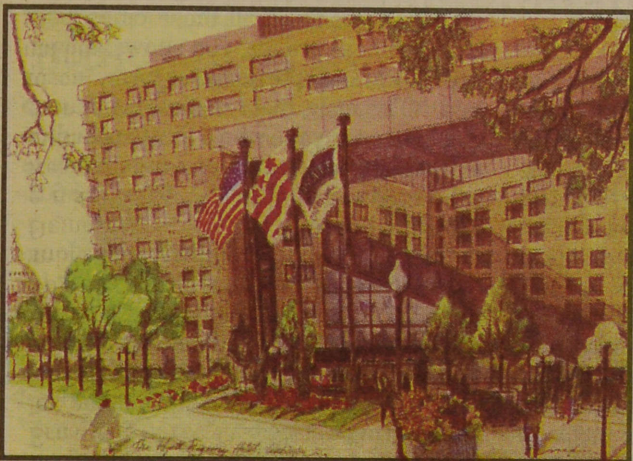


Net freedom

LP stands up for electronic privacy

The Libertarian Party—no surprise to anyone—is the only political party making a stand against the government's attempts at on-line censorship and other attacks on electronic privacy.

Following the Justice Department's decision in mid-January not to prosecute Philip R. Zimmermann for violating encryption law, the party issued a statement that while



The Hyatt Regency - Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, DC, will be the site of the 1996 Libertarian Party National Presidential Nominating Convention. For more information, see pages 7-9.

it was a victory for the First Amendment, the decision should not lessen privacy concerns.

"The battle for free speech and privacy still rages on the electronic frontier," said Steve Dasbach, LP national chair.

Then, in mid-February, the LP spoke out against the new Telecommunications Bill, and the Internet censorship provisions it contains.

The party's Director of Communications Bill Winter addressed a protest gathering in Lafayette Park, just outside The White House.

"We Libertarians are opposed to government censorship in any form—whether it is high-tech cyber-censorship, or old-fashioned book burning," Winter said. "Censorship is censorship, and we won't tolerate it. Cyberspace deserves the same robust, expansive definition of free speech as any other communications medium.

"We understand that this bill threatens to interrupt the rapid evolution of electronic information systems—an area where America leads the world in innovation," he said. "We understand that this bill will have a chilling effect on new technologies. A more certain way of guaranteeing permanent second-class status for America is hard to imagine.

"And, like you, we'll keep fighting until this bill—and every other attempt to censor the Internet—is revoked, rejected, and repealed," Winter said.

Other speakers at the rally included Jonah Seiger from the Center for Democracy and Technology and Jonathan Wallace, a plaintiff in the ACLU's lawsuit against the bill.

The Libertarian Party also participated in a worldwide

see **Freedom** on page 11

Libertarian Party NEWS



March 1996

The Party of Principle

VOLUME 11 • NUMBER 3

DEA big guns at LP forum

In early February, the St. Louis Area Libertarians hosted a public meeting on the topic, "Beyond Medical Marijuana—Should All Drugs Be Re-Legalized?"

An impressive line-up of speakers included Tony Bocchichio, Midwest Region chief of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); DEA Special Agent Steven Morreale, who specializes in stopping states from legalizing medical marijuana; Dan Viets, attorney and NORML chair; Jim Hammonds, a patient who uses marijuana for therapy; and others including a doctor, nurse, and police officer.

LP member Ken Bush, organizer of the event, said the DEA originally planned to send a St. Louis public information officer to speak, but the DEA decided the event warranted a visit from Morreale, a special agent from Boston, who was flown in for the event.

"The mere fact that DEA has a point-man to lobby legislators and fly around the country to speak at meetings like ours must show their concern about the public's growing discontent with the government's War on Drugs and its prohibition effects," Bush said.

A bill before the Missouri Senate, SB 573, would make it legal for a patient to smoke marijuana with a doctor's prescription. "We support SB 573 as a necessary first step to the eventual re-legalizing of drugs in Missouri," Bush said.

When the DEA announced the attendance at the event of the top DEA agents, Bush sent out additional news releases to the media. The result was Bush being interviewed on six radio shows. The most effective spot was a one-hour interview with Bush during morn-

see **DEA** on page 14

Schizophrenia

Index: GOP attacks personal liberty

"The latest ratings of the libertarian voting record of the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives show that the GOP takeover of Congress in the 1994 elections has done little to advance the ideals of libertarianism in Congress," said Don Ernsberger.

Ernsberger is the author of the Libertarian Voting Index published for the past five years.

Ernsberger made it clear that "all the advances in the area of deregulation, program abolition, and property rights that were supported by Republicans were canceled out by the attack on personal liberty by the same GOP members."

Democrats, meanwhile, fought against expansions in free market policy, but as a group had personal liberty scores that were weaker than in the past. While 155 Republicans (and no Democrats) rated 70 percent or higher in economic freedom votes, only 42 Democrats (and one Republican) rated 70 percent or higher in personal liberty voting.

Only one representative was at 70 percent or higher in both areas—Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA).

In the U.S. Senate, four senators rated 70 percent or higher in both economic and personal liberty areas. The highest was former Sen. Bob Packwood (R-OR) with a 90 percent economic and a 75 percent personal liberty rating. Also at 70 percent on both scales were Sens. Arlen Specter (R-PA), Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and Dirk Kempthorne (R-ID). Forty-two members rated 80 percent or higher on economic freedom votes, but most voted conservative on the key personal freedom issues such as flag burning, 4th Amendment rights, foreign policy, and the drug war.

This new vote study of the 104th Congress first session contains three separate indexes. The first—on economic freedom—focused on 10 votes on issues such as taxes, trade regulation, private property rights, and contract law. The second—on personal liberty—includes such key votes as the selective service, flag burning, the 4th Amendment,

see **Index** on page 5

Libertarians — influential and 'in'

Best Third Party in Decades

The LP is the most influential and successful third party in decades, according to Congressional Quarterly's Researcher magazine.

"Founded in 1971, the Libertarian Party today wields influence far beyond its . . . ranks," reported the Dec. 22, 1995, issue, which focused on the return of Ross Perot and third-party prospects in 1996 and beyond.

"In Washington, libertarian positions—espoused

by the party itself or the Cato Institute, an avowedly libertarian think tank—now form part of policy debates on issues ranging from health care and government regulation to welfare and tax policy. [And] many of the newly elected Republican members of Congress use libertarian-style rhetoric," writes the magazine.

"Meanwhile the party is also working to build its local base. [There are] more than 140 [now 164] Libertarians that the national headquarters lists as current officeholders. The Libertarian officeholders give the party a status that no third party has enjoyed in decades."

What's Hot?

Libertarians are "IN", according to Privacy Newsletter, a monthly publication on privacy issues in the computer age. Editor John Featherman listed his "privacy-related INs and OUTs for the year." On the IN list: Libertarians. On the OUT list: Republicans and Democrats. "Libertarians have always been in support of privacy, in favor of free speech, and in the forefront of the technological revolution. It's nice to know that now we're just in," said Perry Willis, LP national director.

Campaign '96: Presidential nomination

Schiff in New Hampshire and on radio

Irwin Schiff spent the two weeks leading up to the New Hampshire presidential primary campaigning in the state. Schiff focused his campaigning on "the duplicity and corruption that exists on the federal bench, the criminality of the Department of Justice," and the fact that "there are no laws requiring anybody to file or pay income taxes."

While in New Hampshire, Schiff planned on making a number of media appearances, as well as conducting his "untax" seminars. Schiff's campaign activities in the state were coordinated by LPNH activist Jim Davies, who recently endorsed Schiff by writing, "Irwin, uniquely, is in . . . a position to try something the LP has never tried before: to use not just the argument that this principal source of federal funds (the income tax) is burdensome, but also that it's a confidence trick, a fraud." The Schiff campaign planned a 4,000-piece mailing to New Hampshire Libertarians seeking their support in the presidential primary.

Schiff also is hosting a new talk radio show entitled "Freedom Now" on radio station KVEG 840 AM from Las Vegas. The show airs Sunday from 10 p.m. to midnight. The 50,000-watt station can be tuned in across much of the west, including Nevada, California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Utah, Arizona, and into Canada. Listeners can call the show live at 800-IRS-1095.

Information for this article came from the Schiff campaign and the LPNH newsletter.

Tompkins busy on the road

The Rick Tompkins presidential campaign kicked off the winter convention cycle with the Arizona Libertarian convention,

Feb. 3-4.

Tompkins spoke about the underlying principles of the Libertarian Party, and how to prevent modern politicians—including even Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich—from confusing voters by claiming to be "pretty much Libertarian."

Favoring "a few more personal liberties" while still encouraging big government to carry out "victim disarmament," or endorsing "somewhat lower taxes" while still viewing the police state as the proper enforcer of public morality, are not Libertarian positions at all, the four-time state LP chair said.

"Unless these people grasp and accept the principle of non-aggression, they are not real Libertarians," Tompkins warned.

Itemizing crime waves and social disruption caused by the perverse incentives of the Republicrat welfare state, and the deflowering of Constitutional rights by "Mr. Clinton's Drug War," Tompkins concluded, "Bill Clinton may think he can solve these problems by proposing school uniforms and fewer 'Roadrunner' cartoons on Saturday morning, but Americans are about ready for some stronger medicine—the Libertarian Party."

The state convention also drew reporters and cameramen from two major local television stations. In part because of publicity generated by the Arizona LP's successful lawsuit to block the state from forcing a tax-funded Libertarian primary—one which would have bound the affiliate's delegates at the party's national convention this July—the Phoenix Public Broadcasting affiliate aired a half-hour "Horizon" program entitled, "The time has come for the Libertarian Party," featuring taped reports from the convention and live interviews with 1994 Libertarian gubernatorial and U.S. Senate candidates John Buttrick and Scott Grainger.

Hailed by a unanimous resolution of the Prescott convention as a "defender of freedom" for "maintaining and enhancing the highest Libertarian principles during her

tenure," Arizona state chair Tamara Clark did not seek a second term, turning over the helm of the AZLP to former vice chair Mike Dugger in order to "throw myself full-time into managing the Tompkins campaign," an all-volunteer effort that does not anticipate paying any salaries, Clark said.

"We promise our donors very high fuel efficiency," said Clark, who entered politics by successfully promoting an abortion choice constitutional amendment in Nevada in 1990. "We haven't raised as much as some past candidates, but what we have is plenty to get Rick on the road to state conventions every week this winter and spring."

"It's a very lean, no-frills campaign, and money is not our main concern. Our goal is to get Rick Tompkins to meet and talk in person with every Libertarian we can possibly reach between now and July, because that's what this guy does best. Local activism and party-building is what he wants to stress."

"Now begins the extremely full convention cycle, and Rick will also be doing a lot more talk radio," something Clark said the candidate, himself a former Libertarian talk show host in Scottsdale, "takes to like a duck to water."

Tompkins will appear at the Pennsylvania state convention March 1-3. The rest of the March itinerary will take Tompkins to San Francisco March 10, followed by the New Jersey convention March 16.

Then it's on to the Tennessee state convention March 23, followed by a tentative rendezvous in Maine March 30, where supporters promise enough of a thaw for a

traditional, if chilly, lobster bake.

April 13 will find the Tompkins campaign in Wisconsin, after which Clark said she, issues adviser George O'Brien, and prominent Phoenix attorney John Buttrick expect to be thrown into the breach to make sure a live representative of the Tompkins campaign puts in an appearance at every convention over the busy and conflicted weekends of April 19-21 (Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana) and April 26-27 (New York, Ohio, Washington state, and Colorado).

"In between, we're doing outreach for mid-week events in all those cities, with local business groups, gun shows, university NORML chapters, and so forth," Clark said. "Obviously, that schedule is filling up quickly, but anyone who'd like to schedule a candidate appearance or a fund-raiser is still urged to call 602-930-1268 or fax 602-930-1739, lickety-split."

"Since Rick shoots regularly, was a long-time national spokesman for the Fully Informed Jury Association, and still serves actively on the board of the Arizona School Choice Trust, obviously Second Amendment groups, jury rights groups, and school choice groups also go to the top of our list," Clark said.

This article, although edited for length, was provided by the Tompkins campaign.

Harry Browne's campaign diary

*The Browne for President campaign reports that it now has nearly 1,200 subscribers see **Nomination** on page 14*

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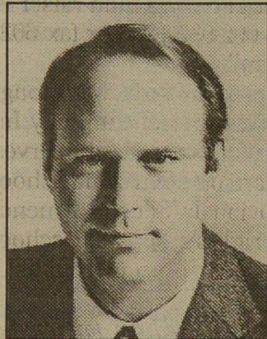
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November Comes the Harvest

The fall of 1994 was to be a metaphor for the major party stranglehold on Michigan politics. The older party candidates, a perennial party hack and a shopworn beltway insider, were poised to run a race that political pundits had already termed "a yawner." Then a **Libertarian** by the name of **Jon Coon**, though a political unknown, drew thousands to his hunter-orange banner and shook the "statist quo" to its very foundations.

Planting the seeds

First, he convinced the dedicated but skeptical leadership of the Libertarian Party of



Jon Coon

Michigan that he should head the party's slate by running for U.S. Senate. Not only would he not cost the party its ballot status, he reassured, he would get at least 5% of the vote and make the LP a major party in the eighth

most powerful state in the country. Then, he began to attract supporters. Like autumn leaves, gradually at first and then in greater and greater numbers, people began to change their political color and fall into the Libertarian camp. Soon there was a 1,000 square foot storefront headquarters with full time volunteer staff and donated computers, phones, fax, furniture and office supplies.

In a stroke of political genius Jon used his campaign to organize what he dubbed a "Brass Roots" gun rights rally on the steps of the Capitol in Lansing. Even the ever hostile media grudgingly conceded that this Libertarian political rally drew 10,000 people — the largest in decades — more than even Ross Perot.

Jon Coon became the first, and so far only candidate for office ever endorsed by noted columnist Walter Williams.

When a Michigan PBS station refused to include Jon in a U.S. Senate candidates debate he filed suit — and set an important precedent by convincing a judge that the publicly funded TV network had no right to pick and choose among ballot-qualified candidates. When a (privately owned) Detroit network TV affiliate refused to include Jon in their debate, he bought commercial time during the program. He pointed out to viewers in a 30 second ad that he had been deliberately excluded from the debate they were watching on the insistence of the Republican candidate. He must have made his point; he has since granted that same station three prime time interviews.

In the waning days of Campaign '94, this brazen political upstart went to the rest of the LP throughout the country for help with funding radio and television ads.

LP members responded with contributions that allowed the ad campaign to go on as planned. And when the Republicans mounted a negative radio blitz targeted directly at Jon, he had the resources to respond. *Within 24 hours* new radio ads were produced and on the air, countering the attack. One observer noted, "It was the classiest comeback I've seen in 25 years of watching politics."

In all, the campaign raised and spent nearly \$200,000 — more than any other non-

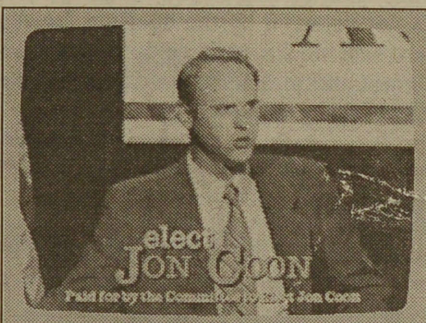
presidential campaign in LP history, according to National Campaign Coordinator Ron Crickenberger — with 16.9% of the contributors and 6.3% of the contributions coming from outside of Michigan.

On November 8, 1994, Jon Coon received 128,117 votes, falling barely one half of 1% short of the threshold needed to make the LP a major party in Michigan, but gaining *five* times the number of votes needed for the party to maintain its ballot status. (Thereby allowing valuable LP ballot access resources to be dedicated to states not blessed with so successful a campaign.)

Nurturing the crop

The Coon campaign has maintained offices continuously since April 1994. Our 15 member staff meets weekly. The (Michigan only) 1-800-JON-COON phone remains active. 500 2' x 8' hunter-orange signs have been saved and stored. The LPM, which had been cautious, is now enthusiastic about a man who *quadrupled* the previous high water mark in U.S. Senate races and, in the process, *tripled* state LP membership.

We have studied campaign strategy and tactics from mainstream experts and learned a good deal. But they are geared entirely to the two party system. LP races are just plain different. And our postgraduate work at the School of Hard Knocks has taught us about those differences. Jon's Campaign Manager, Barbara Goushaw, formally trained in campaign management at UC Davis, happily shares what we have learned with every LP candidate who is interested enough to ask.



Television ad made possible by the generosity of LP members

One of the next goals of the Coon campaign — meaningless to the two older parties — is to find out if there can be a "reverse coat-tails effect" traveling *up* the ballot and benefiting our presidential nominee.

Jon has now set his sights on a seat in the State Legislature. Staff research shows that Joe Palamara, the incumbent Democrat in the targeted district, has introduced a grand total of 20 bills over his ten year legislative career



Part of the crowd of 10,000 people who attended Brass Roots '94

— *all* of which were either frivolous or patronage paybacks to his supporters. One of the few bills he has actually passed was the "1995 Pastry Chef Commemoration" bill!

Telephone polls of the district show that Jon enters the race with 41% name recognition and 33% favorability. Much of his '94 support came from hunters (those hunter-orange signs and bumper stickers worked!), and this suburban Detroit area has one of the largest hunter populations in the state.

The district, which Republicans have ignored for years, has 24,000 registered voter households out of a total of 35,000. Starting April 1, Jon will put his timber business on hold (yes, he's a lumberjack and he's okay) and doorbell the *entire district* by election day.

We have enough volunteers to have both a get-out-the-vote phone bank, and poll workers at *all* 63 precincts for *all* 13 hours that they are open. In addition, the size of the **Coon Platoon** will allow us to have poll watchers in every precinct. (While we hate to sound paranoid, there were more than a few supporters suspicious of the vote in '94.)

Palamara raised and spent \$69,858 in his most recent election. We raised almost three times that amount in our '94 U.S. Senate campaign — and we are on track to raise that much again. With your help, we will be able to *outspend our major party opponent three to one!* And Palamara knows it. On September 13th, 1995, the largest newspaper in the district quoted him complaining that, "*I do not know of one person who has announced he's running for State Representative who is getting as much publicity as Jon Coon.*"

Reaping the harvest

Phase I for the Libertarian Party, running candidates for public office in order to edu-

cate the voters, is over. We are entering Phase II: running candidates for public office *to elect candidates to public office!*

Jon Coon is (to employ an overused word) viable. He is a candidate willing to play hardball politics in the real world, willing to do the work required to win. Without breaks, special treatment or dual nominations. Head to head. Our machine versus theirs. Whether it's a two-way, three-way, or more-way race.

And in Michigan, where the balance of legislative power hangs by a thread (56R - 54D), one **Libertarian** legislator could literally tie them in knots.

Two years ago we put out a call to all of you for help. Because of your generosity we had a major impact in that race and have built the political machine to compete with the Republicrats on a level playing field:

- An attractive, articulate, viable candidate who will walk the entire district
- High, favorable name recognition
- Detailed campaign and fund-raising plan
- Operating headquarters
- 15 member staff, meeting every week
- Hundreds of volunteers
- Dynamite campaign manager

This machine will showcase real LP influence in the eighth most powerful state in America. A state where the balance of power in the lower house of the legislature can rest in the hands of one Libertarian.

Libertarians rarely have such an opportunity to break the two-party stranglehold. We have a Libertarian champion from Michigan who is in a position to do exactly that... with a little more help from you. Your support got him into the ring. Can you help him throw the knockout punch?

To everything there is a season. Let's make this the winter of *their* discontent!

I'm impressed! I want to join the Coon Platoon. Here is my contribution to your effort. Best of luck in November.

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Affiliates

LP officeholder Flickinger boosting Libertarianism

California

Bonnie Flickinger, LP member and Moreno Valley City Council member, was recently elected mayor pro tem, second-in-command to the mayor. Flickinger said she didn't have time to act as mayor, but looked forward to working "in a supportive role."

Flickinger has been very busy as a council member. In December, she was instrumental in urging the rest of the council to place a city utility tax on this month's ballot. The rest of the council was considering enacting the tax without input from the taxpayers. Now the voters will have an opportunity to express their views on the \$7 million tax increase.

Flickinger also has been involved in a showdown over protection for the kangaroo rat. According to newspaper accounts, "Since the kangaroo rat was protected in 1988, the U.S. Endangered Species Act has throttled development on about 78,000 acres in western Riverside County." The agency, as required by the federal government, has acquired 8,800 acres and needs to add an additional 1,100 acres for a wildlife preserve. The agency also faces the requirement of raising money for a 30-year endowment to manage the preserves.

Flickinger co-authored a resolution to disband the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency, for which she is one of nine directors. If the resolution is adopted, the agency immediately would stop collecting developer fees and acquiring any more land for endangered species protection. The resolution was supported by the local farm bureau and building industry association, as well as at least three other agency directors.

Flickinger said the reasons for the resolution were the cost of land acquisition and the scientific debate over whether the rat is truly threatened by extinction.



National pulse

News from the states

Flickinger said she was personally contacted by the deputy secretary of the Interior, who urged Flickinger not to challenge the Endangered Species Act.

"Maybe we can shutdown one of the county's most onerous public agencies," said Flickinger.

Source: Newspaper and personal accounts

In late January, the speaker of the California Assembly appointed **Richard Rider**, 1994 Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidate, to the blue ribbon California Constitution Revision Commission (CCRC). The commission's purpose is to review the complex state constitution and recommend major revisions if deemed appropriate.

Steve Green, San Diego County LP chair, was pleased with Rider's appointment. "Richard Rider is a well known local taxpayer activist who has successfully fought local tax increases for years. Now he can represent us at the state level, speaking up for the constitutional checks and balances needed to control politicians and special interest groups. The San Diego City Council politicians, so anxious to bypass voter safeguards in matters such as the stadium expansion bond lawsuit, should pay more attention to Rider's efforts to keep them within their constitutional limits."

This shakeup of the board may result in a new direction for the CCRC and a return to the principles of limited government envisioned by our Founding Fathers on the federal level and by the original authors of the California constitution on the state level.

Rider is aware that he is the only third-party representative on the board but views this as an opportunity rather than a handi-

cap. Rider stated that, "In addition to pursuing my Libertarian desires for less government, I hope to represent the views of all third parties in terms of fair ballot access and representation in government."

Source: News release

Delaware

Jack Dalton, Sussex County LP chair, was elected by default to the non-partisan Bridgeville Board of Town Commissioners—the number of candidates equaled the number of seats to be filled. For this reason, there was no election on the scheduled election day.

Source: State party newsletter

Florida

The Broward County LP recently elected the following new officers: **Mike Shubert**, chair; **Scott Rogers**, vice chair; **Tom Regnier**, secretary; **Michael Kerner**, treasurer; and **Sanford Koplowitz**, at-large.

Broward County LP members also operated an outreach booth at the Broward County Gun Show in December. The booth had 165 visitors who took the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," with 53 percent scoring as libertarian.

Source: State affiliate newsletter

Georgia

The 11th Circuit Court ruled in a 2-1 decision against LP member **Walker Chandler**'s challenge to the state's candidate drug-testing requirement. Chandler is not deterred by the decision, however, and said the dissenting judge's opinion was "great and may help the case move up to the U.S. Supreme Court."

Source: Personal contact

Hawaii

A Hawaiian business magazine featured

an "all-Libertarian" page in January, with guest commentaries from a past state party chair and the current chair.

Small Business News published an essay by LP State Chair **Richard Rowland** entitled "Injustice in Minimum Comp" and a commentary from past State Chair **Ken Schoolland** entitled "The Blood Bank vs. the IRS."

Rowland's piece was a tongue-in-cheek attack on recent calls for a higher government-mandated minimum wage in semi-socialist Hawaii. Schoolland's article looked at what would happen if the government took over the management of blood banks—currently a polite and efficient voluntary system.

Small Business News is sent monthly to thousands of members of the Small Business Hawaii professional organization.

Source: National LP office

Illinois

In early February, a federal court in Chicago barred state party congressional candidates from participating in the March 19, 1996, state primary election.

In the lawsuit, the state party claimed certain ballot access requirements under the Illinois Election Code (IEC) were unconstitutional. If the state party position had been upheld by the court, the LP had planned to run candidates in each of the 20 congressional districts and at least half of the offices up for election in the general assembly.

As a result of the November 1994 general election, the state LP became an "established party" under the IEC. The state board of elections at first confirmed the state party could participate in the primary election for all statewide and local offices, but later changed its mind and determined the LP could run candidates only in state-

see **Affiliates** on page 5

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Affiliates

continued from page 4
wide races.

As a result, this month's primary will, for the first time in state history, allow a Libertarian Party Primary. **Harry Browne** and **Irwin Schiff** are the presidential candidates, while **Robin Miller** and **David Hoscheidt** are the U.S. Senate candidates.

Voters will not, however, be given the chance to vote for local Libertarian candidates. By its ruling, the court has denied voters the choice of Libertarian candidates for Congress and the state general assembly. Such candidates must petition to be on the November ballot as if they were candidates of a newly formed party.

The state board claimed the IEC ballot access restrictions were necessary to prevent "voter confusion." It claimed the addition of Libertarian candidates would "clutter" the ballot. It also claimed it was constitutional to require state party candidates to obtain more than 10 times the number of signatures required of Republican and Democratic candidates. The court agreed with the state. The state party is deciding whether to appeal.

Source: State party news release

Michigan

Kevin Shane has announced he is seeking the nomination as the Libertarian Party's

candidate for the 9th Congressional District for the U.S. House of Representatives. This district includes the Pontiac/Flint Michigan area.

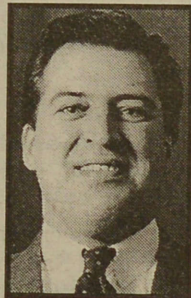
Source: Oakland County LP chair

The recently formed Ionia County LP elected the following officers: **Richard Whitelock**, chair; **Robert White**, vice chair; **Fred Kuhtz**, secretary; **Tom Groom**, treasurer; and **Jerry White**, **Stephen Thomas**, and **Clifford Lazarus**, at-large members.

Source: State party newsletter

New Hampshire

LP activist **Mark A. Tuniewicz** recently announced that he will seek the Region 6 representative's seat on the Libertarian National Committee at the national convention in July. Region 6 currently includes CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, and VT. Tuniewicz is the former director of communications for the LP of Connecticut, and he is now active in the NH state party, writing for the state party newsletter and acting as campaign coordinator for LP candidates in his area.



Tuniewicz

"I'm not one of those 'armchair libertarians' who sit around wondering why we still have an oppressive government. I'm helping to elect Libertarians to office—the only way we will ever achieve our goals," said Tuniewicz.

Tuniewicz plans to spend the spring cam-

paigning, including meeting "each and every delegate from every state in the region," he said.

Source: Candidate news release

New York

The state party recently sent out approximately 3,500 information packets to members and prospects. The project, entitled '98 Counts, is designed to build and strengthen the party infrastructure needed for 1998 and beyond. The project already has been termed a "big success" by State Chair **Blay Tarnoff**.

Source: State party newsletter

Ohio

State party Secretary **Donald Gallick** appeared in a four-member panel discussion entitled, "Is the party over?" at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth. The debate was sponsored by the League of Women Voters and included a representative from the Democratic, Republican, and Reform parties.

Source: State officer contact

Oregon

LP candidate **Gene Nanni** received more than 15,000 votes, about 1 percent, in the special election for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Bob Packwood.

Source: Election returns

Utah

The **Salt Lake County LP** is meeting every fourth Thursday of the month for a combination of "politics and socializing" at Slider's Pub & Grill. For more information, call 801-534-8872.

Source: State party newsletter

Virginia

LP member **John Gall** has announced his candidacy for the Arlington County Board.

Shelley Tamres, a member of the LP state central committee, is coordinating the state party presidential ballot access drive. Each state party member needs to collect approximately 60 signatures to reach the 16,000 valid signatures needed. The state party hopes to make it the first "all Virginia" drive—with no help from the national party. For more information or to help with the drive, call Tamres at 703-450-0218.

Source: State affiliate newsletter

Wisconsin

The state party is planning to run a candidate for state senator in a special recall election. More than 14,000 signatures were gathered to recall a Republican state senator in the Racine area because of his vote in favor of a state sales tax to benefit the Milwaukee Brewers baseball club.

Libertarian Party members were leaders in the movement opposing this tax increase, and they feel it could be an excellent opportunity for an LP candidate to make a good showing. For more information or to offer support, contact the state party at 800-236-9236.

Source: State member contact

LP presidential campaign contacts

**Rick Tompkins, Libertarian,
for President**

8129 N. 35th Ave., #2-262

Phoenix, AZ 85051

602-930-1268

602-930-1739 (fax)

e-mail: tclark@indirect.com

WWW:

<http://www.nguworld.com/rick96/>

Harry Browne for President

4094 Majestic Lane, Suite 240

Fairfax, VA 22033

714-437-7911

714-432-1468 (fax)

e-mail: campaign@HarryBrowne96.org

WWW:

<http://www.HarryBrowne96.org/>

anon.ftp at /pub/browne on ftp.rahul.net

Schiff for President

c/o Jeff Kanter

P.O. Box 221440

Beachwood, OH 44122

216-248-9995 (mailbox #3)

216-248-9994 (fax)

e-mail: kantnow@aol.com

WWW:

<http://www.webpub.com/schiff>

Doug Ohman for President

P.O. Box 1543

Danville, CA 94526

e-mail: DOhman@AOL.com

Dr. Calvin Ruskaup

U.L.C. (Unity Libertarian Committee)

P.O. Box 10800

Hilo, HI 96721-5800

LP vice presidential campaign contacts

**Jo Jorgensen, Libertarian
for Vice President**

1754 Woodruff Road, Suite 201

Greenville, SC 29607

302-737-3732

e-mail: 73140.2465@compuserve.com

WWW: <http://ares.ath.com/~dirasian/jo/jomain.html>

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abortion rights, gay rights, and the war on drugs. The third—on pork barrel spending—looks at attempts to cut "pork programs" such as CPB, NEA, OPIC, and many corporate welfare programs.

The tragedy of the 1995 voting pattern in Congress is the very poor scores in the area of personal liberty by Republicans who score well in economic and even pork barrel categories, according to Ernsberger.

"The reason for this is that when the Democrats ran the Congress many of the votes in the area of civil liberty included 2nd Amendment rights, home-schooling rights, and the Democratic crime bill," said Ernsberger. "Now that Republicans are running the Congress they are pushing for flag burning amendments to the Constitution, changes in the 4th Amendment search and seizure rules, and abortion rights restrictions.

"The result is that many of the Republicans, including many of the freshmen, want to radically roll back federal government in economic freedom, but want to expand the role government plays in one's personal liberty."

For example, four members of the House scored 100 percent on economic freedom votes, but three of these earned 30 percent or lower in the personal liberty area. Of 18 Republicans who earned 90 percent in economic freedom, most earned 30 percent in personal liberty and none received higher than 50 percent.

"The schizophrenia of the two-party system is best seen by looking at the voting record of the leadership of both parties," said Ernsberger. "If one looks at the voting pattern of the GOP leadership in the House and Senate it is easy to see why the Libertarian perspective is virtually unseen on Capitol Hill."

Rep. Dick Armey (R-TX), majority leader, and Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX), deputy whip, both scored 70/20 ratings. Sen. Bob Dole (R-KS) scored 80/40 and Phil Gramm scored 90/50.

The best representatives were Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA), who has led the House for five years, with 100/70, Rep. Jack Metcalf (R-WA) with 80/60, Rep. John Ensign (R-NV) with 80/60, and Rep. J.C. Watts (R-OK) with 60/60. Three of these are freshman GOP members, but most freshman Republicans were disappointing in the area of personal liberty, according to Ernsberger. The seven members of the Liberty Caucus in the House scored no better as a group than the average Republican.

"All in all, the Republican revolution did little to expand individual liberty in Washington, DC," said Ernsberger. "A few steps forward... a few steps back."

Copies of the 1995 Libertarian Voting Index, as well as reports on the issues and congressional background (30 pages in all), are available for \$10 from Don Ernsberger, 865 Meadowood Lane, Warminster, PA 18974.

Now 30

The LP has added two more states—bringing the total to 30—to its ballot status tally, while its other third-party rivals continue to trail far behind in the race for 50-state ballot status in 1996.

Vermont and Nebraska were the latest successes.

The LP qualified as a "major party" in Nebraska and is guaranteed a spot on the presidential ballot; it also has earned the right to register as Libertarians and hold a LP presidential primary in May.

Minor-party status in Vermont qualifies the LP to run a full slate of candidates in 1996.

Petitioners Needed

The Libertarian Party is recruiting petitioners for full-time work NOW.

Compensation is based on production, and good petitioners can earn up to \$750 per week.

Contact Kris Williams at LPHQ, 2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20037; or call 202-333-0008; or e-mail:

**75767.1434@compuserve.com
Phone calls preferred.**

Talk radio tuning in to Libertarian Party

The Libertarian Party is attracting top personalities from the world of talk radio, including one of the "25 Most Important Radio Talk Show Hosts in America."

Neal Boortz, the 25-year veteran top rated radio talk show host in Atlanta, has joined the Libertarian Party. Boortz has often described himself as philosophically "libertarian," but had resisted any partisan affiliation.

"Mr. Boortz made the right decision," said National LP Chair Steve Dasbach. "He has joined a growing chorus of voices, both on talk radio and in the voting booth, speaking out in favor of more liberty and less government. We're proud to welcome such an articulate and influential individual into our party."

Boortz is the second influential talk show host to join the Libertarian Party in the past three months. In late 1995, "Lionel" on New York's powerhouse WABC radio officially joined the party.

The Boortz drama started on Feb. 2, when Boortz announced to his audience that he might join the LP if a membership form were faxed to him.

Both the National Libertarian Party and the Georgia LP immediately faxed party membership forms to his studio at WSB radio, and a few minutes later Libertarian National Committee member Ron Crickenberger was on the air to encourage Boortz to sign on the dotted line.

"He had become fed up with the Republicans—the fact that [they] are dramatically increasing the size of the federal government," said Crickenberger. "It was the realization that the Republicans won't do



Neal Boortz, the top rated radio talk show host in Atlanta, joined the LP on the air in early February.

what they said they'd do."

By contrast, Crickenberger said, Boortz found the Libertarian Party's commitment to principle very appealing.

"He talked about our 'pledge' [membership statement] in a very favorable manner. He liked the fact that you had to sign a statement of principle to join this party, while you didn't have to with the other two [parties]," said Crickenberger.

But Boortz continued his on-air debate about whether or not to join, so LP National Director Perry Willis called to extend an invitation from the National Libertarian Party.

"He was surprised I was calling all the

way from Washington, DC," recounted Willis. "He said, 'I've really opened a can of worms,'" apparently referring to the fact that his announcement had generated calls from leaders in both the Republican and Democratic parties as well.

Boortz's on-air discussion about joining the party also sparked a flurry of calls to the Georgia LP's information line.

"The phone started ringing," said Audrey Goldstein, a staff member at the Georgia LP's office, "[with people] saying, 'If Neal is going to get off the fence, so will I.'"

On Feb. 6, the Georgia LP received a signed membership form and yearly dues payment from Boortz.

Goldstein said the decision by the popular talk show host to join is "worth 50 regular memberships" in terms of credibility and influence for the Libertarian Party.

Boortz was named one of the "25 Most Important Radio Talk Show Hosts in America" in the February 1995 issue of Talkers Magazine, and one of the "100 Most Powerful and Influential People in Georgia" by the January 1995 issue of Georgia Trend magazine.

Atlanta magazine described Boortz as "the Big Mouth No. 1, the Alpha Male, le grande fromage, the Big Kuhuna, the baddest of the bad" in Atlanta talk radio,

generating Arbitron ratings in "the Godzilla category."

Boortz is "too cerebral to dismiss," continued the magazine. "[He] has more on-air depth than other hosts...[and] enormous clout among listeners."

According to Georgia Trend magazine, Boortz is "the king of local talk, with more than 260,000 people tuning in to his Libertarian philosophy each week."

The same magazine also noted Boortz's distrust of the GOP: "An equal opportunity harasser, Boortz vowed to bash Republicans if they squander 'the golden opportunity to bring less government, lower taxes, and more individual responsibility.'"

Boortz has appeared on the Phil Donahue Show, the Today Show, and CNN's Talk Back Live. He has been written about in Entertainment Weekly, USA Today, and the Wall Street Journal.

Boortz studied aerospace engineering at Texas A & M University and practiced law from 1977 to 1993, while continuing his talk radio show. He is married and has one daughter.

Boortz broadcasts on WSB Radio, AM-750, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. His show is rebroadcast, and can be received by much of the eastern U.S. each evening from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.

'Tom's Diner' gets four stars on Seattle radio

Tom Isenberg, a Libertarian Party member, has the second-highest rated show on Seattle radio station KVI, trailing only America's most famous rotund conservative talkmeister Rush Limbaugh, according to recent Arbitron ratings.

Isenberg hosts the weekly "Tom's Diner" talk show on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 p.m. on KVI 570 AM.

"Libertarian ideas are very sexy now," said Isenberg, explaining the success of the show. "People want to discuss them, especially younger adults, who want dramatically less government interference in their personal and professional lives. They know that big government is dangerous and doesn't work, and they suspect that neither the Republicans nor Democrats will make the bold reductions needed."

To meet this demand for libertarian ideas, Isenberg said he exposes his growing audi-

ence "to a libertarian analysis of current events by libertarian authors, policy analysts, and politicians—including guests from the Libertarian Party and libertarian think-tanks like the Cato Institute and the Reason Foundation."

"People know that they're going to get spicy libertarian food for thought at Tom's Diner," he said.

In addition to high ratings, Isenberg's radio show also has been the subject of several television and newspaper stories since it debuted in March 1995.

KVI radio, with its conservative/libertarian talk-radio format, is one of the three highest-rated radio stations in the Seattle market, which covers all of western Washington. The station also carries John Carlson, Michael Reagan, Mike Siegel, Kirby Wilbur, and other popular local and national hosts.

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Pre-convention events set

For several days before the formal opening of the 1996 Libertarian Party National Presidential Nominating Convention, a variety of activities will be attracting participants from all over the nation to Washington, DC. On July 2 and 3, two separate training seminars will be held at the Hyatt-Capitol Hill.

The two-day Sal Guzzetta National Campaign Institute will offer candidate training. This seminar will cover all basic aspects of campaigning including general evaluation, election regulations, time management, planning budgeting, and fund raising. This

seminar was presented at the 1993 Salt Lake City convention and was universally acclaimed by the attendees. The cost of the two-day seminar is \$150 for those who register before June 1 (see separate coupon).

During the same two days, the Council of State Chairs will be holding a state leadership conference. This event will focus on leadership skills needed for the operation of effective affiliate party groups. Seminars will be held on such topics as effective communications, the FEC, the IRS, and fund raising. The cost of all four seminars is

\$50. The chairs of the party state affiliates also will be meeting during this activity. For more information, contact the Council of State Chairs, P.O. Box 12075, Washington, DC 20005.

At this time, pre-convention arrivees can take advantage of both the historic homes tours (see story below) on Wednesday, or the self-guided "Libertarian Tour of Capitol Hill" available at the convention information desk.

There is plenty to do in the exciting days before the opening of the convention!

Agora

In Ancient Greece, the center of every city was the marketplace—the Agora. There, free citizens did their shopping for food, clothing, and ideas. The great public debates were heard at the Agora. Free thought and expression and entrepreneurial exchange flourished side by side as they should.

In Washington, DC, in the first week of July 1996, the Agora will again spring to life as the Libertarian Party holds its 16th national convention and celebrates its 25th anniversary. In the main foyer directly in front of the main ballroom will be the exhibition hall featuring libertarian books, products, information, and organizational displays. Some conventions have had exhibit booth areas that were hidden away, far from the convention floor. But at the DC convention, the exhibit area is in the middle of the action.

Already groups such as Laissez Faire Books, Gun Owners of America, Advocates for Self-Government, Reason magazine, The Separation of School and State Alliance, Libertarians for Life, and the candidates for the LP nomination have reserved tables. In addition, many entrepreneurs selling T-shirts, buttons, magazines, rare books, and collectibles will be there as well.

This summer you will have the chance to do your shopping and talk about libertarianism in the Agora at the LP National Presidential Nominating Convention in Washington, DC.

Airline discounts available

American Airlines has been named the "Official Airline" for the 1996 Presidential Nominating Convention. American, which offers flights from most cities to the three Washington-area airports (National, the most convenient, Dulles, and Baltimore/Washington International), will take 5 to 10 percent off your ticket price, depending on the type fare and advance purchase you choose. This offer is good for travel from June 30 to July 10, 1996.

To receive the discount, you must reserve through the American Airlines Meeting Services Desk. You, or your travel agent, must call 1-800-433-1790 and reference the convention's "Star Number 7566MA" to receive the discount.

This offer is good right up until convention time, but reserve early for the best flights as Washington is a top tourist attraction during the July 4 holiday and airlines completely book their seats.

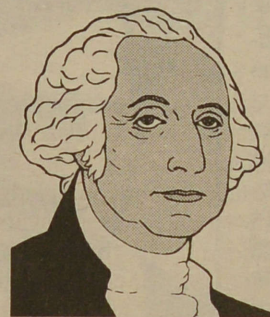
Colonial home tour set for convention

On Wednesday, July 3 (before the official start of the 1996 convention), attendees will have the option to join an all-day excursion visiting George Mason's Gunston Hall estate and George Washington's Mt. Vernon estate. This will be a great opportunity to visit the colonial homes of the "Father of the Bill of Rights" and the "Father of Our Country" in the company of fellow libertarians.

Your chartered bus will leave the convention hotel at 9 a.m. and return by 5 p.m. The driver/guide will give a sightseeing narrative as the bus passes through Washington, Arlington, and Alexandria to Mt. Vernon. There, you will take the regular tour through the mansion and self-guided tour of the grounds and out-buildings high above the Potomac River. After allowing time for lunch, the bus will take you farther south to Gunston Hall, where a docent will take the group through the mansion, garden, and grounds, and to view a film in the museum.

CAPACITY IS STRICTLY LIMITED.

The excursion will cost \$20 per person. Lunch and admission to Mt. Vernon (\$8)



and Gunston Hall (\$7.50) are additional. If you have made convention reservations but wish to join the excursion, use the form below. If you are now making convention reservations, please include the form below with your convention reservations and add \$20 to your convention check.

1996 Libertarian Party National Presidential Nominating Convention July 3-7 Washington, DC

Convention Bus Tour

Enclosed is \$_____ for #_____ tickets at \$20 each for the Historical Bus tour to Mt. Vernon and Gunston Hall on July 3, 1996.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Mail to:
Historical Bus Tour/
LP Convention
1420 Locust St., #36-D
Philadelphia, PA
19102-4223

Return by May 1st.

Make check payable to FEE Enterprises Ltd.

Q: What are the two most crucial days for your '96 Campaign?

A: The two days you'll spend with Sal Guzzetta at the National Campaign Institute in July!

In conjunction with the 1996 Libertarian Party National Convention, Sal Guzzetta, veteran of over 200 political contests, will present a two-day intensive course on professional campaigning. Full-day classes will be held on July 2nd and 3rd, just prior to the start of convention activities on July 4th.

"Sal's seminar at the '93 National Convention was universally acclaimed by the attendees," said Ron Crickenberger, LP

Campaign Chairman. "Guzzetta is a fountain of knowledge on campaign mechanics, and presents the seminar in a practical nuts-and-bolts manner. This seminar can turn any LP candidate from an almost-ran to a contender."

The standard fee for this course is \$385 per student, but Guzzetta is giving the LP a special discount: **Only \$150.00 per person** (\$200.00 after June 1st).

As soon as you register, you'll get copies of *The Campaign Strategy*, *The Campaign Manual*, and *The Finance Manual* — 700+ pages of valuable information by Guzzetta.

"I recommend that all LP campaigns register someone now — even if you are not 100% sure who will attend — just to get these valuable manuals immediately," said Crickenberger.

The seminar covers all aspects of campaigning, including strategy, election regulations, advertising, issue selection, media relations, time management, planning, budgeting, and fundraising.

"As an added bonus, since the seminar is being held in Washington, DC, Guzzetta expects to invite an expert friend or two for special presentations," said Crickenberger.

Note: Registration is separate from attendance at the LP National Convention. To register, mail this form with payment to the LP National Office, attention Tiffany Rodney.

I want to run a more professional campaign in '96! Sign me up for the National Campaign Institute and send me my manuals right away.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____

I'll pay by: ☐ Cash/Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

CREDIT CARD # _____

SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRES _____

I'M A CANDIDATE FOR: _____

I'M A CAMPAIGN MANAGER FOR: _____

Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party.
Mail to: Libertarian Party, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100
Washington DC 20037 ★ (202) 333-0008

July 3-7, 1996 ★ Washington, DC

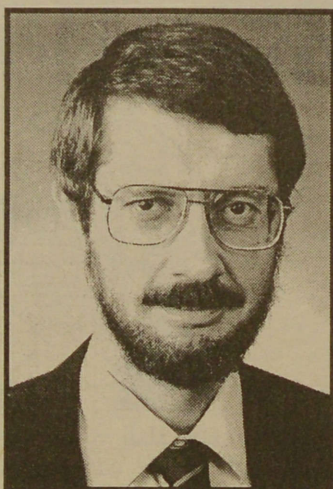
More convention speakers announced

Six more speakers have been announced for the Presidential Nominating Convention in July. Delegates will have the opportunity to hear from such LP "legends" as **Tonie Nathan** and **Richard Boddie**; author and home-school expert **Sheldon Richman**; **Robert Poole**, the man who started the privatization revolution; communications expert **Alan Perlman**, and prominent Christian libertarian **Clifford Thies**. These six join a stellar list of previously announced speakers: **David Nolan**, founder of the LP; **Nadine Strossen**, head of the ACLU;

Karl Hess Jr., top libertarian environmentalist; **James Bovard**, author who skewers government in his new book "Shakedown"; **Jon Coon**, rising LP star who ran for U.S. Senate in Michigan; **Doug Bandow**, writer and former Reagan aide who is extremely knowledgeable about Beltway politics; keynoter **Jacob Hornberger**, a dynamic advocate for libertarianism; and **John Buttrick**, attorney who was the Arizona LP's gubernatorial candidate. More speakers will be announced in future editions.

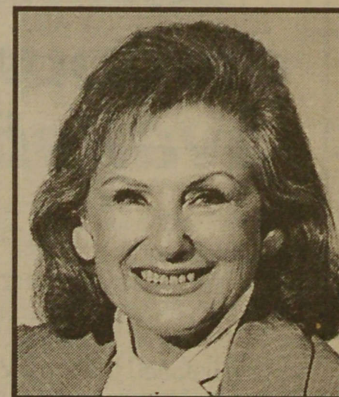
Robert Poole

Robert Poole is founder and president of the Reason Foundation and a nationally known expert on privatization and transportation policy. He will report on "Just How Successful has been Privatization?" Mr. Poole launched the Reason Foundation in 1978 after researching privatization of government functions for years. His book, "Cutting Back City Hall," in 1980, was the first book-length treatment of the subject. During the Reagan and Bush administrations, he advised, testified, and helped develop privatization measures. His 1988 policy paper on private toll roads directly inspired California's landmark legislation that led to the recently completed Riverside Expressway private toll road. A long-time libertarian, Mr. Poole has spoken at state and national conventions, and at world conferences of the International Society for Individual Liberty. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from MIT.



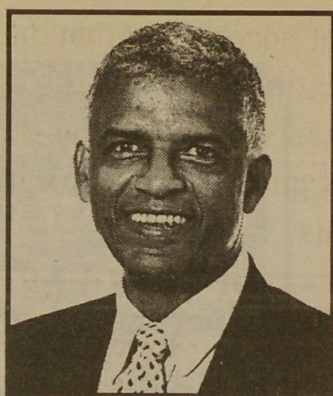
Tonie Nathan

Tonie Nathan, the LP's vice presidential candidate in 1972 and the first woman in history to receive a vote in the electoral college, will speak on "Principle vs. Pragmatism: The Perpetual Campaigning Problem." Ms. Nathan presently works as a writer, speaker, and public relations consultant. She has been a television producer and host of a public affairs show on an NBC-affiliated television station and was a delegate to the National Conference on Women in 1978. As an LP activist, she also has run for the U.S. Senate, debating Sen. Robert Packwood, and has served as media relations coordinator for the national LP.



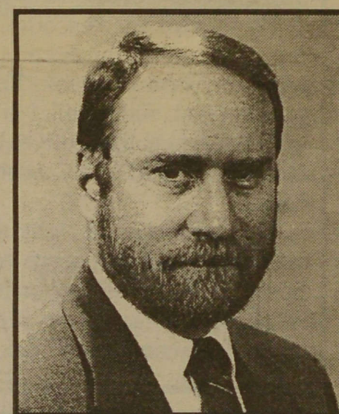
Richard Boddie

Richard Boddie has been familiar to LPers since 1984 when he was an aide to presidential candidate David Bergland. Very active in the California LP, he has run for U.S. Senate and sought the LP presidential nomination in 1992. Mr. Boddie, who received his J.D. from Syracuse University's College of Law, will discuss "Reforming Welfare" at the convention. A business management consultant today, Mr. Boddie was an outstanding track star in his youth, an Eagle Scout, and in 1970 was named as one of the "Outstanding Young Men in America." He has taught law, hosted television and radio shows, and been a drug counselor, and a community activist.



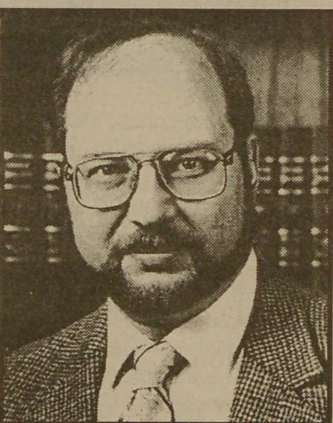
Sheldon Richman

Sheldon Richman's topic will be adapted from his recent book, "Separating School and State: How to Liberate America's Families." He and his wife, Kathleen, home-school their three children in Virginia. Mr. Richman is senior editor at the Cato Institute and associate producer of "Cato Forum," the Institute's weekly cable/satellite program. His articles have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Chicago Tribune*, and in many libertarian publications over the years. He is a graduate of Temple University, a former newspaper reporter, a former vice chair of the national LP, and former editor at the Institute for Humane Studies.



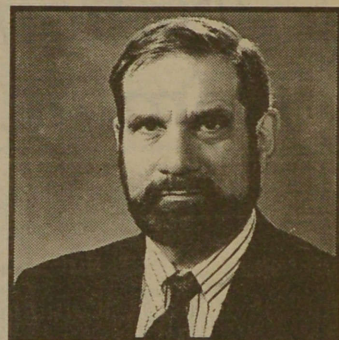
Clifford Thies

Clifford Thies will speak on the topic "Why a Christian must be a libertarian." Dr. Thies is familiar to Libertarians as a former state chair of both Maryland and Montana, as well as treasurer of the national LP and a member of the LNC. He is currently the Durrell Chair Professor of Money, Banking, and Finance at Shenandoah University, and formerly taught at the University of Baltimore and the University of Montana. He earned his Ph.D. in economics at Boston College and served as an officer in the 2nd Armored Division in Texas and Germany. He has written extensively for professional publications and newspapers, and currently serves as national chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus.



Alan Perlman

Alan Perlman's speech will focus on 30 million potential libertarians: "Targeting Generation X." Dr. Perlman is director of executive communications for Kraft Foods in Northfield, IL, and has his doctoral degree in linguistics from the University of Chicago. He has taught at Wayne State University and has been employed as a technical and executive speechwriter for Michigan Bell, Burroughs Corp., and General Motors, and he has authored two books on effective communication.



Join the party!

see page 4

Convention nomination ballot

Mail to: 1996 Awards Nominations, c/o Walter, 1505 Cotswald Court, West Chester, PA 19382. BEFORE 4/1/96

I nominate the following person for each Award:

Samuel Adams Award (activist) _____

Thomas Paine Award (communicator) _____

T. Jefferson Award (lifetime achievements) _____

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Election of the National Committee

Meeting of the Council of State Chairs

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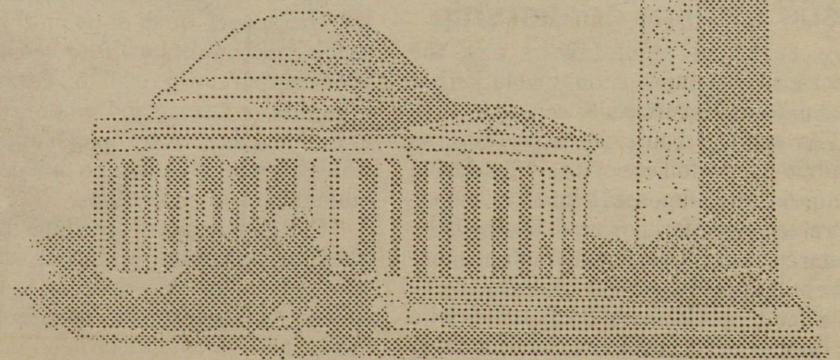
**indicates C-SPAN coverage

1996 Libertarian Party
Presidential Nominating Convention

Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill

July 3 - July 7

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Talking points

On-line censorship, pornography, and gun control

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty).

Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue: On-line censorship

As surely as night follows day, the cyberspace communications revolution has been followed by efforts to censor it.

The proposed drastic restrictions on computer communications now pending in Congress are supposedly for the purpose of protecting children from indecency, but these restrictions actually are nothing more than a high-tech version of business as usual from politicians of both parties who see their primary task as that of protecting the government from the consequences of voluntary adult interaction.

Although sponsored by a Democrat, this brave new censorship has strong GOP support in both the House and Senate; proving once again that the Republicans were only kidding when they claimed to favor less regulation and smaller government.

"Hooray for the new Congress. They promised to take government off our back, and they've put it in our living room.

"They promised to free us from regulation, and they've concocted one that can deprive some unwitting computer nerds of their liberty.

"The amendment attached to the overhaul of federal communications law by the Senate Commerce Committee sets fines up to \$100,000 and jail terms of up to two years for anyone who transmits material that's 'obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent' over the Internet.

"Welcome, thought police.

"Under the guise of protecting children from smut, the Senate has adopted one of the most draconian invasions of privacy ever.

"It has never been clear to me why the government considers it owns the airwaves. I have never seen the bill of sale or the certificate of title. Yet, while newspapers and other printed means of communication are protected from regulation by the First Amendment, electronic media have always been subject to arbitrary and capricious acts of Congress.

"In print media, the courts have carefully balanced the issues, setting up stringent tests for defining pornography. The amendment the Senate passed does not define what is 'obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent.' Do we really want Newt Gingrich defining it? Or Janet Reno? Or the FBI?"

Bill Hobby, former Texas lieutenant governor and current Rice University teacher in

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe

Editor

public affairs, *Houston Chronicle*, April 17, 1995.

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"A proposal approved by the Senate and barely endorsed last week by House conferees would impose fines and prison terms for anyone who put 'indecent' material on any computer network where a minor can roam freely through cyberspace, that means it will be a crime to put anything 'indecent' anywhere.

"But it is wrong and improper to regulate the speech of all of us on the chance that a child might hear it or see it. This is not Singapore, where all must watch their thoughts, or Disneyland, where all is clean and tidy. This is raucous and robust America, where we can be outspoken and outlandish and outrageous.

"The guarantee of freedom of speech does not say 'freedom of speech acceptable to children' or 'freedom of inoffensive speech' or 'freedom of decent speech.' Inoffensive and decent speech needs no protections; it is the offensive and indecent that we must fight to protect in a free nation.

"Yet soon it will be a federal crime punishable by a \$100,000 fine and two years in prison to send anything 'indecent' into cyberspace. Soon we all will have to watch what we say in our e-mail, what we post on the bulletin boards, what we chat in our cyber forums.

"For the cybercops soon will be on the beat.

"And if 'indecent' means grossly offensive—which is one dictionary definition—that soon-to-be cyberlaw is the real indecency."

Michael Gartner, *USA Today*, Jan. 2, 1996.

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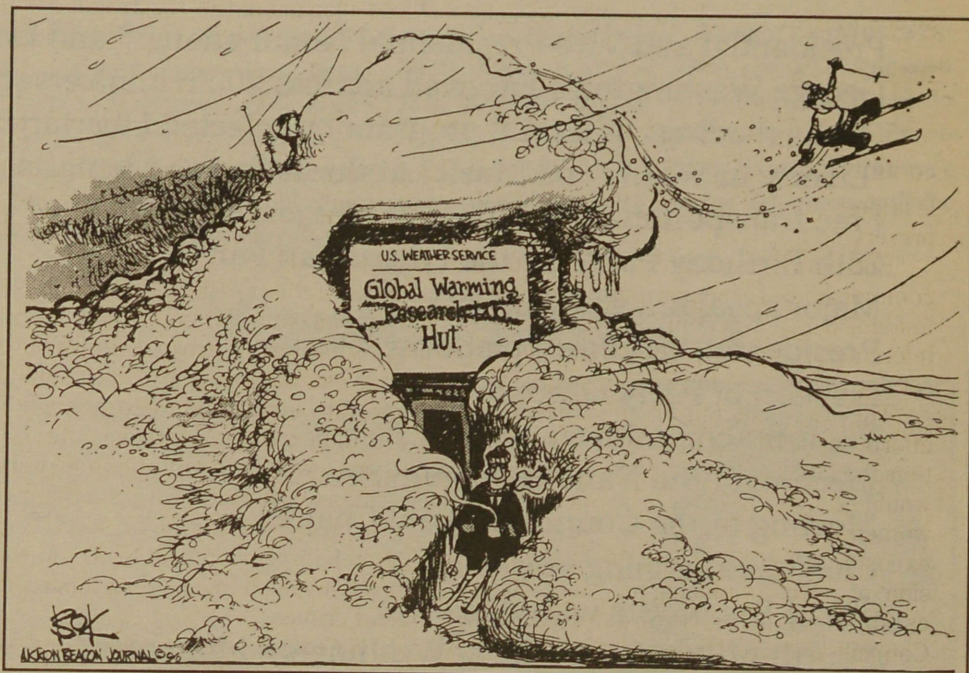
"If President Clinton signs the telecommunications bill, drastically restricting private as well as public speech on the Internet, he can expect a rollicking cat-and-mouse game.

"It can be comical when politicians try to control something they do not understand. Such is the case with the bill's censorship provision, which not only outlaws the transmission of material over the Internet that would be allowed in most newspapers, but also makes owners of computers on a network liable for the speech of others.

"The young have the most to lose from the new restrictions, in spite of the fact that such limits are purportedly meant to protect them. Schools and libraries will find it extremely difficult to offer vital Internet services in the face of a mine field of criminal liabilities.

"It is members of Congress and the president who need to show some maturity, by rejecting free-speech restrictions in the telecommunications bill."

Jaron Lanier, visiting scholar at Columbia University Department of Computer Science, *Houston Chronicle*, Jan. 4, 1996.



Issue: Pornography

Feminists on the left and moralists on the right have found that their political preferences regarding censorship are not all that far apart. Both groups are, for different reasons that don't really differ all that much, eager to use the coercive power of government to suppress anything they define as pornographic. This mutuality of interest between the two supposedly opposite poles of American politics should come as no surprise and serves as yet another reminder that the true friends of freedom are more likely to be found among those who call themselves Libertarians than on either wing of the liberal-conservative political spectrum.

"Obviously, not all women enjoy pornography. But a substantial number certainly do. For most of the past 20 years, however, a certain segment of the feminist movement has tried to marginalize these women, either by denying that they exist or by telling them that they suffer from false consciousness. Only women brainwashed by the patriarchy could be deluded enough to think they really enjoyed porno, goes this line of thinking. Widespread media attention to such anti-sex zealots as Andrea Dworkin and Catharine MacKinnon makes it seem as if their beliefs are universally shared by feminists.

"In fact, there are many feminists who disagree with the Dworkin-MacKinnon line.

"The latest feminist case for porn is 'Defending Pornography,' by ACLU President Nadine Strossen.

"Strossen points out that the Dworkin-MacKinnon world view is essentially old-fashioned sexual conservatism: that sexuality is male, not female; that men are raving beasts; that men inflict sex on women; and that sex is inherently degrading to women. Indeed, conservative censors have appropriated Dworkin and MacKinnon's arguments about pornography and have tried to enact their ideas into law in several places. Talk about strange bedfellows.

"Censors, whether feminist or conservative, operate under the mistaken impression that sexually explicit materials are somehow the root cause of anti-social be-

havior. To that end, they cite studies showing that communities with high rape rates have high circulation of pornographic magazines. But those same studies also show that these same communities have higher circulations of all types of male-oriented magazines. No one has yet called for banning *Field and Stream* because it causes rape.

"More to the point, less ideologically driven researchers have been unable to confirm these patterns. And Murray Straus, one of the nation's leading researchers on domestic and sexual violence, has found that there is actually a positive relationship between the circulation of pornographic magazines and his index of gender equality, a composite of 24 indicators of political, legal, and economic equality."

Charles Oliver, *Reason magazine*, April 1995.

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"Today, an increasingly influential pro-censorship movement threatens to impair the very women's rights movement it professes to serve. Led by law professor Catharine MacKinnon and author Andrea Dworkin, they maintain that sexually oriented expression—not sexually segregated labor markets, sexist concepts of marriage and family, or pent-up rage—is the cause of discrimination and violence against women. Their solution? Suppress all 'pornography.'

"Anti-pornography feminists believe sex itself is degrading to women. Consensual, nonviolent sex is an evil from which women, like children, must be protected.

"These ideas are hardly radical. They are a reincarnation of puritanical, Victorian notions that feminists have long tried to consign to the dustbin of history: woman as sexual victim; man as voracious satyr. These archaic stereotypes formed the basis for 19th-century laws prohibiting 'vulgar' language from being used in the presence of women and girls. Such paternalism always leads to exclusion, discrimination, and the loss of freedom and autonomy.

"The pro-censorship feminists have tried to distance themselves from traditional conservatives like Jesse Helms, who are

see **Talking points** on page 11

Freedom

continued from page 1

campaign to turn Internet World Wide Web pages black for 48 hours to symbolically protest the new censorship law.

In early February, Congress passed the Telecommunications Bill, which included sweeping restrictions on on-line speech,

and mandated fines and jail sentences of two years for making "indecent" material available on-line.

The LP is a member of an Internet coalition to fight electronic censorship, along with the American Civil Liberties Union, Wired magazine, the Electronic Frontier

Foundation, the National Writers Union, and People for the American Way.

The related issue of electronic privacy also has surfaced as a major concern.

On the Justice Department's decision not to prosecute Zimmermann, the LP warned that the issue of electronic privacy was far from settled.

"One hero—Phil Zimmermann—won a great personal victory. But government laws restricting cryptography still threaten the privacy and security of everyone on the Internet. As long as the government has the power to obstruct encryption use, the electronic privacy of all American citizens will be in danger," Dasbach said.

After a three-year investigation, the Justice Department announced that it would not prosecute Zimmermann, a software developer, for posting a cryptography program to the Internet in 1991.

Zimmermann's program—entitled Pretty Good Privacy (PGP)—was an immediate hit, gaining worldwide popularity as "encryption for the masses." It was among the first programs to give ordinary computer users the power to protect sensitive communications.

PGP and similar encryption software turns electronically transmitted information—such as personal e-mail—into undecipherable gibberish. Messages can then be securely sent across networks, using "keys" that are almost impossible to crack.

Under current federal law, complex encryption software such as PGP is considered a "munition," and is restricted under the International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Exporting such software requires a license from the government.

"Unfortunately, the government's decision to drop the Zimmermann case leaves unanswered the question of whether posting such materials to the Internet constitutes a violation of ITAR export regulations," Dasbach said.

"And the laws that were used to harass Zimmermann were not changed. So, developers of cryptographic programs still run the risk of investigation, prosecution, and jail time. For Americans working to protect their electronic privacy, the threat remains.

"The government justifies such restrictions by saying that law-enforcement agencies would be hindered in their efforts to stop terrorists, spies, drug-dealers, and pornographers without them," noted Dasbach.

"These regulations do nothing of the sort, since strong encryption technology is freely available worldwide. All these laws do is put U.S. software companies at a competitive disadvantage, and chip away at the First Amendment's protection—which applies even to 21st century communications. The Justice Department needs to remember that before they launch their next investigation," he said.

The LP Platform says:

"We oppose any abridgment of the freedom of speech through government censorship, regulation or control of communications media, including... electronic bulletin boards, communications networks, and other interactive electronic media as we hold them to be the functional equivalent of speaking halls and printing presses..."

Talking points

continued from page 10

less interested in protecting women than in preserving male dominance.

"But both groups are united by their common hatred of sexual expression and a fondness for censorship. This mutually reinforcing relationship does a serious disservice to the fight for women's equality.

"The pro-censorship feminists base their efforts on the largely unexamined assumption that ridding society of pornography would reduce sexism and violence against women. But a causal connection between exposure to pornography and the commission of sexual violence has never been established. The National Research Council's Panel on Understanding and Preventing Violence concluded that 'demonstrated empirical links between pornography and sex crimes in general are weak or absent.'"

Nadine Strossen, president of ACLU, USA Today, Jan. 12, 1995.

Issue: Gun Control

Making it impossible or at least very difficult to legally own firearms has long been the goal of those who instinctively oppose anything that might get in the way of Big Government, and their gun control proposals are typically defended as a way to reduce violent crime. Evidence on the subject from America and Europe, however, indicates that if the private ownership of firearms is permitted crime rates will not necessarily rise as a result, and they will not necessarily fall when firearm ownership is prohibited.

"I don't know why liberals want to disarm the law-abiding population, but I do know that not a single argument proffered stands the light of facts. Armed citizens deter far more crimes than the police, and far more lives are saved by the intended victim being armed than are lost in firearm accidents.

"If liberals can seize our guns because they are dangerous, we have no chance of holding on to our cars and our homes. The total number of accidental fatalities (the majority of which are hunting accidents) from all types of firearms is infinitesimal compared to the number of fatalities from car and home accidents. More children die from playing with cigarette lighters than from playing with loaded guns.

"Morgan Reynolds, a scholar at Texas A&M University, has carefully studied the statistics on crime and guns. His facts are as follows:

"The U.S. crime rate would be much higher if it were not for widespread gun ownership.

"According to Reynolds, armed citizens deter 1 million crimes each year. In 98 percent of the cases, simply brandishing the weapon or firing a warning shot is sufficient deterrence.

"In confrontations, criminals succeed in taking the gun away from an armed victim

only 1 percent of the time. Armed citizens mistakenly kill innocent people only 30 times a year, compared with 330 mistaken killings by police.

"One of the favorite stories of those favoring gun control is how the proliferation of guns has turned urban America into the Wild West. But Reynolds reports that the crime rate in the Old West actually was lower than today's. Moreover, the crime rate was lower on the frontier than in Eastern cities such as New York and Baltimore.

"Banned 'Saturday night specials' provide cheap protection for low-income people and are involved in less than 3 percent of violent crimes."

Paul Craig Roberts, economist and syndicated columnist, Houston Chronicle, Sept. 13, 1993.

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"It was only in the 1920s, when severe American gun laws were generally being abandoned as unworkable, that Europe was adopting them. However, European laws were aimed not at crime but at the political unrest of the post-World War I era.

"Banning guns has not prevented modern Europe from suffering rates of political assassination, terrorism, etc., far exceeding those in the United States. Moreover, over the past 25 years even apolitical violence has risen more steeply in Europe than in America (although since Europe's crime rates started out far lower, its absolute rates remain lower).

"The point is not that arming citizens will eliminate crime. What the European evidence shows is that crime, being caused by socioeconomic and cultural factors, can be at most marginally affected by gun policies.

"England's foremost gun control analyst, Colin Greenwood, scoffs at claims that the availability of guns is a major cause of crime and that banning guns would reduce it.

"Claiming that in any society the number of guns will always suffice to arm the violent aberrant, Greenwood sees rates of violence as varying with the relative size of a group: perhaps one in 300 Americans are violent, while the comparable figure for Japanese and Europeans may be one in 30,000.

Don B. Kates Jr., constitutional lawyer and criminologist, Houston Chronicle, Feb. 7, 1989.

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Thanks to the following for sending clippings: Edwin E. Crusoe IV, Summerland Key, FL; Mark C. Messics, Orefield, PA; Nick Miskowski, Mt. Bethel, PA; Celeste Neumann, Morton, IL; Andy Nousen, Corvallis, OR; Joseph Rosenquist, Hampton, NH; Scott Shreckhise, Roanoke, VA; James R. Taggart, Andover, MA; William B. Williford, Houston, TX; and Research Etc., Princeton, LA.

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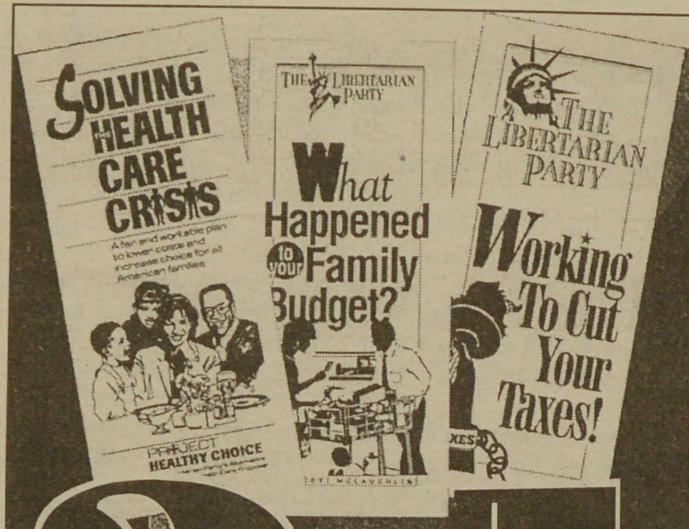
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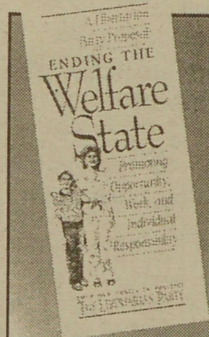
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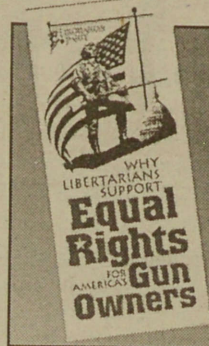
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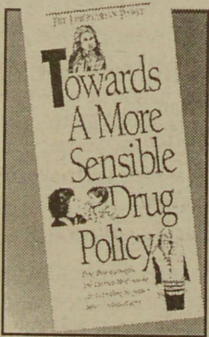
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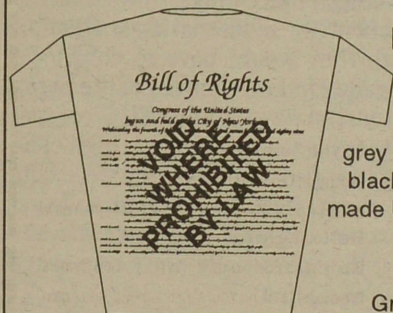
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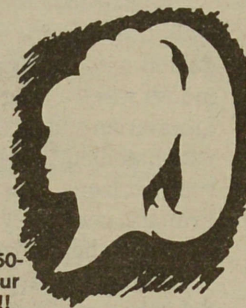
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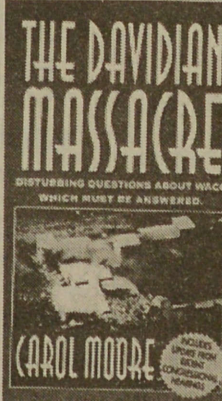
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Victory for AZLP as primary halted

The Arizona Libertarian Party, along with the Arizona Democratic Party, gained a courtroom victory early last month when a judge ruled that several Libertarian and Democratic candidates who had filed to participate in the February Arizona Presidential Preference Primary could not do so against the wishes of their Arizona affiliate parties.

Libertarians Harry Browne and Irwin Schiff had qualified to participate in the primary. The state party, however, had decided last May not to participate in the primary.

The state LP held its annual convention in early February and chose delegates to the Libertarian National Presidential Nominating Convention to be

held in Washington, DC, in July. The state party felt the Presidential Preference Primary, therefore, would have been a meaningless and costly exercise had the Libertarian candidates been allowed to participate.

"We're extremely pleased with the court's decision today in support of our position that political parties are private organizations who must decide for themselves when and how they will nominate their representatives," said Tamara Clark, LP state chair.

"This ruling adds to an increasing number of court decisions which ratify our position that parties of the state are supposed to have crumbled with the Berlin Wall," she said.

DEA

continued from page 1

ing drive time on a local FM radio station. "The producer originally had me scheduled for 15 minutes," said Bush, "but found Libertarian drug policies and this DEA situation so intriguing that she bumped two other guests to give me a whole hour more air time. The station was flooded with calls over this DEA/LP story."

The result of the publicity was a standing-room-only crowd packed into the auditorium of the St. Louis County Library. Media coverage of the event included two television stations, two radio stations, and three newspapers.

At the forum, Morreale explained his job for the DEA was to travel the country to stop proposed state-level medical marijuana legislation and to appear at public forums to counter what the DEA considers the leading advocates of marijuana decriminalization.

"He said that the main force for DEA to counter was NORML," said Bush. "But he acknowledged that other groups on his DEA trouble list included the LP."

"My immediate response to him was, 'How flattering. We libertarians must be doing something right to warrant a major government agency's concern.'"

According to Bush, the DEA representatives made some interesting comments during the panel discussion. Bush said that, among other things, "they had no problem with the industrial uses of hemp," although they would have to confiscate periodically random samples of the hemp crop to test to see that the THC content and potency wasn't getting too high. The DEA agents also admitted they were concerned about efforts to get children to act as informants against their own parents and that they personally don't encourage children to do that.

After a discussion of the War on Drugs and its constitutionality, the DEA agents responded that "the law is the law and that they were simply following the directives of Congress—members who were duly elected by we the people," said Bush.

"That prompted a few in the audience to yell, 'Vote Libertarian,'" he said.

Nomination

continued from page 2

to its on-line mailing list. In January, Harry Browne began chronicling his campaign travels in a personally written column called "On the Campaign Trail with Harry Browne." The following is an edited sample:

West Palm Beach, Feb. 1

10 a.m.: Up for a phone interview with a radio talk show in Chattanooga.

11:45 a.m.: Jim Alsis and Don Fenton, who have done so much to resurrect the local party, have set up two solid days of events. It starts with a good talk at the Boynton Beach Rotary Club.

1:30 p.m.: Then a great 90-minute, radio/TV-simulcast talk show with Cliff Dunn.

4 p.m.: There's an interview by phone with the political writer at the *St. Petersburg Times*, who has no trouble comprehending the message. His article will appear Monday; I'll have to keep my fingers crossed for four days.

7 p.m.: Dinner with local LP movers Pam and Scott Rodgers, Paula and Mike Shubert, and Tom Regnier. The LP groups in Central Florida have come a long way in the past few years. Their membership is booming, they're reaching out to non-Libertarians, they've recruited some big-money people, and they're thriving.

9 p.m.: Back to the room for the last interview of the day: Mike Palmer in Chino, CA.

Plantation, FL, Feb. 3

11 a.m.: Three more book-signings. Because it's Saturday, the crowds are good and I feel a little warmer toward book-signings.

7 p.m.: At the Plantation Sheraton, where Pam Rodgers stages the best fund-raiser we've seen so far. Beautiful invitations have been mailed out, and over a hundred people are here. The room is elegantly decorated in black and silver—including "Harry Browne in '96" balloons. After dinner, I give a speech, and the audience is generous with applause. The whole evening is a textbook example of how such events should be staged.

Orlando, Feb. 4

10 a.m.: I appear on "South Florida Sunday," an Orlando TV show that follows "Meet the Press" and emulates it. Host Jim Broesmer and reporters from the *Orlando Sun-Sentinel* and the *Jupiter Courier* question me for half an hour. A terrific show.

2 p.m.: After driving back to West Palm Beach, we fly to Orlando, and drive straight to the hotel for a reception, staged by Ralph Swanson—state coordinator for the campaign. I give a speech, and the crowd is enthusiastic.

7 p.m.: After another book-signing, there's a dinner and, again, Doug Anderson fund-raises after my speech.

Tampa, Feb. 5

6:30 a.m.: On a two-hour drive to Tampa with Pamela, Doug, and Rob, I use my laptop computer to catch up on correspondence and other work.

9:30 a.m.: A wonderful in-studio radio show with Mark Larson, who seems to be completely libertarian. He gives me free rein for two-and-a-half-hours. Plenty of enthusiastic callers.

The *St. Petersburg Times* article appears. It's lengthy, and it presents my views with almost 100 percent accuracy. The paper is considered a liberal rag by local Libertarians, but I obviously have no complaints. I can uncross my fingers.

1 p.m.: We race to State LP Chair Nick Dunbar's office to speak by phone with Paul Gonzales on a one-hour nationally syndicated radio show.

2:30 p.m.: Over an hour with the editorial board of the *Tampa Tribune*. Two of the four members are eager questioners, and seem to be sympathetic. The other two are relatively quiet, and seem scornful.

4 p.m.: We race across town to do "Voices of Freedom," a cable-access TV show. The hosts are both libertarians, and the show is easy and effective.

7 p.m.: The last—and best—book-signing of the trip. A big crowd is already at the

store when I get there. Many of the people come because of yesterday's Mark Larson show; he's obviously very popular.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6:

7 p.m.: A fund-raiser for the campaign and the Florida ballot-access drive at the St. Petersburg Pier. An enthusiastic group of libertarians, and a nice way to end our Florida trip. The Florida Libertarians are hard-working, enthusiastic, and unconquerable. A few years ago, it may have seemed that the state party had little future, but a handful of determined people turned it into a thriving enterprise—with new members flowing in, good relations with the press, and a glowing future.

Now it's home for 36 hours, and then off to Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and California.

If you have e-mail and would like to subscribe to the Browne for President online mailing list, simply send e-mail to: <announce.request@HarryBrowne96.org>, with only the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

This article, although edited for length, was supplied by the Browne campaign.

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Lilburn, GA 30247
770-717-9287
CompuServe: 74203,2314
Gary Johnson
2001 Parker Lane, #134
Austin, TX 78741-3849
512-441-6378
CompuServe: 73641,1106

National Officers

Chair
Stephen L. Dasbach
4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
219-432-7145
CompuServe: 76060,3222

Vice Chair
Karen Allard
4020 North 32nd St.
Tacoma, WA 98407
206-759-6832
CompuServe: 102160,1007

Secretary
John Famularo
1420 Locust St., #36-D
Philadelphia, PA 19102-4223
215-735-6426 (h)
215-545-6993 (fax)
CompuServe: 70726,1575

Treasurer
Hugh Butler
1232 Chandler Circle
Salt Lake City, UT 84103-4240
801-575-5121 (o)
801-328-4325 (h)
801-575-5139 (fax)
CompuServe: 73172,1522

Please send updates and corrections to:
Libertarian Party HQ
Watergate Office
Building
2600 Virginia Ave. NW,
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037

Libertarian Party Information

LP National HQ

National Director

Perry Willis

Director of Communications

Bill Winter

Staff

Tonya Hamilton • Dollie Parker
Tiffany Rodney • Scott Kohlhaas
Kris Williams

Watergate Office Building
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037

Telephone: 202-333-0008

Fax: 202-333-0072

New member info. only:
800-682-1776

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LP National Chair

Steve Dasbach

4523 Morning Wind Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

219-432-7145

76060.3222@compuserve.com

LP NEWS

P.O. Box 3391

Gainesville, GA 30503

770-536-5243

Fax: 770-287-0800

71610.3614@compuserve.com

Randy Langhenry, editor

LP Upcoming Events

March 1-3, 1996:

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Valley Forge Hilton, Valley Forge; for information call 610-264-3692. Speakers include Dr. Walter Williams.

March 16, 1996:

New Jersey LP Convention, Landmark Inn, Woodbridge; for information call 800-201-NJLP or 201-670-9000. Speakers include Lionel, WABC radio talk show host, and LP presidential and vice presidential candidates.

March 16, 1996:

Alaska LP Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Anchorage; for information call 907-566-1235. A candidates' workshop will be included.

March 23, 1996:

Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville; for information call 615-773-7090. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jo Jorgensen, and Jacob Hornberger.

March 30, 1996:

Maine LP Convention, Ramada Inn, Portland; for information call 207-780-1776. Speakers include Harry Browne.

March 30, 1996:

Bikers Rights Action Group 3rd Annual April Fools Poker Run, Bancroft, MI; for information call 517-288-5616.

April 13, 1996:

Wisconsin LP Convention, Country Inn

and Convention Center, Pewaukee; for information call 800-236-9236. Speakers include Rick Tompkins and Harry Browne.

April 15, 1996:

Tax Protest Day!

April 19-20, 1996:

Indiana LP Convention, Indianapolis.

April 19-21, 1996:

Illinois LP Convention, Best Western Midway Hotel, Elk Grove Village; for information call 708-776-8090. Speakers include Nancy Lord and James Bovard.

April 19-21, 1996:

Michigan LP Convention, Georgian Inn, Roseville; for information call 810-784-8783.

April 26-28, 1996:

Ohio LP Convention, Holiday Inn North, Sharonville; for information call 800-669-6542.

April 27, 1996:

Alabama LP Convention, River Front Inn, Montgomery; for information call 334-265-1770 or 800-207-1770.

April 27-28, 1996:

New York LP Convention, Westchester; for information call 914-679-8340 or e-mail: Audgeo@aol.com.

April 27-28, 1996:

Washington State LP Convention, Ridpath Hotel, Spokane; for information call 800-353-1776.

May 4, 1996:

Utah LP Convention; for information call 801-534-8872.

May 4, 1996:

South Carolina LP Convention, Quality Inn, Columbia; for information call 803-552-9991 or e-mail: Liberty@csra.net. Speakers include Jo Jorgensen, Irwin Schiff, and Rick Tompkins.

May 25, 1996:

Missouri LP Convention, Ramada Convention Center, Columbia; for information call 314-874-3454 or 314-443-4883, or e-mail: hemerson@mail.coin.missouri.edu

June 8, 1996:

Texas LP Convention, Best Western Lubbock Regency, Lubbock; for information call 214-405-8634. Speakers include Roger Gary, Larry Becraft, Larry Pratt, Jacob Hornberger, Harry Browne, Irwin Schiff, Rick Tompkins, and Jo Jorgensen.

July 3-7, 1996:

1996 LP National Presidential Nominating Convention, Hyatt-Capitol Hill, Washington, DC.

Sept. 8, 1996:

Brass Roots Rally, Capitol Building, Lansing, MI; for information call 810-399-8333 or 800-555-GUNS. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jon Coon, and Samuel Francis.

Send upcoming event notices **early** to:
Libertarian Party NEWS, P.O. Box 3391
Gainesville, GA 30503

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Watergate Office Building
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037

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Convention '96

Announcements of speakers,
seminars, and tours

Enlightened

MARILYN VOS SAVANT — listed in "The Guinness Book of World Records" Hall of Fame for "Highest IQ", in her weekly column in response to the following question: "Is everyone in the world entitled to have his or her basic needs met? If so, how would you achieve this? If not, why not?"

"Entitled by what authority? No, I don't think we are. How can we live in freedom and maintain that we're entitled to anything that we can't get without the labor of others? Remember, if we're entitled to the labor of others, that makes us slaves of those others."