

'97 State Convention April 19th in Phoenix

The 1997 Arizona Libertarian Party State Convention is slated for April 19, 1997, at the Best Western Grace Inn, at Ahwatukee in Phoenix, AZ. The hotel is located at 10831 South. 51st Street in Phoenix, AZ 85044, (602) 893-3000. For anyone who wishes to stay over Saturday night, room rates are \$112, single or double occupancy.

This year's program will explore the theme of 'Form Follows Function' with respect to the Libertarian Party from various perspectives.

What is the proper role of the Libertarian Party? Is there really 'One True Way'? What is the proper role of the LPUS in relation to state affiliates? What is the proper role of the Presidential campaign within the Libertarian Party? What is the best course of action for a Libertarian activist?

While we don't pretend that this convention will provide definitive answers to all these questions, we do promise that it will provide lively discussion and food for thought on these and other topics. Plan on attending as much of the program as you can as it promises to be the liveliest in years.



In addition to the usual business and elections of officers (remember you must be a member of record to vote. See page 2 for details), we have scheduled L. Neil Smith, libertarian science fiction author and publisher of the Libertarian Enterprise, as the banquet speaker. Neil was recently declared "unfit to address Libertarian audiences" by Bill Winter, LPUS Communications Director. We Arizona LIBERTARIANS disagree. Those who attended the 1995 state convention will remember what a spirited defender of the Second Amendment Neil is. It will be a wild evening that you won't want to miss.

And, lined up as the luncheon speaker is another author and long-time Libertarian activist, Claire Wolfe. Claire has just published her latest book, *101 Things to Do 'til the Revolution*. *101 Things* is an irreverent handbook for fed-up activists, or non-activists who are beginning to realize the real state of America today. See an article of hers on page 9.

Two panel discussions will also be presented: "Decentralized or DCentric, The Proper Form for the Libertarian Party", and "Prop 200 - Medicalization vs Relegalization, Unfortunate Diversion or Necessary First Step?"

The W. Patrick Harper Memorial Award will be presented at the banquet. This award is given yearly to an activist selected by his/her peers for "continuing superior service to the Arizona Libertarian Party." The ballot can be found on the reverse side of the registration form which appears on page 7. Note: in years past, we have provided a paragraph about each nominee. We did not do so this year, because anyone who wishes to vote will undoubtedly already be aware of the nominees' contributions to the Party.

Convention pricing is once again no more than that charged as long ago as 1980! There just isn't any reason not to be there. So, we'll see you then!

While we don't pretend that this convention will provide definitive answers to all [of our] questions, we do promise that it will provide lively discussion and food for thought



Photo by Eric Boudette

ALP State Chairman Mike Dugger addresses the crowd at the November 17, 1996, Viper Rally held in support of the Viper "Militia" at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol. Other speakers at the event were Vin Suprynovicz, Ernest Hancock, Rick Tompkins, and Eric Andreasen, among others. The Libertarian organizers of the event, Kent and Fran Van Cleave, handed out flowers and rubber snakes to symbolize our peaceful intent and our belief that the Vipers are equally as dangerous as their rubber namesakes. (An article updating the Vipers' battle starts on page 4.)

The impetus for the idea of resolutions resulted from certain actions at the LP National Convention last summer. Arizona Libertarians were very disappointed with the unethical practices and actions by certain members of the National Committee and the LPUS paid staff. In response, you may recall, the Arizona delegation to the convention walked out prior to the closing gavel on the last day. That move alone seemed an insufficient response, so the MCLP Steering Committee drafted three resolutions (actually Kent VanCleave wrote the first drafts) with the intent of submitting them to the ALP State Executive Committee and, with their acceptance, submission to the Arizona Libertarian Party convention this coming April.

The resolutions were accepted with only minor editorial changes. It is our intent to make these available to other state parties:

RESOLUTION 1: THE PROPER ROLE OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WITHIN THE LPUS

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party suffers justifiable derision from outsiders when its presidential candidates insist they really have a chance to win the election, and

WHEREAS voters are reluctant to vote for a candidate (or a party) who has not

developed a track record in political office, and

WHEREAS the realistic place for Libertarians to develop such a track record is in local, county, and state office, and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate receives valuable media attention that, while it will not result in his or her election, could perhaps be channeled by that presidential candidate to support Libertarians in other races, and

WHEREAS our experience has shown that voters are more attracted to local, county, and state Libertarian candidates than to the Party's presidential candidate (despite large sums spent on the national campaign), resulting in a huge "reverse coattails" effect as the presidential candidate benefits from the campaigns of strong regional candidates, and

WHEREAS the ultimate success of the Libertarian Party depends upon making Americans truly libertarian, rather than persuading them to vote for our candidates under whatever pretext might be handy, and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party's resources will be most effective if targeted carefully in the most promising areas, rather than broadcast indiscriminately nationwide,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

(Continued on page 3)

From the Chair

Arizona - the Libertarian State

It appears that our years of relentless activism on numerous fronts is showing some definite results. The 1996 election season in Arizona, while hardly a roaring success by conventional standards, was pace-setting by Libertarian standards. I have to think that our high profile efforts over the last few years have helped the voters of Arizona to understand what we stand for and, as a result, many are coming to support us at the polls.

Our presidential candidate, Harry Browne, received his highest percentage vote total of any state from the voters of Arizona. Also, our congressional candidates received the highest average percentage vote total of any Libertarian slate in the nation -- with Bob Anderson lead-



Mike Dugger
ALP Chairman

ing the nation in Libertarian vote percentage in a Congressional District 6 race which saw the Demolican candidates setting new campaign spending records. Coconino County Chair Michael Voth can take a big bow for seeing the potential in this race and relentlessly hounding Bob until he agreed to run.

Such progress doesn't just materialize out of thin air however. What we saw in 1996 was simply evidence that we are reaching the voters by our continuous efforts at establishing a free society. Whether we are suing over a clearly illegal stadium finance scheme, or gathering signatures for a property tax repeal initiative, we are continually defining both our principles and those of a truly free society. We have to leave it to the voters to reach the inevitable conclusion. More and more of

them are.

For the next year we have a unique opportunity to continue on the path which is serving us so well -- with the added benefit of using past experience to hone our efforts. The property tax initiative, which only narrowly missed being the first ever, all-volunteer effort to reach the Arizona ballot, is back again shooting for the 1998 ballot. This time the Axe the Tax organizers have improved the language of the initiative and they are using the benefit of their 1996 experience to ensure that they succeed in placing the issue on the 1998 ballot.

Libertarians, who were a big part of the 1996 effort, have re-upped for 1998 and the Libertarian Party is, once again, the only political party which has endorsed the initiative. The organizers are seeking to collect 250,000 gross signatures which would ensure that the required net amount is achieved this time. If each of the 18,000+ registered Libertarians in Arizona who are receiving this newspaper were

to fill one petition sheet with the signatures of registered voters, that would be all it would take to place the measure on the 1998 ballot.

What would this mean? First it would mean that Arizonans are well on their way to being able to actually OWN property, rather than perpetually RENTING it from the state. Secondly, it would establish, beyond question, that the Libertarian Party is a political force to be reckoned with in Arizona.

This is VERY important. Thousands of voters who are reticent to support our candidates for office readily support us on particular issues. The property tax issue is one issue in which, I believe, they will support us en masse. Then, when the 1998 election shows that ONLY the Libertarian Party supports Arizonans' right to actually own property, record numbers of Arizona voters will switch their support to the Libertarian Party.

Most importantly, they will come to support us because they realize that we support them -- and that will be the basis for a long-lasting political relationship.

Maricopa Libertarians elect officers



Scott Grainger
MCLP Chairman

officers except for Chuck served in the same positions last year. Tim McDermott, who was 1st Vice Chair last year, chose not to run for re-election. The returning members of the Steering Committee appreciate the confidence shown by the

The final meeting of each year is the time when Members of Record of the MCLP elect their steering committee officers for the following year. Those present at the December '96 meeting elected the following officers: Chairman, Scott Grainger; 1st Vice Chair, Chuck Bauman; 2nd Vice Chair, Fran Van Cleave; Secretary, Liz Andreasen; and Treasurer, Barbara Grainger.

If these names look familiar to you there is a good reason for it. All of the new

members in their leadership.

Chairman Grainger defined the goals for the coming year as being four-fold. First, to strengthen the programs that were initiated during the last year. Second, to increase the MCLP's number of registered voters so that county ballot access can be attained in 1998. Third, to collect signatures for the Property Tax Referendum petitions. (The voter registration activity will work very well in conjunction with the collection of signatures for the property tax petition.) And, the fourth project is to appoint Precinct Committeemen, train them, and help them to expand the general public's awareness of Libertarian principles.

Training session held for Precinct Committeemen

The MCLP held its first training class for precinct Committeemen at the January 6th Steering Committee meeting. The training session included a viewing of a portion of a video produced by the Maricopa County Elections office on working at the polls.

All precinct committee people who attended were given a Precinct Committeeman tool set to use in their neighborhood work. This included a clip board, voter registration forms, a name tag, a canvas bag to act as a tool box, a supply of MCLP member of record application forms, property tax petitions, copies of the paper "Libertarian Views on the Issues," and "Our Heritage in Arms" raffle tickets.

In 1996, the MCLP changed the bylaws regarding Precinct Committeemen. The PCs are now selected by the Steering Committee instead of in the tax-funded September primary. It was agreed that the selection of PCs should be a party function, and certainly not be paid for with tax monies. To date, the Steering Committee has appointed all members of record who have asked to be Precinct Committeemen.

There are over 900 precincts in Maricopa County.

Reminder: You must be a Member of Record to vote at the state convention

In 1995, the Arizona Libertarian Party amended its By-laws which now require that anyone who is not a member of record would not be qualified to vote during the business sessions or for officers at a state convention.

A member of record must be a registered Libertarian, and meet at least one more of the following criteria:

- Have attended as a paid registrant the previous year's state convention; or
- Be a dues paying member of the state party no later than two weeks prior to the current/upcoming convention.

If you do not meet these requirements, however, it is not too late. Make sure that your check is post-marked no later than April 4, and that you're registered Libertarian, and you're set! Membership form is on page 11.

We've been a bit irregular... but we're setting things right

The past year or so has seen a decided lack of consistency in the publication of this newsletter. This has been a problem for several reasons, but we are hoping to correct it and have set a definite schedule for ALL future editions of the newsletter, and they follow here:

Beginning with the May, '97 issue, the deadline will be the 5th of the month; the following issues' deadlines will be August 5th and November 5th of each year. In 1998 and beyond, the February deadline will be the 5th of the month. The February issues will always be in tabloid format and mailed to all registered Libertarians as a convention notice. All other issues will be the standard 8 1/2 x 11 format.

In election years, a special election tabloid will be published with a deadline of October 1 (resulting in 5 issues for the year, as opposed to 4 issues in non-election years).

This information will be published in each issue in the publisher's box on page 2.

**ARIZONA
LIBERTARIAN**
Pressing Freedom

A Quarterly Publication of the Arizona Libertarian Party

Kathy L. Harrer
Editor

Regular Contributors Include:
Vin Suprynovicz, Mike Dugger,
Kent Van Cleave, Fran Van Cleave, Scott Grainger,
Michael Voth, Michael Haggard, Rick Tompkins
and Ernest Hancock.

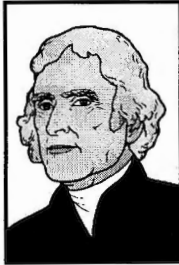
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NORTHERN LIGHTS

Coconino Libertarians having a good time...

Rural areas lose interest, NCLP moves to counter

By MICHAEL VOTH
Coconino County
Chairman



Michael Voth
(Well, sorta)

As the ALP convention approaches, Northern Arizona libertarians can look in wonder at what has been accomplished since last year's convention. The LP is now established at Northern Arizona University, we have internet connection with the outside world, the Coconino LP actually has bylaws and a full set of officers, projects arise and are successfully completed without the drudgeries of parliamentary procedure. (Hardbound copies of Robert's Rules of Order are now selling for \$1.99 on the Remainers shelf at Hastings in Flagstaff.) Libertarians are having an effect.

It's a far cry from those days, such a short time ago, when the Coconino Libertarians usually consisted of maybe three people sitting in a diner, trying to figure out how to convince the local press that the local LP wasn't just three folks sitting in a diner trying to convince the local press that...

And the election season... Yes, we finally figured out how to muster the manpower to put up signs and bumperstickers. But that's just frosting on the landscape. The organizers of political debates and forums now seek us out for participation. They go out of their way, rather than vice versa. You could not open a newspaper during the campaign season

without seeing the word "Libertarian" scattered here and there. The season was perhaps capped by Robert Anderson's clear message and stunning performance in the Great Flagstaff Congressional Debate. No one in the hall or listening on the radio could have had any doubt just what the libertarian message is about.

And that message, conveyed by Robert Anderson, by Rick Tompkins in his quest of the LP presidential nod, and by many others, showed a style and spirit that Libertarians should take seriously. We do not need to play the little oratorical games at which Democrats and Republicans excel, and back away from the only message most of us are really qualified to preach (i.e., freedom), for then we would be spinning our wheels.

Bob Anderson stated in front of a state-wide television audience that "No, I am not going to accept your underlying assumption that government-controlled schools will persist and I am not going to answer the resulting question on your terms. I am going to answer it on mine. The question is just wrong-minded

in its formulation."

Bob met a standard which his colleagues should note. It is not enough to put on a tie, stand up with a smile, and present politics-as-usual with a libertarian patina. We have gone beyond that now, and we have redefined politics. Tompkins and Anderson were under the glare of the broadcasters' lights: Neither paid attention to the lights. Both paid attention to principles, libertarian principles. The underpinning of this movement toward freedom is principle. If we can relay the message properly, an additional foundation for the libertarian movement should be simple self-interest, for freedom does indeed work.

That, however, is a message we are not conveying properly if we try to be just like the other political parties that have infested the structure of the Republic. A lot of folks are smarter than that, and when they receive slick brochures from the District of Columbia begging them for their hard-earned money, and making unrealistic promises of Libertarian victories through the discredited electoral means, the sound of yawning resounds. "You know, those Libertarians used to show some promise, but they've become just another pain in the rear." Some folks did send off donations anyway, leaving local campaigners without any cash due to preemptive strikes by the

national party on behalf of one of several presidential candidates.

So we were having a good time and meeting with success on the local level. Bob Anderson increased the LP vote share in the 6th CD race by 50% over our 1994 campaign. The only fly in the ointment; Some folks on the east coast tried to package the message of freedom inside the same daddummed giftwrapping that every intelligent human being between Truckee and Juarez knows is just painted horse manure.

I did not hear a loud cry from Arizona LP candidates that the current system of taxation was inequitable. I heard the libertarian voice calmly saying that all taxation is immoral. That we the people would retain the fruits brought by our endeavors. And I didn't hear Sunny, The Haggard, Rick or Bob say that it is okay if the government compels you to turn your children over to their instruction while they are between the ages of 5 and 18, if we could just get the funding formula worked out.

(Continued on page 8)

By MICHAEL HAGGARD
Navajo County LP Chairman

The months following the Presidential election of 1996 were little different, emotionally, to the people of the northeast plateau than losing a war or becoming subjects of a new tyrant. When the ruggedly independent people of these desert lands saw the 'people of lies' placed back into office, their interest in political action waned greatly. The foolish gun laws that subsequently followed (making an accusation of minor domestic violence the means of disarming a man for life) proved to be the makeshift wooden cross above a shallow battlefield grave for many. Their lifeblood and lust for action ebbed away. Interest in membership in the Libertarian Party became like a trip to the dentist's office for multiple root canals to many.

As attendance at NCLP meetings dropped, and as political conversations on the post office steps gave way to simple survival (and an effort to be as small a target to Big Brother as possible), it became clear to the officers of the NCLP that our tactics had to change if we were going to spread the message of the Libertarian philosophy to the people choking for fresh breath of freedom.

To outline the problems we see, and to

perhaps illuminate a problem others may be having in other areas of the state, let us list the areas of resistance we have come across:

1) People have lost *all* hope in government as a defender of liberty. They either:
a) mistrust the government as one would a tyrant who leaves no avenue for effective redress against his elitist rule; or
b) steadfastly maintain total trust in the government as a safety net and the necessary equalizer of "my pain."

2) People have lost *all* understanding of the meaning of FREEDOM. They either:
a) believe that it is unobtainable and that silent survival is all that is left; or
b) believe that freedom is unwise for "others" and that ruling "them" is necessary to insure "my own happiness."

3) People have come to believe that FREEDOM comes from outside of themselves. They either:

a) think that the government can/has taken their freedom away.
b) think that the government can/has given us the freedom we have.

Because of these three prevailing attitudes, asking someone to "join" a political party, no matter what is promised, brings the
(Continued on page 4)

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Resolutions to be debated

(Continued from page 1)

THAT the proper role of presidential candidates in the Libertarian Party is:

First, to promote the grassroots development of state, county, and local Libertarian Party organizations by using the presidential campaign as a recruiting device and by encouraging and assisting in the training of Libertarian leaders at these levels;

Second, to draw attention to Libertarian candidates for lower-level office — particularly those with the best chances of reflecting well on the Libertarian Party, with respect to both their campaigns and their ultimate service in office;

Third, to communicate the Libertarian message as effectively as possible, contrasting its basis in principle with the failed pragmatism of the two major parties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the proper role of a Libertarian presidential candidate does not include compromising Libertarian principles in order to attract non-libertarian voters, nor damaging the credibility of our party by voicing patently unrealistic expectations of his or her campaign.

RESOLUTION 2: BALANCED BUDGET

WHEREAS it is tantamount to extortion for the LPUS to spend money it does not have, placing the Party in debt, and leaving Party members the choice of paying for such overspending after the fact or watching their Party go bankrupt,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we expect the National Libertarian Party Committee to adopt a stringent balanced budget policy and to establish serious penalties for Party officers who knowingly or irre-

sponsibly violate it, and that these actions will be of the highest priority to the Committee.

RESOLUTION 3: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

WHEREAS All duly qualified candidates for nomination by the Libertarian Party for the offices of President and Vice President are entitled to equal treatment and consideration by and from the Party's paid staff, and

WHEREAS Libertarians must assiduously avoid any appearance of exploiting their Party for personal gain or indulging in other reprehensible practices so common in politics as practiced by the other major parties,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we demand a permanent ban, as a matter of Party policy, of the practice of paid Party staff members working for, profiting from, showing favoritism toward, or otherwise unjustly benefiting the campaign of any not-yet-nominated candidate for President or Vice President, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, after a candidate secures the nomination of the Libertarian Party for President or Vice President, paid Party staff members shall not be permitted to continue working for the Party while being paid for work on the candidate's campaign. This is not to be construed as interfering with a staff member's duty to pursue whatever Party efforts are normally carried out on behalf of the Libertarian nominees. *

These resolutions will be debated, and either passed or defeated, during the business session of the April 19 state convention.

The Big One bites the Vipers

By FRAN VAN CLEAVE
 <askvc@imap2.asu.edu>

On Tuesday, January 31, five more members of the Viper Team pleaded guilty to weapons and conspiracy charges. Four of them, Rick Walker, David and Ellen Belliveau, and Donna Star Williams, took the government plea, while the fifth, Dean Pleasant, did not. Pleasant pleaded guilty to two counts of 'conspiracy to instruct' and one count of unlawful possession of a machine gun.

On December 19, Randy Nelson and Gary Bauer gave similar "straight up" guilty pleas, also to Class III weapons and conspiracy charges. Pleasant said he found the government's plea agreement unacceptable, so that despite its written guarantee of minimal prison time, he could not subject himself to its restrictions.

All of them wanted to go to trial until U.S. Attorney for Arizona Janet Napolitano added the superseding indictments 100 days after their arrests, which increased the mandatory prison time for two of the defendants by ten years. Judge Carroll then split the trials so that all of the gun charges would be

tried first, without (per Judge Carroll) the defense being allowed either to examine the disputed weapons or to use Constitutional arguments. As it now stands, neither of the government informants are required to be present at the trial.

Three other Vipers, Henry Overturf, Scott Shero, and Walter Sanville, took the government plea agreement. A few are having second thoughts about that, but so far, only Charles Knight and Chris Floyd will stand trial; the court date is March 23. This was rescheduled from January 23 because Mr. Knight's lawyer detached himself from the case, apparently because of what transpired during an interview Mr. Knight did with the *New Times*, a local weekly.

Most critically, at some point during the interview, Mr. Knight ignored a court order and showed the reporter the infamous "government buildings videotape." The audiotext is now at large on the Internet, because the reporter taped their conversa-

tion, transcribed it, and placed it there. Interestingly, TV Channel 12 managed to obtain a copy, with which they made their own version of the "government buildings video," playing it on the air.

Even as the Vipers plead guilty, the government's case seems shaky indeed. Why has there been no investigation of the hundreds of missing guns at Shooter's World, employer of confidential informant Drew Nolan? Why has so much effort been exerted by the government to ensure that the confidential informants stay out of the courtroom, including making Doc Schultz an official ATF agent on May 26, the day before they went to the grand jury?

I don't have the answers to those questions, but I do have a few additional factoids.

Gary Bauer has been corresponding with a woman in Estrella Jail who said that she was a former employee of Game & Fish, and knew both of the informants. They discussed this in their letters, and Gary tried to send her a group picture to see if she could pick them out. Estrella would not allow her have the picture because there were guns in it, which they say is against their policy.

This woman, who shall remain nameless for now, is serving time for murdering her husband. Dean Pleasant, who is incarcerated in Florence, has encountered someone there who claims to know the people who did murder her husband, and he states furthermore that she was an intended victim of the hit. She was saved by her decision to go to the store shortly before the killers arrived. She also claims that the authorities offered to free her last year, under the condition that she agree not to sue them, which she refused.

This woman claims that Nolan sold her and her husband an illegal machine gun. Nolan was also employed by Shooter's World, the gun superstore that should have lost its ATF license because of bad recordkeeping, which included an inability to keep track of hundreds of guns that apparently vanished into thin air.

Shooter's World, you may recall, supplied one of the confidential informants with two automatic pistols which he had no license to carry.

Apparently Nolan asked two of the Vipers, Randy Nelson and Gary Bauer, to help with the gun theft problem by viewing security videotapes of the store's premises. Nelson has stated that these showed guns

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being stolen from the store and loaded into the back of cars. Who stole them, and where did they go? No one seems to know.

In late January, Steve Ott, ATF agent in charge of the Viper investigation (also the agent in charge of Ruby Ridge) visited this woman in her cell at Estrella Jail. According to Bauer's brother Dean, who has spoken with her by telephone, Agent Ott accused her and Bauer of plotting to have Schultz and Nolan killed.

Accusations have been leveled against two other members of Viper families, based on the indisputable fact that they, too, attempted to send her a group picture of the Vipers, but no official charges have been made. If in fact there was any substance to these allegations, one would suppose that this would have been done already. The lawyers for the defense have been trying to find these men to subpoena them for months without success. (They've had no success at getting all the discovery from the prosecution, either. At least the government is consistent.)

(Continued on page 11)

Northern Lights

Rural areas lose interest, NCLP moves to counter

(Continued from page 3)

same response: "I don't join anything, I just want to get by." Most people of independent mind here in the northland have become introverts, hoping to become so small a target that they will be left alone. A new party, a new membership in an old party, a promise that we can change things with their help, sparks little interest in them. Why? Because they have come to believe the three prevailing attitudes, believe they will simply be batted around, and that their role is to survive and make due with what blows their way.

With these three attitudinal winds comes a turbulent storm, violent lightning and intense darkness. The storm from these winds is the darkness of mistrust in every political party and lightning flashes of revelation that they are right in this mistrust. The Libertarian philosophy agrees that "whoever seeks political office has some lust for power." Revelations about political crime from both sides of the political fence have bolstered this mistrust of all political parties.

The NCLP faces a population that just wants to get along. No party matters to them because all are givers and takers of a fleeing freedom. It is time to change from recruiting methods of election year politics and to move into education. No more blitzes of voter registration and party membership, it is time now for the slow cultivation of the hope that we can be free.

Remembering their own efforts in coming to know the AZLP and the LP, the officers of the NCLP are regrouping and applying those efforts. Seldom now do we introduce the LP-proper in conversation.

Now we introduce another L"P": not P for party, but P for philosophy. We came to the party because we first understood three things:

1] Government is not the defender of liberty, courageous people are.

2] Freedom is dangerous, but far more desirable than captivity's "safety."

3] Freedom is not given, it is paradoxically both earned and innate, an indwelling gift from our maker that can only be brought out with use.

How are we doing? Well, no new members recently. But that isn't the only measuring stick. In other ways, things are going well. More people are calling for our opinion on local, state and national politics because of our *philosophy*, rather than our party. We are now, for the first time, getting people in the county, outside of the city we live in, calling us for information and to volunteer. We are hoping to have a regular group meeting in the Show Low area soon. We now have contacts in the Heber/Overgard area as well.

Frankly, the change was for ourselves. After the elections --our first as a county party -- there was an air of loss in so much work with so little "measurable" gain. We found in our loss a need for self-examination. We found that we needed to reaffirm our belief in the philosophy of the Libertarian ideal. In doing so we found we could understand on some level the people who had no trust in the LP and thought of it as just another party. When we became rejuvenated in the BASICS, others once again became interested in us as people with hope in freedom.



"A fear of weapons is a sign of retarded sexual and emotional maturity."

Sigmund Freud

Visit the Arizona Libertarian Party Web site at:

www.lpaz.org

Stadium District battle MCLP joined Freedom lands in Appeals Court Parade held in Mesa

By ERNEST HANCOCK

Most residents in the Valley of the Sun who hear or read the words, "Maricopa County Stadium District," have an emotional reaction that could best be understood by American colonists of the 18th century.

Sensitive to being forced to pay for another's whim, a small group of Libertarians have been directly or indirectly involved in at least six lawsuits regarding the Maricopa County Stadium District. The first four helped to define exactly what was done and how. The final two have been combined by the government and it is now in the final stages at the Arizona Court of Appeals.

Many things have been learned in this effort to require that our state Constitution and laws be honored. Most obvious has been that those in control of Arizona's government have absolutely no problem ignoring what does not conform to their wishes. Knowing better, we don't expect them to suddenly be enlightened by the torch of Liberty. But, we do hope to make use of this revealing example.

In oral arguments before the Court of Appeals, it was made clear that all points of law that the Superior Court Judge refused to address in his decision must be answered so that the people would know the extent of the corruption. It was intimidated to the three-judge panel that the people would be the final arbiter and that the court must take a stand. In our favor or not, but they must take a position.

Any day now we'll know (as if we doubt their allegiances) who and what is truly served. It has been our goal from the beginning to demonstrate to the people of Arizona and beyond just how far we are from being the free people we once were not so long ago.

Various forms of government have been suffered in the 20th century. Socialism, Communism, Maoism, Fascism, etc. These collectivist forms of government have one thing in common: force. All governments destined to perish have the same characteristics -- individuals are forced to give up more and more of what is theirs to fund the wishes of others. No matter how all-powerful these collectivist governments may appear, they simply have no power that we don't willingly give them. The American form of government was an attempt to limit the power of government to the task of protecting our individual freedoms, and as a defensive measure against other ideologies of force.

Ideas have the most lasting power when they are based on truth. Written descriptions of the fundamentals of natural law and the rights of existence shared by all human beings are what gives wood pulp and indigo ink mystical power.

All that was needed to create the most powerful alliance of individuals that the universe has known was a mutual understanding that the only function government would have, would be to protect individual freedoms. Along with the protection of Life,

Liberty and Property, came great opportunities of which any industrious individual could take advantage.

With these thoughts freshly in mind, it may be easier to understand why more Americans every day are realizing that words spoken or written by reporters, politicians, judges and even Presidents have no value, except as a warning of what is to come.

Passing a law, regulation or tax is in no way a demonstration of power. In fact it is a demonstration of a lack of it. Real power comes from agreement, cooperation and the power of an idea shared. For these and other reasons,

I know that *freedom always wins...* and I just want to help.

When the Maricopa County Stadium District was "legally" created, it provided a detailed map to fascism. Fascism is easily described as the blending of business and government to a point where the two have become indistinguishable. It is our intent to lay out this map for all to see.

Technology -- the internet -- has also allowed us to learn from others who are engaged in similar, and even almost identical, battles all over America.

Arizona is blessed with one of the best state constitutions America has produced for a free people. And it is this, and other documents of truth, that must be ignored, rewritten and redefined before those who would enslave us can claim that they are still the legitimate government we once created for protection against the very threat they now pose to us.

The Stadium District's monument to fascism will someday live out its usefulness as one of many examples of why a second American Revolution (preferably peaceful) is predestined. It may then be sold to an entrepreneur as a home for her family and a factory for her lighter-than-air spacefaring dirigibles.

At the time of this publication, the Arizona Court of Appeals is near rendering its final ruling on whether it wishes to overturn decades of case law -- case law showing clearly that the people always have the power to stop any form of government abuses, and that a clerk at the counter never has the power to render a judicial opinion on whether a particular initiative can be filed or not, no matter how much money is at stake.

For more information regarding the legal battles and other fronts of attack, Ernest Hancock can be reached at safe@goodnet.com

The Stadium District's monument to fascism will someday live out its usefulness as one of many examples of why a second American Revolution (preferably peaceful) is predestined.

Mesa business owners and concerned citizens, led by Kat Gallant, organized a Freedom Parade in Mesa which was held on February 1. Kat Gallant was a candidate for Mayor in Mesa in the last election. She did not win, but made a strong showing and is very well-known in the city. And, she recently re-registered Libertarian.

She invited the MCLP to participate in the parade and we accepted. Fortunately, at the same time a float was donated by fellow libertarian Bill Beamish of Fountain Hills.

The float is a 35' long wooden boat, complete with three masts, each over 30' tall. The gift of the float -- a replica of the original *Mayflower* -- was perfect and we organized a Freedom

Breakfast for the morning of the parade to make repairs and to decorate it. Barbara Grainger, Liz Andreasen, and Tracy Dugger ran the galley and turned out some of the best flapjacks this side of the Pacific.

A go-kart was added to the flotilla and Ricky Duncan showed up with his gas powered bicycle and trailer. The parade theme for the MCLP was AXE THE PROPERTY TAX. The go-kart, driven by Ernie Hancock and piloted by Bob Anderson, and assisted by Duncan on his bicycle, circled the good ship *Liberty* (as the *Mayflower* was rechristened), and collected petition signatures from the crowd as *Liberty* floated by.

Eric Andreasen, *Liberty's* captain, was assisted by several appointed yeomen in the raising and lowering of the masts when low wires were encountered along the parade route. *Liberty* was also outfitted with two 4" "cannons" that made lots of noise and surprised the crowd.

Miss Liberty (Tracy Dugger) held fast on the poop deck. Her torch was replaced with an AXE PROPERTY TAX axe for the parade. Betsy Ross (Ivy Ashoor) was also on board. Our invitation also drew Michael Voth, Chairman of the Coconino LP, and his



Eric Andreasen, Liberty's captain, was assisted by several appointed yeomen in the raising and lowering of the masts when low wires were encountered along the parade route. Liberty was also outfitted with two 4" "cannons" that made lots of noise and surprised the crowd.

family down from the frigid north. There were many other crew members, a total of 30, on board the *Liberty*. All hands agreed that it was great fun and we should do it again.

The Libertarian Party was mentioned in several newspaper articles the following day and we made all of the local TV news stories that night. The MCLP plans to use the float in future parades if a suitable trailer is found.

The trailer that *Liberty* is currently resting on -- a 40' aluminum boat trailer -- was not given to the party and must be returned. The MCLP is

looking for either another similar boat trailer or a 1 1/2 or 2 ton truck chassis that could be made into a trailer for the ship. She weighs about 4 tons.

Call us (number below) if you have one you would be willing to donate, or if you can donate the welding needed.

Now that the MCLP has a float, we want to get it into as many parades as possible. The problem is we don't always know when there is going to be one. Call us when you hear about one. Does your town have a parade for Memorial Day, Presidents Day, 4th of July, etc? The MCLP phone number is 602-248-8425.

"Maybe there's a measuring rod somewhere in the universe where men's acts are judged, and those who kill other men for the sake of power will be judged more harshly than those who kill those power-hungry men for the sake of freedom. But if there's no place in the universe for a man to resist the thieves of freedom and still be called a good man, then I don't think there is any good or evil in the universe, and if that's true then it all means nothing."

Orson Scott Card, "Treason"

modest proposals

BY VIN SUPRYNOWICZ

David Aguilar, 44, retired from the military after 20 years and decided to live on his pension so he could be a "stay-at-home dad" to his five youngest children, aged 3 to 15, according to Beth Cascaddan, his neighbor in the Three Points area, 22 miles west of Tucson, Ariz.

"He was extremely devoted to his children," Ms Cascaddan told reporter Melissa Martinez of the daily *Tucson Citizen*. Aguilar also coached youth football and baseball.

But on the early afternoon of Friday, Jan. 10, David Aguilar sensed something wrong. A man was sitting in a car parked alongside the road bordering Aguilar's property, just sitting and watching.

Only a few days earlier, residents of the neighborhood had been informed by law officers that a convicted sex offender was moving into the area, Cascaddan recalls.

The man's behavior was unusual. "Out here," Cindy Dowell, another neighbor, told reporters for the competing *Arizona Daily Star*, "people just don't sit" in cars.

Aguilar's children, including his 15-year-old son, later recalled that their father approached the man in the parked car, asking whether he was lost.

Whatever the man said, it led to an argument. Seeing that the stranger was not going to move along, Aguilar went back to the house and returned with a gun. The children told neighbor Bonnie Moreno their father was simply trying to scare the man away.

There is no indication David Aguilar ever fired. When the man in the car saw Aguilar returning, he drew his own gun and, at 2:45 that Friday afternoon, fired multiple times through his own windshield. David Aguilar died that evening in a Tucson hospital, of a single gunshot wound to the chest.

The good news is, local police know who did the shooting.

The bad news is, they won't release his name, and he has not been charged.

Detectives with the Pima County Sheriff's Office politely asked the fellow to drop by and meet with them Sunday, Jan. 12, but the newspapers reported the next day that the shooter "postponed the meeting because he had not spoken to his lawyer."

Why the incredible deference to this known killer?

It turns out the shooter is an undercover agent of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

Although David Aguilar and his family were not the target of any drug investigation, the unnamed agent was staking out their neighborhood.

"Investigators did not say yesterday whether the agent identified himself" to Aguilar before opening fire, the Tucson newspapers report.

Although a funeral was held Jan. 14, burial will not take place until the family raises \$3,213 in funeral costs.

###

Ralph Garrison, 69, a video store owner, lived in downtown Albuquerque, N.M.

In a lifetime of owning small businesses, he put away enough to buy a second house next door, which he rented out.

Before sunrise on Monday, Dec. 16, 1996, Ralph Garrison awakened to hear the sounds of someone breaking into his rental property next door.

His tenants apparently were not at home.

Garrison went outside to ask who these people were and what they were doing. The men — dressed in black with no visible identifying marks, wearing black "balacava" hoods which may have been pulled down to conceal their faces, shined lights in his eyes, brandished rifles and yelled at him

to get back in his house.

Ralph Garrison called 911. The daily *Albuquerque Journal* printed a transcript of the call on Dec. 18.

Dispatcher: "Emergency center operator 90. What is your emergency?"

Garrison: "They're breaking into my house — a whole bunch of people."

Dispatcher: "They're backing into your house?"

Garrison: "They're breaking in. Hurry up. Please hurry up."

Dispatcher: "Who's breaking in?"

Garrison: "I don't know. There's a whole bunch of people out there. ..."

Garrison gives his address.

"How many people are there?"

"Oh, about four or five."

"How are they trying to get in?"

"Oh, they're breaking in with uh, axes and all kinds of stuff."

"With axes?"

"Yes. They're breaking in hammers, and all kinds of things. Please. I've got a gun. I'm gonna go up there and shoot them."

"OK. Stay on the phone with me. I'm getting somebody out there, OK?"

Garrison reports that when he went outside the men shined flashlights in his face, repeating that he has no idea who they are.

Reporter Jeff Jones of the *Journal* writes that when the actual 911 tape was played at a press conference later that day, Garrison's voice was "filled with fear and panic."

"Please hurry up," Garrison says. "They've got flashlights, and cars, and trucks, and all kinds of stuff back there. Please, please hurry up. I'm gonna go out there now."

"Can you take the phone with you?"

"Yes."

"OK. Take the phone with you."

As Garrison moves toward his back door, his dog begins barking, and he complains he still can't see what's going on because of lights shining in his face. "I've got my gun," he says. "I'll shoot the sons of bitches."

P

olice report that Albuquerque Police Officer H. Neal Terry and county deputies James Monteith and Erik Little — displaying no badges, dressed in unmarked dark SWAT gear and possibly wearing their black hoods pulled down over their faces — saw Garrison come to his back door with a gun in one hand, a cellular phone in the other. All three officers opened fire with their AR-15 assault rifles, discharging at least 12 rounds.

Police Chief Joe Polislar said it isn't department policy to notify 911 dispatchers before serving a warrant — in this case one under which police hoped to find "counterfeit items including checks, driver's licenses and birth certificates."

Garrison was not suspected in connection with the "fake ID" ring. No one was arrested that day. Local papers were not told whether any false documents were found.

Officers did find it necessary to shoot and kill Garrison's Chow dog, when the animal tried to protect his master after he was down.

Garrison's wife, Modesta, was inside the home at the time police killed him.

Albuquerque police officer Howard Neal Terry, one of the three "lawmen" involved, has been a defendant in three federal excessive-force lawsuits in the past six years, the local daily reports. The city of Albuquerque has paid more than \$375,000 to settle the three lawsuits.

In one case, Terry kicked an unarmed man in the head, causing permanent brain damage, and then contended the 64-year-old Mexican man "resisted arrest." In another case, the city argued (before paying up) that another Mexican man, whose home Officer Terry had invaded, was responsible for his



Vin Suprynowicz

own injuries since he failed to obey the officer's orders. In March 1993, Terry was one of two officers involved in the fatal shooting of Randy Libby, a 30-year-old man who supposedly threatened them with a locomotive-shaped cologne bottle. The city paid off the Libby family to the tune of \$100,000.

Polislar and County Sheriff Joe Bowditch said they believe the officers shot Garrison in accordance with departmental policies.

The officers "couldn't look into his heart and mind," Polislar said. "They simply had to make a split-second decision."

Why do I doubt that if Mr. Garrison had shot and killed the deputies, Sheriff Polislar would be holding a similar press conference to explain why Mr. Garrison was not being charged with any crime, since "He could not look into the hearts and minds of the unidentified, black-clad men brandishing AR-15s at him on his own property. He simply had to make a split-second decision?"

###

Pro-government extremists will argue that, in each case, if these citizens had docilely allowed armed strangers to have their way, they might still be alive.

But this does not constitute a rebuttal to my contention that we are now living in a police state. Rather, it merely constitutes advice on how we might behave if we hope to survive a little longer in a police state.

Short-sighted advice. The Jews of Eastern Europe figured their best course was to passively obey the authorities in 1942. We all know where that got them.

Our judges are now issuing search warrants which allow police to invade private property without notice, and murder any law-abiding citizen they find there, on as flimsy a pretext as "searching for fake ID."

The mistake made by David Aguilar and Ralph Garrison was not in taking up arms to defend their homes, families, and neighborhoods. That is the right of every American.

They made their mistakes when they allowed themselves to be outgunned, when they failed to wear Kevlar, and when they decided to confront their violent assailants directly, rather than waiting with longer-range weapons in positions of concealment.

The people will re-learn these lessons eventually ... if only through genetic selection.

Vin Suprynowicz is the assistant editorial page editor of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Readers may contact him via e-mail at vin@lvjr.com, or vin@intermind.net.

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Saturday, April 19th, 1997

**Best Western Grace Inn
10831 S. 51st St.
Phoenix, AZ 85044
602-893-3000**

Friday Night Cocktail Party!! 7:30 pm

Ask at front desk for suite number

Featured Speakers

Claire Wolfe is a corporate communications writer, gun-rights activist and long-time hanger-outer on the libertarian scene. After 30 years of polite political action, she said, "To heck with it." Actually, she used stronger language, but since this bio was transmitted over the Internet, we can't repeat the actual words. Anyway, after saying whatever she said, she sat down and wrote *101 Things to Do 'til the Revolution*, her sixth book and the only one she was proud enough to put her own name to.



101 Things is an irreverent handbook for fed-up activists or non-activists who are beginning to realize the real state of America today. The book, and her talk, focus on *effective* actions freedom fighters can take outside of the political arena to increase their own, and the country's, chances for freedom.

L. Neil Smith is the Prometheus Award-winning author of nineteen books including *The Probability Broach*, *The Crystal Empire*, *Henry Martyn*, *The Lando Calrissian Adventures* and *Pallas*. An NRA Life Member and founder of the Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus, he has been active in the Libertarian movement for 34 years and is its most prolific and widely-published living novelist.



Agenda

(Reminder: Only Members of Record may vote in the business session and in elections of officers. See page 2 for definition)

8:00am - 8:45am	Registration
8:45am	Call to order and opening address by ALP Chairman Mike Dugger
9:00am	Platform debate
10:45am	Break
11:00am	Election of officers and adoption of resolutions
11:50am	Break for lunch
12:00 noon	Buffet luncheon featuring Claire Wolfe, author of the newly popular underground book, '101 Things to Do 'til the Revolution'
1:00pm	Panel discussion - "Decentralized or DCentric, The Proper Form for the Libertarian Party"
2:45pm	Break
3:00pm	Panel discussion - "Prop 200 - Medicalization vs Relegalization, Unfortunate Diversion or Necessary First Step?"
4:45pm	Conclusion of business
5:00pm	Adjourn
5:00pm - 7:00pm	Social interlude
7:00pm	Banquet dinner featuring L. Neil Smith, science fiction author and publisher of the Libertarian Enterprise who was recently declared unfit to address Libertarian audiences by Bill Winter, LPUS Communications Director.
8:30pm	Annual Awards presentation featuring the W. Patrick Harper Memorial Award

Northern Lights

Coconino Libertarians having a good time...

(Continued from page 3)

I heard no such things. And that makes me proud. My colleagues simply refuse to understand how surrendering your income and your children makes you a good citizen. I refuse to understand such things also.

Spreading the Word

And why was 1996 such a successful year? Certainly the energy that brought such fun wasn't part of any preconceived or centralized plan on anybody's part. We just pretty much didn't bother to try to contain the enthusiasm of our fellow libertarians by stuffing them in the bottle of Party discipline, organization, rules, salesmanship, or containers of any sort. So the amazing was allowed to happen.

Ethan Samuel Simon and Julianna Nikolic came forward and organized the LP at Northern Arizona University. Letters to the editor of the Sun from Coconino Libertarians were a common feature. Bo Lewis argued coherently against a city ordinance imposing a minimum wage in Flagstaff in a letter published the day before that measure was defeated by a single vote in City Council. Dick Ambler's immortal letter arguing for the preservation of the dirt parking lot in the center of Flagstaff as an historic treasure was published, and had just about everyone in stitches. June Boudette and I chimed in with letters about the property tax and internal LP squabbles. Meanwhile, candidates Bob and Sunny were out there standing on stumps, showing the folks in Coconino County what freedom means. And Michael

Haggard was doing the same in Navajo and Gila Counties. Not just campaign slogans, but unflinching clarity of thought and purpose. Not just the words of freedom, but the demonstration that, yes, a citizen can still be free, can answer questions in forum and debate in a way that surprises many, for the many never thought they would see or hear such reasoned and passionate argument and nobility in a room full of daddgummed politicians.

In retrospect, it isn't odd that the year in which we made our finest breakthroughs was the year when so much was happening that nobody had a handle on it. Sure, we got some bylaws passed and elected a full slate of Coconino LP officers for the first time in most folks' memory. We ran some memorable political campaigns, some record-scorchers.

But that likely happened just because we had higher goals, and the pretense that official organization or breaking electoral records meant a hill of ants was one we spent an hour or so dressing up for, so that we could get on with the real task.

The real task, of course, is to live a good life. For most of us libertarians, the good life is bound inextricably with the notion of freedom and the living practice of freedom. The good life is not necessarily bound with loyalty to an electoral process or to a component of that process, such as a specific political party.

I think many of us have pondered a while over our relationship to the Libertarian

Party. I see the Libertarian Party, at least on our local, county, and state levels as a great billboard for liberty. When folks see that billboard, I want them to know that it was not produced on Madison Avenue. It was produced by Madison himself, with a little help from his friends. If they see the billboard and take the next freeway off-ramp, I don't really care if their voyage eventually leads them away from all electoral politics. The message is FREEDOM; the party is secondary.

We in Coconino County and most of Arizona are blessed with a convergence of thinkers and misfits who could never stoop to such idiocy as surrendering freedom in order to achieve better poll results. It wouldn't make sense to us. We do not, at our best, trouble ourselves with how we can be proper members of an electoral system that has devastated all proper notions of rights, responsibilities, families and communities.

We fight that system, and gladly. At our best, we employ the means of electoral politics to point out the follies of the officially approved means of dissent, as it has been hijacked by those who see elections in this country as a further means to consolidate power and get all the goodies they can at the expense of someone else.

We must, if we want to keep the billboard of liberty standing tall, encourage the national Libertarian Party to attempt to meet the same high standards we have enthusiastically set for ourselves.

The Net

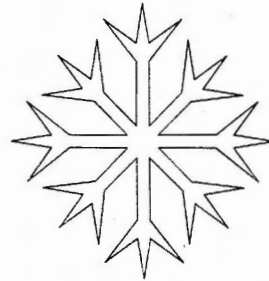
Old Uncle Freddy Hayek foresaw all this stuff. There are few rules of exchange that can be imposed by a centralized caretaker without distorting markets, punishing providers, curtailing consumers, and pretty

much screwing up the free play of players. We set the rules of exchange, whether economic, sexual, religious, or political and mundane, through our living of these meager days upon a farfetched planet. A centralized arbiter cannot know the sum of what we, as myriad individuals, know and are willing to express through individual actions.

The marketplace of ideas resembles the circus of shopping for groceries. And it is best when left free. Neither you nor I would think of barring a socialist thug like Eddie Basha from trying to make another buck in an open market. And the folks on the Libertarian National Committee can sing out of tune all they want. But they cannot any longer just take all the campaign funds because they demand them. We cannot allow the national Libertarian Party to act, as it has, as yet another tax collector.

I am told that these musings are in line with the themes to be explored at the upcoming Arizona Libertarian Party convention. I hope to see you all there. We libertarians who live up in the snow are usually noted for the sense of humor and amazement we pack to every serious discussion.

We are also pleased to provide to our colleagues in Arizona a website which expresses our guerrilla approach to Libertarian politics. Updated frequently, you will find the latest known information on the parades, meetings, movements and events through which we try to influence the political actions of our little world. We provide links to the officially disapproved sites like The Libertarian Enterprise, Vindex, and Neil Smith's Webley Page. Our website doesn't have great graphics, but it loads real fast:
<http://www.infomagic.com/liberty>



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The W. Patrick Harper Memorial Award

The W. Patrick Harper Memorial Award is given annually and represents an effort to recognize long standing achievement in the furtherance of liberty. Pat Harper was a charter member of the LP in Arizona, a freelance photographer, and the first Libertarian to hold the balance of power in a national election. In the opinion of those who knew Pat, he was the most articulate spokesperson in Arizona for Libertarianism. In 1976 he ran for U.S. Congress in a three-way race with Eldon Rudd and Tony Mason. In an election won by Rudd with a margin of only 600 votes, Pat received over 6000 votes. Pat died in 1978, at the age of 28, of a cerebral aneurysm.

The Nominees (in no particular order):

- Tom Paswater, past Region 8 National Committee member and former ALP state treasurer
- Gary Falkon, former Maricopa County Chairman and 3-time District 24 candidate
- Ernest Hancock, former Maricopa County Chairman and Second Amendment activist
- John Buttrick, 1994 Gubernatorial candidate and frequent party spokesman
- Other _____

All ballots must be returned to 4454 E. Coconino St., Phoenix, AZ 85044 no later than April 10th to be counted.

Those who beat their swords into plowshares will plow for those who don't.

Harvey Wysong



Welcome to the Party

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So I'm, like, at this party, you know.

And things get really weird.

Last I remembered, it was 1968 and they said there was going to be this really cool thing happening. Like, we were all going to get together at this party and there'd be all this brotherhood and love and shit, and we'd all groove on it.



But somehow the time flow's screwed up. (Good acid. Bad acid. You just gotta go with it.) So yeah, the time flow's screwed up, like maybe I had a

flashforward instead of a flashback, and I'm suddenly standing here in the middle of this party, all ready to groove on everybody.

Only it isn't cool at all. I'm standin' there and man, the word freak doesn't begin to describe what I'm seein'.

First off, I'm, like, nailed up against the wall by this bull dyke who's lecturing me about cigarettes, man. Like how we gotta get rid of cigarettes. Like, it's for the good of the children or something. And they're gonna put tobacco pushers in jail and all. I'd think that's pretty freakin' funny, man, except she's, like, blowing booze in my face, practically gale-force, while she's going on about how only Washington can put a stop to this killer menace cigarette thing that's endangering all the children. And she means it, you know. Except from what I remember it was a lot harder for kiddies to get cigarettes than to get, like, dope.

So I finally think I get it, man, and I ask, "Hey, you mean they legalized dope and made cigarettes illegal, instead?"

And the only good thing I can say about that is that she shut up for a second. She just shut up and stared at me, man, like really weird. And before she can start off about the evils of...I manage to pop out from between her and the wall like a spit watermelon seed. She goes on talking at the wallpaper, I think.

Now, finally, I get a look around. Man, we're talking scary! What happened to us, anyway? This is our big party? The whole room's full of these people who look more like our parents than our parents did.

And I can catch some of their rap, and it's all about control, man. Control, control, control. Like, over here there's this big biotay guy with a Boston accent -- cahs and bahs and all that -- talking about how we gotta control guns. There's these two other people nodding at him. Like, one is this very Marin County chick, like who you know never saw a gun in her life. And another one's this creepy little lizard man, like you wouldn't buy a used car from. And they're nodding away.

Control, control, control. Nod, nod, nod.

Well, yeah, it wasn't cool for the cops and army dudes to be shooting at people, and all. Hey, remember the flowers in the gun barrels? That was cool. But at the same time, there was the Black Panthers, and they had guns and that was kind of cool, too, because, like, they had to protect their brothers, you know. So maybe guns weren't really, like, our favorite thing, but it was the violence part we were against, and you gotta protect yourself sometime, man. Even we knew that.

So I drift over at first, thinkin' they might be talkin' about takin' guns away from the cops and soldiers.

But this is different. These guys are talkin' about it bein' illegal for my straight little Boy Scout brother to shoot his .22. Shit, my little brother wouldn't shoot anything more serious than a tin can. I don't get this.

And the Marin chick says, "...Junk guns. Junk guns are killing our children."

I eventually get that junk guns are guns real people can afford to buy. So as far's I can figure, this chick is saying there's okay guns for Marin County kinda people and government kinda people, then there's bad guns that they gotta take away from poor people.

But weren't we for the poor people, man? Didn't we believe, like, power to the people, and that they should be able to defend themselves against the really hardass pigs and all?

So I think I get it again and I ask, "You mean, like, the poor are now safe and respected and have power, man, and they don't need to protect themselves any more, like, against oppression? That's groovy."

I get the same look I got from the cigarette lady. Then all three of them start yelling at once, and while I can't make much sense out of the ruckus, I hear all kind of stuff about the guns killing children, and guns making people pop their wives and all, and how just having guns around the house makes people, like, go massacre whole schoolyards full of little kids. And, like, bad looking guns especially make people do stuff.

And I think maybe people must have got hold of a lot of bad drugs, man, if they're that wiggid out that guns can, like, make them do stuff. Must have been something come along after acid that was, like, really heavy and turned all the regular people into some kinda bad, brainless zombies controlled by guns.

And yeah, sure enough, I hear everybody sayin' about how we gotta build more prisons and stuff for all the bad people. And somebody says there's, like, way more than a million people in prison -- million point two or somethin'--and I say, like, "What? Like, man, that's unfippin'believable! You got that many people, like, murdering and raping and stuff?"

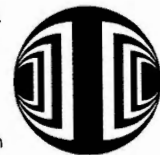
But no, it turns out it's mostly, like, dope and all. Weird. And now they're even gonna put in people for cigarettes and ownin' .22's. And there's some other lady wants to put people in jail for, like, saying food is "natural" when it isn't, like, really organic and all. And, like, filling in a ditch on your commune could get you a couple years in the federal slam. And stuff like that. Really weird.

And guess what? They say they can already, like, take away people's cars and houses and all their money and stuff without even charging you with a crime or anything. Like, even if somebody else broke a law using your car and you didn't even know about it, they can take your car away. Weird!

What's even weirder is I don't hear anybody talking about, like, rights.

I hear people in this room saying stuff like "liberal" and "conservative." (That hasn't changed any.) But it doesn't seem to make any difference whether they're callin' themselves conservative or callin' somebody else liberal. They're all just talkin' about jail and control and control and jail. And

makin' this illegal and makin' that illegal. And makin' everything illegal, it sounds like.



I don't hear one person around here talkin' about, oh, free speech and how cops shouldn't kick down people's doors, and why the FBI shouldn't spy on political types, and why we shouldn't, like, have to use numbers instead of names, and how people ought to be able to, like, do their own thing. Nobody's sayin' that stuff. Nobody's shouting, "Hey! You can't do that!" Like, I'm the only person in the whole room freakin' out over this weird shit!

When did I fall off the bus, man? Isn't all that rights stuff what liberal usta mean? But around here all I hear is lawn order, lawn order, lawn order. I feel like I fell down a rabbit hole into a Republican Party convention.

Except that all these folks are talkin' about lots more programs, too. And how we gotta bail out all these programs they already got. Somma these programs I've heard of, like Social Security, you know. And I can understand how that one might need some bailing, because we clearly got a boatload full of old farts around here. Some of the programs I never heard of. But they all gotta be beefed up or bailed out or supported or saved and stuff. And it's all for the sake of the children and the poor people. And so it's not like a Republican convention, exactly. But kind of like a Republican convention that's full of Democrats.

Then I hear this old dude off on a sofa talkin' about closing military bases. He's talkin' this Texas drawl, real quiet and soft, but he's gettin' a lot of attention. And I think, "Yeah. Closing military bases. We useta get behind that sorta shit, man."

So I ease on over to this guy. Turns out he's a senator or ex-senator or something, this Texas dude, and he's real into legislation to, like, turn these closed military bases into camps.

Well, cool. Neat camps for the kiddies. "Little kiddies playin' where the soldiers used to be. I like that.

But that's not it, either. See, he wants to turn these bases into some kind of work camp things. It's where they'd put the dopers they can't fit in the regular prisons. But also some other people, too. People who disagree with him, you know. But I don't see anybody like that. Anywhere. So I don't know who he's talkin' about.

And, shit, it isn't only camps he wants to build. He

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LBT. Party Phone Listings

COUNTY HEADQUARTERS

Maricopa County 602-248-8425
Yuma County 520-783-1776

STATE CHAIRMAN

Mike Dugger 602-598-1394

COUNTY CHAIRMEN

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Mike Voth 520-525-1035
Maricopa
Scott Grainger 602-924-0826
Navajo
Michael Haggard 520-289-5676
Yavapai
June Boudette 520-567-5857
Yuma
Timothy Urell 520-783-1776

NATIONAL HQ 202-543-1988

National Chairman
Steve Dasbach 219-432-7145



The Arizona Libertarian Party



Want to Make a Difference? Want Things to Change? Then Register Libertarian – Now

The continuing growth and skyrocketing cost of government has been presided over by both the Democratic and Republican Parties. For far too long they have dominated the political process, suppressing competition from those with different ideas by placing numerous restrictions on access to the ballot and access to the system.

Another voice must be heard. Rather than limiting debate on issues, we need more debate, more participation, more ideas. This cannot happen as long as those in power are able to keep voters in the dark, preventing them from learning about alternatives to "business as usual."

You can help to break the stranglehold of special interests on Arizona politics. The most effective action you can take? Withdraw your support from the status quo, and help a new voice gain acceptance. A new voice that speaks the language of the principles on which this great nation was founded – and means it. A voice that understands, sincerely believes in, and courageously fights for the inalienable rights of individuals to life, liberty and property. This is the natural law that is indispensable to human liberty.

Libertarians believe that people themselves know best how to solve their own problems, in intelligent and voluntary ways. Government's only legitimate function is to protect each individual's rights. Under Republican and Democrat control all these years, government has become the chief violator of your rights.

Libertarians know that it is better for people to be free, than not to be free. We understand that freedom is not perfect, nor is it perfectly orderly. It does not provide utopia for all – but it is far superior to any alternative, and is the only way for people to have the the greatest opportunity to achieve their maximum potential.

No other political party stands for these principles. They may give lip service to freedom and individual rights, but they always compromise them away, to our great loss.

We have just recently achieved continuing ballot status by registering enough Libertarians! Our numbers are growing fast, and we'd like you to come on board, too, if you share our love of human liberty, peace and prosperity.

**So join with us now in restoring
the American Dream
*Register Libertarian Now***

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Welcome to the Party

(Continued from page 9)

wants some amendment or another suspended so people can be left in the camps like years without any trial and weird shit like that. And some other amendment suspended so the fuzz can get evidence on dopers and, like, people who don't like the government, without having to obey the Bill of Rights, man.

And everybody's nodding and nodding and nodding. With these glassy looks in their eyes. I figure everybody can't really agree with this old fascist fart. Maybe they're just nodding because he's this important guy and they're kissing his butt.

But then another guy standing in the middle of a big crowd behind the sofa speaks up. And he doesn't look like anybody important. I mean, he's just another big, bloaty guy. (There sure are a lot of those around here.) He's got a fat, Rudolph nose, and he chuckles, in some kind of hillbilly snort, and says, "Well, if that's what you wanted, why'd you give me such shit before voting on my counterterrorism bill, then?"

Tex and the bloaty guy laugh a while at that, like it's some funny secret. And all the nodders nod and laugh, glassy-like.

And then Rudolph-nose turns to some foreign-looking guys standing around him and explains that he invented this bill that lets him or the Secretary of State or somebody call anybody they want a bunch of terrorists and confiscate all their stuff, just boom like that, on this guy's say so. And if they're foreigners, they can even have secret trials and secret evidence, without telling anybody, even the newspapers.

At least, I think that's what he said. I gotta admit, the guy's voice was so lazy-sounding it just, like, made me sleepy every time he opened his mouth. If he really said all that stuff about foreign guys and secret trials, I'd think the foreign guys he was talking to woulda been pretty mad. But these Koreans or Malaysians or whatever just laugh and nod, laugh and nod.

I staggered off, really feeling wasted. Bad trip, man. This has got to be a bad trip! I mean, we were gonna make things better, weren't we? The government was, like, going to help everybody. They were gonna get us all together, for the good of the people. Weren't they?

But all over the room, everybody's saying *control, control, control* like a mantra.

Except that this mantra creates some very bad vibes, if you know what I mean. And this party isn't anywhere I want to be.

So I ease on over to the door, thinkin' I'll get out of here and maybe find the real party down the hall.

Except that I get to the door and it's freakin' locked, man. It's freakin' locked! I'm at the insanest party in the universe, and every door in the place is freakin' locked, so I can't get out.

So I found this tape recorder in the bedroom. I'm hiding in the closet right now, makin' this tape. When I'm done, I'm gonna put it into a box that usta hold non-fat pizza, thinking maybe it'll get carted out of here with the trash and some janitor might find it, lookin' for leftovers. If you get this tape, and if anybody knows a way out of here, please help me, okay? This party's too weird.

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Moving?????

Please let the *Arizona Libertarian* know about your move -- and your new address -- 4 to 6 weeks ahead. The newsletter is not forwarded by the US Postal Service and can not be remailed to you by the newsletter staff. Furthermore, it costs the ALP additional postage to have the newsletter returned.

So that you don't miss out on an issue or two of your newsletter, and so we don't lose track of our valuable subscribers, please provide us with your address corrections as soon as you know about them!

Thanks.

The Big One bites the Vipers

(Continued from page 4)

It seems implausible on the face of it that someone of less stature than Joe Bonnano could contract a hit from her jail cell. It makes no sense for people who know their phone calls are recorded at the jail, and who suspect their mail is being read, to conspire under the watchful gaze of the authorities. And it makes no sense for people to risk life in prison for a conspiracy to commit murder when the sentences they now face are so much less severe. Furthermore, would these lovebirds not be working toward earning their release from prison as soon as possible, so they could be together at last?

What is more likely is that one love-lorn inmate was trying to verify whether his new girlfriend really knew two people who were central figures in his case -- and the government jumped on them with both feet, desperate to cover up its own dirty tricks.

Of course, I could be wrong. We all saw what a straight-forward, honest fellow Agent Steve Ott was at Ruby Ridge.

Only a few months ago, an associate of Sheriff Joe Arpaio (who runs Estrella Jail) admitted to sending guns from Shooter's World to Macao after British police trailed the guns here to Phoenix. Another man, a Samoan, was arrested in Tucson on gun-smuggling charges at about that same time, and Dean Pleasant informed me that that man was supposed to have been kept out of jail by the Vipers' arrests.

An investigation needs to be done, and if there is no Viper trial (government lawyers have said it isn't "worthwhile" to try "only two") then it could be a long while before the facts are brought to light, if ever.

Deb Williams, one of the Viper defense lawyers, interviewed this woman at Estrella and feels that she is credible. I hope that the informants can be found, subpoenaed, and forced to face the defendants they have accused (as the government seems to have forgotten the Sixth Amendment requires).

STANDARD SOCIAL CONTRACT Between THE GOVERNMENT OF CENTRAL NORTH AMERICA and

Whereas I wish to reside on the Central North American Continent, and Whereas the Central North American Government controls the area of the continent on which I wish to reside and Whereas tacit and implied contracts are vague and therefore unenforceable, I, THE SIGNER BELOW, agree to the following terms.

SECTION ONE: I will surrender a percentage of my property to the Government. The actual percentage will be determined by the Government and will be subject to change at any time. The amount to be surrendered may be based on my income, the value of my purchases, or any other criteria the Government chooses. To aid the Government in determining the percentage, I will apply for a Government Identification Number that I will use in all my major transactions.

SECTION TWO: Should the Government demand it, I will surrender my liberty for a period of time determined by the Government and typically no shorter than two years. During that time I will serve the Government in any way it chooses, including military service in which I may be called upon to sacrifice my life.

SECTION THREE: I will limit my behavior as demanded by the Government. I will consume only those drugs permitted by the Government. I will limit my sexual activities to those permitted by the Government. I will forsake religious beliefs that conflict with the Government's determination of propriety. More may be imposed at any time.

SECTION FOUR: In consideration for the above, the Government will permit me to find employment, subject to the limits that will be determined by the Government. These limits may restrict my choice of career or the wages I may accept.

SECTION FIVE: The Government will permit me to reside in the area of North America which it controls. Also the Government will permit me to speak freely, subject to limits determined by the Government's Congress and Supreme Court.

SECTION SIX: The Government will attempt to protect my life and my claim to property it has allowed me to keep. I agree not to hold the Government liable if it fails to protect me or my property.

SECTION SEVEN: The Government will offer various services to me. The nature and extent of these services will be determined by the Government and are subject to change at any time.

SECTION EIGHT: The Government will determine whether I may vote for certain officials and the influence of my vote for certain officials. The influence of my vote will vary inversely with the number of voters and I understand it typically will be minuscule. I agree not to hold any elected Government official liable for acting against my best interest or for breaking promises, even if those promises motivated me to vote for them.

SECTION NINE: I agree that the Government may hold me fully liable if I fail to abide by the above terms. In that event the Government may confiscate any property that I have not previously surrendered to it, and may imprison me for a period of time to be determined by the Government. I also agree that the Government may alter the terms of this contract at any time.

Signature

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