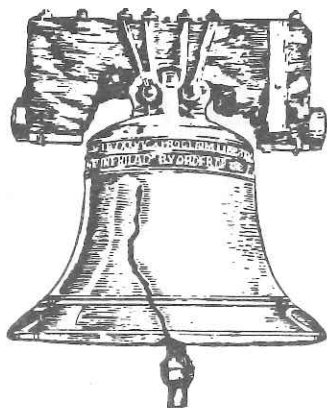


July 1988



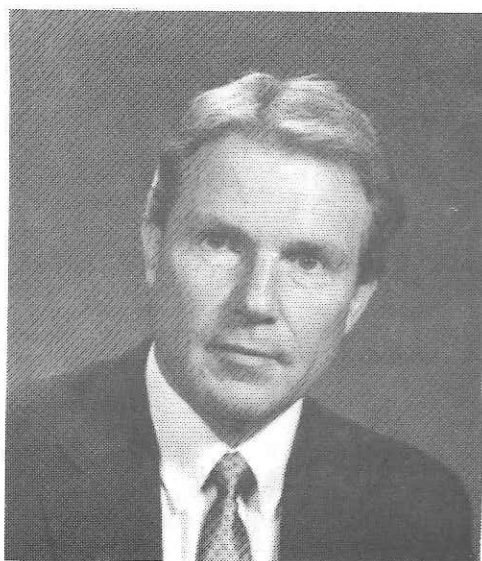
Sandhills Libertarian Gazette

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBERTARIANS IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MIDLANDS

Campaign News Update



Ron Paul



Geb Sommer

Ron Paul and Geb Sommer, the Libertarian candidates for President and U.S. Congress (2nd district), have been campaigning quite actively during the past few months, and other Libertarian candidates are also gearing up their campaigns.

GEB SOMMER is an A.T. & T. engineer from Lexington who was nominated at the S.C. Libertarian Party State Convention on April 9. He began campaigning in February, including a prominent appearance in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Columbia (see photo on page 3). He also participated in the July 4th Gilbert Peach Festival and plans to travel extensively throughout the district in his 1948 Ford, which is really an eye-catcher.

Democrat Jim Leventis seems to agree with Phil Spence on most of the issues. The only issue seems to be Spence's health, which Leventis denies he wants to mention. Geb Sommer is the only candidate who is really speaking out on the issues: high taxes, out-of-control spending, deficits, inflation, an irrational foreign policy, and government meddling in the personal affairs of individuals.

RON PAUL, a physician from Lake City, Texas, had already been campaigning for six months when he was nominated at the Libertarian National Convention last September. Since then, he has campaigned full-time, including February appearances in Columbia and Greenville. He has appeared on C-Span, Cable News Network, Buckley's *Firing Line*, and many local TV and radio stations. He has already received more media coverage than previous Libertarian presidential candidates received during their entire campaigns.

A few weeks ago, Ron Paul spoke to 700 members of the American Liberty Association in Dallas and received four standing ovations. On April 24, an editorial in the *Wichita Eagle-Beacon* stated that "Paul should be taken seriously because he sounds an important warning about the current direction of U.S. politics... The most compelling part of the Libertarian message is the fear that Americans are losing their love of freedom."

Other candidates nominated in April include John Heaton, who is running for Butler Derrick's seat in the 3rd congressional district. Heaton is campaigning virorously and is the only candidate to take a position on the renaming of Clarks Hill Lake. This has endeared him to those groups opposed to renaming the lake.

Bill Griffin is running for the State House in district 88 (Lexington County), and Mark Johnson is seeking the seat in House district 71 (Richland County). Johns Island resident H.B. Limehouse is running for the Charleston County Council. Other candidates may be nominated when the State Convention reconvenes on August 14 in Columbia (see page 2).

6 Things YOU Can Do

The coming months offer a new opportunity for giant steps on the road to Liberty. Please help us fight for *YOUR* freedom. Here are just a few things you can do:

- 1) Sign one of the enclosed petitions, get family and friends to sign the other two, and send them in right away. We need them by July 23. Call 796-3161 for more petitions. If you can, also write to Vicki Harian, Presidential Debate Chairperson, League of Women Voters, 1730 M St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Tell her that you think Ron Paul should be included in the debates.
- 2) Write a letter-to-the-editor soon, and send it to your daily newspaper. Mention the Libertarian Party and our candidates in the letter. Send another one in September. If you need help, contact one of the persons listed on page 4.
- 3) Send us some money for our booth at the State Fair. We have enough money for the booth rent, but we must purchase supplies in the near future.
- 4) Volunteer a few hours of your time to spend at the fair booth in October (you get a free gate pass if you volunteer). Call us at 755-2405 if you can help.
- 5) Volunteer two days of your time in September or October to help with campaign-related activities. See page 4 for a list of persons to contact if you can help.
- 6) Tell your friends about Libertarianism and about our campaigns. Let us know if you need pamphlets to hand out or bumper stickers for your car. Think of your own creative ways to help, but whatever you do, **MAKE A COMMITMENT TO LIBERTY!**

NEWS BRIEFS

The S.C. Association of Taxpayers (SCAT) was recently formed in Columbia. Actually, it was previously called the S.C. Citizens for Efficient Government, but it was felt that the new name would better reflect the purpose of the organization. This is one of the groups that fought the city-county sales tax bill earlier this year, and SCAT has tried to publicize waste in the Richland County budget. Most readers will recall that the Libertarian Party spearheaded a large petition drive against the tax bill, which recently died in the Senate. SCAT has no connection with the L.P., but its efforts are appreciated. For information, call Don Weaver (782-6913) or Jan Morris (796-3161).

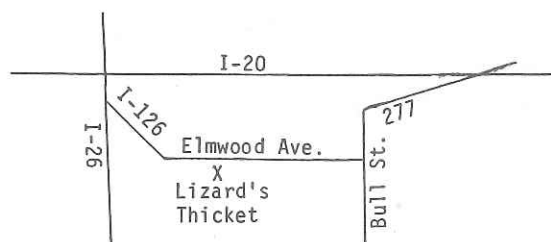
The Lexington County Libertarian Party is continuing its petition drive against the proposed mobile home park ordinance, which would violate the property rights of mobile home park owners in Lexington County by imposing expensive operating and structural requirements. Dozens of petitions have been distributed in Lexington County, but so far the response has been disappointing. According to David Morris, "Even

though most persons may not feel strongly about the rights of mobile home park owners, the attack on property rights should concern all of us, for nobody knows which group will be next. I urge all Lexington County residents to get their friends and neighbors to sign the petition, and mail it in as soon as possible. Call 796-3161 if you need more petitions."

State Meeting to be Held on August 14

The S.C. Libertarian Party will meet on Sunday, August 14 at Lizard's Thicket on Elmwood Avenue in Columbia. All interested persons are invited to come eat at 2 P.M. The meeting will start at 3 P.M. The food is good, and prices are low, so everyone is urged to come early and eat.

At the meeting, the S.C.L.P. will reconvene its state convention in order to consider the nomination of additional candidates to appear on the ballot in November, and future campaign activities will be discussed.



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"A society built on the principle of individual rights rejects the notion that the state should protect a citizen from himself. Government cannot and should not protect against one's own 'unwise' decisions...Once government believes it has an obligation to improve or protect the people physically, it will then claim it can protect them economically and intellectually. It leads to a regimented society, hostile to individuals who cling to the notion that their lives and liberty are their own."

- from Freedom Under Seige, by Dr. Ron Paul

Editorial

Thoughts on Tobacco
and the Post Office

Personal responsibility seems to be out of style these days. It's a basic libertarian premise that individuals should be responsible for the decisions they make. If a person makes a mistake, he or she should not force someone else to pay for it. Insurance is one way of dealing with mistakes; so is charity. However, lawsuits against manufacturers are wrong unless those manufacturers have used fraud in promoting their products.

The Cipollone case proves that many persons will go to great lengths to make someone else pay for their mistakes. Even if cigarette ads were misleading at one time, it's absurd to claim that once a person is hooked on tobacco, there is no way to stop smoking. That is totally untrue. Heroin, cocaine, and alcohol are at least as addictive as nicotine, but people are able to break all these habits. Sometimes, they need help, but it is possible to stop using an addictive substance.

As a physician, I urge my patients to wear seat belts, eat low-cholesterol foods, stop smoking tobacco, stop smoking marijuana, and put sunscreen on their skin when sunbathing. However, they have the right to follow or to ignore my advice. I have no right to force them to act like I want them to, and the government shouldn't force them, either. If someone chooses to follow an unhealthy lifestyle, then they do not have the right to force someone else to pay for it. If I eat high-cholesterol food for many years and end up having a heart attack when I'm 60, I should not be able to collect thousands of dollars from whoever processed all the food I ate (even if I could find them). If the unwise are not accountable for their actions, then there is no such thing as responsibility, and there is no incentive for anyone to be wise.

Similarly, if the Post Office chooses to be irresponsible, waste money, and run itself inefficiently, customers should have the right to seek alternatives. The U.S. Postal Service should not force people to pay for its mistakes. However, there is a law on the books that makes it illegal for anyone to set up a first class mail business.

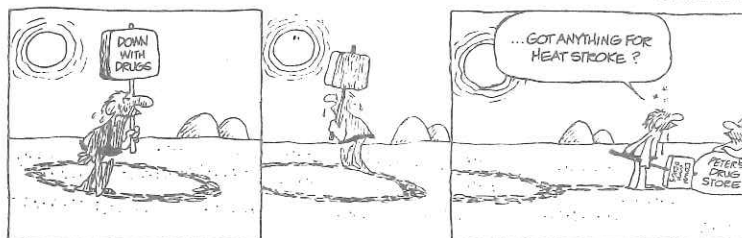
A few years ago, a couple in Rochester, N.Y. proved that first class mail can be delivered faster and at a lower cost than the U.S.P.S. Their business thrived until the government closed them down. For years, libertarians have called for free-market competition in mail delivery. Some postal workers and government bureaucrats may not like the idea, but why should they force us to agree with them?

The postal service, utilities, and other monopolies should be deregulated as soon as possible, so that individual responsibility and efficiency can come into style again.

- D.M.

BC

BY JOHNNY H



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, MARCH 19, 1988, COLUMBIA, S.C.:

George Miles (left) and Jan Morris (right) march alongside Geb Sommer's 1948 Ford, which is driven by his wife, Janice. Not pictured are Geb Sommer and Mark Johnson, who were also there, handing out campaign flyers.

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Campaign Information

RON PAUL FOR PRESIDENT

Jan Morris, S.C. Coordinator, Lexington (796-3161)

GEB SOMMER FOR CONGRESS (2nd District)

Geb Sommer, Lexington (359-5295)

JOHN HEATON FOR CONGRESS (3rd District)

John Heaton, Aiken (648-9806)

MARK JOHNSON FOR STATE HOUSE (district 71)

Mark Johnson, Peak (345-5502)

BILL GRIFFIN FOR STATE HOUSE (district 88)

Bill Griffin, South Congaree (755-9304)

OTHER LOCAL LIBERTARIAN CONTACTS:

AIKEN: Tom King (593-6876)

CHARLESTON: Ernest Clark (559-3090)

COLUMBIA: George Miles (736-4523)

DARLINGTON: Mitch Olinger (383-4241)

FLORENCE: John Harllee (669-8345)

GREENVILLE: Bill McCuen (232-7476)

HILTON HEAD: Steve Heyl (681-4068)

LEXINGTON: David Morris (796-3161)

MYRTLE BEACH: Jim Wilson (449-5053)

ORANGEBURG: Drew Amendola (536-5778)

ROCK HILL: Vernon Beaty (547-4866)

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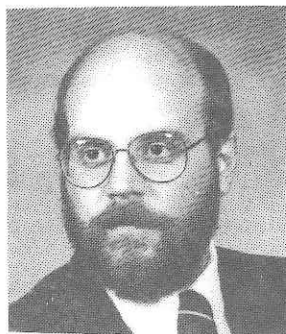
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John Heaton, the Libertarian
candidate for the Third Con-
gressional District, is also
SCLP Chairperson and editor
of the S.C. Libertarian, the
official SCLP newsletter. If
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