



Libertarian Party

NEWS

Marrou/Lord Campaign Sets Local Group Activities for Fall

"All politics is local," and building the Libertarian Party at the grassroots is one of the most important purposes of the Marrou/Lord Campaign.

The Campaign has planned a series of nationwide party-building events it is urging local Libertarian Party organizations to participate in.

Starting Sept. 15, the day of the last ballot access deadline, Libertarian Parties around the country will air the television ads the Marrou/Lord Campaign has prepared. While the campaign is planning some network advertising, most TV advertising will be the result of local groups buying time in their areas and running the spots. The campaign is asking every group to run the spots at least a few times during the week of Sept. 13-19 to kick off the fall campaign, as well as later in the campaign.

The Marrou/Lord Campaign expects to be excluded from the presidential debates. It is asking local groups to organize protests around the first debate in late September, demanding that they include ALL

presidential nominees with 50-state ballot status in the later debates. This is a good opportunity for local groups to get media coverage.

"Neighbors for Marrou/Lord" is the theme of the October events.

In early October, Libertarians will walk their precincts, talking with their neighbors about libertarianism, and encouraging them to vote for Andre Marrou, Nancy Lord, and other Libertarians on the ballot.

Marrou/Lord TV Ads Set page 9

Precinct walking also will be an opportunity to invite the neighbors to a neighborhood Marrou/Lord coffee, the second phase of the October efforts. Small groups of friends and neighbors will gather in the homes of Libertarians across the country, watch a video about the candidates and the party, and have their questions an-

swered. These are particularly effective for building local Libertarian organizations.

If our votes aren't reported it diminishes everything else the campaign does. Making sure we are included in election night coverage is the final phase of the fall campaign. The News Election Service (NES) handles election returns for the networks and wire services, and the Marrou/Lord Campaign is trying to get them to include us in their returns. In the past they have refused outright, but this year may be different.

Whether or not NES carries our results nationally, we must work to be included on local TV coverage. The Campaign will be working with local groups to help make sure TV and newspapers report our results wherever possible.

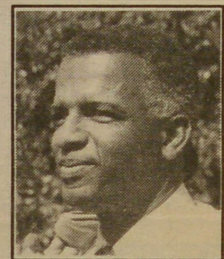
With 50-state ballot status for the first time in 12 years, an anti-incumbent mood in the country, and the largest membership ever, the Libertarian Party has the potential to make a real breakthrough this year. Local activities will play an important part in the success of the campaign.

For information on getting involved in these and other Marrou/Lord Campaign activities in your area, contact your local party organization or Marrou/Lord Campaign headquarters at 202-546-6095.

On the Road With Boddie

Richard Boddie's campaign for U.S. Senate in California is gearing up for the final push. Starting on Labor Day, and continuing through Nov. 3, Boddie will begin a 60-day odyssey throughout the state.

Boddie will travel by mobile home, draped with "Boddie for Senate" banners, and equipped with a cellular phone to make appointments with the media and conduct phone interviews. It is expected that Boddie will visit over 100 California cities, meeting and interviewing with literally hundreds of local print, radio, and television reporters. He will also meet with local Libertarian Party organizations, candidates, and volunteers along the way.



In a test trip last April, Boddie, an outstanding and charismatic speaker and personality, covered 15 cities and over 1,000 miles in five days, and he made over 30 media interviews and appearances. The response from the media and the disheartened electorate was enthusiastic.

"If we can finance this trip, we have the potential to make the campaign a true 'break-out,'" Boddie said.

Boddie is hoping to capitalize on the vacuum left by the departure of Ross Perot. Many in the huge Perot constituency have contacted LP headquarters in Los Angeles and elsewhere in their search for an alternative to the "bipartisan" party. The initial contacts have been fruitful, and Boddie has been invited by the head of the California Perot organization to discuss a possible endorsement and campaign support.

The Boddie campaign has already broken ground in terms of the sheer quantity of media attention it has generated.

The statewide trip will cost a minimum of \$10,000, according to Boddie campaign officials, and they are marshaling all of their resources to meet the target.

"If our last trip is any indication, a bold move such as this, unprecedented among Libertarians in California, will galvanize the plurality of unsatisfied voters in the state," said Boddie. "We hope to create a 'mini-Perot' phenomenon—the best thing about this is that it is very realistic, and within our reach—if Libertarians will support us."

For more information, write Boddie for Senate, P.O. Box 2056, Laguna Hills, CA 92654.

NC Campaign Enhances LP Image

Four years ago, the Libertarian Party was unable to place the presidential ticket on the ballot in North Carolina, due to extremely difficult ballot access requirements.

This year, although ballot access requirements were still some of the toughest in the nation—the party had to gather about 75,000 signatures and turn in 43,000 certified signatures—the LP will not only have Marrou/Lord at the top of the ticket, but 40 other LP candidates also will be receiving support from voters. Twelve candidates will be competing statewide, led by Scott McLaughlin, the state LP's gubernatorial candidate.

McLaughlin, 33, of High Point, is the owner of a private security firm who had been involved with the Republican Party since he was a teenager. From 1986 to 1990, he was a member of the Republican Executive Committee for Guilford County. But McLaughlin had long supported the libertarian philosophy and so recently joined the LP.

McLaughlin's campaign for governor has been receiving a great deal of attention from the media in North Carolina, and the people of the state are learning more about the LP this year than ever before. A recent poll showed that 60 per-

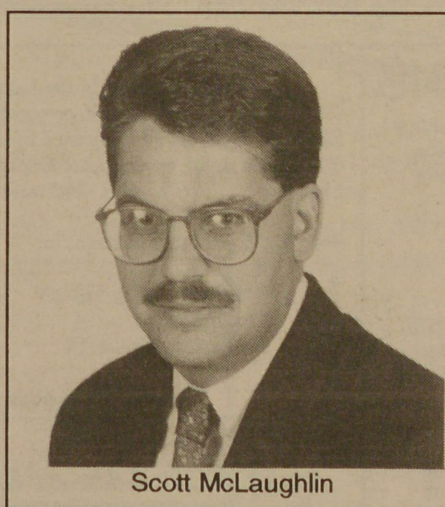
cent of the voters were not happy with either the Republican or Democratic candidates for governor, and the media made note of that fact. "This race is wide open," said McLaughlin. "Our job is to let the voters know a better choice will be on the ballot."

One newspaper columnist wrote, "McLaughlin may turn out to be the Ross Perot of North Carolina's gubernatorial race—the third-party candidate who shakes up the establishment."

The goal of the gubernatorial campaign is to gain at least 10 percent of the total vote to maintain ballot access for the LP in the future. "But in this year's fluid electoral environment, we can win significantly more votes with better funding," McLaughlin said.

McLaughlin is focusing his campaign on typical libertarian issues, including abolishing the sales tax on food and medicine, cutting state government and the income tax, and of course a return to limited government.

Thanks to the efforts of McLaughlin and state chair Lynn Fogwell, North Carolina public television will be airing a one hour, prime time, statewide program about the LP as election time draws closer. The station has also agreed to include



Scott McLaughlin

McLaughlin in aired gubernatorial debates, if the other two candidates agree to participate.

North Carolina has clearly come a long way in just a few years, and the McLaughlin campaign could help propel the NCLP into one of the leading state organizations in the country.

For more information, write McLaughlin for Governor, P.O. Box 1532, High Point, NC 27261.

LP Is Now Poised to Seize the Day

I just finished watching the movie "Hook" with my children. In the last scene, now-grown Lost Boy Toodles flies out of the window shouting "Seize the Day." This was apparently a tribute to Peter Pan actor Robin Williams, who popularized the classic phrase in his earlier movie, "The Dead Poets Society."

Upon hearing that phrase I remembered gratefully how so many of you responded to our fundraising letters which borrowed that theme last fall and again this spring, and helped ensure that we did not run out of money over the last six crucial months.

The national party is once again ready to seize the day—to GET THE WORD OUT.

Ballot drives have consumed most of our resources all spring and summer. And it looks like all that effort will pay off.

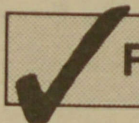
From my mid-August vantage point, I feel confident that we will make all 50 states. We made it through the signature turn-in crunch around Aug. 1, filing signatures in Alaska, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Two weeks later we wrapped up Connecticut and Tennessee. And by the end of August, we will have completed DC, New York, Ohio, and Virginia, and possibly Rhode Island.

This will leave only two states, Minnesota and North Dakota, to complete in September. Almost done!

What now? Can we keep up our momentum through the campaign season? You bet! We will be concentrating our efforts on

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From the Chair

Mary Gingell, LP National Chair

getting the word out, in many different ways, to Americans everywhere, Americans more ready than ever before for a serious political change.

- **Prospecting**—We have \$150,000 budgeted this year to mail 420,000 pieces of mail to potential libertarians. This project is budgeted to break even at first, although it ultimately pays off by finding us new members who will get active and contribute well into the future. As part of this program we will be mailing a special appeal to former Perot petitioners and local coordinators, as we are able to obtain these lists.

- **Inquiry follow-up**—We have budgeted \$90,000 for sending information about the party to people who express an interest by calling our 800 number, our 900 number, or our office line, or by writing in or sending us an electronic mail message. Already this year we have processed over 15,000 complete messages on our 800 line alone, with many more names coming in through the other channels.

- **"Winnable" races**—We've already contributed to Finlay Rothaus' re-election bid in New Hampshire, and we plan to locate and contribute to other races as well to ensure that Libertarians with a real hope of winning a state house seat this year have the resources they need to do just that.

- **Campus recruiting**—Our field orga-

nizer, Joseph Knight, has just put together an ambitious travel schedule for the fall, with organizing visits to campuses around the country. We hope to be able to increase our budget so we can add the two additional organizers needed to work throughout the campaign season to reach campuses in as much of the country as possible. This work is crucial if we are to reach the next generation of Libertarians with our message.

- **Media and advertising**—We are already working closely with the presidential campaign team, providing speakers to appear on radio and TV talk shows when Andre and Nancy are already booked at a certain time or when a talk show host wants to expand his or her repertoire of libertarian guests. We are continuing an active news release program, in conjunction with the national campaign, to inform the media about our ballot access successes, campaign appearances, and our stands on issues. And we hope to augment Marrou/Lord advertising efforts by spending revenues in excess of plan to run advertising on behalf of the presidential ticket.

These plans take money, but it is money that will be spent wisely and will provide a good payback with many inquiries, more members and contributors, and many votes for our Libertarian candidates around the country—at last count, over 600 of them.

In the last six months, National Director Nick Dunbar and his office staff, along with the help of an extraordinary team of volunteers, have processed over twice the volume of contributions, membership applications and renewals, information requests, address changes, and material orders as they did in, say, the last six months of 1991—all without an increase in the size of our paid staff. In fact, we have fewer paid staffers handling LP business than we did in 1989, when our paid membership was only about 60 percent of what it is today! That means that less of your contribution dollar goes to overhead costs, and more goes directly into productive projects.

In short, with continued financial support, the Libertarian Party is poised to take advantage of the unique opportunities of this election year—to seize the day once again!

Burns Going National

Gene Burns, the Boston radio talk show host who has done so much to help build the Libertarian Party in New Hampshire and the rest of New England, is now having his radio talk show syndicated across the country.

This is certainly good news for the LP, and libertarianism in general, as Burns has for many years been considered one

of the premier spokespersons for the libertarian philosophy.

A complete listing of stations where Burns can be heard was not immediately available, but keep an ear open in your area for his talk show. In Los Angeles, you can hear Burns on KGIL 1260-AM. The NEWS will provide more station information as it becomes available.

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Texas Candidate in All-Out Race

By Joe Barnett
Texas State LP Chair

While several Texas races show potential this year, one promises to be of particular interest. Libertarian Philip Koehne of Seguin is running an all-out race for the State House of Representatives, District 45. Encompassing two largely rural counties northeast of San Antonio, this district has been held since 1982 by Republican Edmund Kuempel. The last year Kuempel faced opposition was 1986.

Koehne feels the incumbent is vulnerable in several key areas. Kuempel was among those legislators voting themselves a retirement package that will annually pay three times their usual yearly salary. He also spoke out in favor of a state takeover of the Edwards Underground Aquifer, an important source of water for the district. Under state control, farmers and ranchers would have meters installed on their wells and pumping limits would be closely monitored. Kuempel also voted in favor of the controversial "Robin Hood" plan whereby school tax funds would be redistributed from "richer" schools in the state to "poorer" schools.

The Phil Koehne for State Representative Campaign is being managed by long-time Libertarian activist Dianne Pilcher. Pilcher, who has worked with Libertarians in California, Florida, and Texas, has been brought on board full-time to spearhead the campaign. As former state director of the LP of Texas, Pilcher was the plaintiff in a successful lawsuit that eliminated the burdensome requirement of voter registration numbers for parties petitioning for ballot status. She was also instrumental in the successful 1986 ballot drive. Vote totals by Libertarian candidates since then have secured ballot status for the Texas LP through 1994.

A native Texan, Philip Koehne graduated with honors from St. Mary's University in San Antonio with degrees in government and economics. It was as an economist for the Public Housing Administration that Koehne got his first taste of government bureaucracy.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out that the two older parties are controlled by the same cartel of multinational corporations, career politicians, and entrenched bureaucrats. They benefit from runaway budgets and big spending at the expense of those of us who have to work to pay the bills," Koehne said.

As a leader in the recent defeat of an additional 1/2 cent city sales tax, Koehne is known throughout the Seguin business community.

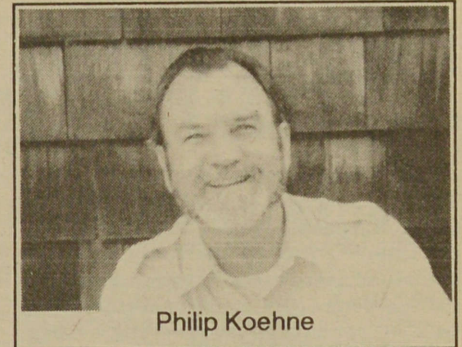
Koehne is president of KDF, Inc., which manufactures hunting rifles. He gained national recognition as the inventor of the KDF Slimline muzzle brake, the most effective recoil reducing device available for rifles. As a firearms designer, he won acclaim for his XK22 built to specifications of Olympic shooting champion Lanny Basham. The XK22 was the only American-made rifle used to compete in the 1984 summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Also a scholar and author, Koehne recently published "The Cult of Legislation," which spells out his political philosophy of individual freedom and responsibility under natural law. The book is now in its second printing.

The Koehne for State Representative Campaign plans an intensive, issue-oriented campaign that incorporates the ele-

ments of direct mail, 4' x 8' signs, billboards, and precinct walking. Koehne's firmly established ties to the social and business community are greatly facilitating the campaign's efforts.

For more information about the Koehne campaign, write Dianne Pilcher, 845 Highway 81 W., #14, New Braunfels, TX 78130; or call 512-620-1970.



Philip Koehne

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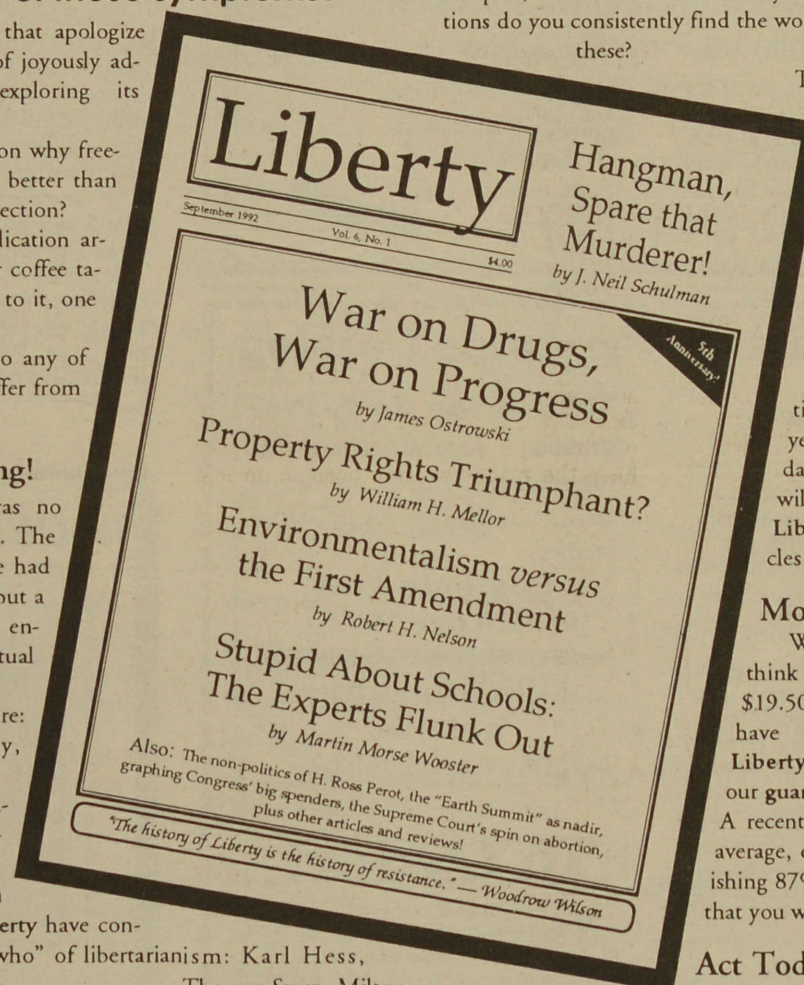
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OH Ballot Access Victory in Rosen Case

By James Parker

Libertarians in Ohio won a major court victory July 22, when the 6th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals (whose jurisdiction covers Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, and Tennessee) declared unconstitutional a clause in Ohio election law which prevented independent candidates from having a designation beside their names on Ohio ballots. In a strongly worded opinion, the court upheld the decision that Russ Rosen, a Cleveland Libertarian, should have been allowed to list "Independent" (the LP has only held ballot status briefly in 1982) beside his name when running for state representative four years ago.

In its decision, the court ruled that the law violated both the First and Fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution, and "is nothing but a deliberate attempt by the State to protect and guarantee the success of the Democratic and Republican parties." The court went on to say that "the State affords a crucial advantage to party candidates by allowing them to communicate a designation of their candidacy." Attorney Gordon Beggs, an ACLU/Common Cause attorney who represented the case, argued, "you should be able to put a political principle on the ballot."

Libertarian attorney Sally Moore said the decision was based on the idea that labels give a "voting cue" to voters, and the

state's interest in ballot control "may not extend to independent and new party candidates." She also felt that this ruling could mean the state could be impelled to put "Libertarian" (but not "Libertarian Party") next to the names of LPO candidates.

Rosen called this decision "a small step in a long journey, but an important one." Russ Osborn, LPO state chair and candidate for the Ohio legislature, called it "a landmark decision with far reaching applications," and went on to say that he was planning to submit a petition to the secretary of state and his County Board of Elections requesting that he be listed as "Libertarian" on the ballot this fall.

Richard Winger, publisher of Ballot

Access News, said, "this is the first time the LPO is in a position to improve the state's election laws. The LP in 23 states have already done so. Ohio now has the chance to be the 24th." No decision has been made on how to pursue this yet, but a discussion by the LP state executive committee was expected at its meeting in mid-August.

Ohio Secretary of State Bob Taft is reportedly studying the decision, but Rosen believes it "unlikely" that he will appeal.

James Parker is the associate editor of the *Free Ohio Report*, the newsletter of the LP of Ohio. A version of this article appears in the latest issue of that newsletter.

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LP candidates, if they haven't already, should call 503-754-2746, and ask to fill out the issues questionnaire.

Other LP members might be interested in calling Project Vote Smart at 800-786-6885 to get information on candidates in their area. Project Vote Smart staff reports considerable interest from callers in the LP.

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IS DR. RUWART THE NEXT AYN RAND?

Photo courtesy of the Kalamazoo Gazette



"...with her new book *HEALING OUR WORLD: THE OTHER PIECE OF THE PUZZLE*, Dr. Ruwart is well on her way to becoming the Ayn Rand of the '90s. —Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Party nominee for President

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Macho Flash were published by Reason.

I followed these with more articles: *The Militant Mentality*, *The Myth Of Mushrooms In The Night*, *Leveraging Liberty With Language* and *Intellectual Judo*.

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Facts and Figures You Can Use for Liberty

Edited by Dave Walter

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:

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCESSES

Hysteria over pollution and waste disposal issues frequently leads to high-cost "cures" that don't work and involve the government bureaucracy in more decisions made by consumers and producers. We need to step back from dire warnings, such as that recently issued by the Portland Oregonian that 25 percent of landfill space is taken up by dirty disposable diapers. According to William Rathje, director of the University of Arizona's "Garbage Project," diapers made up "no more than one-half of one percent by weight of the average landfill's total solid-waste contents deposited between 1985 and 1989." While participants at a National Audubon Society meeting estimated that fast-food packaging took up 20 percent to 30 percent of land-fill space, Rathje's excavations of actual landfills found they took up "no more than one-third of one percent of the total volume." A new book by Mr. Rathje, "Rubbish," co-authored by Cullen Murphy, managing editor of The Atlantic, notes that the furor over foam cups and containers is misplaced because the making of paper cups consumes about 12 times as much steam and 36 times as much electricity as the foam variety, and "about 580 times the volume of waste paper is produced for the pulp required for the paper cup as compared to the polystyrene requirement for the polyfoam cup."

Wall Street Journal, July 15, 1992.

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"(Senator Al) Gore naively buys into apocalyptic environmentalism, the kind that believes 'saving' the earth requires powerful, Soviet-style bureaucratic controls. It's Marxism with a green face."

Malcolm Forbes, Jr., editor-in-chief, Forbes Magazine, Aug. 3, 1992.

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"EPA is out of control. What do you expect from bureaucrats who get carte blanche from an administrator who believes property rights are a 'quaint anachronism.' Combine that with the 'hang 'em high' mentality and arrogance of government lawyers, operating without adult supervision, and you have a recipe for a disaster."

William P. Pendley, president Mountain States Legal Foundation letter in Forbes, Aug. 3, 1992.

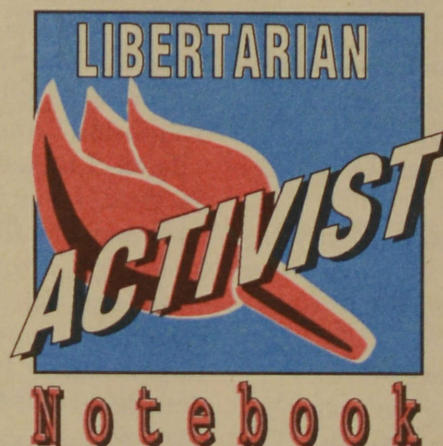
ISSUE: FOREIGN AID

For all the campaign rhetoric about problems that have to be solved in America, our so-called representatives in Washington continue to tax us in order to ship money overseas. On June 25, the House of Representatives appropriated \$13.7 billion for foreign aid in the coming fiscal year. Over 70 percent of the congressmen, including a majority of both Republicans and Democrats, voted "yeah" for HR5368. Nice, yes, that each and every American will make a "gift" of more than \$50 to the world? Beyond the fact that you may not have wished to make such a "gift," does the aid do any good?

Well, according to Robert Avila, who has researched small-business development in the developing world for The Futures Group, "for all the hundreds of billions of dollars sent to the developing world in the last three decades, very little of it ended up in the hands of the people who could put it to work with their own sweat." Doug Ray, who represents an organization with 25 years' experience

planting the seeds of small business development in the Third World, TechnoServe of Norwalk, CT, says, "There is a myth among some folks that people in the developing world are lazy and that if only they would do what we do they'd be fine. Well, the fact is they haven't been encouraged to do what we do. They've been encouraged to do quite the opposite, because in our desire to help we'd give them a quick fix: we ship them some money." It is high time to remove the politicians whose every answer to problems is to 1) dip into the American taxpayer's pocket, and 2) spend the loot in the most wasteful way possible.

Article in D&B Reports, July/August 1992.



ISSUE: DEFENSE POLICY

The Reagan administration was well-known for the defense buildup that many observers believe brought communism to its knees, even if it drove the U.S. to virtual bankruptcy. Now that the Soviet Union has collapsed, at least one Reagan official, Doug Bandow, a former special assistant to President Reagan, wonders why the Pentagon still wants a \$290 billion budget. He sees it as "the defense bureaucracy . . . desperately seeking alternative missions to justify its continued existence."

Bandow urges an end to "pork barrel mentality" and states that the U.S. should turn in its world policeman badge: "With the end of communism and the Soviet threat, the U.S. can again become . . . a normal country, a republic rather than an empire. Will the world still be full of tragedy? Of course. But the ultimate responsibility of this government is to protect the freedoms, lives, and wealth of its people. And, as George Washington recognized in his farewell address, that is best achieved by avoiding conflicts that don't concern the U.S., rather than making them America's own. The U.S. 'is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all,' observed John Quincy Adams 171 years ago, 'but she goes not abroad, in search of monsters to destroy.' It is time to rediscover the Founders' vision for America."

Doug Bandow's op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, June 25, 1992.

ISSUE:

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

Government regulations throw a strangle hold on the economic affairs of American workers, consumers, and employers. The cost to support the regulatory system is truly mind-boggling, according to Research Recommendations, the newsletter of the National Institute of Business Management: "Rochester Institute of Technology says all expenses associated with regulation exceeded \$400 billion in 1991. This works out to \$4,200 per family per year! The cost just to administer federal regulations is \$13 billion per year. The new Americans with Disabilities Act will cost \$20 billion per year in compliance costs. Clean Air regulations add another \$25.6 billion to the cost of doing business. A University of Washington study points out the Environmental Protection Agency budget alone has increased 31 percent since 1988." While protection from fraud and trespass is what Americans traditionally expect from government, it is increasingly clear that fraud and trespass are what government does to Americans.

Research Recommendations, June 8, 1992.

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It wouldn't be hard to find a small businessman driven to bankruptcy with the help of government regulations. The following is typical: "I . . . lived with federal, state, and local rules that were all passed with the objective of helping employees, protecting the environment, raising tax dollars for schools, etc. While I never have doubted the worthiness of any of these goals, the concept that eludes legislators is: 'Can we make consumers pay the higher prices for the increased operating costs that accompany public regulation and government reporting requirements with reams of red tape.' It is a simple concern that is nonetheless often ignored by legislators." This businessman's Connecticut hotel went bankrupt due to the recession and these regulations "that drive operating costs and financing charges beyond what a small business can handle."

Ironically, this sad tale is told by former senator, and Democratic presidential candidate, George McGovern. Says McGovern, "I also wish that during the years I was in public office, I had had this firsthand experience about the difficulties business people face every day. That knowledge would have made me a better U.S. senator and a more understanding presidential candidate. We intuitively know that to create job opportunities we need entrepreneurs who will risk their capital against an expected payoff. Too often, however, public policy does not consider whether we are choking off those opportunities." Welcome to the real world, George. Let us assure you that Libertarian public policy recognizes this fact and that we are most anxious to send every last congressman out into the world to see if they can learn any lessons in trying to meet a payroll and earn an honest living.

Sen. McGovern's op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, June 1, 1992.

ISSUE: EDUCATION

As the educational choice movement gains momentum as more and more parents realize that public education is failing their children, the opponents' arguments get more and more self-serving. Martha C. Brown, a former teacher who is now an education consultant in Olympia Fields, IL, writes of the increasing desperation of a Wisconsin teachers' union spokesperson commenting on the recent Wisconsin Supreme Court decision upholding the right of poor Milwaukee parents to choose private schools paid for with tax dollars: "The precedent would start and just snowball."

Comments Ms. Brown, "Despite the inevitable challenges ahead, the snowball could turn into an avalanche capable of demolishing an already weakened public school wall. Since Day One of the choice movement we've heard laments that 'Choice will destroy public schools!' It sounds more convincing every year—a ringing indictment of public schools, no different from 'if we take down the wall, they'll all leave.' There's no better argument for dismantling the wall that denies millions of U.S. children and their parents the freedom to choose good education at reasonable cost."

Martha C. Brown's op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, June 25, 1992.

**Next Month in
the NEWS:
A Special
Campaign '92
Issue**

In the Aftermath of the LA Riots: It's Time for the Real Problems to Be Addressed

By George L. O'Brien
Internal Education Director

The vivid scenes of looting and destruction in LA following the Rodney King beating trial shocked the country. But when we ask, "Why did it happen?" the answers generally given are inadequate and frequently self-serving.

One thing most people are clear about is that the acquittal of the police officers was simply a trigger rather than a cause. Many people from all walks of life were upset with what seemed to them a great injustice, but few of them burned their neighborhoods or engaged in looting and violence.

An Age of Neglect?

The response of the pundits has been predictable. Left liberals blame racism and the "neglect of the cities" by 12 years of Republican presidents. They suggest that the answer is a major increase in "social spending" and even more money given to the government school systems.

Even if the federal government were not running upwards of a \$400 billion deficit, this approach does not seem to be all that promising.

According to Jonathan Marshall, economics editor of the San Francisco Chronicle:

"Regardless of what one thinks of the merits or adequacy of anti-poverty programs, however, a look at the actual spending record shows that most held their own in the Reagan-Bush era and some even enjoyed huge increases in real, or inflation adjusted dollars.

"For five major spending programs—Aid to Families with Dependent Children (welfare), food stamps, child nutrition, Medicaid, and housing assistance—real spending levels increased from 4.4 percent to 63.4 percent between fiscal year 1981, the last Carter budget, and fiscal 1990. (Since then, spending has ballooned further because of the recession.) Real spending per person in poverty for those programs rose from \$1,725 to \$2,099 during that period, according to an analysis by the Ways and Means Committee."

John Cogan of the Hoover Institute comments, "It's hard to make the case that these (anti-poverty) programs were cut back. The number of people receiving subsidized housing went up by a third from 1981 to 1989." (Total spending on housing went from \$11 billion in 1981 to \$19 billion in 1991.)

Secretary of Housing Jack Kemp points out that the federal government has spent upwards of \$3 trillion on "social welfare" over the past 26 years, so it is unlikely that a few more billion dollars is going to solve these problems. As D. Lee Bawden, director of the Human Resources Policy Center at the liberal Urban Policy Institute, put it, "One of the things that's frustrating is we can't do a lot through government policy to change those trends."

Crisis of Values?

While left liberals are convinced that the problems of the inner city are due to inadequate government spending and con-

trols, conservatives generally focus on a "crisis in values" which led to the silliness over whether Murphy Brown is setting a bad example by having a child out of wedlock.

Some conservatives also talk about the problem of a decline in the work ethic, but the left liberals do make a good case that it is hard to apply the work ethic when there are so few jobs available.

Clearly there is some kind of crisis of values if you believe in property rights. Respectable people do not burn down their neighborhoods, loot stores, and beat up innocent passers-by. However, the conservatives are more interested in the number of unwed mothers and female heads of households.

Crime and Hope

Most people agree that the real solution to poverty is real jobs. Unfortunately, the kind of low skill, high paying manufacturing jobs that were available in the 25 years following World War II are gone forever from the U.S. Even the useful process of creating "enterprise zones" is unlikely to dramatically improve things.

Nonetheless, there are jobs in other areas. The problem is that business continues to move out of neighborhoods such as south-central LA. The number-one reason is the fear of crime.

Professor Robert Q. Wilson of UCLA points out that the crime rate in inner city LA is a full three times what it was in 1965 prior to the Watts riots. The result is an almost palpable sense of fear. No one in their right mind will invest in areas that are virtual war zones. In the 1960s, gangs were armed with switch blades and zip guns; now they have automatic weapons.

The level of crime and violence has led to a siege mentality on the part of the police. Many officers act like they are in Vietnam, with an indifference to mishandling innocent people and examples of excessive force. At the same time, minority victims of crime feel they are ignored by the police. Both the police and Korean shop owners end up treating all African-Americans as if they were potential criminals. In some areas, there has been a nearly complete breakdown in cooperation between the police and the community.

Unfortunately, neither the conservatives nor the left liberals have any solutions. The conservatives talk about "law and order," tougher sentencing, etc., but they have not shown that this helps. In California, the population of the prison system has gone up over three times in the last eight years with no appreciable impact on the crime rate. The high cost of prisons precludes further vast increases in the prison population.

Left liberals have even less to say about crime, since their hypothesis is that it is merely a result of poverty due to racism (and a failure of the capitalist system, no doubt). Few people believe that increasing welfare and wasting even more money on government schools is going to reduce the crime rate. Yet left liberals have little else to offer.

Is it any wonder that both sides would rather debate Murphy Brown than what is really happening?



ONCE AGAIN...THE VISION THING

The Role of Drug Prohibition

With all the commentary on the "causes" of the social problems in south-central LA, what is ignored is the role of drug prohibition. If anything, most commentators repeat the tired clichés about how it is necessary to remove drugs in order to solve social problems. However, a case can be made that the drug war plays a pivotal role in creating the other problems we are witnessing.

Let us look at the problem of no jobs. A key reason why there are no jobs is that the crime rate is so high in those areas. Why is the crime rate so high? Historically, there is a direct correlation between the price of drugs and the level of crime. When it comes to property crimes, most of them are related to addicts robbing people in order to afford their "fixes." The price of their drugs is kept artificially high through the attempts to enforce prohibition. The result is more crime.

Even those people who do have jobs end up having to pay much higher prices when shopping due to the vendors' being forced to self insure and being unable to get financing due to the crime rate. They cannot get taxi service because cabs refuse to go into the neighborhood. Bus stops and subway stops are too terrifying to even contemplate using. All of this goes back to the impact of the drug war on inducing crime.

Urban violence is primarily related to youth gangs in conflict over drugs. The escalation of fire power (from switch blades to Uzis) is a direct result of their involvement in the drug trade. Unbelievable profits go to the most ruthless and violent. As long as drugs are illegal, there will be people who will take the risks involved when the rewards are so incredible.

The result has been that the police are totally overwhelmed. Wilson notes that the police are in constant fear for their lives as they know they are up against opponents who are often better armed than they are. The frustration leads to overreaction by even the best of them. Somehow, civility and respect for the rights of the accused gets lost when one sees

oneself in the middle of a war. Yet every attempt to "win" the drug war only leads to a greater escalation of violence.

One of the side effects of the war on drugs has been the vast number of innocent people who are arrested as "suspected" drug dealers or users. (If you are a well dressed black male, you must be a dealer. If you are badly dressed, you must be a user.) The result is a constant sense of dread by African-Americans and a total breakdown in community support for the police.

The drug war has had a terrible effect on the inner city schools. Drug dealers have figured out that underage kids are treated differently by the courts, so they are recruited to be "runners." Kids are recruited as "pushers" to hook their schoolmates and are armed to the teeth. This does not help the education process. (By contrast, alcohol producers do not need to use kids as dealers.)

All of this leads to a sense of despair and hopelessness. In such a world, it is not surprising that people give up and start using drugs themselves. Nor is it surprising that many youths turn to drug dealing as the only way to make enough money to get out. Of course, few ever get out.

Even if there were a revival of reasonably paying blue collar jobs, the allure of "easy money" from the drug trade would continue. The drug trade effectively crowds out virtually every other social alternative. This means the crime, violence, and hopelessness will continue as long as drug prohibition remains in effect.

Conclusion

The riots in south-central LA were merely a flare-up of a condition which has been going on for a long time. The looting and violence did not start with the Rodney King beating verdict and did not end when the military pulled out. It was simply a continuation of the drug wars.

Unfortunately, most Americans are not ready to deal with this. They still imagine that it is the drugs themselves that cause the problems, rather than the fact that drugs are illegal. Yet unless something is done, the problems will continue to get worse.

The Right to Keep and Bear Squirrels

By Dave Barry

I was not particularly alarmed when I received word of the assault with the frozen kangaroo tails. Perhaps you read about this. Here is the Associated Press report, which was sent to me by many alert readers (I am not making any of the following news reports up):

"ALICESPRINGS, Australia—Aborigines attacked three policemen with frozen kangaroo tails bought at a local store . . . A police spokesman said the kangaroo tails won't be introduced as evidence because they were eaten by the aborigines after the alleged attack."

As I say, this report did not alarm me. "Sounds like a routine assault with frozen kangaroo tails that were later eaten by the alleged assailants, or, in standard police-

radio code, a 10-398," I recall saying to myself.

Then readers sent me this AP report: "SACRAMENTO, CA—A man who hit his wife with frozen squirrels was jailed on suspicion of spousal abuse, police said Monday."

The report states that the couple was having an argument, and the man "walked into the kitchen and took several frozen squirrels from the freezer," then struck his wife with them.

"It was unclear why the squirrels were in the freezer," states the report, thus proving that American journalism remains a haven for people with peach pits for brains. I mean, where else are you going to keep squirrels? Your sock drawer?

Anyway, I attached no great significance to either the squirrel or the kanga-

roo-tail assault, until readers started sending me another AP report, which began:

"CEDAR RAPIDS, IA—A Cedar Rapids man was charged with assault after he allegedly hit another man with a frozen fish."

The report states that the men had been arguing, and the assailant "armed himself with a fish from his freezer and started swinging."

At this point I was starting to become mildly alarmed. I was thinking, OK, maybe we need to take some action, such as imposing a five-day "cooling off" period on the purchase of freezers. Then I received a report from the San Jose Mercury-News, headlined:

MAN ATTACKED WITH GOLDFISH

The report states: "A 28-year-old San Francisco man got so mad at his roommate

that he tried to stuff a live goldfish in the roommate's mouth." The roommate was treated at a medical center and released. The goldfish died.

Now I was really worried. There's an old saying in the law-enforcement profession: "When the criminals cross the fine line between assaults with frozen fish and assaults with live ones, then it is only a matter of time before they start using members of the marsupial family." And sure enough, I received a news report from the Ventura County (CA) Star-Free Press, headlined:

MAN ARRESTED FOR WIELDING OPOSSUM AS WEAPON

This report states that two Oxnard, CA, officers on patrol encountered a man who came at them wielding a live opossum, "its teeth gnashing alarmingly." The officers apprehended the man, but during the struggle, "the opossum broke free and disappeared into the night." I doubt that they'll ever apprehend it. By now it's probably in another state, disguised as an otter, or an inexpensive hairpiece.

And then I received this chilling report from the Syracuse (NY) Herald-Journal, headlined:

WOMAN HURLS DEAD RACCOON AT LAWYER

The story states that a woman was arrested following a scuffle with her neighbor, who is a lawyer (this occurred, by the way, on "Pork Street"). The woman claims the lawyer knocked her down onto a road kill, so she threw it at him.

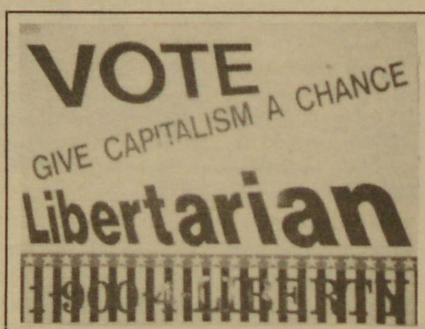
My reaction to this tragic and totally unnecessary incident—I'm sure you feel the same way—was shock and anger.

"Wait a minute," I said. "Are you telling me it's against the law to throw dead raccoons at lawyers?"

This is just another example of how the healthy gum tissue of our liberty is being eaten away by the periodontal disease of government regulation. We are no longer allowed to exercise the fundamental human right to throw dead raccoons at lawyers, and meanwhile criminals walk our streets, flaunting their opossums, openly laughing at us. And I don't have to tell you what it's like to be openly laughed at by an opossum.

So I'm fighting back. That's right: I have purchased a mail-order wolverine. I'll use it if I have to. You can take it from me when you pry my cold, dead fingers out of its mouth.

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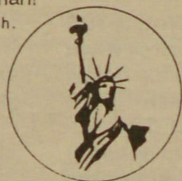
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God bless the Libertarian Party in November.

Quote of the Month

According to an article in the
Salem, OR, Statesman Journal, Jim
Sheppke, the state librarian, said
the state library is divesting itself of
family-history records because:

**The library recently
narrowed its mission:
Its emphasis now is
serving government,
less on serving the pub-
lic.**

Submitted by Jo McIntyre
McMinnville, OR

Got a Quote of the Month?
LP NEWS, P.O. Box 780,
Winchester, VA 22604

Marrou/Lord TV Ads Tested—Now Ready

By Steven Givot

Libertarian campaigns have had considerable experience in producing and airing television ads. With few exceptions, the procedure has been something like this: 1) the campaign discusses the sort of ads it thinks would be effective; 2) the ad is produced, and; 3) the ad is aired.

To date, the results have generally been less than spectacular. This is because the ads are produced based on the whims and hunches of one group, rather than any research as to what would likely appeal to the ad's target audience. The Marrou/Lord Campaign does not intend to make the same mistake again.

In July, the campaign hired professionals to test four Marrou/Lord ads with real people, i.e., a demographically controlled sample of the general population. Two of the ads had already been produced by the campaign. They were shown on videotape, and tested against each other for comparison purposes. The other two ads were new concepts. These were presented as storyboards—still images accompanied with an audio cassette. These two were tested against each other. The samples were balanced for gender, age, and income.

Among the more important results of the tests were the following:

- Few respondents saw the relevance of "freedom" as an issue in the presidential election. The sample group reacted negatively to this issue.
- The issue of high taxes and wasteful government drew little emotional response.
- All but one of the ads were not considered to be extremely unique, important, or believable.
- To various degrees, the ads were considered to be thought-provoking, informative, and interesting. However, they did not rate strongly on most other positive reactions, including trustworthiness.
- The ads created minimal negative response.

One ad did particularly better than all others in almost every regard. It is one of the new ads. This ad is currently in production. Read this carefully: 50 percent of those surveyed said that they were either extremely or somewhat likely to vote for Marrou having seen this ad!

After seeing the best ad, 33 percent of the sample said they were more likely to vote for Marrou, while 8 percent said they were less likely to vote for Marrou. The results for the three other ads were 25 percent vs. 29 percent, 38 percent vs. 29 percent, and 21 percent vs. 46 percent.

What we have learned from this testing

is that for a relatively small amount of money, we can obtain important information about any given ad without spending the money to produce it. We also learned that the sorts of ads that we have been dreaming up in a vacuum for years can leave 21 percent of the viewers more likely to vote for us, but 46 percent of the viewers less likely to vote for us. We should test all ads before airing them.

Another aspect of the test was determination of which groups were attracted to our candidate. We obtained important demographic data on age, gender, and income which we can use to determine where to buy ad time this autumn.

By the time you read this, we will have produced the best of the ads. We are now in the process of surveying the demographics of various television programs to see which match up best against the test results.

We understand that various local and state organizations wish to raise money to air the ad in their territory. We encourage this activity. However, it makes little sense to spend thousands of dollars to air a well-tested ad by having local activists guess at where it will be best received. Just because you like to watch "Star Trek" doesn't mean the ad would appeal to that program's viewers. The advertising chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Buying the wrong time for the right ad achieves nothing.

By early September we intend to be able to provide groups which have raised money with: 1) the ad; 2) advice on target demographics, and; 3) suggested programs. Due to federal law, it may be necessary for us to have our headquarters get involved in the administration (but not selection) of your local ad purchases. We will know more about this at that time.

I encourage anyone interested in running our ad to contact me, in writing, as soon as possible—now! My address is: Steven Givot, Route 7, One Middlebury Rd., Barrington Hills, IL 60010.

Campaign Sound Bites

I'm glad Bush has finally recognized that free trade is the most effective route to global harmony and abundance. Nations which trade have historically not fought. And opening our markets is the best way to help the people in emerging nations become prosperous.

We will not have a true free trade zone until we have a free market in labor as well as in goods. Workers in each country must be free to offer their labor anywhere in the free trade zone. Free immigration for workers is a necessary corollary to free trade.

It's time to recognize that we are one world, one global market, and that trade barriers decrease everyone's standard of living. It makes no sense to repeat the mistakes of protectionism with North American, European, and Pacific trading blocks instead of individual nations. We need completely free trade, and if I am elected that is what we will have.

Andre Marrou

In a recent column on my Libertarian candidacy for president, George Will demonstrated just how out-of-touch the Washington establishment, of which he is a member, has become. While people desperately seek alternatives to the failed politics of Democrats and Republicans, Will remains imprisoned inside the beltway, trapped by the idea that more government can solve our problems.

What Will and the rest of the Wash-

ington media seem unable to grasp is that government is the problem. It has become too large, too expensive, and too powerful for a free society.

Will commented on my "scary certitude" that big government is bad and we'd all be better off with a lot less of it. In his diatribe, he calls my statement that "government power is opposed to individual liberty" a "sophomoric notion." That would certainly surprise the signers of the Declaration of Independence, many of whom subscribed to the dictum, "That government is best which governs least."

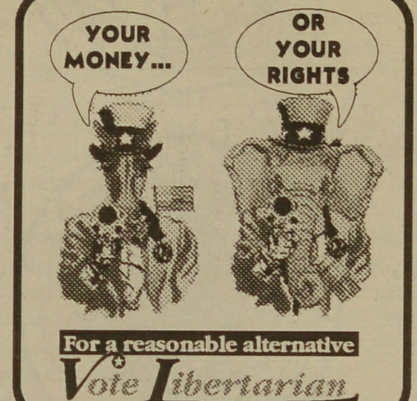
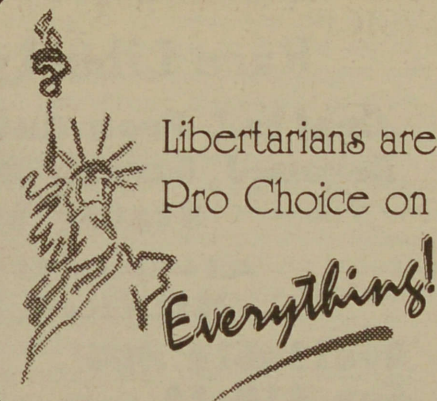
If Will is scared by my certitude that our government is making things worse for us, Americans should be scared by the certitude of Will and others that it is not. In spite of the damage caused by seven decades of big government, they continue to hope that more government action might somehow solve our problems. The facts say otherwise . . .

In his article, Will nibbles around the edges of our platform because he's unable to take a big bite of our central issue—freedom.

Will's attack shows that he considers the Libertarian Party a real threat to political business as usual. After all, you don't kick a passing dog for no reason. You kick the one you fear may bite you.

Liberty: if it's worth fighting for and dying for, it's certainly worth voting for.

Andre Marrou



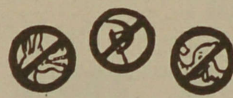
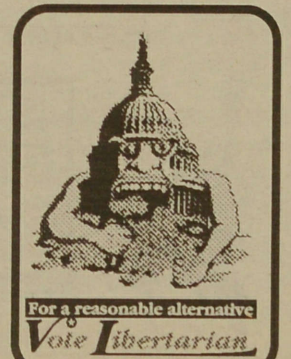
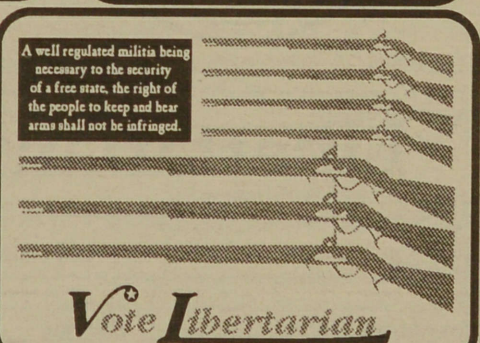
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(BACK)

Marrou Lord Campaign

1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-546-6095

College Libertarian NEWS

Fall '92 Organizing Tour

LP Field Organizer Joseph Knight has scheduled 49 campuses for his fall semester organizing effort, and he said that an additional 30 to 60 campuses may be visited by trained interns. Recruitment of volunteers for advance work and bookings began in late July. Based on results from his Spring '92 tour, Knight said he expected at least 30 new college libertarian clubs from his effort and expected the interns to have similar results.

New Chartering Policy

Steve Dasbach, area manager for organizing, has approved new guidelines for College Libertarian charters. A charter will be issued when: 1) three or more students who have signed the membership pledge have voted a club into existence; and 2) the constitution and by-laws of the club state, or will state, that the club will be a Libertarian Party affiliate. Chartering fees will no longer be required and organizers will be able to issue charters in the field. If your club meets these criteria and has not received a charter, please write to College Libertarians as soon as possible.

Clippings Sought

Has there been an article or editorial about your club or activities in your student paper? If so, College Libertarians would like an original, or clean copy, so they can be included in our campus media packets.

Please send them to: Joseph Knight, Box 698, Flora Vista, NM 87415.

Spring Break Bonanza Planned

College Libertarians will hopefully be sending organizing teams with Campus Survey Units to three or four of America's Spring break hot-spots during the Spring 1993 school break season. The trained teams will spend about three weeks in each of the selected locations. During Spring break these areas are visited by hundreds of thousands of students. The project is expected to result in new contacts from hundreds of campuses and it is probable that several new clubs can be formed on the spot!

We are looking for volunteer organizers, local hosts, and commitments for financial backing. Call Steve Dasbach at 219-432-7145.

Super Volunteer Needed

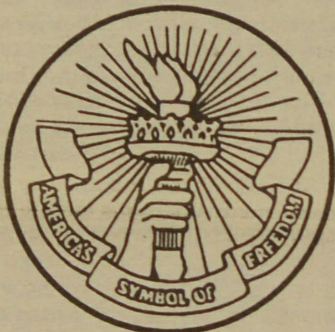
Joe Knight is looking for a coordinator. He needs someone who is able to devote several hours a week and is willing to make a reasonably long term commitment. This person would make advance arrangements by telephone for field work, pack and ship campus starter kits and info packets, forward mail, and perform various other tasks. Knight said this would be a very demanding job, but the person who fills it would be making a significant contribution to the campus program.

Letters of inquiry and/or application should be sent to Knight at the address above.

Coming Soon:

Alumni Support Committees

College Libertarians will soon publish a list of campuses that have clubs or organizing in progress. Libertarian alumni will then be invited to write or call for the campus contacts so they may offer moral and/or financial support.



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Address _____

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

Employer _____ Occupation _____

☐ I want to join the Libertarian Party as a national member and receive LP NEWS. I wish to join in the category indicated: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

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

Signature _____
(required for membership only)

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☐ \$250 ☐ or \$25/month Sponsor
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☐ \$25 Subscribing

☐ Payment enclosed (Make check payable to Libertarian Party)

Bill my: ☐ MC ☐ VISA Expires _____

Acct. # _____

Signature _____

☐ I am joining the monthly Liberty Pledge Program in the amount indicated above. The Liberty Pledge News will be sent each month.
☐ Please send a reminder notice each month.
☐ Please charge my credit card (number above).
☐ Send me information on automatic checking withdrawal.



GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES

The United States Postal Service requires us to notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 per year is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for your employer and occupation.

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS • 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE • Washington, DC 20003

Letters: Questions, Answers, and Comments

Sheehan

I write as a former international terrorist and professional killer. For five and a half years I trained in the basics of the delivery of death from the air, sea, and land. In short, I was an officer in the U.S. Navy. Eventually recognizing my path as an evil one, I resigned from the service.

Of all government institutions, the most fraudulent, expensive, and of course the most deadly, is the assembly of assassins constituting the "defense" establishment. The Libertarian call for an end to U.S. intervention abroad is an important first step towards reining in this abomination.

Men and women in uniform take an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic." Not one of the government's wars has been for this purpose and it would take a tremendous leap of faith to imagine such a scenario.

The LP NEWS is to be commended for its coverage of Paul Sheehan and his principled dissent. When men and women in uniform recognize the error of their ways and speak out we must support them. We must do so whether they remain in the service, go AWOL, mutiny, or sabotage their weapons. It is our historical imperative to "aid, abet, and harbor" such visionaries.

William G. Kelsey
Elgin, TX

Notebook

Dave Walter's Notebook in the August 1992 NEWS is just the sort of things we need in our discussions with others. When I read "Issue: Privatization" it rang very close to home. As recently as a few weeks ago I was almost laughed out of a room for proposing that the highways might be better off if they were run by private entrepreneurs.

This is a valuable service to Libertarians "in the trenches"—I hope that the notebook is part of each NEWS from here on out!

Pete Thomas
Decatur, GA

Responsible

I recall someone within our ranks using the phrase "fiscally conservative and socially liberal" in a minimalist effort to describe libertarianism. I never felt very comfortable with that definition because, to the uninitiated, this could easily be interpreted to mean that we are some sort of a cross between Republicans and Democrats (not a pleasant thought).

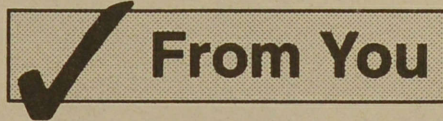
I was somewhat relieved recently when I saw that the phrase had apparently evolved to "fiscally conservative and socially tolerant." A definite improvement, although I'm not sure what the term "socially tolerant" will mean to the general populace. But I still feel uneasy about pinning the "fiscally conservative" label on our party. I am convinced that in the not-too-distant future the Republicans will be hounded by the "c" word just as the Democrats are with the "l" word.

I recommend replacing the Republican "c" word with the Libertarian "r" word, responsible—neither the Republicans nor the Democrats could get away with describing themselves as fiscally responsible.

Curtis Coates
Asheville, NC

Republic-rats

We refer to the government party as either Demorepublicans or Republicrats. I submit the



Letters from members and readers

latter term will more accurately convey the true nature of the government party—Republic-rats.

Perr Cardestam
Mountain View, CA

Merit Pay

Why is the NEWS encouraging merit pay for public school teachers ("NEWS Notes," July 1992)?

Libertarianism is concerned with reducing the power of government in order to increase the liberty of each person. How will merit pay for public school teachers reduce the power of government?

Perhaps you are merely concerned with the efficiency of government. How will merit pay for teachers improve the efficiency of public schools?

Quality management expert W. Edwards Deming (who is the guru to Japanese businesses and whose ideas are slowly catching on in the U.S.) opposes merit pay. Merit pay systems generally foster inefficiency and lower quality by decreasing self-esteem, internal motivation, dignity, and cooperation.

I have been a faculty member at four state universities and I know that merit pay for teachers lowers the quality of education. Insofar as merit pay is based on evaluations by supervisors, it encourages teachers to be obsequious. (Thus it increases the power of higher level government bureaucrats and reduces the liberty of lower level bureaucrats.) Insofar as merit pay is based on evaluations by students, it encourages teachers to make courses easier.

Libertarians ought to advocate voucher systems and other forms of privatization, which will increase the freedom of choice and make education better and more efficient.

Charles Sunshine
Memphis, TN

Free Zones

Most of what Richard Boddie had to say (July 1992 NEWS) strikes a responsive chord in me. I do have some problems, however, with his suggestions for "free zones."

Just how free are these zones to be? If they are free from all taxes and regulations does that mean they are free from those regulations designed to reduce the incidence of murder, rape, fraud, extortion, and armed robbery? If there are to be such regulations as these, who will enforce such regulations? Who will pay these enforcers? Who will pay for the use and maintenance of sanitary sewers; or are there to be any? Who will own, repair, and pay for the use of the streets? Just how will the tax exemptions work? If one lives in such a zone and works inside one, what taxes will one pay?

Millard H. (Miff) Perstein
Sedona, AZ

Fill In Phil

If every Libertarian gave all of his or her money to the LP presidential campaign, it would not be enough to win the election.

As long as we keep trying to compete with the Republicans and Democrats, the same way they compete, we are doomed to fail.

They simply have more money than we do, so we have to compete in a way that uses something we have more of than they do.

The only thing we have that they don't have is the logical solution to the country's problem. Now we have to do something different to get the word out, and fast.

Everybody reading this, please do the following: Write a letter to Phil Donahue, asking him, in your own words, when he plans to interview the presidential candidate from the third largest political party in the country who can explain how to balance the budget, reduce the deficit, improve education, lower crime, improve the economy, lower health care costs, and lower taxes, all at the same time.

Let's do it!

Sanford Koplowitz
Pompano Beach, FL

Goals

Having run for both gubernatorial and congressional seats, I still maintain that our goals should not be to become political figures, but to use the political process as an opportunity to sway people toward liberty.

More and more I begin to notice that headlines decry "victory" in winning government positions, as if that were our all-important goal. Or, as in the case of the Reason magazine, pride is displayed that its editor has made Quayle's Space-Policy board. Lah-dee-dah. To me, that is not so much a victory than if Quayle had denounced Robert W. Poole as a liberty monger in front of a very large national audience.

We ought to re-examine our goals. "Victory" for us should be that the war on drugs is stopped; that property rights are once more affirmed; that we may go about more freely and can trade with other unhampered-by-government agencies. Every inch we gain toward individual liberty is victory. When I read the establishment newspapers and find editorials taking libertarian positions, I feel like "victory." Winning the fight for liberty is not winning political appointments, but changing our authoritarian, fascist society into a libertarian one. When I read headlines in libertarian papers glorying in capturing government posts, I feel very apprehensive.

Are we in danger of becoming like other political parties? Or does our party exist because we consider it a tool in the fight for freedom?

Helmut Fritz Prochnow
Spring Hill, FL

Be Careful

In response to C. J. Swet's letter (August 1992 NEWS):

No C.J., you are not alone. There is, as you suggest, great diversity of opinion with the LP on many issues. However, we are united in our view that personal liberty and non-initiation of force are the basis of the society in which we wish to live.

I, too, am sometimes disturbed at views expressed in the NEWS. Not that these opinions are published in our newsletter, but that some of these extreme positions are used by our political adversaries to discredit our party and make us appear to the public as lunatics, idealists, and even anarchists.

In particular I would like to note my personal objection to an oft stated goal of the party, which I have seen published in the NEWS and know has been the cause of much derision and rebuke. In fact, a recent

article in the NEWS defended this position, as many others within the party also take exception to it. This "goal" is the dismantling of the state.

The recent article defended this and several other extreme positions as being indicative of our view that government intervention and even government itself is not, as a matter of course, justified. I understand and accept this line of reasoning intellectually, but in the present condition of human civilization, and for the foreseeable future, the state is necessary. Not the bloated, intrusive, leviathan that is our present government, state and federal, but a state as envisioned by our forefathers. A state that protects our property and liberties, not one that defrauds and lies to us while stealing our wealth and rights.

Therefore, to boldly and baldly declare that it is the goal of the party to "dismantle the state" is irresponsible and misrepresentative of the bulk of our membership. This one particular statement is cause for more alarm on the part of the public at large than anything else in our platform or positions. I wish it were eliminated or qualified in some way.

We know we are not a party of lunatics and extremists. We should be very careful to present ourselves in a manner that does not give our adversaries a means to discredit us.

Steven A. Rosile
Lawrence, KS

Rand

C.J. Swet's comments are very welcome. Frankly, most Americans tend to reject the coldness and harshness of Ayn Rand's objectivism as C.J. does. If utopia were an option, all could and would fend for themselves, achieving whatever their maximum potential measured by whatever yardstick they chose. The real world isn't like that, never will be, and C.J. and I and millions of potential American libertarians do care about those inevitable damaged lives.

For this party to scorn such compassion (which, after all, is simply the yardstick we have chosen) is akin to those career-oriented women who scorn their sisters who have chosen the less objective means of attaining personal satisfaction in the home. To be accepted by mainstream America, we can only insist on keeping government from intervening in failed lives, we cannot even suggest that individuals or communities should do the same.

Richard Moroney
Manlius, NY

Limited-Liability

C.J. Swet questions limited-liability laws. Suppose I form a company with some investors and in all my contracts with suppliers and customers, we state that liability is limited to the assets of the firm and not the shareholders. Those opposed to the concept need not deal with the firm. But it is inconvenient to sign the contract each time an item is bought from the firm, so the contract is put on the package. The "Ltd." or "Inc." on the firm name is a shorthand for the contract. When a corporation commits a crime, then the liability of the directors is no longer limited, and in a libertarian world, the shareholders might be liable as well. The company could take out insurance to protect them. We need to differentiate the concept of a corporation from today's laws, which may not be libertarian.

Fred Foldvary
Alexandria, VA

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CompuServe: 71610,3614
Fax: Call to arrange

Upcoming Events

September 18-20, 1992:

FIJAconII (FIJA Convention), LeBaron Hotel, Dallas, TX; 406-793-5550 or 800-TEL-JURY.

October 24, 1992:

New Hampshire LP Convention, Merrimack Inn and Conference Center, Merrimack; 800-559-LPNH (in NH) or 603-627-3666 (outside NH).

November 11-14, 1992:

Drug Policy Foundation's Sixth International Conference on Drug Policy Reform, Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, DC; 202-895-1634.

April 24-25, 1993 (tentative):

Region 6 Caucus and Activist's Conference, Framingham, MA; 508-922-9251.

Music City News



Scott Benson, right, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives in Tennessee, and Mark Cole, second from right, Benson's campaign manager, recently manned a booth at the largest shopping mall in Nashville. The outreach effort produced such positive results that shopping malls will be an important marketing location for the Benson campaign.

Benson, a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, is currently a commercial airline pilot. His campaign material prominently notes that "Scott is not a professional politician."

For information, write The Benson Campaign, P.O. Box 8154, Hermitage, TN 37076, or call 615-758-5906.

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