miniseries version of *Atlas Shrugged* has been written — and the film could start shooting by February 2001 and air by next fall, according to USA Today.

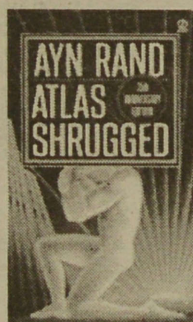
The script, the work of veteran scriptwriter Susan Black, took six months to complete and jettisoned about 75% of Ayn Rand's book — but "maintains the integrity of Rand's themes," said producer Alan Ruddy. It reportedly has the approval of the "leaders of the Objectivist philosophy movement."

The movie will air on Turner Network Television (TNT) in two parts: A two-hour segment and a three-hour finale.

No casting decisions have been made for the \$15-\$20 million production, but TNT can reportedly pay \$1 million for the actress who will play railroad owner Dagny Taggart and a similar amount for the actor playing Hank Rearden.

Who should play Rand's famous characters? A website set up to promote the movie — www.atlas-shrugged-the-movie.com — asked visitors that question. The winners: Brad Pitt as John Galt, Jodie Foster as Dagny Taggart, Harrison Ford as Hank Rearden, and Antonio Banderas as Francisco D'Anconia.

In other Ayn Rand news, *Atlas Shrugged*, *The Fountainhead*, and *Anthem* were published in Cliff Notes editions in June for \$4.99 each.



LNC member named to commission

LP National Treasurer Mark A. Tuniewicz has been appointed to a state commission — becoming the first Libertarian to be named to such a position in Massachusetts.

Tuniewicz, 39, was appointed to the American and Canadian French Cultural Exchange Commission by Governor Paul Cellucci in mid-November. He will serve until 2003.

On the commission, Tuniewicz will work to "establish, maintain, and develop cultural ties between French Canadians and Franco-Americans; foster a special interest in the historical and cultural backgrounds of both groups, as well as in the economic, political, social, and artistic life of the countries here involved," according to state law.

"I'm pleased with the opportunity to serve the Commonwealth, and look forward to developing new economic, cultural, and political ties with our northern neighbors," said Tuniewicz. "I appreciate the governor's confidence in making me his first Libertarian appointment ever."

Tuniewicz is serving his second term as LP Treasurer, and is a member of the Massachusetts LP's State Committee.



■ **Tuniewicz:**
On commission.

Quiz scores one-millionth taker

The Advocates for Self-Government's new motto can be: "One million served."

On October 26, the estimated one-millionth person took the online version of The World's Smallest Political Quiz, reported Advocates' president Sharon Harris.

Mr. One Million: Thomas Layfield, a student at the University of Georgia, majoring in English education.

"He was surprised and excited" after he was contacted with the news, said Harris. "He said that some of his friends had been saying he had libertarian leanings, and so he was checking out libertarianism online when he encountered the Quiz."

The popular Quiz — which measures people's political beliefs on a four-way quadrant — first appeared on the Web in the summer of 1995, and the Advocates started tracking the number of Quiz takers in May 1996.

"So, although it was impossible to pinpoint the exact millionth person, [we] knew the day was approaching when [we] could officially declare that one million people had taken the Quiz," said Harris.

For being the one-millionth Quiz taker, the Advocates sent Layfield a collection of libertarian books and tapes.

The site that features the quiz — www.TheAdvocates.org — has been given positive reviews by top Web experts including Lycos, Yahoo!, MSNBC, and dozens more, noted Harris, and has generated 7 million page hits since it went online five years ago.

The Cartersville, Georgia-based Advocates is a non-partisan, non-profit libertarian educational organization.

Yes, there were reasons to be optimistic about Election 2000

Continued from Page 1

et al), and Buchanan with his \$12 million in AFDC (Aid to Famous but Dependent Candidates). Nader and Buchanan sucked up the "alternative party" media opportunities like a black hole sucks up light, leaving Browne in the dark.

Even without Nader and Buchanan, the difficulties a third party has in garnering media attention have become so well known that it's become the stuff of comics. The November 13 "Frank and Ernest" comic, for example, shows a man getting word from the Federal Witness Protection Program: "Nobody will ever see you again — we're arranging for a third party to nominate you for president."

Whatever the cause, Harry Browne's vote totals were disappointing. But they weren't the only news from Election 2000 — and they were balanced by some very good (but less publicized) news. If you are looking for reasons to be cheerful about Election 2000, here are five:

■ **More than 3.2 million people voted for partisan Libertarian candidates on Election Day** — which is nine times Browne's vote total.

If you look at the highest vote total a partisan Libertarian candidate received in any geographic area around the USA — whether it was for Browne, a U.S. House candidate, or other statewide candidate — the LP polled at least 3,278,607 unique votes. (Mind you, our total cumulative vote total is much higher; this is just the minimum number of people who voted for at least one LP candidate.)

Even better news: This is more than the Green Party won. Even with Nader's 2.7 million votes for President, the Greenies only polled 3.1 million unique votes.

■ **The Reform Party is almost certainly dead.** In three presidential elections, Ross Perot and the Reformers have plummeted from 19 million votes, to 9 million, to under a half-million. If this voting pattern was an EKG, there would already be a tag on the Reform Party's big toe.

The conventional wisdom is that third parties, like a bee, sting and then die. In other words, they make their political points, get co-opted by the major parties, and vanish. In 1992, Ross Perot was an African killer bee. In 1996, he was a honey bee. And in 2000, Buchanan was a mild buzzing sound in the background.

Buchanan was so shell-shocked by his low vote total he muttered afterwards that presidential races may not be the way to build a political movement. (To

THE LESSON:
Good state parties and candidates are the tide that lifts all votes.

which Reform Party members, whose party he hotwired for his \$12 million joyride, undoubtedly responded: *Now you tell us, Pat!*)

The most devastating by-product of Buchanan's flame-out: The Reform Party's honey pot — federal campaign money — has been lost. Without that loot to attract another big name candidate, without strong state organizations, with few elected officials, and without a coherent ideology, the Reform Party will probably be on only a handful of state ballots by 2004. By 2008, it should be extinct.

■ **Our good state parties performed very well, and boosted our presidential vote totals.**

Don't think that strong state and local organizations make a difference? Think again.

In states where the LP ran energetic candidates for local, county, and statewide races, we racked up impressive vote totals across the board. In Massachusetts, buoyed by the strong Carla Howell for U.S. Senate campaign, Browne won 0.6%. In Indiana, with 100+ candidates on the ballot, Browne won 0.7%.

In Colorado, where the governor publicly lamented that LP State House candidates could cost the GOP seats, Browne got 0.7%. In Washington state, where LP candidates racked up one million cumulative votes — that's right, one million in one state! — Browne picked up 0.5%.

And in Georgia, which has led the LP in membership growth for the past few years, Browne racked up an amazing 1.42%.

The lesson: Good state parties and good candidates are the tide that lifts all votes.

■ **James Dan lost his race for State Assembly in Nevada.**

Wait; that's good news? Yes. Dan ran an excellent campaign: He went door-to-door in his district; sent out 10-14 mailers to every voter, appeared at forums, plastered the district with signs . . . and still came in second in a two-way race. It was close — about 55% to 45% — but he lost to the Democratic incumbent.

Here's the good news: Dan "deserved" to lose. Not personally; he's a great guy. And not because he ran a bad campaign; it was excellent. But the harsh mathematics of politics said he would lose.

Why? Because he ran against an incumbent. That's lethal. At the U.S. House level, for example, 95% to 98% of incumbents win. The recidivism rate is lower for State House races, but incumbency is still a steep barrier to overcome.

And Dan was outspent by his opponent. In most races, the candidate who spends the most will win 85% to 93% of the time. You can beat an incumbent . . . who is not tarred by scandal . . . in a district where he or she has a 60% registered voter base . . . but you almost certainly can't do it with less money.

(Dan was also hurt by a powerful get-out-the-vote effort by Democrats, who were trying to boost Al Gore's vote. Dan simply couldn't overcome the other structural obstacles without a similar Libertarian GOTV effort.)

But here's the good news from the Dan campaign: It shows that Libertarians are subject to the same "laws" of politics as any other party. No more; no less. Had

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LIBERTARIAN PARTY LPNews

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Lawsuit against campaign finance law is delayed

Partners' funding problems prompt delay until December or January, says Willis

A planned lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of federal election law has been postponed for at least a month or two because of funding problems.

The lawsuit, which had been scheduled to be filed before the November 7 election, has been delayed until December or January, said Perry Willis, one of the chief architects of the legal action and former campaign manager for the Harry Browne for president campaign.

The delay arose, he said, because some of the conservative groups that planned to help fund the lawsuit have scaled back their promised financial support.

"The coalition partners who had made funding commitments were retrenching in expectation of a Bush victory," said Willis. "Some of our coalition partners receive most of their funds from conservative donors who have a habit of contributing less once a Republican is in the White House."

Under to the original plan, the lawsuit — which could cost as much as \$500,000 — would have been filed by Harry Browne, the Harry Browne for President Com-

mittee, the Libertarian National Committee, Inc., former Democratic presidential candidate Eugene McCarthy, Citizens United, Gun Owners of America, Constitution Party presidential nominee Howard Phillips, and the Constitution Party.

However, the Libertarian National Committee has said it may put its support on hold until the confusion about the filing date is resolved.

Will go on

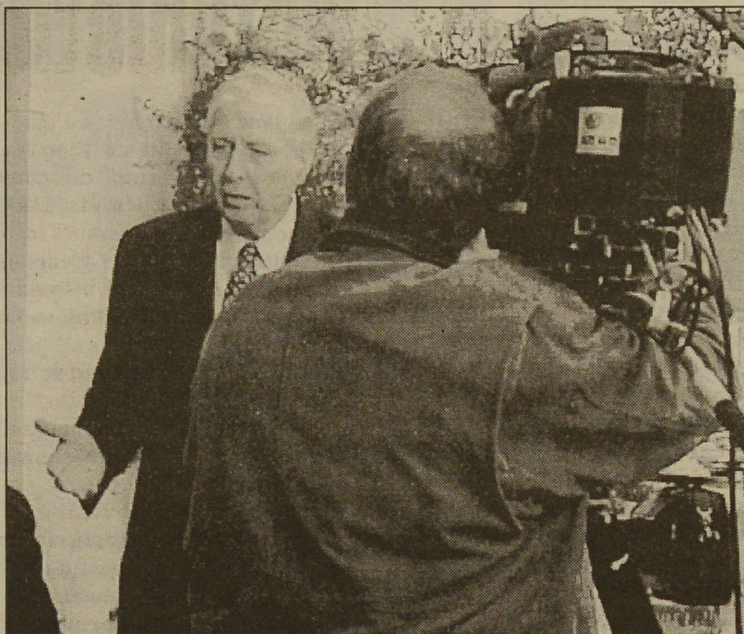
Despite the difficulties, Willis said the lawsuit will go on.

"This lawsuit must be filed, and it will be filed," he said. "We are committed to it, and will do whatever it takes to bring it about."

Currently, the lawsuit team is examining ways to make up the funding shortfall, said Willis.

Supporters for the Harry Browne for president campaign have already committed \$100,000 to the suit.

All money raised for the legal action will be channeled through the U.S. Justice Foundation, a tax-exempt organization



■ Harry Browne, shown here doing a television interview during his presidential campaign, will be a lead plaintiff in the lawsuit seeking to overturn federal election laws.

that specializes in lawsuits against the government.

Because Browne and Phillips will no longer be presidential candidates when the lawsuit is filed, some of the legal arguments will have to be recast, said Willis.

However, the fundamentals of the suit have not changed, he said: The suit will seek "to have the Federal Election Commission,

the Commission for Presidential Debates, and the federal campaign funding system declared unconstitutional.

"We are trying to lay the groundwork for more successful Libertarian campaigns in the future," he said. "This lawsuit could unstack the deck, and make it possible to compete against the Republicans and Democrats."

The lawsuit will charge:

■ That the Federal Election Commission and its regulations hurt smaller parties, while giving preferential treatment to the major parties.

■ That taxpayer-funded campaigns are unconstitutional.

■ That campaign contribution limits discriminate in favor of "celebrities, incumbents, and ruling families."

■ That the bipartisan Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) received preferential and illegal treatment from the FEC.

Although the lawsuit will attempt to overturn a whole panorama of laws that have been in place since the mid-1970s, "our prospects for success are very good," said Willis.

At their roots

"Perhaps you've heard that others have challenged these laws and failed," he said. "But the truth is that no one has challenged them at their roots" — and no one has used the "tremendous historical evidence that the FEC doesn't prevent political corruption; it actually fosters it. We intend to build this historical case and present it to the courts."

"If we win, it would completely free up the election process," he said.

Kubby starts defense in medical marijuana case

The defense portion of the Steve Kubby medical marijuana trial has begun — amidst predictions that the former LP gubernatorial candidate will win the potentially precedent-setting case.

On October 31, the first witnesses for the defense took the stand in the high-profile case in Auburn, California.

"The prosecution has rested its case after a tedious four-week presentation, and [a] local editor has already predicted we will win," said Kubby. "Positive coverage like this, when we are just starting the defense side of the trial, is unheard of."

Kubby's defense started with testimony from a former employee at a cannabis buyers club, a co-director of an AIDS Resource Center, and a journalist with *Cannabis Culture* magazine.

But even before the defense portion began, Patrick McCartney, editor of the local *Auburn Journal* newspaper, wrote: "If it were a softball game, I'd invoke the mercy rule and acquit the Kubbys before the defense even begins its case. From where I sit, they've already won the case."

During the prosecution's presentation, Kubby's lawyers aggressively cross-examined government witnesses — and challenged their premise that Kubby grew marijuana for sale rather than for medical purposes.

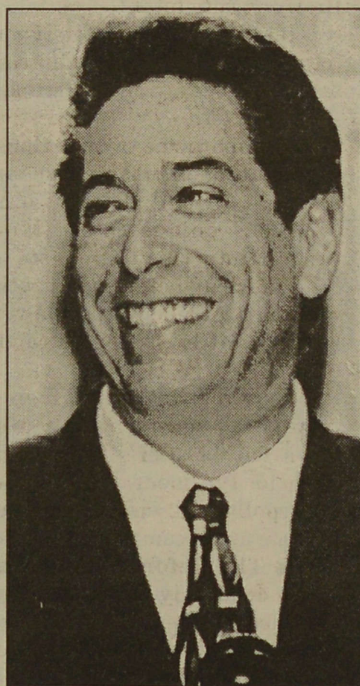
"[Jurors] see clearly how these officers are trained to give false testimony and say whatever it takes to destroy an innocent defendant's life," said Kubby.

MSNBC coverage

The trial, which began with jury selection on August 15, has attracted media coverage from MSNBC, the Associated Press, and the *Los Angeles Times*.

Despite being medical marijuana patients protected under California's Proposition 215, Kubby and his wife were arrested following a raid on their Olympic Valley home on January 19, 1998.

They both pleaded "not guilty" to charges of conspiracy, cultivation, and possession of marijuana with intent to sell, arguing that they used marijuana in accordance with the law — Steve Kubby to treat adrenal cancer under doctor's orders and Michele Kubby to alleviate irri-



■ Steve Kubby: At the trial, "we are standing up to these government bullies."

table bowel syndrome.

"My wife and I are victims of those who seek to gut Proposition 215 and punish those behind it," said Kubby at the time.

Kubby, 53, played a key role in Proposition 215 — approved by voters in November 1996 — which made it legal for seriously ill patients to use marijuana with a doctor's recommendation.

He was also the LP's gubernatorial candidate in 1998, and sought the party's vice presidential nomination in 2000.

LP lobbying effort helps kill search warrant bill

A last-minute lobbying effort by the Libertarian Party has apparently helped kill a bill that would have allowed police to demand electronic evidence without a search warrant.

The bill, S. 2516, the Fugitive Apprehension Act of 2000, was voted down by the U.S. House on October 25 after "Capitol Hill offices were flooded with thousands of angry phone calls," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"This is a big win for privacy, the Fourth Amendment, and cyberadvocacy," he said. "Thanks to the quick action of Libertarians and the people on our Defend Your Privacy e-mail list, we've managed to stop another unconstitutional power grab."

Stripped out

S. 2516 had been attached to another bill, the Presidential Threat Protection Act (HR 3048), as an amendment. HR 3048 passed, but the amendment was stripped out.

The bill, supposedly designed to "locate and apprehend fugitives," would have given police broad new powers to issue "administrative subpoenas."

STEVE DASBACH:

"This is a win for privacy, the Fourth Amendment, and cyberadvocacy."

With those administrative subpoenas, police would have been able to seize electronic data — such as bank records, school records, medical data, phone bills, and e-mail account information — without a court order.

And under a "delayed notice" provision, police could have ordered third parties to refrain from telling suspects that their records have been searched and/or seized by the government.

The bill defined a fugitive as someone who has merely been "accused" and not necessarily convicted of any crime.

S. 2516 was sponsored by Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Patrick Leahy (D-VT).

NewsPolitics

Libertarians: Tops on gun rights

It's official: When it comes to defending the Second Amendment, nobody does it better than Libertarian candidates.

According to a candidate ratings guide released in early November by the Gun Owners of America (GOA) and its state affiliate the Gun Owners of California (GOC), Libertarian candidates in California outscored both Republicans and Democrats on the issue of the right to keep and bear arms.

Of the federal and state Libertarian candidates who responded to the survey, 93% received an "A" or "A-" rating, compared with 47% of Republicans and 3% of Democrats, reported California LP Executive Director Juan Ros.

"These ratings come as no surprise to us," he said. "Libertarians always put the Second Amendment first. Unfortunately, Democrats and Republicans are all too quick to throw away one of our essential freedoms."

For example, in California Congressional races, 32 out of 34 Libertarian respondents, or 94%, received an "A" or "A-," while only 15 of 44 Republicans (34%) and one of 47 Democrats (2%) scored as high. And in the race for California State Senate, all 12 Libertarian respondents — a full 100% — earned an "A," compared with 10 out of 14 Republicans (71%) and no Democrats.

"We Libertarians are proud of our position on the Second Amendment," said Ros. "And we are very pleased to be working with the Gun Owners of America and California to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is never infringed."

Vote-buying gimmick shut down

A Libertarian candidate thought he was making a wry comment about how politicians "buy" votes with promises of government goodies.

But the California Secretary of State wasn't amused, and demanded that Colin Goldman's website — which offered a \$1,000 cash giveaway to one random person who promised to vote for him — be shut down.

"Of course, we never intended to actually buy a real vote, but rather, our goal was to get people to think about how politicians from the two major parties use promises of largess from the public treasury to get themselves into office," said Goldman, after the "cease and desist" order was issued on October 20.

On his campaign website, www.goldman2000.com, the Libertarian candidate for State Assembly (41st District) in Santa Monica and Malibu, offered to give away \$1,000 on Election Day to one person who signed up and promised to vote for him.

"I don't have \$80 billion in taxpayer's money to use in my payoff scheme as my opponents do, so I can only afford to buy one person's vote this year," said Goldman.

The ploy was intended to "mock major party candidates who offer public largess to voters if they are elected, and to get shut down by the Secretary of State to drive media attention and traffic to our website," he said.

Goldman accomplished the "media" part of the goal: His buy-a-vote ploy was covered by *USA Today*, several radio stations, the *Sacramento Bee*, *Roll Call*, and the Associated Press.

How libertarian big-shots voted

One planned to vote for Harry Browne. One liked George W. Bush. One didn't plan to vote because "it only encourages them." And one said, "[Expletive] if I know" who to vote for. Those were the answers from major figures in the libertarian movement, when asked by Eric C. Johnson of Free-Market.Net who they planned to vote for in the presidential race.

The results, posted in early November, included:

■ Ed Crane, president of the Cato Institute: "I don't vote. It only encourages them."

■ Joe Bast, president of the Heartland Institute: "Yes, I'll vote in this year's presidential election, for Harry Browne."

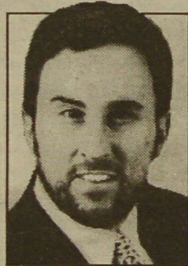
■ James Bovard, author of *Feeling Your Pain*: "I continue to pray for guidance on this grave question. This would be a more dignified response than, '[Expletive] if I know.'"

■ Jerome Tuccille, author of *It Usually Starts With Ayn Rand*: "Vote for Bush. Gore is a reprehensible, insufferable twit."

■ Bob Kephart, founder of the *Libertarian Review*: "I haven't voted since 1964."

■ David Nolan, founder of the LP: "I'm voting for Harry Browne, because I want my vote to count."

■ Harry Browne: "I'm voting for myself."



■ Colin Goldman: \$1,000

War on Drugs reform initiatives victorious in six of eight states

The War on Drugs took a beating at the polls on Election Day as six of eight drug reform measures around the USA were approved by voters.

Voters in California, Oregon, Utah, Colorado, and Nevada passed measures to legalize medical marijuana, end criminal penalties for drug possession, or reform asset forfeiture laws.

In two states, Alaska and Massachusetts, similar measures were rejected.

Principled campaign

"For the past 30 years, Libertarian candidates have been waging a persistent and principled campaign to end the government's War on Drugs," said Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach. "These election results are a well-deserved — although delayed — victory for every one of those candidates, as well as for the American people."

In positive news:

■ In California, voters approved Proposition 36, which requires treatment rather than prison for first- and second-time drug offenders.

Despite opposition from California's governor, senators, representatives, police chiefs, prosecutors, and the state prison guards' union, the measure passed with an overwhelming 61% of the vote.

■ In Mendocino County, California, voters passed a first-in-

STEVE DASBACH:

Initiatives were a victory for "LP candidates and the American people."

the-nation law allowing adults to grow marijuana for personal use. The local measure, Proposition G, allows people to grow 25 marijuana plants apiece, and was approved by 58% of the voters.

"The Libertarian Party was the first party to demand an end to the failed War on Drugs," said California LP Executive Director Juan Ros.

"The voters showed in the lopsided approval of these two measures that they agree with the Libertarian Party and they want the War on Drugs to end. Now."

■ In Oregon, a proposal that would prohibit asset forfeiture without a conviction passed with 66% of the vote.

■ In Utah, voters passed the Property Protection Act, which forbids police from seizing property involved in a crime in which the owner is not involved, by a margin of 69% to 31%.

■ In Colorado, voters approved Constitutional Amend-

ment 20, which legalizes medical marijuana, with a 54% majority.

■ In Nevada, voters approved Question 9 with a resounding 67% of the vote. The measure gives doctors who prescribe medical marijuana protection under the state constitution.

In two states, voters rejected drug-reform measures:

■ In Massachusetts, voters rebuffed an initiative that would have made asset forfeiture more difficult, and required treatment — rather than prison — for drug offenders. It lost with 47% of the vote.

■ In Alaska, an initiative to fully legalize marijuana failed with 39% of the vote. Some supporters speculated that Alaska voters, who had already approved a medical marijuana law in 1998, didn't want to move so quickly towards complete legalization.

Good news

Overall, the results are good news for Libertarians and other advocates of drug reform, said Dasbach.

"The resounding victories are concrete proof that the Libertarian message about the dangers of the War on Drugs is rapidly becoming the majority view," he said. "This election proves that on the Drug War, as on so many other issues, the Democrats and Republicans are afraid to lead; they refuse to follow; and now it's time for them to get out of the way."

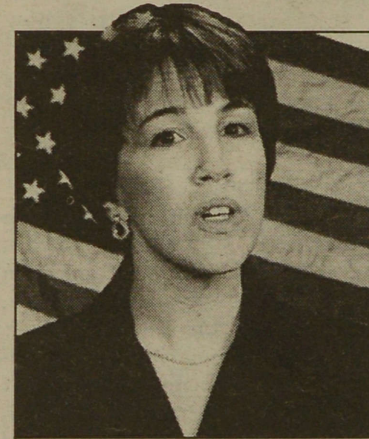
Carla Howell wins 306,457 votes for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts

Carla Howell won 12% of the vote in her campaign for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts, setting a new Libertarian Party record.

In a six-way contest for Ted Kennedy's seat, Howell got 306,457 votes — another LP record — and finished just 1% point behind the Republican candidate, Jack E. Robinson.

"We're ecstatic about this result!" said Howell. "This is extremely difficult for a Libertarian to achieve, especially where Kennedy refused to debate and the press refused to give us the media we earned. Our ability to bring in such a high vote total won the respect of political pundits throughout the state."

Despite the within-a-whisker finish behind Robinson — and despite beating the Republican in about 170 cities and towns across the state — Howell said she



■ Carla Howell: "Libertarians are becoming a political force in Massachusetts."

wasn't disappointed with her third-place finish.

"[There were] 306,457 votes for me and 333,455 for the Republican — pretty close," she said. "Establishment TV news and newspapers gave the Republican

three times the coverage they gave us. In Massachusetts we have 16,000 registered Libertarian voters versus 470,000 registered Republican voters. We overcame this huge Republican lead. 306,457 votes is beautiful!"

In addition to the vote total, her campaign also energized the Massachusetts LP, said Howell — and helped increase the number of registered Libertarians in the state from about 3,000 in 1996 to more than 16,000 today.

"Libertarians are becoming an influential political force in Massachusetts," she said.

Though the campaign is over, Howell said it's too soon to discuss her political future.

"Supporters have asked me to run for either Governor or Senator in 2002," she said. "For now, I'm resting and sending out thank you notes after a challenging 18-month campaign."

306,457 Votes for Carla Howell

Highest Libertarian U.S. Senate Vote Total Ever!

**Massachusetts Libertarian
growth is breaking records,
thanks to you & our supporters!**

**Massachusetts Libertarian
Voter Registration**

1996 = 3,065 ★ 2000 = 16,066

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whole story:**

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Carla Howell for
U.S. Senate website:
www.carlahowell.org

Carla Howell Campaigns by the Numbers

	1998 State Auditor	2000 U.S. Senate
■ Vote Totals:	102,198	306,457
■ Radio Ad Buys:	\$3,000	\$50,894
■ TV Ad Buys:	\$0	\$150,577
■ Volunteers:	104	726
■ Donors:	67	5,106



■ **TOP LEFT**
Homeschoolers support
Carla Howell

■ **TOP RIGHT**
Another packed room for
Carla Howell

■ **LEFT**
Carla Howell speaks at
Temple Beth Am

■ **BELOW**
Gun Owners begin
standing ovation for
Carla Howell



Talking Points

The expensive GOP 'revolution' & making a monkey of the taxpayer

■ And too pro-liberty?

The New Jersey legislature had a bill before it that would have required school children in New Jersey to recite the opening passage of the Declaration of Independence at the start of each school day. This would follow a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. It didn't pass.

It didn't pass because New Jersey Democrats didn't like it. *The Wall Street Journal* tells us that not one Democrat voted for the measure. The Democrats found it "too anti-black, anti-women, and too pro-God."

— NEAL BOORTZ

Boortz.com, October 12, 2000

■ Bigger is not better

The Supreme Court of New Hampshire ruled that a candidate for office had the right to parade on the street dressed as a penis, because he was commenting on the political system.

— NEWS OF THE WEIRD

October 8, 2000

■ Hey, big spenders

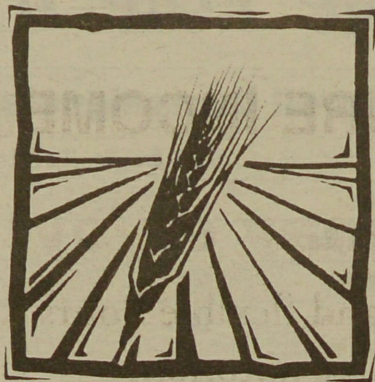
The GOP Revolution of 1994 now seems as quaint and distant a historical event as the American Revolution of 1776. [Six years ago], Congressional Republicans pledged "to bring to the House a new majority that will transform the way Congress works." The Contract With America promised "the end of government that is too big, too intrusive, and too easy with the public's money."

But the bold talk is a feeble smokescreen, behind which Republicans have been frantically waving the white flag of surrender to Big Government. The Republicans didn't propose to spend as much as the Democrats; they want to spend billions and billions more.

Among the pork-barrel projects approved by the Republican-led Congress this year:

- \$176,000 for the Reindeer Herders Association.
- \$500,000 for the restoration of a carousel in Cleveland, Ohio.
- \$4 million for the International Fertilizer Development Center.
- And \$5 million for an insect rearing facility in Stoneville, Mississippi.

In fact, over the past three years, the Republican-controlled Congress has approved discretionary spending that topped Mr. Clinton's requests by more than \$30 billion.



NEARLY HALF
of net agricultural
income last year
came courtesy
of taxpayers.

Researchers at the libertarian Cato Institute found that the combined budgets of the 95 major programs that the Contract With America promised to eliminate have increased by 13%.

— MICHELLE MALKIN

The Washington Times

November 4, 2000

■ How to stop Hitler

In some quarters, it has become a badge of civic virtue to be ardently in favor of hate-crimes laws.

Vice President Gore regards its passage by Congress as essential to the public weal. Meanwhile, more states keep enacting these statutes that provide for

additional prison time for anyone convicted of "bias" crimes.

The most recent hate-crimes law was signed this summer by Gov. George Pataki of New York. As he wielded his pen, he made an astonishing statement. He said that if such a law had been in existence in Germany, it could have prevented the Holocaust.

— NAT HENTOFF

The Washington Times

October 9, 2000

■ Prescription for waste

Despite this year's political rhetoric, most Americans older than age 65 don't have budget-busting prescription-drug bills.

Two-thirds of all seniors will pay less than \$500 out of pocket this year for prescription drugs, according to the National Academy of Social Insurance. Only 7% will pay more than \$2,000. Two-thirds of seniors have prescription drug coverage.

— USA TODAY

November 1, 2000

■ Chief Justice Moe?

Polls by the National Constitution Center show that more than 40% of Americans do not know the number of branches in the federal government, and 80% do not know the number of amendments in the Constitution.

Nearly twice as many teenagers can name the Three Stooges as the first three words of the Constitution and just 2% can name the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

— THOMAS L. JIPPING


Free Congress Foundation

October 25, 2000

"Liberty is one of the most valuable blessings that heaven has bestowed."

— MIGUEL DE CERVANTES

Well, yes and no. Liberty may have been "bestowed" by Heaven, but it takes work — hard work — to maintain that liberty. Your support for the Libertarian Party has helped to do just that. But Liberty's work will not end this month, or this year, or this decade. So, would you consider "bestowing" a gift of liberty for future generations by naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy? To discuss this option, call LP Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (508) 472-5321. Or e-mail him: Treasurer@lp.org.



■ Freedom to Spend

The Freedom to Farm Act of 1996 was supposed to "free" American farmers from the strait-jacket of centrally planned, heavily subsidized, Depression-era federal agriculture programs and policies. For taxpayers, too, it was supposed to mean "freedom," promising liberation from underwriting the huge subsidies that for decades had been propping up programs.

In fact, it has done neither.

Direct federal assistance to farmers and ranchers soared to \$28 billion last year, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman recently reported, [up from] \$16.6 billion in fiscal 1999 and \$7.8 billion in fiscal 1996 — the year farmers supposedly were set free.

As a result, nearly half (42%) of net agricultural income last year came courtesy of taxpayers.

— INSIGHT MAGAZINE

October 30, 2000

■ Killer spatula

According to Michael Moore's TV show, *Awful Truth*, the following objects, when brandished by African Americans, have gotten them shot by police: A wallet (New York), remote control (Detroit), hairclip (Arkansas), and spatula (Chicago).

— PLAYBOY

December 2000

■ \$2 trillion wasted

Aid-based attempts [by the U.S. government] to end worldwide poverty have not worked.

The United States has spent \$2 trillion on foreign aid during the past 50 years.

The result: Of the 67 countries that have received foreign aid for the past 35 years, more than half experienced a measly 1% annual increase in their gross domestic product. And 19 of them are actually poorer today.

— JULIAN WEISS

The Washington Times

October 31, 2000

■ This idea flunks

New after-school programs would merely create more "empty seats," according to a new study from the Cato Institute.

Darcy Olsen, Cato's director of education and child policy, notes that Al Gore wants to spend an extra \$11 billion on afterschool programs for latchkey kids.

In "12-Hour School Days? Why Government Should Leave Afterschool Arrangements to Parents" (Cato Policy Analysis no. 372), Olsen contends that this is hardly a problem that demands federal attention.

Only 2% of American children in the critical age group — children aged 5 through 12 — are left unsupervised after school, and those who are spend an average of no more than six hours a week alone. What's more, the average enrollment at existing afterschool programs stands at just 59% of capacity, and about the same percentage of low-income Americans as of other families relies on such programs.

She notes that there is no evidence that after-school programs can help boost academic achievement, and after-school programs have not proven to be effective at curbing juvenile crime.

"Instead of funding the expansion of government schools," she says, "state legislators should adopt universal tuition tax credits that would give parents full latitude to select their children's schools — including independent schools that offer afterschool programs."

— CATO POLICY REPORT

September/October 2000

■ The Mile "High" City

The Los Angeles Times recently obtained redacted versions of the applications filled out by Denver's 80 new police recruits last year. Fifty-two of them — that's 65% — confessed to prior drug use.

In surveys of the general population, only about half of 18-to-34-year-olds admit to having used an illegal drug.

— REASON

November 2000

■ Monkey see...

Congratulations — you're about to be a real "Monkey's Uncle."

The "Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance, and Protection Act" (or "CHIMP Act") was introduced in Congress this session to "provide for a system of sanctuaries for chimpanzees... no longer needed in research conducted or supported by the Public Health Service."

Fair enough — except that the price tag is typical of a big government program. U.S. taxpayers will shoulder 90% of the building costs and 75% of the operating costs (a total of \$27 million annually).

NTUF [National Taxpayer's Union Foundation] calculates that initially the CHIMP Act will spend \$45,000 per retired federal animal per year.

— CAPITAL IDEAS

September/October 2000

■ Alternative schools

The latest results from an ongoing national public opinion poll reveal that an increasing number of parents appear to have given up on reforming the existing public school system from within. Those parents now believe the way to improve public education in America is to find an alternative to it.

One in every three parents with children in public schools now supports the idea of an alternative, up from one in four just three years ago.

While a majority of parents still favor reforming the existing system, support for this option eroded from 72% in 1997 to 68% last year and 60% this year, according to the 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward Public Schools.

— SCHOOL REFORM NEWS

October 2000

“At last, a self-help course where personal and political responsibility meet!”

— Dr. Mary J. Ruwart

HOME BASED LOW TO MID SIX-FIGURE INCOME POTENTIAL

You know the old problem: While bureaucrats, state educators, state licensed media, state-subsidized industries and entitlement recipients are propagandizing FULL-Time to insure their power and unearned wealth, productive advocates of liberty can work to reverse this onslaught at best as an avocation, since they have jobs and businesses to run. It's not a level playing field. Typically, we haven't had the time to counteract their mythology. If we had, we would have been FREE of their craziness long ago.

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NewsAffiliates

Libertarians march for church; lobby against stripper database

■ CALIFORNIA

Can we end poverty with a \$100 minimum wage?

If the minimum wage really eliminates poverty, then it should be raised to \$100 an hour, says the California LP.

That tongue-in-cheek suggestion came after the state's Industrial Welfare Commission voted in October to increase the minimum wage in California to \$6.75, and the Santa Cruz City Council passed an ordinance granting city workers \$11 per hour, the highest minimum wage in the country.

"Why stop at \$6.75 or \$11?" asked LP state Executive Director **Juan Ros**. "Surely businesses can afford to pay whatever lawmakers decide. If our elected leaders really want to help all workers, let's increase the minimum wage to \$100 per hour" — and allow every worker to earn \$208,000 a year.

Of course, such a proposal would create unemployment and harm unskilled workers, just as every minimum wage increase does, said Ros.

"Our point is that minimum wage laws, although noble in intention, are absurd," he said. "Minimum wage is nothing but arbitrary price control of labor, and those hurt most by the minimum wage are unskilled workers and minorities — the same people proponents of minimum wage want to help."

■ CALIFORNIA

Quarter-percent sales tax cut is 'phony relief'

A one-quarter percent reduction in the state's sales tax — which will save the average family only \$31 a year — is "phony tax relief," the state LP has charged.

"Gee, thanks governor for returning so much of our money," said LP State Chair **Mark Hinkle**. "You're so generous with our money we don't know what to say."

The tax reduction, announced in late October by Governor Gray Davis, was mandated by a 1991 law that automatically lowers the sales tax when reserves exceeded 4% of the general fund for two years.

But the saving is less than the price of a one-day pass to Disneyland (\$41) or an evening at the movies for a family of four (about \$32), noted Hinkle.



Reno, Nevada City Council member joins LP

■ **Reno (Nevada) City Councilman Dave Rigdon hands his Libertarian Party membership form to Linda Sanchez, Secretary of the Washoe County Libertarians.**

Rigdon joined the LP in October, but has been "a longtime friend of the local Libertarian Party, attending many meetings," said Sanchez. "Mr. Rigdon makes decisions based on sound Libertarian principles. The Washoe County Libertarian Party looks forward to his leadership in the fight for freedom on all fronts."

Before winning a spot on the Reno City Council, Rigdon served on the city's Board of Adjustments and on the Reno Planning Commission.

He joins more than 300 other Libertarian officeholders around the USA.

"This is phony tax relief," he said. "While Libertarians support anything that decreases [tax] revenue to Sacramento, we would have gone much further" — and returned the year's entire \$12 billion budget surplus to taxpayers.

"With roughly 13 million taxpayers, that amounts to \$923 per taxpayer — nearly 30 times the relief of the quarter-cent sales tax cut," said Hinkle.

■ CONNECTICUT

LP blasts 'classic case of corporate welfare'

The Stamford Libertarian Town Committee has mounted a campaign to publicize a "classic case of corporate welfare."

Since August, Libertarians have been lobbying against a

"sweetheart deal" by the state government to lure International Paper to relocate to Connecticut — arguing it will cost taxpayers millions of dollars.

"Before we welcome International Paper, we ought to examine the deal for what it is: A classic case of corporate welfare," said **Courtney Hough**, Chairman of the Stamford Libertarian Town Committee.

To "bribe" the world's largest paper and forest product corporation to move to Connecticut, the state government offered the corporation a "forgivable" \$1 million interest-free loan, sales tax exemptions for construction costs, and another \$5.2 million loan at below market rates, he noted.

"Although International Paper is only one deal, there are

hundreds of deals that go on [every year], costing many millions of dollars," said Hough — all paid for by, "you guessed it, innocent Connecticut taxpayers."

■ FLORIDA

Libertarian: Abolish city's 'discriminatory' sign law

A Libertarian businessman and candidate for the Hillsborough Board of County Supervisors has urged the Tampa City Council to rescind a law that "discriminates" against strip clubs.

On September 21, **Joe Redner**, the owner of the Mons Venus club, testified against a city law that requires strip clubs to post signs warning customers they could be arrested if they get within six feet of a dancer.

Police have been enforcing the law — designed to discourage so-called lap dances — by raiding clubs since July, and have arrested hundreds of dancers and customers.

The ongoing police raids could cause his club to go bankrupt, said Redner, with his business "down 50% since they started the raids."

If the trend continues, the club will be forced to close, said an economist who studied the issue, while an expert on the constitutionality of exotic dance said the warning signs "discriminate" against law-abiding businesses.

■ FLORIDA

House speaker agrees to work for sales tax relief

A Libertarian candidate has gotten the next speaker of the Florida House to agree to work to reduce the state's sales tax.

Zea Proctor, LP candidate for Seminole County Commission (District 3), met with State Representative Tom Feeney — slated to be the next Speaker of the House — on October 26, following an Ax the Tax Committee event co-sponsored by the Florida LP.

Asked by Proctor if he would support a reduction or elimination of the state sales tax, Feeney said, "I will support a reduction in the sales tax."

Proctor also asked Feeney to work to repeal the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act, which has been used by police to seize cash, automobiles, and other property.

However, Feeney agreed only that "the law certainly should not create incentives for unjustified seizures."

As a Libertarian, Proctor said anytime she has an opportunity to meet elected officials, she will "urge them to reduce taxes, protect individual rights, and reduce the amount of control which government exerts over us."

■ MAINE

Libertarians file protest against fibbing Democrat

State Libertarians have filed an ethics complaint against a Democratic legislator, charging he lied about his support for a tax.

On November 8, the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices (MCEEP) met to decide whether State Rep. Edward Povich (D-Ellsworth) lied when he claimed he did not vote for a bill to tax Social Security payments made to Maine residents.

"It [is] wrong to tax the wages and other income of retired people in Maine, and it is wrong and unethical for legislators to misrepresent their voting record," said **Robert Coolidge**, an LP candidate for State Representative, who filed the complaint with fellow candidate **R. Davis Hart**.

Povich wrote a letter to a local newspaper claiming he had not supported the tax, while the House Legislative Record showed he did.

The Libertarians filed the complaint because the Democrat violated the voluntary Maine Code of Fair Campaign Practices, in which a candidate pledges to represent his or her "record and policies with sincerity and candor," said Coolidge.

No decision had been announced by the MCEEP when LP News went to press.

■ MASSACHUSETTS

Group started to support gay, lesbian gun rights

An LP activist has formed a new organization to promote gun rights among gays and lesbians.

The group, the Pink Pistols, will work to protect the firearm rights of the "alternative sexuality" communities, said founder **Doug Krick**.

"[It's] an unusual combination," he admitted. "[But] I'm excited by the amount of interest already expressed."

Pink Pistols chapters meet once a month to practice shooting skills at local gun ranges, and will also "grade" candidates for public office on their support for gun rights and gay civil rights.

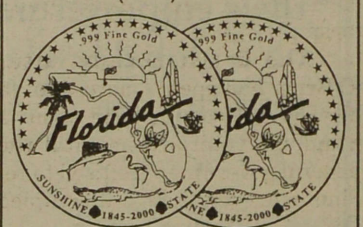
The group, which has already been written about in *Newsweek* magazine, has established chapters in Boston and Baltimore, and new groups are being formed in Delaware and Minnesota, said Krick.

"At this rate, I expect that we

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will grow and become a truly national organization in a relatively short time," he said.

For more information, visit: www.PinkPistols.org.

■ MICHIGAN

Incorrect deadline stops medical marijuana vote

A bid to put a medical marijuana initiative on the ballot in Ann Arbor has been torpedoed by an "administrative error" by the city government.

Libertarians for Medical Marijuana Reform and Ann Arborites for Medical Rights turned in 5,970 signatures — 1,700 more than required — by the August 15 deadline, but the petition was rejected by the City Council, which said the deadline was really August 9.

"[The] August 15 deadline [was] established by Ann Arbor's interim City Clerk and verified with the Elections Administrator of Washtenaw County," said LP activist **Emily Salvette**. "But big problems developed. Both the city and county clerks were looking at the wrong law when they quoted an August 15 deadline."

Although the city government admitted it had made the mistake, "it nevertheless rejected the petitions," she said.

Both the Ann Arbor City Council and the Washtenaw County Circuit Court refused to override that decision, said Salvette — arguing that the petition collectors were "ultimately responsible for knowing the correct deadline, even though, apparently, government officials have no such responsibility."

Libertarians decided not to appeal the decision "in an effort to save the additional legal costs to put into campaigns instead," she said. "Regrettably, the chance to put the medical marijuana issue on the 2000 ballot was lost."

■ MICHIGAN

Libertarian (finally) gets 'white elephant' removed

It took him years of lobbying, but a Libertarian has finally convinced the federal government to remove a "white elephant" from his home town of Allen Park.

"You can make a difference," said **Tim O'Brien**, the executive director of the Michigan LP, after the federal government announced plans in late October to demolish an abandoned veteran's hospital.

The decision came after O'Brien had spent "more than [a few] years" complaining about a rundown veteran's hospital the federal government refused to relinquish, even though it occupied 38 acres of "prime real estate."

"At first I was regarded as a somewhat kooky Don Quixote," he said. "After all, everyone knows you can't take on the federal government. But, eventually, other citizens also started to complain about the obvious waste."

After that, the local newspaper picked up on the story, said



California Senate candidate campaigns at Inter-Tribal Pow Wow

■ California Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate **Gail Lightfoot** attends the Fifth Annual Chumash Inter-Tribal Pow Wow held over the weekend of October 14-15 at Live Oak Campground in Santa Ynez.

"Native Americans may be ignored by the major political candidates, but they are not forgotten by Libertarians," said Lightfoot.

Given the poor treatment that Native Americans have received from the U.S. government, "let's correct this injustice as far as possible by letting these Native Americans be as free and independent as they wish to be," she said.

"They were an independent people before the European conquest. For that reason, their sovereign rights should be restored. Tribes should be free to set up whatever system of government they wish within their own sovereign territory. Indian tribes and their reservations should have the same sovereign rights as any nation and [should] not be subject to state and federal law."

O'Brien, then some local politicians joined the chorus, and finally state politicians set up a Task Force — which decided to demolish the building.

The victory proves that "if we could only get [Libertarians] to call the politicians out on waste and stupidity, and hold their feet to the fire until they do something about it — no matter how long it takes — we could actually win," he said.

■ NEW YORK

Libertarians rally against church seizure by town

Libertarians joined church parishioners and anti- eminent domain activists at a rally to protest an effort to seize a church in North Hempsted.

On October 14, LP State Chair **Richard Cooper** and other Libertarians rallied in front of the state Supreme Court building in Mineola to show opposition to plans by North Hempsted officials to seize St. Luke's Pentecostal Church.

"Moses said to Pharaoh, 'Let my people go,'" said Cooper. "The Libertarian Party says to our

modern Pharaohs, the politicians and bureaucrats, let these people stay."

The North Hempsted town government has claimed the St. Luke's Pentecostal Church's building site under eminent domain law as part of an urban renewal plan, and is offering to pay \$50,000 less than market value. The church is fighting the seizure, and has filed a federal civil rights lawsuit.

"The Libertarian Party opposes eminent domain laws as violating property rights by legalized theft," said Cooper.

And as a first step towards repealing such laws, "Libertarians propose exempting religious and educational institutions from eminent domain," he said.

■ NORTH CAROLINA

LP organizes group to fight restrictive sign law

The Alamance and Caswell county Libertarian parties have organized a group to fight a restrictive sign ordinance in the city of Burlington.

Over 20 local business owners met to plan a strategy against "the city's latest restriction on free speech: A penalty against advertising one's business via road/yard signs," said **Steven F. LeBoeuf**, a local LP activist and candidate for U.S. House (District 5). At its first meeting, the group elected a spokesman and treasurer.

The goal of the group — organized by Alamance County LP Chair **Brian Ewing** — is to "raise

opposition to the city council's increasing interference in small business," said LeBoeuf.

"Not only is this grassroots movement invaluable for the future growth of the LP, but this has given local LP candidates a great opportunity for voter outreach," he said. "I was delightfully shocked by the open support for Libertarian principles shared by everyone at [the] meeting."

■ WASHINGTON STATE

LP offers changes to state's blanket primary

Libertarians turned out in force at a public hearing to propose changes to Washington state's "blanket primary," now that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled such contests unconstitutional.

On September 28, LP State Chair **Jocelyn Langlois**, past State Chair **Matt McCally**, 3rd District Congressional candidate **Erne Lewis**, and Campaign Committeeman **Kyle Varner** all spoke at a public hearing at the Bellevue Community College, sponsored by the Secretary of State.

In their testimony, the Libertarians said the state should return to "private, party-funded nominating conventions" instead of taxpayer-funded primaries, reported McCally. "It's immoral for the public to fund private choices."

LP member **Janet Anderson** also urged the state to adopt proportional representation as part of its election reforms.

Starting in February, the state legislature will consider alternatives to the "blanket primary" system, and "we are working to have several LP members testify," said McCally. "How all this will turn out, I have no idea."

In June, the Supreme Court ruled that California's "blanket primary" was unconstitutional, since it limited the ability of registered voters in various parties to select their own candidates.

■ WISCONSIN

Libertarians work to repeal Racine curfew

A lobbying effort to abolish a curfew in Racine has failed, so Libertarians say they will put a repeal proposal on the ballot.

An ad-hoc group called the Curfew Repeal Project has collected close to 5,000 signatures — well above the 3,556 required to put the measure on the Spring ballot, said **Aaron Biterman**, the Waukesha County Chair of the Metro Milwaukee LP.

The petitions, which were delivered to City Hall on November 4, were collected after an unsuccessful effort to convince Racine Aldermen to end the curfew.

On September 5, Biterman testified against the curfew, along with U.S. Senate candidate **Tim Peterson** and student Libertarians **Jim Sewell** and **Don Carlson**.

Opponents of the curfew — which also included the Wisconsin LP and American Civil Liberties Union — said the curfew discriminated against law-abiding young people. But the Aldermen weren't swayed, and voted unanimously to keep the curfew.

The curfew, which makes it illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to be on the street between 10:00 pm and 5:00 am, has been in effect for over a decade.

"This is the first significant challenge to it," said Biterman.

■ WISCONSIN

Libertarian: Repeal law to 'register' strippers

Should "exotic dancers" be forced to register with local police?

No, says LP candidate for U.S. Senate **Tim Peterson** — and he helped repeal a Vilas County law that had required them to do exactly that.

In mid-August, Peterson testified before the Vilas County Board against an ordinance, enacted last spring, that required strippers to register with local law enforcement so police could keep a database of exotic dancers.

The ordinance "created a dangerous precedent for expanded government scrutiny" of people engaged in a lawful form of employment, said Peterson. "Our whole Constitutional heritage rebels at the thought of giving the government the power to control private, lawful associations."

The County Board agreed, and voted to remove the registration requirement.

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The Issues

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

High school football: As deadly as guns

High school football killed as many students last year as did guns — so politicians should either stop using school shootings to attack the Second Amendment or start passing "football control" laws, says the Libertarian Party.

A new study from the National School Safety Center (NSSC) reported there were 15 "school-associated deaths" caused by violent crime (including guns) during the 1999-2000 school year. By comparison, 15 high school football players died in 1999, according to the National Federation of State High School Associations.

These numbers have Libertarians wondering: Why the outcry about guns — and the utter silence about football fatalities?

"When 15 students are tragically killed by guns during a school year, every politician and anti-gun lobbying group expresses practiced outrage, and immediately demands new laws that infringe on the Second Amendment," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "But when 15 students are tragically killed by football, the silence is deafening."

"If the preventable death of any young person is a tragedy — and it is — then why wasn't there a Million Mom March demanding an end to high school football? Why no calls from Bill Clinton for 'reasonable' football control laws? Why no saturation media coverage as dead football players are carried off the field in stretchers? Could it be that politicians get more yardage attacking guns than attacking football?"

Al Gore: No friend of small government

Al Gore uttered, well, an "Al Goreism" during the presidential campaign when he claimed to support smaller government, says the Libertarian Party.

"Al Gore saying he supports smaller government is like Bill Clinton saying he supports celibacy. It's a nice theory, but it's not going to happen," said Steve Dasbach.

In a campaign speech in Little Rock, Arkansas in late October, Gore said, "I'm opposed to big government. I'm for a smaller, smarter government."

Gore claimed that as vice president he helped reduce the federal workforce by 300,000 employees (to only 1.8 million).

But that simply isn't true, said Dasbach.

"Gore's claim that he reduced the federal workforce is only true if you count just salaried employees — and ignore contract workers, people employed by federal grants, and state and local government employees fulfilling federal mandates," he said.

According to the Brookings Institution's *The True Size of Government*, the federal government now employs 16.9 million workers — including 2.4 million grant-created jobs, 5.6 million contract-created jobs, and 4.7 million mandate-created jobs.

In fact, according to Brookings, 90,000 non-Defense Department, non-Energy Department federal jobs were added during the Clinton/Gore administration.

Is your washing machine illegal?

Federal bureaucrats are about to make your current washing machine illegal — and force you to pay up to \$800 more for new "environmentally friendly" models that may not work as well, the Libertarian Party warned.

"Washington, DC bureaucrats are dumping an extra-dirty load of regulations on Americans, rinsing the money out of our wallets, and hanging consumers out to dry," said Steve Dasbach.

Over the past few months, new federally mandated washing machines have started to arrive in stores around the country, thanks to the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act.

The legislation will force manufacturers to cut energy use in washing machines by 22% by 2004. To meet the standards, manufacturers will start selling more energy-efficient front-loading machines, instead of the more popular top-loading machines.

The regulations come at a high price: Front-loaders cost up to \$240 more than the older machines, while new top-loaders cost \$1,100 — compared to only \$300 for the old-style models.

The new wave of appliance mandates follows in the footsteps of "The Great Toilet Debacle," where federal regulators banned the traditional 3.5-gallon toilet in favor of 1.6-gallon models that clogged so frequently they sparked thousands of complaints, noted Dasbach.

"Thanks to federal regulators, we now have toilets that don't flush and washing machines that don't clean," he said. "And we'll pay more for the privilege of using these politically correct machines."

Harry Browne plans to set up non-profit educational foundation

Foundation for Libertarian Education to be based in Virginia

With the presidential elections over, Harry Browne plans to launch an educational foundation to "carry the libertarian message to Americans everywhere through national TV and radio advertising," he has announced.

His new organization, the non-partisan, non-profit Foundation for Libertarian Education (FLE), will be based in northern Virginia.

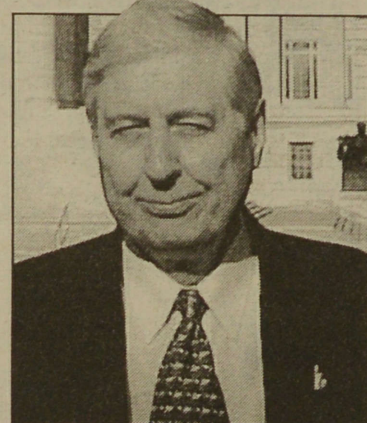
"The foundation will promote aggressively the benefits of ending the Drug War, downsizing government dramatically, repealing the income tax, freeing you immediately from Social Security, repealing the gun laws, and other important libertarian proposals," said Browne.

Vacant niche

FLE will also fill a currently vacant niche in the libertarian movement, he said.

"Libertarian think tanks and other policy organizations don't do this sort of thing; they exist to influence legislators or to provide information to those who ask for it," said Browne. "The LP is the closest thing we have to a national outreach organization, but it's hampered in that mission by campaign finance laws and by the lack of a tax-exempt status."

"The Advocates for Self-Government is the only aggressive



Harry Browne: New foundation will "promote aggressively the benefits" of liberty.

[outreach] organization I know of — and its role basically is to help libertarians sell our ideas on a person-to-person basis. The movement needs an organization that can carry the libertarian message, uninvited, to Americans everywhere through national TV and radio advertising."

FLE should be incorporated and have a website online before the end of the year, said Perry Willis, Browne's former campaign manager and one of the co-founders of the new foundation.

FLE's first planned activity: To start running a series of hard-hitting libertarian television ads, said Willis.

"For the first year or so our entire attention will be focused on

paid media and 'free' media outreach," he said. "Other kinds of activities may be added later, but we want to firmly establish our core functions first."

Over the next several years, FLE hopes to become "a ubiquitous presence on everyone's TV set," said Willis. "We hope to build to that level over time, expanding our visibility and the number of people we reach with every passing year."

Three TV ads

The foundation has already produced three TV ads on the gun issue, and plans to produce at least two more in January or February," he said.

"We will work on a group of ads on the drug issue after that, and then move on to other issues," said Willis.

FLE hopes to get its first ads on the air as early as Spring 2001, said Willis.

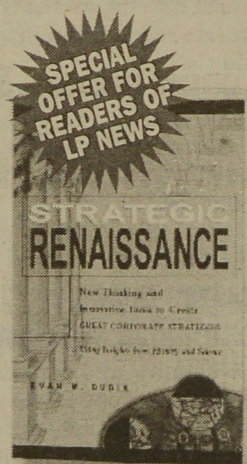
In addition to the foundation, Browne said he hopes to have a regular radio show and possibly a syndicated newsletter column to promote libertarianism.

"I also hope to give many speeches to non-libertarian audiences. And I will be starting to work very soon on a new book on the Drug War," he said.

For information on Browne's other post-election activities, visit www.HarryBrowne.org.

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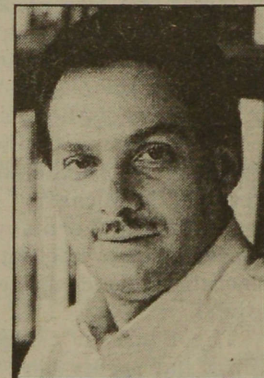
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Election results: Browne wins 376,000 votes

Continued from Page 1

The Libertarian had been showing up at between 0.6% and 0.8% in the Zogby and Rasmussen polls just one day before the election.

Browne said he was "disappointed" by the vote, and attributed it to the closeness of the presidential contest.

"In the weeks prior to election day the media emphasized the point that the race between Gore and Bush would be very close, as in fact it turned out to be," he said. "It is very likely that many people who intended to vote Libertarian wavered at the last moment and voted for Gore or Bush. This is a problem in every election, but it was especially so this year because the race was perceived in advance to be so close."

"Wasted vote"

That same "wasted vote" concern appeared to affect all the third-party candidates, said Dasbach.

"It's clear that the closeness of the race between Bush and Gore depressed vote totals for every third-party candidate," he said. "If you look at Ralph Nader and Pat Buchanan, both saw their vote percentages down dramatically from what polls had been predicting. Disappointingly, the same was true for Harry Browne."

The razor-tight contest between Bush and Gore almost certainly cost Browne "a few hundred thousand votes," said Browne campaign manager Perry Willis.

"People who might otherwise have voted for us thought it was important [to] vote for Bush or Gore, if only to keep the other one out of the White House," he said.

Browne was also hurt because his vote totals were not reported on television as Election Day progressed, said Willis, and by the fact that the LP still isn't large enough to reach voters with its message.

"The fact remains that despite our growth, most people still don't know who we are or what we stand for, and that's the fundamental problem we must solve in the next campaign, just as in all previous elections," he said.

Accomplishments

Despite the less-than-expected results, Browne said he relished the accomplishments of the campaign.

"I believe we persuaded hundreds of thousands of people (and perhaps millions) that libertarianism isn't an abstract philosophy, but rather a practical attitude toward government that

could dramatically improve their personal lives," he said. "In other words, we gave them a reason to become enthusiastic about promoting libertarianism, even if they didn't vote for us this year."

"In addition, I believe Libertarian campaigns are now perceived as much more professional because of the relations we established with much of the media and because of our TV ads. This should serve the next [presidential] candidate very well."

HARRY BROWNE:

"We gave [people] a reason to be enthusiastic about promoting libertarianism."

Around the country, Browne did best in Georgia, where he won 1.4% of the vote, Alaska (0.9%), Indiana (0.7%), Wyoming (0.7%), Colorado (0.7%), Idaho (0.7%), Massachusetts (0.6%), and Virginia (0.6%). Browne won 0.5% in Maine, New Hampshire, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington state.

In four states, Browne also won more votes than the margin of difference between Bush and Gore: Florida (where his 14,521

votes were considerably more than the 300 or so votes that separated the Republican and Democrat), New Mexico, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

Browne's 376,000 votes nationwide are also more than the 100,000-200,000 votes that divided Bush and Gore in the popular vote — and mark the first time a Libertarian presidential candidate won more than the margin of difference in an election.

"Of course, we were the margin of difference because the race was so close," said Dasbach. "And, of course, Nader and Buchanan

See ELECTION Page 12

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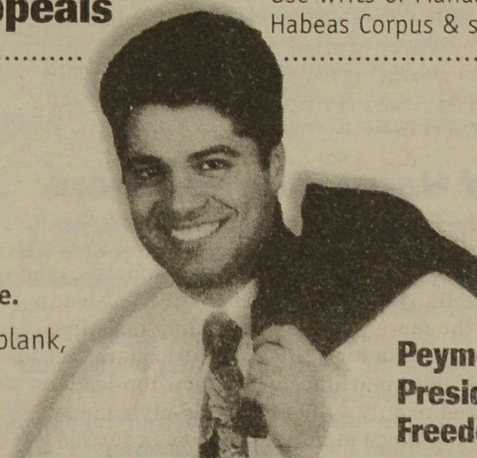
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The Campaign

Browne picks up endorsements

Harry Browne didn't win the presidential election, but he did pick up endorsements from two newspapers, a columnist, one online publication — and even a self-described "Internet porn peddler." In the weeks leading up to Election Day, Browne's bid for the presidency was endorsed by:

■ **The Tacoma Reporter**, a free weekly alternative newspaper in Tacoma, Washington. The newspaper wrote: "We support the Libertarian candidates, Harry Browne and Art Olivier, for president and vice-president. We want less government intrusion in our lives. We want lower taxes. We want existing laws repealed. And we want to end this insane war on drugs."

"Harry Browne is probably not going to be the next president of the United States. But if we start now and let the politicians know people will support a third-party candidate, perhaps our children will one day live in a land where, as Browne put it, 'the Constitution is a literal document, especially the 9th and 10th Amendments, which limit the size and power of the federal government.'" [November 2, 2000]

■ **Paul Varnell**, a columnist for the *Chicago Free Press*, a weekly gay publication. Noting the "gay community overwhelmingly supports Al Gore for president," he wrote: "What seems odd is how little you hear about Libertarian candidate Harry Browne. Yet Browne's positions are as pro-gay as anyone's and more progressively pro-gay than most. For voters who value privacy rights and civil liberties too much to vote for Bush, but who also value economic freedom too much to vote for Gore, the Libertarians offer a welcome alternative." [October 25, 2000]

■ **JeffersonReview.com**, an online newspaper based in Kentucky. The publication wrote: "Even if Browne does not win the election this year, a vote for Browne is not a wasted vote. Every vote cast for Harry Browne sends a loud and clear message to all politicians that we are tired of having our government treat us like children. It sends the message that we want individual liberty." [October 23, 2000]

■ **Madeline**, who runs a website (www.yesroom.com) featuring "erotic stories." Noting that 21 million Americans regularly view erotic material on the web — and millions more rent X-rated videos — Madeline wrote: "Don't vote for George W. Bush. He wants to 'renew our commitment to enforcing obscenity laws.' Don't vote for Al Gore. He is the vice-president of the administration that argued for the grossly unconstitutional Communications Decency Act."

"You are left with one good option: Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne. The Libertarian Party platform clearly opposes 'any abridgment of the freedom of speech through government censorship, regulation or control of communications media.' Wow, that's a breath of fresh air." [October 27, 2000]

■ **The Minnesota Daily**, the newspaper of the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis). The newspaper wrote: "One candidate stands out: Libertarian candidate Harry Browne. As the presidential candidate with the most consistent platform, Browne would provide an excellent balance to the Republican or Democrat-controlled Congress."

"If any of the minor parties can present a formidable challenge in years to come to the two dominant parties that control policy on Capitol Hill and in the White House, it is the Libertarians. Unlike the Green Party, which is almost totally built around the voice of Ralph Nader, Harry Browne's Libertarians have been a slow-growing movement in American politics in recent years and have the greatest opportunity to challenge what Nader calls the two-party plutocracy." [November 7, 2000]

A portrait of Harry Browne voters

Who voted for Harry Browne? Men, conservatives, pessimists about the direction of the country, and people who don't much like George W. Bush or Al Gore, suggests a new survey from Rasmussen Research.

Before the election, the polling company surveyed 557 voters who planned to vote for the Libertarian presidential candidate. It found that the typical Browne voter is:

- A man: 72% of Browne voters are men; 57% are under 40.
- More conservative than liberal. Rating themselves on the left-right scale, 45% say they are "somewhat or very conservative," 30% identify themselves as moderate, while 19% are "somewhat or very liberal."
- Worried about America: 56% say things in the country are fair or poor; only 43% say excellent or good.
- Not impressed with Bush/Gore: 53% have an unfavorable view of the Texas governor; 68% view the vice president poorly.

Election: The end of Reform Party?

Continued from Page 11

also got more votes than the margin of difference. But it is a historic first for the Libertarian Party to have helped determine the outcome of a presidential election."

Browne finished in fifth place in the presidential contest, about 63,000 votes behind Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan, who won 439,040 votes.

In 17 states plus DC, Browne actually finished ahead of Buchanan: California, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington state.

Effective end

"The fact that Browne was roughly competitive with Buchanan — even though Buchanan had \$12 million in federal money to spend — is reassuring," said Dasbach. "Over the years, the Libertarian Party has shown it can bounce back from temporary setbacks, but I expect that Buchanan's showing will mark the end of the Reform Party, since they've lost their federal welfare."

Also coming up short in his bid for federal money was the Green Party's Ralph Nader, who won 2.7 million votes — well shy of the 5% needed to qualify.

"That's significant for the Libertarian Party, since it means we won't have to face any third party that is propped up with millions of dollars of taxpayers' money in the 2004 election," said Dasbach.

As a result of Buchanan and Nader failing to qualify for federal money, both the Reform and Green parties "are likely to have passed their high-water marks," predicted Willis.

"There is now nothing to hold the Reform Party together," he said. "Their wealthy founder is gone, and there is no more federal money to attract famous names like Pat Buchanan."

"As for the Green Party, its life or death depends on Ralph Nader. Without him, the Greens would be hard pressed to find another name that would so excite the liberal media."

As a result, the Libertarian Party may be the only "major" minor party left standing for the 2004 election, said Willis.

"Only the Libertarian Party remains strong, united by a coherent philosophy, independent of personality, and possessed of a more thorough and robust infra-

PERRY WILLIS:
The Reform Party has "no federal money to attract famous names."

structure than any other third party," he said. "In short, there could be fewer third parties in 2004. It's even possible we could have the field to ourselves."

Browne's all-but-final total of 376,123 votes was down from some immediate post-election reports, which showed him winning more than 384,000 votes. The Associated Press, which distributed the fluctuating vote totals, did not explain the discrepancy.

Other third-party presidential contenders fared even worse:

Howard Phillips of the Constitution Party won 98,611 votes, while John Hagelin of the Natural Law Party won 88,319 votes.

L. Neil Smith

In Arizona, a break-away faction of the Libertarian Party declined to put Harry Browne on the ballot — and, instead, listed science fiction writer L. Neil Smith as the Libertarian presidential candidate. Smith won 5,195 votes, or about 0.38%.

That number was down sharply from the 13,458 votes (1%) that Browne had won in that state in 1996.

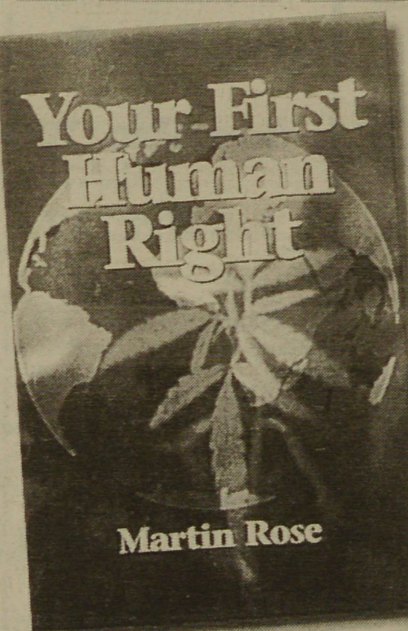
In high-profile LP races around the country:

■ **Carla Howell** won about 12% in a six-way race for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts — just one percentage point behind the Republican candidate, Jack E. Robinson, who won 13%.

It was the highest percentage that any LP candidate for U.S. See **ELECTION** Page 13

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Election: 26 Libertarians elected around USA

Continued from Page 12
Senate has received in party history. [See story on page 4.]

■ **James Dan** made a strong showing in his bid for State Assembly (District 28) in Nevada, but came up short — winning 45% in a two-way race against the Democratic incumbent.

"This was a record high percentage for a Libertarian candidate in Nevada," said Chris Azzaro, executive director of the Nevada LP. "And a very strong showing against an incumbent Democrat in a district with 60% Democratic voter registration. But a disappointment nonetheless." [See story on page 14.]

■ **Dale Ritchey** got 30% of the vote in a two-way race for State Representative (District 34) in Georgia, losing to the Republican incumbent.

■ **Bonnie Flickinger** got 8% of the vote in a four-way race for California State Assembly (District 65), losing to a Republican with 47%. A Natural Law candi-



■ **Harry Browne** — flanked by campaign press secretary Jim Babka (left), his wife, Pamela, and campaign staffers Steve and Jennifer Willis — thanked supporters at an upbeat election night party at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, Georgia. "I am very grateful for the way Libertarians throughout America have treated me," said Browne. "This has been a wonderful experience for me that I will never forget." More than 1,000 people attended the event.

date in the same race won 2%. Flickinger remains the Mayor Pro Tem of Moreno Valley.

■ **Michael Costanza** won 26% in a tight three-way contest for Connecticut State Representative (District 43). The Republican squeaked out a victory with 37% of the vote.

■ In a quirky result in New Hampshire, a Democrat running

on the Libertarian ticket won election to the State House in Hillsboro (District 45). Steve Vaillancourt, a Democrat who lost in his party's primary, won 18% in the general election as a Libertarian, picking up the third of three open seats.

The New Hampshire LP had allowed one Democrat and six Republicans to qualify for the bal-

lot as Libertarians to strike a blow for "free and open elections," according to State Chair Danielle Donovan.

■ **Don Gorman**, former New Hampshire LP State Representative and one-time candidate for the party's presidential nomination, got 35% in a two-way race for State Representative (Rockingham District 8), losing to the

incumbent Republican.

According to preliminary reports, 26 Libertarian candidates around the country won their elections — more than any other alternative party.

By mid-November, the Green Party had 18 winners listed on its website; the Reform Party had zero; the Natural Law Party had zero; and the Constitution Party had zero.

Libertarians in the winners' circle included:

■ **Lisa Bullion**, who was elected to the Orange County Soil and Water Conservation Board (District One) in Florida, with about 127,000 votes.

■ **Frank Longo**, who won a seat on the non-partisan Palm Beach Soil and Water Conservation District (Group Four), also in Florida. Longo got 135,999 votes, or 52.5%, in a two-way race.

■ **Brad Cline**, who was also elected to Florida's Palm Beach Soil and Water Conservation District (Group Two), in an unopposed race.

■ **James L. Bertrand**, who came in second in a three-way race for three seats on the Drexel Heights Fire District #2 Board of Directors in Pima County, Arizona.

■ **Gary Bora**, who won a spot on the Library Board of Trustees in Lyon, Michigan, in an uncontested, non-partisan race.

■ **Brett Cashman** in Michigan, who was re-elected to a four-year term as Superior Township Parks Commissioner in an uncontested race.

See **ELECTION** Page 16

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**** Costa Rica** – where the Movimiento Libertario has elected the dynamic Otto Guevara (named "Congressman of the Year" by the media) to the national congress.

**** Other examples** of freedom surging across the globe, include the Libertarianz party in New Zealand, the new Libertarian Society in Australia; the Hayek Society in Hungary, and more.

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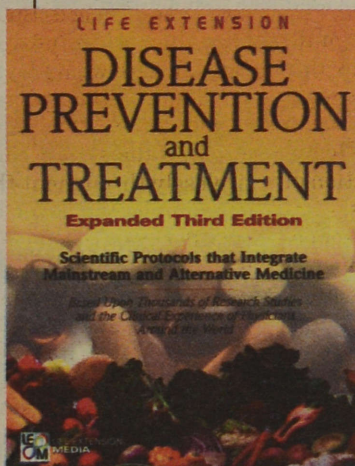
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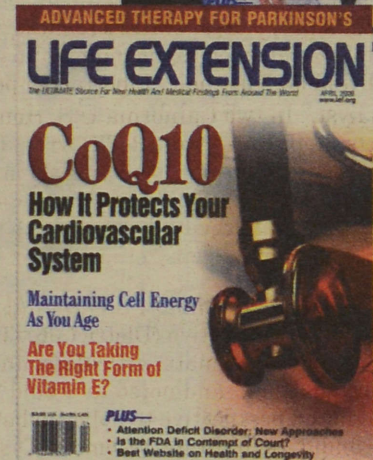
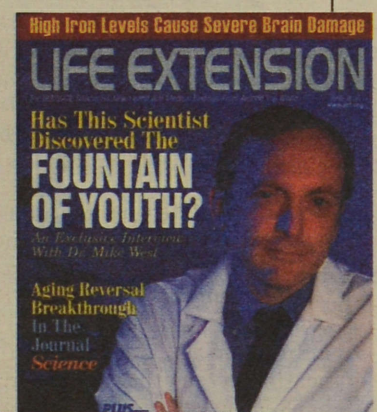
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Election: LP 'holds its own' with ballot status in 25 states

Continued from Page 13
tested, partisan race.

■ **Kate Sherrod**, who was elected to the Saratoga Town Council in Wyoming.

■ **Teri Kahn** in California, who beat the incumbent to win a two-year seat on the non-partisan Tehachapi HealthCare District. Kahn won with 55.5% of the vote.

■ **Erik Henrikson**, who defeated fellow Libertarian Tom Murphy in a two-way race to replace retiring Libertarian Dennis Schlumpf to become the next director of Seat 4 of the Tahoe City Public Utility District, California.

■ **Joseph Corey**, who swept past an incumbent to win one of three director seats of the Galt Fire District in Sacramento County, California.

■ **Linda Strom**, who won one of eight positions on the Lakeside Community Planning Area Board in San Diego County, California.

■ **Robert R. Mendez**, who beat an incumbent in Division 2 of the Vista Irrigation District in San Diego County, California.

■ **Greg D. Flores**, who surprised his better-known opponents to win the Division 1 seat of the Santa Maria Water Conservation District in Santa Barbara County, California.

■ **Michael McFarland** of Sacramento County, who was elected to one of three director



■ **LP candidate for U.S. Senate in Wisconsin Tim Peterson** got a cheerful reception while campaigning at a Milwaukee-area Hooters restaurant. Peterson won 21,120 votes, while LP U.S. Senate candidates around the USA won a combined total of 1,062,738 votes — a new record for the party.

positions on the Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District with 19% of the vote.

■ **Dan Bowden**, who was

elected as Barbour County Constable (Beat 9), in Alabama, in an uncontested race.

■ **Jack Kevin Andrews**,

who was elected without opposition as Dallas County Constable (District 2), in Alabama.

In Texas, four Libertarians were elected to the position of Public Weigher: **Noah Davis** (Lubbock County); **Clyde Garland** (Brazos County); **Charlie Lambert** (Hutchinson County); and **Robert Paty** (Nacogdoches County).

And in California, six Libertarians won uncontested, non-partisan races: **Geoff Braun** was elected to the Placentia Library District; **Gilbert Carroll** won a seat on the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District; **John Dennison** was elected to the Alexander Valley Unified School District; **Ray English** won re-election to the Descanso Community Planning District; **Kelly McKnight** won a seat on the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District; and **Gary Molle** was elected to the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District.

"We are very pleased with our results and are proud of all 289 Libertarians who appeared on the California ballot yesterday," said California LP State Chair Mark Hinkle. "We ran more candidates than all other third parties combined, our candidates got the message out, and we worked hard to make sure voters knew that only the Libertarian Party will fight to

MARK HINKLE:

Libertarians in California are

"very pleased with our results."

dramatically reduce the power and presence of government in their lives."

In three other races in California, Libertarians were within a handful of votes of winning, with absentee ballots still to be counted, reported California LP Executive Director Juan C. Ros. Final results are expected by December 5.

The Libertarian Party also appears poised to pick up at least one more officeholder from the 2000 election: Woodie Howell, the winner of the non-partisan position of Constable (Precinct 1) in Howard County, Texas, announced that he planned to join the party.

Ballot status

In the area of ballot access, the party "held its own," said Dasbach, coming out of the 2000 election with ballot status in 25 states.

"We're in about the same position we were in coming out of the 1996 election," he said. "Even though we moved backwards in terms of presidential vote totals, we managed to protect most of our gains in ballot status."

The party won ballot status in two states (Alabama and Washington), lost it in four states (West Virginia, Michigan, Minnesota, and Nevada), and maintained it in eight states where it was at risk (Wyoming, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, and Utah).

In other news of interest to Libertarians, former LP presidential candidate Ron Paul won re-election to the U.S. House (14th District) in Texas as a Republican with 60% of the vote.

And in Vermont, Neil Randall was re-elected to the state legislature (Orange, District 4) in a two-way race with 53% of the vote. Randall, who had won office in 1998 as a Libertarian with a Republican cross-nomination, ran as a Republican this year after falling out with the state LP over the issue of civil unions.

The
Power of
Just One
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Analyzing the James Dan campaign

Continued from Page 14

flag, a Nevada legislative booklet, and a potholder that said "She listens . . . She cares . . . She works hard for us. Re-elect Vonne Chowning." This was something we had never seen before in any political race.

Our opponent was also aided by the Nevada Democratic Party, which dropped off a doorhanger to all Democrats saying "Vote Democrat" and listing the names and photos of Al Gore, Ed Bernstein (U.S. Senate), Shelly Berkley (U.S. Congress), and Vonne Chowning. This certainly did not help us in a district where we needed lots of Democratic votes.

We had two "Meet the Candidate" nights at senior citizen housing projects. The seniors seemed to respond well to our Libertarian message. We even gave out door prizes of \$25 gift certificates for a local restaurant. Our opponent also held similar functions and gave out \$10 bills.

During the last four days of the campaign, our efforts turned towards getting out our votes.

700 GOTV calls

On Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, over 700 calls were made to registered voters that identified supporters and urged undecideds to vote for Dan. On election day, we called our supporters, checking off people that did not vote. This was the most extensive GOTV effort I have ever seen for a Libertarian campaign.

Unfortunately, our opponent was again aided by a huge Democratic Party GOTV effort through telemarketing. Additionally, the night before the election she had posted on all of her signs a smaller sign that said "Be A Voter TODAY!" and plastered her signs up all around the polling areas.

Having worked the polls a bit on Election Day, there were a lot of people that were voting straight ticket Democrat. Apparently we were not able to do enough to overcome the partisan advantage.

Turnout was a surprise. Based on the past presidential year turnouts, we had estimated that we would need 1,000 votes to win, as we were anticipating 1,800 voters. We got 990. Somehow, our opponent, along with the Democratic Party, turned out 1,197. The fact that this was a close presidential election, and Nevada was a battle ground state, did not help our situation.

One tracking poll was conducted several weeks prior to the campaign. It simply read, "In the race for state assembly, do you

plan to vote for Democrat Vonne Chowning, Libertarian James Dan, or are you undecided?" We wanted it to identify the political affiliations so that the results would take into account the partisan advantage for Chowning.

The results showed 33.6% for Chowning, 21.7% for Dan, and a whopping 44.6% undecided. We knew we had a chance, but we would have to take two-thirds of the undecided voters. In the end, we got slightly more than half,

which was not enough.

The voter registration breakdown was 60% Democrat, 22% Republican, 17% Independent, and 1% minor party.

30-35% locked up

We believe that our opponent had about 30-35% of the district locked up from the start. These voters would have voted Democrat no matter what. We probably had a solid 5% Libertarian support in the district. The real

battleground was over the other 60-65%. We won most of them, but we needed to win nearly all of them to pull off the victory.

It is my opinion that Libertarian candidates need to be able to significantly out-campaign and outspend our opponents in order to overcome the partisan advantage. As was noted before, we were about even with her on money, and tried to make up the difference with hard grassroots work. It almost worked, but not quite.

Were there some things that could have been done better? Perhaps. But this was certainly the best Libertarian campaign any-

one has ever seen in Nevada. And considering all the obstacles, to still get over 45% of the vote was truly remarkable. This race should be an example and an inspiration for Libertarians all over the country.

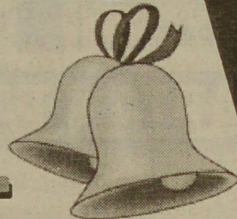
I'd like to thank our terrific campaign staff, and most of all, James Dan for being an awesome candidate. Let's never stop fighting for freedom!

■ **About the author:** Chris Azzaro was the Campaign Manager for James Dan for Assembly, and is the Executive Director of the Nevada Libertarian Party.

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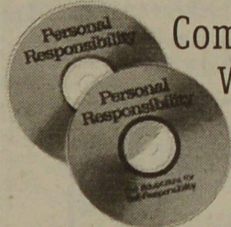
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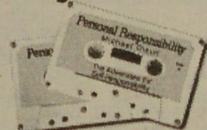
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Q'NTY COST
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 _____ Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
 _____ Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
 _____ Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
 _____ Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
 _____ Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
 _____ "Million Dollar Bill" Literature
 _____ America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
 _____ Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
 _____ 1995 LP Program
 _____ World's Smallest Political Quiz

Yard Signs

_____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

_____ Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
 _____ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
 _____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
 _____ Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Buttons

_____ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
 _____ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US
 _____ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

_____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL.

Tools for Campaigning

_____ Libertarian Political Action Booklet
 _____ Statue of Liberty logo master
 _____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
 _____ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

Large & Small Banners

_____ Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" h x 5' w)
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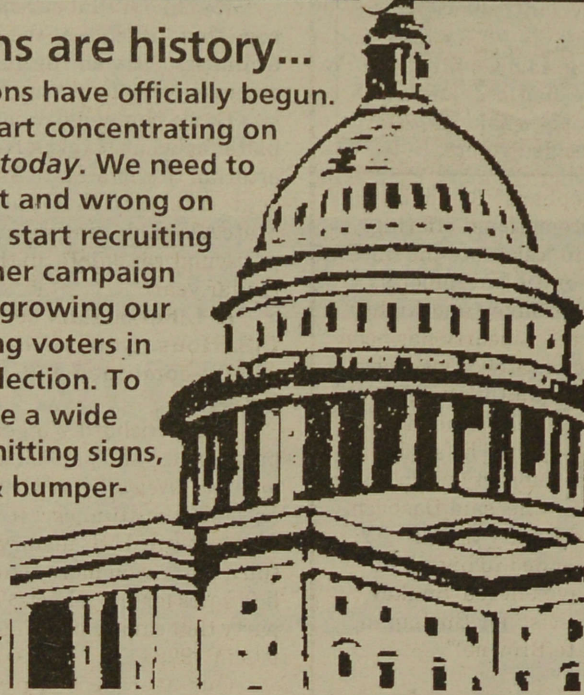
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NEWS FLASH

The 2002 Elections Started Today!

The 2000 elections are history...

And the 2002 elections have officially begun. Yes, we need to start concentrating on the 2002 elections *today*. We need to figure out what went right and wrong on November 7th — and then start recruiting candidates, putting together campaign teams, planning strategy, growing our membership, and educating voters in preparation for the next election. To assist you, we offer for sale a wide array of colorful and hard-hitting signs, brochures, books, flyers, & bumper-stickers. We don't have a moment to waste. Our success in 2002 depends on what you do *right now*. Will you do your part?



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■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.
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 ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN. Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.
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 ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).
 ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
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■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.
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 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.
 ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
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■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.
 ★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
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■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.
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LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

LP Literature & Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. Cost: \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. Cost: \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. Cost: \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1999) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

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

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

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

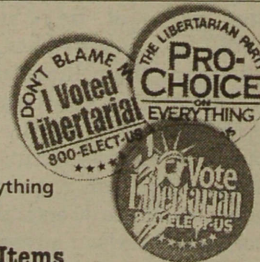
■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ each for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US



Miscellaneous Items

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

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Explains winning campaign techniques for LP candidates. Cost: \$3.00 each

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

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

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. Cost: \$3 for set

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

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) Cost: \$40 each

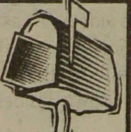
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NewsBriefs

MacDonalds discovers "Liberty"

What is in the middle of the political Left and Right? Liberty, according to MacDonalds Corporation.

In mid-October, the world's largest fast-food chain started offering a "Liberty Bear" along with its "Lefty the Donkey" and "Righty the Elephant" Teenie Beanie Babies as part of a presidential election promotional offering.

The three stuffed dolls were designed to "celebrate the American political process," and were available until November 9.

In 1996, MacDonalds offered Lefty the Donkey and Righty the Elephant — so it's a sign of progress that Liberty has been added this election, said LP national director, Steve Dasbach.

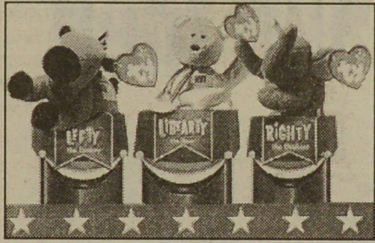
"We don't want to make too much of this, but it's nice to know that millions of children are being exposed to the idea that there is more to politics than Left and Right," he said.

And Libertarians have to wonder if the Liberty wasn't a plug for LP presidential candidate Harry Browne, said Dasbach.

"Gore had Lefty the Donkey. Bush had Righty the Elephant," he noted. "If MacDonalds had intended to highlight any of the other candidates, they would have offered 'Snakey the Socialist' for Nader and 'Froggy the Fascist' for Buchanan. Liberty the Libertarian clearly belonged to Browne."

IHS offers programs for students

The Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) is offering financial aid of up to \$12,000 for college and graduate students who have "a clearly demonstrated interest in the classical liberal/libertarian tradition." College juniors or seniors and graduate students are eligible, and awards are based on "academic and/or professional performance and potential for success." Deadline to apply: December 30, 2000. For more information or to apply, visit: www.TheIHS.org. Or call: (800) 697-8799.



Election 2000's positive news

Continued from Page 2

Dan run as a Republican, he would have almost certainly lost, probably with the same vote total.

It wasn't his Libertarian message that killed him, or his party affiliation. It was the inflexible mathematics of politics.

Dan's campaign was a template for what it takes for a Libertarian to win a State Assembly seat. Just not that particular State Assembly seat, against that particular candidate, in that particular year.

■ **Libertarians set a new U.S. House vote record, winning a combined 1.66 million votes.**

When Richard Winger, third-party expert and publisher of *Ballot Access News*, heard that figure, he said, "I'm stunned." It was the first time in U.S. history that a third party won more than a million votes for U.S. House. The last party that came close: The Socialists in 1920.

Our average Congressional vote totals were also up sharply since the 1996 election. That year, our typical U.S. House candidate won about 4,000 votes; this year, he or she won about 6,000.

And that vote average went up despite the fact that, as with the presidential race, the contest for control of Congress was por-



THE JAPANESE have a word for persisting, even when gains are small: "Ganbaru."

trayed by the media as razor tight. It was — and 1.66 million Americans still invested their votes in a Libertarian.

If that wasn't enough, the LP also set a new U.S. Senate record, with the party's 25 candidates winning a combined 1,062,738 votes.

Disappointed

Even with those good news items, many Libertarians will be disappointed by Election 2000. That's understandable. It's not easy to pour your heart and soul (and financial contributions) into a presidential race, only to scrape

out a paltry 377,000 votes.

But the Libertarian Party didn't get to where it is today by focusing just on the disappointments.

The Japanese have a word for the ability to persist, even when the gains appear to be frustratingly small. That word is "ganbaru" — and it represents a spirit that is much admired by the Japanese.

The Libertarian Party has always been a case study in *ganbaru*. Despite the enormous difficulty of trying to build a third party, Libertarians have stuck with it.

We've already outlasted a swarm of other wanna-be third parties: The Citizens Party. The New Alliance Party. And (soon) the Reform Party. We've stung. We have not died.

We've built strong state parties. We're united by a coherent philosophy. We've shown that we can run thousands of candidates. We've put more than 300 people into public office. And almost every election, we're rewriting some part of the third-party political record book.

The lesson from Election 2000: Learn from the disappointments. Take joy from our successes. And maintain that spirit of *ganbaru*. It's our only chance for ultimate victory.

Visit our user-friendly website: www.getwhatyoupayfor.com

TIM SLAGLE: LIVE

At the Libertarian National Convention, Anaheim, CA 2000

Tim Slagle has been the foremost libertarian comic in the country for years, and for good reason: the combination of intelligence and humor are all too rare, especially when mixed with Slagle's engaging political philosophy. Whether he is talking about guns, drugs, vegetarians, Bill Clinton, Al Gore, George Bush, taxes, or political correctness, Slagle slices and dices with delightful adroitness. In "Live" (performed at the Libertarian National Convention in Anaheim, July 2000) Slagle keeps a crowd of nearly a thousand people roaring with laughter for over an hour. Using some of the best bits from the past, but with mostly new material, "Live" showcases Slagle's prodigious talent both as a comedy writer & performer. Slagle's first two videos, "Awake" and "Nation of Criminals" were terrific. "Live" is hands down his best.

Price only: \$29.95

The Ayn Rand Video Library



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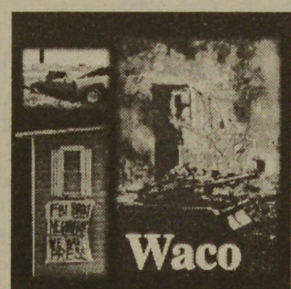
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The Forum

A view from the trenches, now and then

During the past couple of years, I have spoken at numerous LP state conventions, other gatherings, and most recently the national convention held this past July in Anaheim. A question I always asked of the audience was: How many of you are at your first Libertarian Party convention? It was usually close to half the people in attendance.

Amazing. New, young, enthusiastic party activists. Many of them are running for office in this election. That's excellent, and encouraging news for an old timer like me.

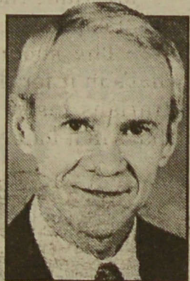
But, there is a downside. With so many new people doing so much of our work and in positions of leadership, there is a risk that some LP activists will neglect our party's history. There is a risk of disappointment and burnout at the end of the election cycle if we Libertarians haven't taken over the world.

So I thought I would share

some recollections and reflections, looking at how it was, and how far we've come toward our goal of making America free, safe, and full of opportunity.

In 1976, Roger MacBride was the LP presidential candidate. As his vice presidential running mate, I did some traveling and was a guest on a number of radio talk shows.

Talk radio in those days was not nearly as widespread nor as influential as it is today. But I was able to get, from the callers, the flavor of how Americans thought about politics. Accordingly, in 1976 there were three parties: Democrat, Republican and Communist. If you weren't a Democrat



By David Bergland

or a Republican, you were a Communist, no matter what you called yourself.

That's the way it was. No one — including radio talk show hosts — could spell or pronounce "Libertarian," let alone break out of the left-right spectrum paradigm to consider our views on the issues.

Awareness: Zero

Public awareness of the Libertarian Party and the libertarian philosophy was virtually non-existent. I learned that we had a lot of work to do just to raise public awareness above zero. It amazes me that MacBride got 173,000 votes that year. (Of course, Roger thought he would do much, much better, even though we were on the ballot in only 31 states.)

In my view, the key mistake that Libertarians of that day made was to believe that libertarianism was so obviously good, both morally and pragmatically, that it

only needed to be explained to people in a logical, rational fashion, and they would buy it — immediately. (Some of us are still making that mistake.)

It has taken way too long for us to recognize that marketing new political ideas is tough. Libertarianism is competing with what is, for most Americans, a lifelong tradition of socialist or welfare state thinking — the stuff they learned in public schools. So the selling of libertarianism is a long-term proposition, a lifelong effort.

The statist is never going to quit, so we cannot. Fortunately, in recent years, many LP leaders have focused on the need for marketing the benefits of freedom. Harry Browne tops that list — as a presidential candidate, as a writer, and as a teacher of other libertarians.

Our increasing success in the political marketplace is a direct result of efforts such as his.

As many of you know, Ed Clark's presidential campaign in 1980 was largely financed by zillionaire David Koch, the VP candidate. The campaign was able to run 5-minute network TV ads (this was before cable, so network audiences were much larger then than today) and that made a great impression on the media. They were interested and impressed by the TV ad buys.

That's what Perot did in 1992 to get all the attention. Spending megamillions on TV ads automatically makes you credible in media eyes so they cover your campaign in the nightly news. (That's another Catch-22 for third party candidates who don't take federal matching funds, on principle.)

Disappointing

The media was watching and reporting on Ed Clark on election night in 1980. He got slightly less than 1 million votes, and that was viewed as incredibly disappointing, much less than anyone expected. I think many in the media felt they'd been scammed. All that advertising fooled them and they didn't like it.

There are a couple of lessons here. Real libertarians — physical human beings working in the trenches, registered libertarians — are absolutely necessary. No LP candidate gets many votes without them. Millions of advertising bucks cannot make up for it if the troops are not there.

It's not a bad thing to have millions for advertising, but don't expect to win if that's all you have. So, one main objective of all our campaigns (presidential and otherwise) should be building the party, bringing in new members, not just advertising for votes. We must always aim to raise the plateau from which we begin the next campaign.

The other important lesson is implied by the first: Vote totals are not that important. (Which is not to say less is better than more.) Journalists, because they are lazy, will demand vote total predictions. It's easy for them to write about what you say on this subject.

But it's a trap. Making a specific vote total the target deflects our attention away from the more important goals of building the party and building public recognition and acceptance of the party and the better life it offers.

Makes no sense

Predicting and trying to achieve specific vote totals also means major disappointment for our hardworking activists if we don't hit the predicted total. And for us, there are so many uncontrollable variables (like Nader and Buchanan this year) affecting every election that it makes no sense to make predictions.

I caught on to the vote total prediction trap in 1984 when I was the LP presidential candidate. Media questions about vote totals were usually accompanied

See **VIEW** Page 21

Election 2000 shows it's time for a new PR plan

It's the day after Election Day 2000. And it's time for a new PR plan for a revitalized Libertarian Party.

We have to face it: Libertarians are, and always will be, a fraction of the population.

College activists discover politics and want to make radical changes. But most eventually lose their enthusiasm to the stress of work, home, and family, and become don't-rock-the-boat centrists wanting false security above idealized freedom.

South Park-styled ads may be cute, but they will never win over the hearts and minds of the media and masses. Video ads imaging destruction of the I.R.S. building sends a self-defeating message, falsely painting LPers as destructive anarchists.

Intelligentsia

Promoting "minds" and "markets" appeals to the intelligentsia, but will never produce a libertarian society on its own.

Rhetoric appealing to reason falls on deaf ears. Among your own family, friends, and co-workers, how many make emotion-driven choices in their daily lives, vs. how many make reason-driven choices? How many find logical, Spock-types appealing as leaders vs. those who vote for candidates based on fear and tribalism? We need to change the focus.

What we mostly do now:

Spend limited resources looking for similar-minded people, and when we find them, ask for \$25 for a newspaper.

What we need to do: Reduce time spent preaching to the converted.

Network, network, network with large special interest groups: Teachers, labor unions, government employees, senior citizens, the religious right, minorities, and most important of all, women.

Don't just write letters to editors. Go to these groups' meetings. Subscribe to their magazines. Key: Speak their language! Not ours! Examples:

■ For religious groups (90% of Americans believe in a "higher being"), create ads with religious symbolism (people exiting churches e.g. in the background). Talk in terms of the commandments everyone agrees on, and the Golden Rule.

Using the Advocates for Self Government's brilliant analogy: If you wouldn't go into your neighbor's house and steal his wallet because that's theft ("Thou Shall Not Steal"), why isn't it theft if 50 million people vote to allow men using force (I.R.S. agents with guns) and threats to go into your house or business and take money from your wallet or cash register? Isn't it still theft even if

By Dagny Sharon

the money that's taken is used for a "noble" purpose?

■ Produce more literature (preferably at comic book level) illustrating how much is spent on non-noble purposes, such as the tremendous waste and fraud in government-mandated programs, like propping up foreign dictators.

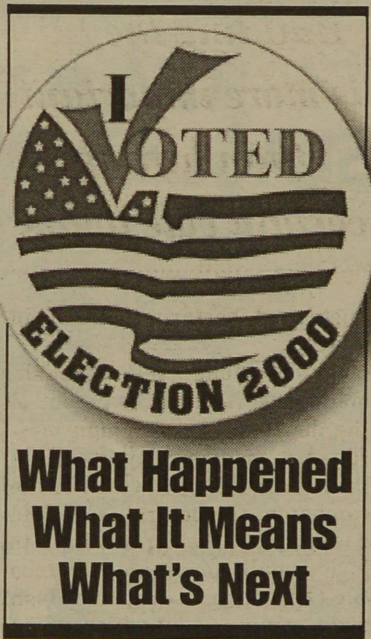
■ Translate the excellent LP and ISIL pamphlets and libertarian think tank white papers into the language of the target groups using emotion language instead of reason language.

■ For women, de-emphasize abstract ideology and focus on women's issues: Education, food prices, home (nest) costs, crime.

■ Speak at women's groups on how our policies will better (but not perfectly) educate their children; how politicians increase housing and food costs; how creating federal bureaucracies to handle local problems, spending more money on failed programs, and transferring money from one state's taxpayers to another's produces phony illusions of tackling problems that were often created by prior government programs — always in "Woman-Speak."

National level

If we continue to recruit with current methods, we'll shift the ideological balance . . . maybe in election year 3000. Gains in grass root elections have been impressive, but succeeding at the na-



tional level can be done.

Will we do the same old things and get the same old results in 2004? Will the LP, the only party of principle, and its presidential candidate, once again be ignored despite well meaning, hard-working, hard-core LP activists who struggle so valiantly to be on the ballot in all 50 states?

So, are we ready to become "Liberty Preachers" (so to speak) with a new hymnal?

■ About the author: Dagny Sharon is an LP member in Long Beach, California.

Want to succeed? Play the 'special interest' game

Libertarians like to appeal to people's heads; we need to start targeting their self-interest

We've watched the Greens come out of nowhere this year, and make an impressive showing across the board. How did they do it?

Better yet, how do we manage not to do it, not just this year, but year after year? We all know we have good ideas; and we all know that a lot of voters agree with us. Why, then, do we get fewer votes not only than the Republicans, but also than a new party in its first time out? Why did a rally for the Green candidate here in Austin draw 5,000 people, while a rally for Harry Browne drew barely a tenth of that?

Something isn't working; and the sooner we understand and accept that, the sooner we're going to be able to figure out what it is and fix it. If we keep rocking along like we've always done, telling the people about our great ideas, then we're going to get what we've always gotten: zilch.

It's as true in politics as it is in life — the only way to get dif-

ferent results is to take different actions. How can we break out of the cul-de-sac to which mainstream voters have relegated us?

As a Libertarian candidate this year, I'd been wondering about that. Then I opened the October 2000 issue of *Lone Star Liberty*, the Texas LP newsletter, and read "A Proposed Possible Campaign Strategy: Particularization" by Tom Kane.

Vote emotionally

Boom! That's all it took to show me the answer. We've been appealing to people's heads all this time; but people give their votes to those who appeal to their hearts, to their guts, and to their gonads. People don't vote rationally; they vote emotionally. If we want to get those votes, we're going to have to start appealing to the people in ways that really make them want to listen to us.

In his article, Mr. Kane suggests "catering to short-term self-interest instead of long-term prin-

ciples. Offering specific freedoms, in detail, directly to specific special interest groups. Basically, instead of making sweeping proposals that everyone knows will never pass, you tailor the Libertarian message to the group you are currently addressing and propose a benefit just for them. And you mean it.

"And when you get elected, you propose exactly that, along with all the other things you have promised the other special interest groups. And when they pass, we have across-the-board freedom while still respecting the principle of appealing to local, specific interests."

Here are some examples from Mr. Kane's article of just how we can get specific:

■ Instead of saying, "I favor abolishing the income tax," you tell the senior citizens, "If I am elected, I will see to it that no one over 65 pays income tax." (Explain why this is just and fair — they've already paid enough, etc.)

■ When talking to the PTA, you say, "The tax deduction for families with children should be brought in line with the actual cost of raising a child — \$xx,xxx per year." (Give all the reasons this is just and fair, etc.)

■ Bush and Gore compete by offering Medicare benefits. We can probably top that — we can offer zero taxes after 65, "to make up for the theft of your pension money by Congress over the last 60 years — if Congress had let you invest that, you would have been millionaires by now."

■ We could say, "We will abolish taxes on Social Security payments." This is specific and applies to a specific group of voters, is very politically do-able, and

By Tom Davis

does not marginalize us or radicalize us like "Abolish the income tax" seems to do. This is a very big issue among Social Security recipients — who should be one of our natural constituencies.

Mr. Kane then closes by saying, "People ask, 'What's in it for me?' The socialists tell them what's in it for them, but the libertarians insist on telling them what's in it for everyone. Winning

things wrong with our society today, so there are an enormous number of issues — gut issues — just waiting for someone to pick them up and run with them. The Greens are great at pointing those problems out.

But as long as we drone on about philosophy, and pay no attention to people's real needs, we're going to stay right where we are now: On the margins.

Do we care about the environment? Then let's talk, as Harry Browne does, about the fact that if everybody owns the land, then effectively nobody owns the land, and the transnationals are free to pollute and pillage it.

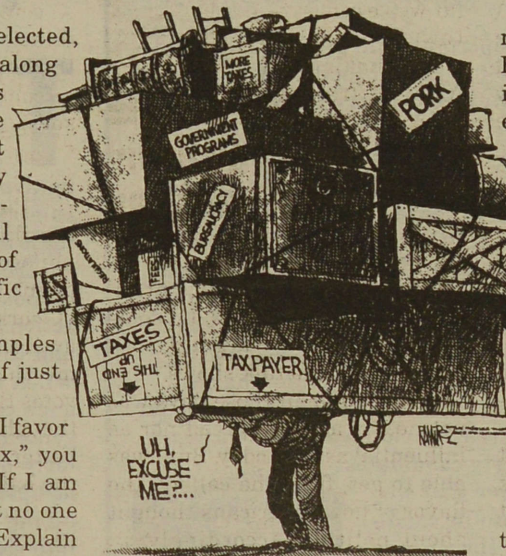
Do we care about the illegal drug war? Then let's talk about the drug widows and orphans, or about the booming prison industry that's doing nothing but costing us money, or about the fact that people are being murdered in their homes by government storm troopers.

Constituencies

Not only that, but we need to talk about each issue to the people who care about that issue. It's useless to pitch eliminating the income tax on Social Security payments to college students. And why discuss Second Amendment rights at a PTA meeting? Libertarian candidates tend to focus on issues, rather than on constituencies; and it's gotten us nowhere.

We've watched the Greens come from nowhere and succeed, by grabbing people's imaginations (and their fears), and by talking about the issues that interest their audiences. Do we want to learn from them, and start saying things people will listen to, or do we want to just die quietly in philosophical purity?

■ **About the author:** Tom Davis is an LP member in Austin, Texas. E-mail: tmd@tom-davis.org.



View from the trenches

Continued from Page 20

by a snide: "Well, you know you have no chance to win, so why are you running?"

My stock response was: "If everyone who is fed up with what the Democrats and Republicans have been doing to them would vote for me, I would win in a landslide."

And, since I was running in 1984 against a very popular Ronald Reagan who was seeking his second term, I would often ask journalists why they didn't ask Walter Mondale why he was running. After all, he had about as much chance to win as I did.

The bottom line for me is that progress toward our ultimate goals by building the party and public acceptance for libertarian solutions is far more important than hitting some specified vote total.

Size & influence

Put this idea in this year's context. Harry Browne was unlikely to be elected president in 2000. Sure, I wanted him to get 1 or 5 or 10 or 20 million votes, and any of those would have been better than falling back from the 1996 total. But, my focus is on how our party has grown, in size and influence, since the 1996 presidential election and the 1998 elections.

We have dramatically more members (about 10 times as many as when I ran in 1984), we ran a record number of candidates, and many of them were elected, add-

BERGLAND:
Building the LP is more important than hitting certain vote totals.

ing to the Libertarians already in office.

Even though the establishment kept Harry Browne out of the debates, his campaign message has made an important impact. In those final weeks of the campaign, the central issue had become one Libertarians have to love: Small Government versus Big Government. Gore and Bush were arguing about which one of them would produce smaller government. The media was lapping it up. Now, that is a crucial paradigm shift.

We did it. Harry Browne and so many other LP candidates did it. That's already a major win.

If we can make that paradigm shift permanent, and I think we can, we will keep on winning.

■ **About the author:** David Bergland was the Libertarian candidate for president in 1984. He has served twice as national chair, 1977-1981 and 1998-2000. He is the author of *Libertarianism in One Lesson*.

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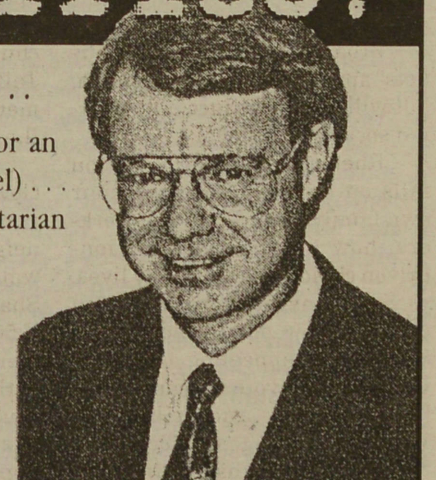
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FROM The Director

Paying tribute to our 1,421 election heroes

Perhaps by the time you read this, we'll know who our next president will be. Not that it's likely to make much difference. Whether it's Gush or Bore who ultimately sits in the Oval Office, we can be assured of getting more government and less liberty.

Which is why it is more important than ever that we build a strong Libertarian Party and elect more Libertarians to office.

How do we make that happen? Every Libertarian with a theory — which is to say, *every* Libertarian — can probably find something in the election results to support their view.

Libertarians who want us to focus on small, non-partisan races can point to our victories in those races. Others who say we must start winning larger, partisan victories will be heartened by our strong showings in several state legislative races.

Some Libertarians will note that Harry Browne received fewer votes than in 1996 and cite that as evidence of a failed strategy. Others will note Browne's standing in the polls, increased vote totals in many states, and the fact that he remained competitive with Pat Buchanan, the \$14 Million Dollar Man, and conclude that a historically close election depressed the vote totals for all third-party candidates.

Libertarians who believe that we must run professional, high-profile candidates will be excited by Carla Howell's record-setting performance in Massachusetts. Those who think we should concentrate on running U.S. House candidates will point to the record-shattering 1.65 million votes received by our U.S. House team, and note that our average U.S. House candidate received more votes than any other third party.

And, of course, those who want to demonstrate the superiority of their "breakthrough" strategy over the ones currently employed will note that we didn't elect any Congressmen or governors.

Now, all this speculation can be quite entertaining. But it doesn't really matter much. It's easy to sit back, look at the results achieved by others, and speculate on how it could be done better.

What matters is the willingness of Libertarians to translate ideas into *action*. The heroes of this libertarian revolution aren't the armchair theorists. Our heroes are the men and women who step forward and battle for liberty.

■ The candidates who promote liberty in debates . . . who walk precincts and talk to neighbors . . . who raise the funds it takes to deliver our message to the voters.

■ The campaign managers and staff who free up candidates to actually campaign.

■ The volunteers who staff phone banks, distribute literature, put up signs, and work the polls on election day.

■ The donors, who contribute the money required to run a successful political campaign

■ The voters, who ignored the pundits' yammering about "wasted votes" and proudly cast their votes for Libertarians.

But opportunities to be a Libertarian hero won't end with this election. Now is the time to start planning our campaigns for 2001 and 2002. If you think you've got some better ideas on how to run a campaign, step forward to run as a candidate. Or, recruit a candidate and manage their campaign.

Or, at the very least, let your fellow libertarians know that you're ready to volunteer or contribute to support their efforts.

It's typical to end a post-election column with an inspiring quote from a Libertarian stalwart like Thomas Jefferson. Allow me to break tradition and quote — *brace yourself!* — Karl Marx. He once wrote: "The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is to change it."

Our 1,421 candidates in the past election were the heroes who are working to change the world.

On behalf of the entire Libertarian Party, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to every one of them — and to all of the managers, staff, volunteers, donors, and voters who supported their campaigns. America owes all of you a tremendous debt of gratitude for your demonstrated devotion to liberty.



By Steve Dasbach

LP National Director

To succeed, women don't need government affirmative action

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

By Elizabeth Larson
FREELANCE WRITER

The American working woman pays a high price for the position or promotion she receives from affirmative action: the unspoken assumption that she was not the "best man" for the job.

Suspensions about the merits of those who receive affirmative-action jobs are often undeserved, and thus all the more insidious. When the suspicions are held by one's colleagues, rather than the general public, it is particularly divisive. Resentment against an individual case of hiring by quota ferments into resentment against all members of the privileged group. Intended to reverse discrimination, affirmative action eventually breeds it.

The supporters of such a perverse system must answer the question of how successful — and more important, how moral — a system is that harms the very individuals it purports to help.

If feminists truly cared about women succeeding rather than constructing a social utopia, they would herald individual women who have genuine, free-market success stories to tell. These women are not running to government for affirmative-action privilege because they are too busy running companies.

Children to work

Jane Hirsh is one such woman. Hirsh founded Copley Pharmaceutical, Inc. more than two decades ago because she wanted to be able to bring her children to work.

After 21 years spent building her company into a generic-drug powerhouse, Hirsh sold a 51% stake in Copley to the German company Hoechst for \$546 million in cash, retaining 37 percent of the shares for her family. Starting her own company "was the only way I could have a crib in my office," Hirsh recalled.

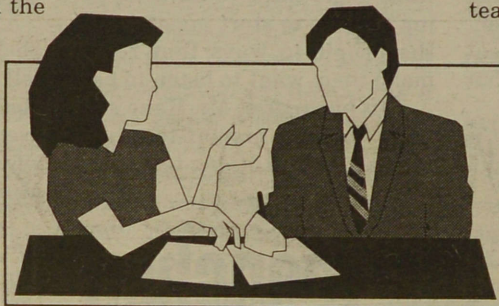
Edith Gorter of Gorter Express Company has her own hard-work success story to tell. She was one of seven female entrepreneurs that author and businesswoman Joline Godfrey chose to highlight in her book on businesswomen, *Our Wildest Dreams*. Gorter took over the trucking company when her brother-in-law who had been running it died.

Libertarian Solutions

(Her husband, who had no head for business, had wanted to sell the family company, founded by his father in 1910 with a horse and wagon.)

When Edith Gorter took the company's reins in 1972, Gorter Express had just one client, two trucks, and little else. By the mid-1990s, the company had hundreds of clients and about \$2 million in rolling stock.

Little Caesar's pizza chain, Mrs. Field's Cookies, and Ruth's Chris Steakhouses are a few of the



QUESTION:

If there were no affirmative action laws, how could women succeed in business?

better-known companies founded or run by women, but there are literally thousands of great free-market success stories like these.

In fact, more than 7.2 million American businesses are owned by women. As an Associated Press story reported: "From 1991 to 1994, woman-owned businesses in the transportation, communi-

cations, wholesale trade, real estate, and financial services grew nearly 20%, while construction firms grew 19% and manufacturing firms 13%, according to the National Foundation for Women Business Owners." Since women start their own companies with half as much capital as men do, these entrepreneurs do not have the luxury of free time to complain about perceived workplace inequalities.

"Women's work"

Some might argue that while entrepreneurial women have the opportunity to pick their field, most female workers are still forced to do "women's work." Although about two-thirds of working women still enter traditionally female fields such as nursing, teaching, and social work, a study from the Population Reference Bureau found "striking gains" for women in such traditionally male fields as medicine and law during the 1980s.

The number of women lawyers more than tripled, and the number of female doctors doubled. Since the "decade of greed" was supposedly even worse for women than for men, this is good news.

It is important to note that the debate about affirmative action is not a debate about the existence of individuals who discriminate on the basis of sex, nor should it be. Like the poor, the misogynist will always be with us. What differentiates the sexist society from a free society in which there is sexism is whether that prejudice is sanctioned by legislation and government policies or whether it is forced to the margins of society by general condemnation.

The affirmative-action debate is ultimately an argument about group versus individual rights. Affirmative action's opponents understand that it is wrong, and not merely impractical, to restrain the individual for the sake of the group. They know from history that to ignore or denigrate the achievements of the individual is to head society down the road to chaos.

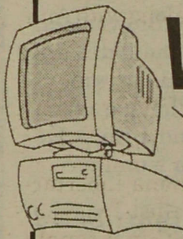
Factional fighting

The factional fighting that ensues is not of the beneficent type described by the Founders, wherein special interests jostle amongst themselves, creating a balance from which everyone's rights emerge intact. It is a splintering of communities born of contempt and resentment.

Liberty has no friends in a world where success is seen as an entitlement, for the politically

See **WOMEN** Page 26

LP News



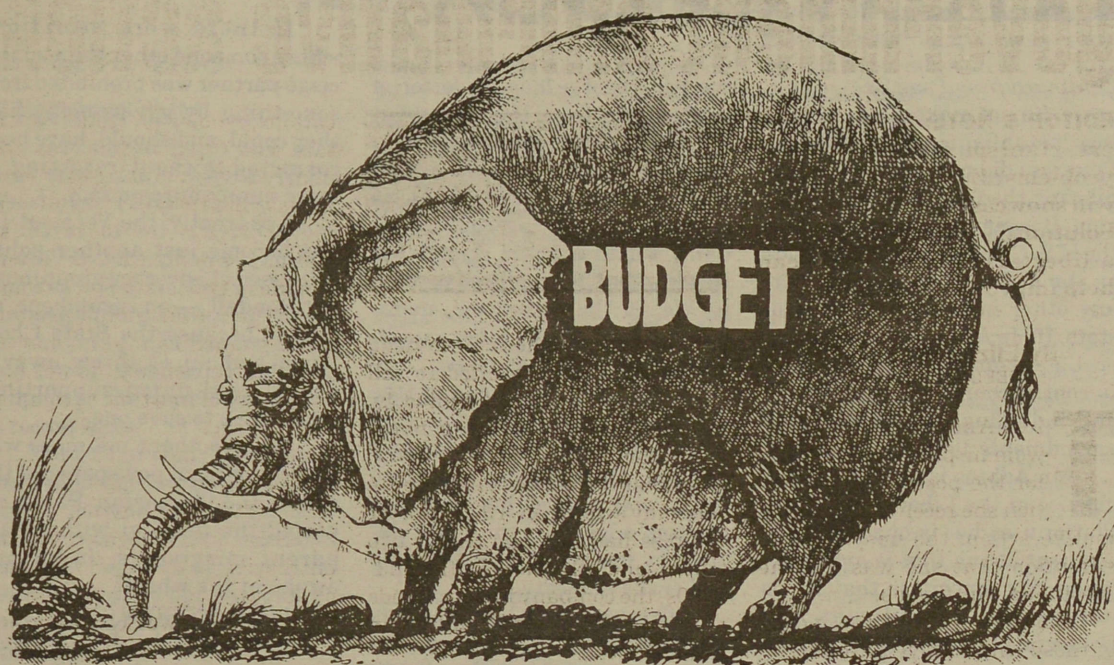
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AMERICAN LIBERTARIAN PARTY



GRAND OLD PIG

The Mailbox

Not an LP issue

Harry Browne says he would ask a prospective Supreme Court appointee what the words "Congress shall make no law" mean. Yet Indiana "libertarian" Jeffrey Adkins is suing his county for posting the Ten Commandments in its courthouse because "it is a violation of the First Amendment" [November 2000].

Someone needs to tell Mr. Adkins that Congress did not pass a law, much less one that establishes religion, when those Commandments were posted.

As for Indiana and other states (not Congress) passing laws to allow such postings, since when was a law needed to allow speech? What if, instead, the courthouse had posted "Ten Good Ideas" by, say, Maya Angelou, or lyrics from Eminem? Would Mr. Adkins then sue to keep them posted under the First Amendment's free speech clause? Religious speech is just as protected as any other.

This should not be an issue for the Libertarian Party. No one is harmed, no force is initiated by posting those Commandments. This only further alienates people who might otherwise be sympathetic with libertarians.

— RANDALL HOVEN
Alton, Illinois

Get a life

The Libertarian Party, like any other group, has its share of fools — but why publicize the fact? I'm referring to Jeffrey Adkins, the puppet of political correctness that is suing to have the Ten Commandments removed from an Indiana county courthouse.

"I SUGGEST they leave the Holy War to the Republicans and Democrats."

There is no literature, art, or design that could be added to any public wall that someone would not find objectionable. That seems to be the nature of our species.

In my opinion, Mr. Adkins needs a life. If removing what is, perhaps, the world's most famous literature from a public wall is what he considers a profitable use of time, he is creatively challenged. But, that is okay. It is the amount of public support this man's frivolous action has undoubtedly cost the Libertarian Party that concerns me.

Too bad the party doesn't tell Adkins to buzz off, along with Ann Coulter.

— GRANT KUHN
Carlsbad, California

Holy War

LP News: "Indiana Libertarian files lawsuit against Ten Commandments display" in a county courthouse. Libertarian solution: Leave the Commandments and tear down the courthouse.

Elsewhere in the November LP News, Libertarian Irv Rubin has taken the city of Burbank, CA to court for invoking Jesus at

council meetings. Jesus orders us to pray in the solitude of our rooms; He declares, "Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of Heaven" (Mt. 6:5-6; 7:21).

Even so, unless Libertarians can prove that religious symbols and gestures adversely affect governance, I suggest they leave the holy war to Democrats and Republicans. We are supposed to be a party of principle, not pettiness. Whining signifies moral decay.

— ROBERT G. DOSTAL
Iowa City, Iowa

No such "right"

Libertarians must be students of the U.S. Constitution. Our arguments must not distort the U.S. Constitution to support some rights that we feel we should have. The president, Congress, and the Supreme Court have distorted it enough to bring us to the brink of socialism.

Jeffrey Adkins' statement that "it is a violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution" for County Commissioners to post the Ten Commandments in a government building is unfounded.

He went on to say that "it is an endorsement of a particular religion which violates the religious rights of citizens that might not agree with the Christian or Jewish faith." The First Amendment reads "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech..."

In this case, the U.S. Constitution
See THE MAILBOX Page 24

The Pulse

That perplexing difference

Forget *viva la difference*. Libertarians just want to explain la difference.

In an effort to do that — and to respond to this month's Pulse question — LP News readers took a stab at analyzing why so many more men than women support the Libertarian Party.

The numbers are stark. At LP gatherings, men generally outnumber women by about three to one. And according to pre-election polls, men who planned to vote for Harry Browne outnumbered women by six to one.

The reason? Different political priorities, suggested many LP News readers.

The most popular theories: Women are more compassionate or caring than men, argued 18% of this month's respondents, and so they demand more government "compassion" for the less fortunate. No, said another 18%, women value safety or security more than men, and seek that security in government programs.

Coming in tied for second (with 11%) was the theory that women value community more than autonomy — which makes them more susceptible to the "it takes a village" rhetoric of the big-government parties than the individualistic language of the LP. Another 11% said that negative effects of "feminism" caused the gender gap.

Other LP News readers had different ideas: Some suggested women are too emotional; others speculated about "cultural" causes; still others wondered if the LP didn't talk enough about issues of importance to women.

Here is a representative sample of the responses:

The reason is due to biology. Women are physically weaker than men. It takes more of a woman's resources to pass on her genes; resources which she tries to enhance via voluntary exchange with a man for fulfilling his needs. Thus women may feel a stronger need for laws to support and protect themselves and others.

— PAM MISSIMER, Raleigh, North Carolina

The current societal value system is to blame and not the Libertarian Party. Men are valued for how smart they are and women are valued for how pretty they are. The Libertarian Party appeals to the thinking person and ladies in general are feeling people. Reason and emotion are not compatible — it is either one or the other.

— HELEN HUBBARD, Ypsilanti, Michigan

Some women want to be protected from the cruelty of the world by big, strong men and by big, strong government. While this strategy works for biological reproduction, it has dire effects when applied to government.

— NICHOLAS KYRIAZI, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Women tend to need others for support and confirmation more than men tend to need this. In politics, this translates to a need for government. I have observed this from watching the show *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*. Women tend to use up all of their lifelines before the hard questions begin. They often use up two, or all three, lifelines on the same question. Men tend to reserve the lifelines for when they are truly needed.

— MICHAEL NANCE, San Francisco, California

Late 20th Century Western culture told women (1) you don't need a man for support or happiness, and (2) you need government instead. Women bought it hook, line, and sinker, and we're all paying the price. Were it not for Lady Liberty and Ayn Rand, my shame for my own gender would be unlimited.

— KATHY COCKRELL, Ninety Six, South Carolina

Why is the question framed in a negative light? It should be, "Why do such a relatively high percentage of men support the LP?"

— LOU ELWELL, Long Branch, New Jersey

I don't think Libertarians have done enough to vocally advocate the Libertarian issues that appeal to

See THE PULSE Page 24

ThePulse

Continued from Page 23

women. Fighting against gun control and the drug war is commendable, but it will not appeal to everyone. Libertarians need to stress that we support a woman's right to choose. We should spend more time voicing support for specific, privately funded charities than we spend condemning welfare.

— MICHAEL WADDELL, Louisville, Kentucky

Our platform appears to take away the safety net from the needy. Women are caring individuals who need to feel we're providing for as many as we can.

— PEARL PULLMAN, Streetsboro, Ohio

I was coming back from [my state] convention last August, and stopped at a restaurant. The waitress asked where we'd been, so I told her we'd seen Harry Browne at our convention. She wanted to know if Harry was "nice," first, and "what does he look like?" If Harry can play a musical instrument, women usually love that.

— PATRICK SULLIVAN, Baker, Louisiana

Women tend to think more with their emotions, and the use of logic towards social issues may not always be an apparent avenue. Many women are afraid of guns, violence, and being trampled upon by a male dominated society. They fear that if legislation is not in place, their rights will not be protected.

— JENNIFER MEDLOCK, High Point, North Carolina

Because women have been trying to run our lives forever.

— JEFFREY KRADIN, Del Ray Beach, Florida

Feb. Question: President in '04?

Yes, the next presidential election is three years, 11 months, and a few days away — but it's not too soon to start thinking about who the party's presidential standard-bearer should be in 2004. Should it be a celebrity who can run a Ralph Nader-style campaign? One of our elected officials, who could run the kind of support-our-local-candidates campaign Don Gorman talked about? A Jacob Hornberger-style firebrand, who will run a "guerrilla" campaign targeting minorities? A moderate (but famous) self-described libertarian like Jesse Ventura? A millionaire, who can pour money into the race? A T.J. Rodgers-style businessman? A radio talk show host like Larry Elder or Neal Boortz? A writer/scholar like Walter Williams or Thomas Sowell? Or someone completely different?

■ **QUESTION:** Who would you like to see run as the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate in 2004? And why? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ **DEADLINE:** January 5, 2001

January Question: Goal for 2001?

A presidential election year is like the Super Bowl or World Series for political parties: It's the climax of a lot of strategizing, preparation, and hard work. But the election is over...so what should the LP do during the "off-season"? In 2001, should the party focus on membership growth? Local elections? Stronger affiliate parties? More advertising? Candidate recruiting for the 2002 elections? "Educating" voters? Trying to win a Congressional seat in 2002? Or a completely different strategy or goal? While it would be nice to do everything, an organization can only accomplish a small number of goals in any given year. So...

■ **QUESTION:** What strategy, goal, or accomplishment should be the Libertarian Party's #1 priority in 2001? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ **DEADLINE:** December 5, 2000

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month. ■ E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. (Please include "Pulse" in the subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

TheMailBox

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gress did not make a law regarding establishment of religion. Congress did not make a law prohibiting the free exercise of religion. It is simply wrong to misuse the U.S. Constitution's restriction on the U.S. Congress to apply to any other individual, county, or state. If Mr. Adkins wants the federal government to use its force to control courts, states, counties, and individuals he should seek amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. Adkins is accurate in his defense of the Libertarian Party Platform as he is opposing government action that is aiding religion. My concern is that he is joining the Republicans and Democrats in misinterpreting the clear language of the Constitution to achieve his goal.

The "right" to not be exposed to the Ten Commandments in a government building is not found in our Constitution.

— WES JOHNSON

Marietta, Georgia

■ Tax groups compared

I would like to offer a brief evaluation of some taxpayers' organizations that other LP members may belong to.

I commend the National Taxpayers Union (www.ntu.org) for providing a fair assessment of the presidential candidates, pulling no punches in pointing out the enormous spending increases implied by George W. Bush's campaign promises, and even giving some positive mention of Harry Browne.

I will not be renewing my memberships, however, to Citizens for a Sound Economy or to Citizens Against Government Waste, after seeing them be far too gullible in believing Bush's phony claims of promoting small government.

— BRADLEY BOBBS

Van Nuys, California

■ Neil Randall

I am extremely disappointed in your "one voice/one interview" article on the loss of Neil Randall to the Vermont Libertarian Party [November 2000].

VTLP chair Scott Berkey was very partisan, as part of a small team, in blocking any opportunity to vote on the re-nomination of Neil Randall. One member had over 100 postings on our Vermont chat list demanding Randall's resignation. As an honorable man, Randall was severely abused by the rhetoric which went all the way up to "Slick Willie Randall."

It is true he resigned in disgust from the state party, but by vote we did not accept his resignation, and we sent a delegation which wooed him back based on a promised new civility, but that civility never did materialize.

Randall's nomination was tabled at that first meeting pend-

ing receipt of a lengthy letter of explanation from Randall about his vote against gay marriage, a letter which most town chairs had not yet received or read. At no subsequent meeting could Randall's nomination be considered because the Chair refused to warn it. We, in the meantime, nominated every single other candidate who had requested it.

Later, the state committee did vote to endorse Randall, (the vote in the room was six for, two against, then Berkey cast two proxy votes against) but after that meeting adjourned the Chair denied, by his personal ruling, the will of the majority.

This was a witch hunt, a war waged with dirty tricks and parliamentary treachery. No one has disputed Randall's 98% Libertarian voting record. Rep. Neil Randall is a man of highest integrity, a long-term supporter, and generous contributor to the Libertarian Party, and our hardest working campaigner. His loss will reverberate throughout the Vermont Libertarian Party for many seasons to come.

— DOUGLAS A. RICHMOND

Underhill, Vermont

THE VERMONT LP has become just another politically correct advocacy group

■ Politically correct

It is certainly true that "politicians should not discriminate against gay people" when writing laws, but it is hard to imagine a more egregious use of "force as a means of achieving political or social goals" than to require landlords, employers, insurers, or Vermont legislator Neil Randall to act in opposition to their religious beliefs — or even their spur-of-the-moment whims.

As the National Platform puts it, "While we do not advocate private discrimination, we do not support any laws which attempt to limit or ban it." Regardless of his views about homosexuals, Randall's position, and not that of the Vermont LP, appears to be the libertarian one regarding the civil union law whose principal effect,

aside from incurring the wrath of voters, was to expand the list of prohibited discrimination categories.

If there were situations where someone other than a marriage partner was prohibited from something by government fiat, they could, and should, have been corrected without resorting to more nanny bureaucracy.

Apparently, the Vermont LP has become just another politically correct advocacy group, ousting Randall — an incumbent, no less — because the State Chair "wasn't about to throw away a dozen [civil union supporting] candidates to save one."

What bothers me more was that the official newspaper of the national Libertarian Party reported the incident without apparent misgivings. Is anyone awake at the wheel?

— LLOYD ANDREW

Arnold, Maryland

■ What have you done?

The column, "What have you done for freedom today," really got my attention [From the Editor, October 2000]. This question is so powerful that it should not be forgotten with that edition of *LP News*. In fact, it should become the slogan of the Libertarian Party.

This very letter is what I am doing for freedom today.

I propose you revisit this subject in a follow-up column in the *LP News* and in some fashion present the following suggestion to help get people started doing things for freedom — daily.

The suggestion: Let's all put a Libertarian bumper sticker on our cars. I know, I know — bumper stickers are of marginal utility to elect a candidate; but what I am suggesting is to make this sticker a permanent fixture on everybody's car, throughout the year, all the time, new car or old.

If we get thousands of Libertarians, and eventually all Libertarians to adopt this strategy, can you imagine the impact that will have in the long run? In parking lots of restaurants, airports, libraries, sport stadiums, theaters, everywhere, at first only an occasional "I Vote Libertarian," but as time goes on, months, years, decades, who cares, sooner or later it will start snow-balling... the excitement for us to see "there is another one."

You wrote, "But if every Libertarian did just one pro-freedom action every day, the cumulative effect would be enormous." My suggestion addresses this very point: Everybody with a libertarian bumper sticker on his car takes a pro-freedom action every day, all the time, as soon as he gets into his car.

I am currently on the SCLP Executive Committee. I am going to introduce this project at our next meeting.

This could be the start of something very worthwhile.

— GEB SOMMER

Lexington, South Carolina

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 25

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Continued from Page 24

■ Petulant child

Once again I can say with pride that I am a member of the Libertarian Party.

First of all, there is the "Waah!" factor, a political strategy that has lately become evident of winning through whining. I cannot imagine a Libertarian candidate trying to subsidize stupidity as much as the Republicrats have in recent days.

More than that, however, is the news in the last issue concerning the party's refusal to accommodate Ann Coulter's obsessive desire to lash out against some other member of her party by allowing her to put herself on our ticket [November 2000].

I have watched her over the past years as one of the networks' darling talking heads and never saw libertarian ideas (or intelligence for that matter) coming out of her mouth. I have often ques-

tioned why she keeps getting invited to speak on behalf of conservatives giving her singularly repetitive mantra of "Orwellian" this or "Orwellian" that, the label often being attached for no other reason that I could discern other than it sounded good.

That she responded in a "vitiolic column" hardly surprises me; she is, like we see in Bush and Gore these days, the same sort of spoiled, whining, petulant child that seems to typify the major parties.

With Coulter, the party proves once again that it is indeed the "party of principal." Keep it going.

— **BILL CUSHING**

Glendale, California

■ Clear Warning

I read the article re: Ann Coulter in *LP News*. I certainly hope your experience with Ann and others of her "conservative/celebrity" ilk will be taken to

heart as a clear warning by the other states' organizations.

I believe that we must be ever-vigilant in screening our potential candidates for elected office. We must be extremely careful not to be taken in by the lure of "celebrities" who do not share our unyielding commitment to the non-aggression principle, as well as those who wish to use the growing status of the LP solely as a base to "grind their political axe."

We must resist the temptation of flattery, as it will get us nowhere...

On the other hand, it is gratifying, indeed, to note that we have finally achieved enough notoriety to attract the attention of those political celebrities. Because of the growing size and national exposure of the LP, we may have the opportunity to "turn" some of those people to the principle... but caution must always be our watchword.

I thank the Connecticut LP for your vigilance, perspicacity and continuing commitment to protecting the integrity of the Libertarian Party.

— **WILLIAM E. SCHETLICK**
Flemington, New Jersey

■ One more voter

I had a copy of the *LP News* laying around in the office the other day. I had planned to finish reading it, became distracted by something or another, and forgot where I had placed it.

The next day, an employee of mine came up and handed it to me. This employee, to the best of my knowledge, had always been apolitical. He said, "Steve, I think I am a libertarian. I never knew there was a political party which agrees with my personal beliefs."

Thanks to the *LP News*, we have one more libertarian voter. If we can all just reach one more voter, every once in a while, we will all eventually win!

— **STEVE GORDON**

Macon, Georgia

■ Bravo

Bravo to Connecticut and Vermont Libertarians for standing by party principles in rejecting candidate hopefuls Coulter and Randall respectively. Choosing long-range goals over easy short-range publicity shows integrity.

I'm sorry to see that in New Hampshire the "Libertarians" are

eagerly betraying the party's reputation by placing it in the hands of would-be Republicans and Democrats.

I want to thank those letter-to-the-editor writers, like McIntyre and Ahmad in the November issue, who respond to others when they are confused about Libertarian philosophy and its practical applications.

Entering the debate and pointing out inconsistencies helps keep the party focused, protects against compromise, educates those new to the party, and reaffirms to the rest of us that the party does have a broad base of people with an understanding of libertarian principles. We need that participation.

— **JACK GARDNER**

Austin, Texas

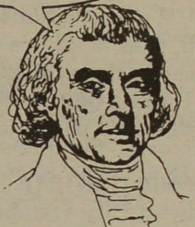
■ Federal money: No

I strongly encourage the 51% who said we should take money from the Federal Election Commission to reconsider if taking such money is actually the pragmatic and practical thing to do [The Pulse, October 2000].

Judging by personal experience
See **THE MAILBOX** Page 26

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 25

ence with Libertarian campaigns, the major problem with accepting government money is it invites looters and opportunists who exploit the situation for their own end. This is already taking place with the Green Party and the Reform Party. Reform Party members are upset with Buchanan and die-hard Green activists are upset about a socialist celebrity on their ticket.

Secondly, to accept government money can actually discourage contributions and commitment to the candidate. Much of the reason I gave money to Harry Browne, Don Gorman, and Barry Hess was because I knew they could not get the money elsewhere.

— **ANDREW SULLIVAN**
Omaha, Nebraska

■ Closet Socialists

I was aghast to discover that 51% of Libertarians are closet Socialists and are in favor of keeping our taxes high.

Some people said that it was our money in the first place. Un-

fortunately, it is not our money. It is the government's. How else will a government bureaucrat feed his/her family, since he/she is incapable of doing anything productive? If it is our money, then you would vote against bond issues, tax increases, and scum (a.k.a. "politicians") who would support big government.

Some people said that we (the Libertarian Party) need the money. We do *not* need the money. We need the votes, and we will not get the votes if we sell out. If I wanted hypocrisy, then I would have joined the Republican Party.

— **MICHAEL NANCE**
San Francisco, California

■ **Editor's note:** The Pulse is not a scientific survey. The fact that 51% of that month's Pulse respondents wanted the party to accept federal campaign money does not necessarily mean that a majority of party members agree.

■ Change our name

With the election behind us, we must look ahead to the future. It is clear that without an experi-

enced politician, a celebrity, or a whole lot of money, the presidential campaign will be invisible.

I have been against changing the name of the party but I have changed my mind. All successful businesses constantly reassess their marketing image and so must the Libertarian Party. A very simple change is in order. We should become the Liberty Party and those that belong are Libertarians.

I have nearly an impossible burden convincing people that a Libertarian is an advocate of individual liberty. The word Libertarian by itself is pushing the wrong emotional buttons with newcomers. I can't sell "Libertarian" as well as I can sell "Liberty." Believe me, I switched and told people that I was a member of the Liberty Party and they responded much more favorably. Complete a marketing survey and I believe you will see what I mean.

I am tired of being told that Libertarians are communists because of the 8th-grade reading level of the public, so let's market at their level. Then the door should swing open with a flood of new members and resources.

— **GHAZEY ALECK**
Clare, Michigan

■ We'll be back

I am a member of the LP (Maryland), and I just voted. I must confess that I was tempted to vote for Bush because the prospect of Al Gore . . . well, you know the argument. But when I got in the booth I knew I had to vote for freedom, and on November 7, 2000, that meant Harry Browne.

I voted for him because I want him to be president. I know we will not win the White House, but we're not going away, either.

LIBERTARIANS must engage in compromise and politics, the art of the possible.

And as the weeks pass, and the Sunday talk shows settle back into their big government left vs. big government right "debate," they will not have my vote to comfort and buttress their pro-government extremism.

And to paraphrase Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Terminator*, "We'll be back!"

— **BILL WALSH**
Rockville, Maryland

■ Take real steps

Here we are at the end of another election and the Libertarian Party is again reduced to celebrating losing. Our national ticket with no star power and no charisma barely reached the noise level, with less than .5% of the vote. We elected no U.S. representatives or senators.

Here in Virginia one of what purported to be one of our most attractive candidates got 1%. The party cannot be taken seriously at this level. Electing limited numbers of people to meaningless local bureaucratic positions does nothing to enhance the national cause of liberty.

Nor does the appearance that our only platform is pro-drug. The only LP signs that I saw in my area advocated legalizing drugs with no explanation of the ratio-

nale or benefits. This makes the party seem like nothing more than a group of campus radicals.

It is time for us to take real steps. We must stop the habit of losing. We need to make intelligent decisions to apply our resources where they will make a difference.

This might mean selecting well in advance some potentially vulnerable House seats, and going for quality rather than quantity. It might mean making common cause with Libertarian-leaning incumbents or challengers of the major parties.

We can still be the party of principle. But being a party in the U.S. means that we must engage in compromise and politics, the art of the possible.

— **PETER GAYTON CLAYMORE**
Fairfax, Virginia

■ \$7,500 is enough

I disagree with David Walcott [The MailBox, October 2000]. He states that he would rather pay each member of Congress \$400,000 and attract high-caliber, intelligent individuals that would work to reduce the size of our government than cut their salary to \$75,000 and attract idiots.

The only thing that Mr. Walcott's proposal would do is attract career politicians that would give away the farm to keep their cushy jobs in Washington, DC.

I would rather see blithering idiots like myself work for two weeks per year and get paid \$7,500. If government was small enough, that is all it would take to get the business of government done. I would have to live under the laws that I pass the other 50 weeks.

— **RONNIE C. WHITE**
Midwest City, Oklahoma

Women's best chance for success is a free market

Continued from Page 22

strong do what they can to obtain this "right" while the politically weak suffer what they must.

Feminists ought to be particularly attuned to the dangers of relying on a central force or figure for support and protection. Women struggled far too long to free themselves from paternalism to hold the hand of Uncle Sam now. An eagerness to rely on the government is an affront to what feminism should stand for. It betrays a lack of confidence in women's abilities to achieve financial and personal independence, and it undermines the real gains women have made in the workplace in recent decades.

Immediate change

As with any group that considers itself the vanguard of a brave new world, feminists want immediate change — and affirmative-action programs with the force of bureaucratic edict promise it to them.

Yet utopias are malleable things. Just as the dream of a color-blind society has become the reality of a color-coded one since the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the goal of equal opportunity has become the mirage of equal outcome. A system in which less than 5% of construction jobs are held by women — even though women own almost as many construction companies

FEMINISTS are running after another gift from the government sugar daddy.

as men — is a system which, to many feminists, has failed the fairer sex.

But try telling that to someone like Edith Gorter — who hasn't just made it in a "man's world." She's made it in a man's field, trucking.

Where are the feminists to praise strong, independent women when you need them? Running after yet another gift from the government sugar daddy.

■ **About the author:** Elizabeth Larson, of Los Angeles, has written about women in the workplace for Investor's Business Daily, Reason, Insight, and other publications. This essay is adapted from the December 1995 issue of *The Freeman*: Ideas on Liberty, a magazine published by the New York-based Foundation for Economic Education. To contact FEE call (914) 591-7230. Or visit www.fee.org.

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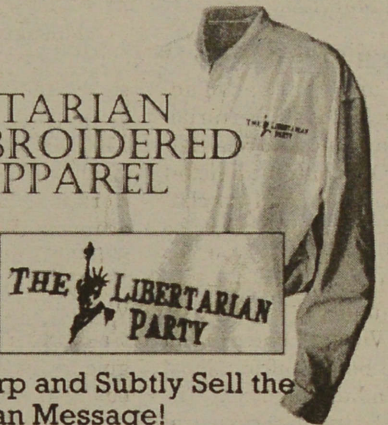
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UpComing

■ November 29, 2000

Metro Milwaukee LP Meeting, Westwood Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Speaker: Former governor Lee S. Dreyfus. For information, call: (262) 695-8694. Or visit: www.LPmm.org.

■ December 8, 2000

Liberty Coffeehouse, Emeralds and Pearls Cafe, Asbury Park, New Jersey. Sponsored by the Libertarians of Monmouth County. Featuring singer/songwriter Tracey Lockwood. For information, call Pat Bontempo: (732) 775-7263. E-mail: PDB10752@aol.com.

■ December 9-10, 2000

Libertarian National Committee Meeting, George Washington University Inn, Washington, DC. Open to all party members. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

■ February 16-19, 2001

California LP Convention, Doubletree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers include: Harry Browne (1996 and 2000 LP presidential candidate), Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Richard Winger (Editor, *Ballot Access News*), Mark Tuniewicz (LP National Treasurer), John Hospers (1972 LP presidential candidate), and Ed Clark (1980 LP presidential candidate). For information, contact Cullene Lang: (916) 362-0855. E-mail: cullene@aol.com.

■ March 2-4, 2001

Florida LP Convention & Business Meeting. Location and speakers TBA. For information, call: (904) 749-9798.

■ March 15-18, 2001

Reason Weekend 2001, Loews Miami Beach Hotel, Miami, Florida. Sponsored by the Reason Foundation. For information, call Amber Trudgeon: (310) 391-2245. E-mail: ambert@reason.org.

■ March 30- April 1, 2001

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Bethlehem. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: lpchair@enter.net.

■ April 27-29, 2001

Indiana LP Convention, French Lick Springs Resort, French Lick. Speakers TBA. For information, call Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein at: (317) 920-1994. Or e-mail: lpinhq@lpin.org.

■ May 25-27, 2001

Libertarian Futurist Society National Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel & Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. Speakers include F. Paul Wilson (author, *Healer*), Victor Koman (author, *Kings of the High Frontier*), L. Neil Smith (author, *The Probability Broach*), and Poul Anderson (author, *The Star Fox*). For information, visit: LFS.org.

■ July 1-5, 2001

Libertarian World Conference, Caliceo Hotel, Dax, France. Sponsored by the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) and Le Cercle Frederic Bastiat. Speakers include Henri Lepage (author, *Tomorrow Capitalism*), Donald Boudreaux (president, Foundation for Economic Education), Madsen Pirie (president, Adam Smith Institute), Benoit Taffin (leader, French taxpayer revolt), and Anthony de Jasay (author, *The State*). Cost before March 31: \$689 for one person, \$1098 for two. For information, visit: www.libertarian.to or www.bastiat.net.

■ August 4-10, 2001

Cato University Summer Seminar, The Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Diego, California. Sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 789-5229.

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InSide

■ **PAGE 1** Browne wins less-than-expected 376,000 votes

■ **PAGE 1** 26 LP members elected to public office

■ **PAGE 4** Carla Howell gets 12% in Mass. U.S. Senate race



1st Word

"Harry Browne and the Libertarian Party have some cause for celebration. From humble beginnings in 1971, the party has quietly become the third-largest political party in America. More importantly, his support, in concert with the increasing influence of libertarian think tanks like the Cato Institute, is putting pressure on the Republican rank and file to adopt a libertarian philosophy."

— Joshua S. Burek, *The Christian Science Monitor*, September 28, 2000

"The Libertarians are gaining members, getting more candidates on the ballot and starting to get their anti-government message out to the voters."
— *The News-Times* (Danbury, CT), October 28, 2000