

FREE LIBERTARIAN

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FLP FREE
LIBERTARIAN
PARTY, INC.

ELECTION RECAP:

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NOW #1 INDEPENDENT PARTY

by Gary Greenberg

Figures released by UPI show Roger MacBride outpolled Lester Maddox (AIP) making the LP the leading vote-getting independent national political party. UPI reported the following national totals:

Libertarian	183,187
Maddox (AIP)	170,673
Anderson	153,009
Socialist Workers	90,109
Communist	58,689
Peoples	48,981
U.S. Labor	40,008
Prohibition	16,288
Socialist Labor	9,265
Socialist	5,971

Although McCarthy received about 750,000 votes, his organization is not geared up as a political party. He appears to be a one-shot candidate whose main issue seemed to be contesting ballot access laws to make it easier for other third parties to organize.

If the top vote-getter for the LP in each state is totalled, the final national total should exceed a quarter of a million votes.

Before getting into the great successes around the country, a note on the American and AIP parties is in order. Until this election, the American Party was the leading third party on the current scene. In 1968, George Wallace received about 10 million votes on the line. In 1972, with a far less well known but colorful campaigner, Congressman John Schmitz, the party received just over 1 million votes. Subsequently, a feud developed between two factions, the nature of which doesn't appear apparent in any significant way. On the surface it appears that the AIP (Maddox) is more racist in orientation and the AP is more ideological in outlook. Each faction controlled a group of states that had permanent ballot status.

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the GOLDSTEIN CAMPAIGN

PART 2: HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION THE END

by John Caultfield

JULY 15: Finished writing the press release and left it at Milky Way [the Screw office] to be typeset. At home, received some technical bad news and substantive good news. The Manhattan meeting of the 20th will be a "special convention." (The County Committee had previously voted that, unless Joseph Laux said he was still interested in the FLP endorsement, that meeting would not officially be billed a special convention -- since, after all, there would then be no convention business to be discharged. The purpose was not to block a motion to rescind the Goldstein nomination--but it was realized there would be a certain hesitance about taking such a major step under ambiguous parliamentary circumstances) The good news, however, is that the opposition has pretty much given up, and the issue will probably not even come up.

Good. But now I wonder if I can get my mind off all this internal battling and plotting, and back to the purpose for which it was all undertaken in the first place. I'm starting to see the truth of what often has been said about in-fighting: how it drains your strength and will to do anything except in-fight. It's odd how my feelings have changed over a few days. At the outset, I simply wanted to launch the campaign, and had no desire to be involved with internal politics. Rather than get mired in such extraneous nonsense, I felt like quitting. But once having decided to make the fight, I now find it hard to recapture that initial drive.

The hard fact is this: in the FLP, those who are *against* doing something always win in the end. They have the inexorable power of reverse entropy on their side. They may lose any number of intermediate battles, but they always win in the end. For a "loss"

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In 1976, as Reagan began fading, the *National Review* crowd around William Rusher began talking up their plans for a new national conservative party wedding *NR*'s ideology to blue collar racism. The plan consisted of nominating a "respectable" conservative candidate at the AIP convention and fusing AIP control over the California ballot and other states along with the New York Conservative Party. It was believed that the New York Conservative Party alone could produce over half a million votes with California producing another half million thus providing a firm national base for the rest of the state organizations.

Unfortunately for Rusher, the "respectable" conservatives couldn't produce a big name Conservative to run. So the AIP in order to get 5% of the vote and qualify for a federal subsidy nominated their biggest available name, Lester Maddox. Well the results are in. Maddox collapsed, Rusher got a political divorce, and conservative columnists touted the LP as a respectable protest vote if you couldn't stomach Ford.

Looking at the Maddox vote, the AIP doesn't seem very stable. They exceeded 1% in only one state and the vote appears to have been mostly a personality vote for Maddox. Anderson, with no national name, did almost as well and the party seems to have a small but ineffective base in a few states such as Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and Utah. The AIP will probably reuniting around some sort of compromise basis. The AP, regardless, will probably be around for awhile, but continuing to dwindle much as the Prohibition Party has done.

But enough of Maddox and company. Let's look at what happened to the LP. In 1972, the LP was only on the ballot in two states, Washington and Colorado. It received, respectively, 1537 votes and 1111 votes, finishing in the middle of the pack. In 1976, we were on more ballots (32) than any other minor party. In Washington we received 5042 votes with more than the combined total of six socialist parties, about even with Anderson and a little behind Maddox. In the Colorado vote we received 5339 votes which exceeded the combined total of all five other minors (excluding McCarthy).

The National campaign focused primarily on the west and the reasoning appears to have been justified. On a per capita basis the best showing by an independent presidential candidate in any state was the 6% received by MacBride in Alaska. Additionally, we exceeded 1% of the vote in three other states. Hawaii, Arizona, and Idaho. In Arizona, due to the strength of some local candidates, the Arizona LP has attained permanent ballot status, and now represents the balance

of power in the state. The LP should have a significant effect in Arizona, more so than the New York Conservative Party in this state which has a Liberal Party to offset the Conservative balance. In Nevada, several local candidates received as much as 10% of the vote and in three legislative races, the LP exceeded the winners margin.

For sheer numbers, the key campaign battleground not only in the west but for the whole country was California. Like New York, California has two minor parties with permanent ballot status, a conservative group (AIP) and a liberal group (Peace and Freedom). Both groups have been on the ballot for eight years now, and yet, in our first statewide confrontation we outpolled a little short of 1%.

Other significant developments included Illinois casting over 18,000 votes for Roger !

first of five minor parties (excluding McCarthy). Additionally New York was the LP's third highest total. And, although the campaign concentrated on the west, not to be overlooked were such nonwestern showings as 9,449 votes for Roger in New Jersey, which, after McCarthy, placed him first among nine independent candidates on the ballot. Hannibal Cunari, the NJLP senate candidate, received over 18,000 votes. Other states receiving substantially higher percentages of the vote than in most states included South Dakota, Kansas, Mississippi, and Utah.

Roger's campaign has left us an important legacy. We are poised at a significant point. We are on the threshold of becoming the only significant third party in America. We have achieved enough notoriety to build up from the grass roots in many states. Several state groups came close to qualifying for permanent ballot status. All that we have to do is plunge in with vast amounts of hard work, provide intelligent analyses of problems, avoid crackpot schemes and of course learn to work together as a harmonious collection of individuals. That doesn't sound too difficult. Does it?

[Readers will notice certain obvious differences in the figures used by Gary Greenberg and those used in the last issue. The reason is that we got them from different sources. Gary uses those put out by UPI; we used several sources, including a few state chairs, and National itself. The most glaring difference is the figure for Illinois: 18,000 vs. 8000. Which represents most of the difference between the 183,000 he quoted from UPI, and the figure of 171,000 we used last issue. We will try to check this out, and inform you in a future issue--Editor]

costs them nothing, while a "victory often costs the "doers" dearly in psychic and physical energy. If the Goldstein nomination could be reconsidered, over and over, some indefinite number of times, the last vote to be taken would be the first vote on which the nomination failed. A good deal of FLP history can be read in this light, even if the "doers" have not always been blameless.

JULY 16: Everything was going fine today. Finishing touches were put on the press release, and I had a good discussion of libertarian philosophy with Stan Bernstein, one of the people helping me at MW.

Everything was going fine until Mara Mills announced the campaign was off. "Bill Lawry just called. The meeting on Tuesday will be a special convention! That means they can put us through the same bullshit again! The endorsement could be rescinded, and we don't want to put ourselves in that kind of position. Don't mail any press releases." Oh, now I am beginning to comprehend the full scope of my duties here--to intercept and decode/rephrase/scrutinize/explain all outgoing or incoming communications. Calm down Mara, calm down Al (he *is* calm, he always is), and let me explain. As I said on Wednesday, if the meeting of the 20th is *not* billed a special convention, it doesn't guarantee that Lee Schubert *won't* try to make a fuss, and if it *is* billed as a special convention, it doesn't guarantee he *will*, though it does provide an opening. But in any event, a) the opposition effort is rapidly grinding to a halt, and b) even if it's not, the membership can be expected to vote against considering any motion then and there (i.e., to table without debate), while c) even if there were a vote, we'd be almost certain to win, and for heaven's sake d) wait till they see that press release! Whew! Okay, back to work (though first I called Bill Lawry).

The curious thing is that Al seemed almost disappointed to learn that there *wasn't* a good reason to call the campaign off. No doubt, he's beginning to wonder whether all this concern about the daily fluctuations of sentiment within a "splinter party" is really justified. (One thinks of *The Mouse That Roared*) "Do you think the FLP can really get me on the ballot?" he asked today. Nothing's assured, of course, but I think the chances are good. Strictly in terms of technical capacity, of course the FLP can. But one way or the other, if Al Goldstein wants to run for Congress in New York, there's no way of getting on the ballot without the endorsement of the Free Libertarian Party. "Look, I really do want to go through with this," he said, "but I want to come out of it with my integrity intact. I won't allow the FLP to judge me by some special standard, just because of the sort of business I'm engaged in. If that's the way it's go-

ing to be, then it's just not worth it to me."

Didn't get out of the office until after 8 p.m. Between crises, spent the day running to printers, having nice phone chats with people on small newspapers, while attempting to talk to human beings (as opposed to "desks" or "bureaus") at big newspapers, and of course, stuffing, stamping, sealing and addressing the press releases. As Al was leaving, we talked a little about the meeting of the 20th and what to expect. He asked me to do a little write-up on economic issues, particularly taxes and welfare, something that would present the libertarian view in a tone appropriate to his campaign. He also suggested I later prepare something on alternatives to public education.

Lugged a bunch of work home to finish over the weekend. Actually, I felt like sleeping all weekend. I remembered it was my birthday, so I bought myself two cans of beer to celebrate. When that only partially revived my spirits, I called up Mona Slota, and we watched the MacBride commercial together by phone.

JULY 18: Couldn't make the State Committee meeting, but Ann Weill filled me in. Seems John Deane has been getting a lot flak from the National LP because of the Goldstein endorsement. They think it

might reflect badly on MacBride. Ann seemed a little upset about this, since she had been hearing very different things from National on the subject. (And the sun set in the West.)

JULY 19: Spent the morning typing up a piece on taxes and welfare--it emphasizes the difference between wealth-creation and wealth-diversion, pointing out that while the latter can cause poverty, the former does not. Al really liked it.

The rest of the day, I attempted to compile a single press list by collating the FLP and Milky Way lists of "media contacts." MW list is in hopeless disarray, and I'm going crazy. What's really annoying, somehow, is finding all these "celebrities" on the MW lists: Dustin Hoffman, Truman Capote, Joe Franklin, Howard Cosell, Leonard Lyons. Show Biz! This isn't show biz, this is *serious*. Suddenly I feel like the most strait-laced Calvinist. Pornography doesn't offend me (just paper and ink, a friendly element)--but show biz! That's where I draw the line! (I often think I was born in the wrong century.)

What occurs to me is that, while Goldstein wishes to remain as disdainful of and offensive to the "liberal-radical chic" culture as possible, he also desires his own niche in that culture. There is an intriguing Gatsbyesque quality about him.

Ed Koch called three times today trying to persuade Al not to run. He suggested Al run against John Murphy for Congress or

ADVT

**I ALWAYS WANTED
TO TAKE
A FULL-PAGE AD!**

Len Rubin



Cartoon © 1977 by E.C. Publications, Inc.

Roy Goodman for State Senate. Al asked me why the FLP wanted him to run against Koch specifically, and what I thought about switching to a race against Murphy or Goodman. I told him the only reason I'd asked him to challenge Koch was that he'd singled him out, and that, in fact, back in April, I had toyed with the idea of a race against Goodman instead, since beyond any doubt, Goodman and his Democratic opponent are the two most humorless men on Earth. Mara Mills put a quick end to our speculative musings. "The endorsement's made, the press releases are out, it's too late to change now." Quite right.

Al seems depressed. He again asked about the FLP's ability to get him on the ballot. I think Koch has been getting to him. In a phone interview with *Our Town*, he said Koch was "one of the better people in Congress." Now I'm really depressed. He's either running against this guy or he's not. Told him pretty bluntly that I felt equal to just about any problem the campaign might encounter, except one: waning enthusiasm on his part. Right! Stiff upper lip, full steam ahead!

JULY 20: It went beautifully. The Laissez-Faire Bookstore was filled to capacity and Al and the FLPers related warmly to each other. Was evident that Al feels very comfortable and at-home among libertarians. And the FLPers seemed to fully comprehend what an exciting prospect a Goldstein-FLP campaign can be, and they exhibited the sort of spontaneous enthusiasm that I have not seen since the Youngstein campaign. Oh, it really was something joyous to behold! I bet even Walter Block saw the Animating Spirit. (Walter was there, and is very happy with the Goldstein candidacy).

The main benefits of this campaign will be the forum it affords, and the local activity it engenders. On a measurable level it will certainly be our biggest votegetter yet: at least 15,000 votes, I'd think. If we get on the ballot. We're out of the frying pan and onto the clipboard.

JULY 27: We now have a permanent campaign manager, fellow named Bob Kramer. Should take a lot of the pressure off Mara, Stan Bernstein and me, and allow a better division of labor. Watched as he drew up a sort of daily flow-chart. Right away I see I'll have problems working with this guy. Next few days feature preparations for a press conference at Sardi's. Fine, though it's the first I've heard of it (I have been absent the last couple of days). Press conference will announce formation of "Committee for Sexual Freedom," whose aim is to promote a constitutional amendment protecting private consensual sex from legal interference. The amendment will be used as the key issue of the campaign. OK, fine--but it was like pulling teeth trying to collect all this information from Mr. Kramer. "What's this--'prepare brief statements on ten other issues

as backup--not for public use'?" I asked. "Well, in case anyone should ask where we stand on some other issue, our people should have something to refer to. But we're not going to publicize these other issues." Who decided this? Kramer, no doubt. Al probably doesn't even know. I mentioned that Al had asked me to do a paper on alternatives to public education, and he said, "Fine, we can use it, but make it brief, about two paragraphs." Like hell I will.

JULY 28: Mr. Kramer suggested some tasks I might embark upon. "Do some research. Find out about the district, what sorts of neighborhoods it contains, what people live there. Research Koch, see if you can get any negative information on him. Check with his past opponents, look into his voting record, see what this is on his pushing his aide for an Assembly seat." Research the district? I know the district--what part do you want to know about? Koch's voting record? What's there to find? I know how Koch votes. Just ask me; if I don't know, then I'll check. Negative information? Like what? A neighbor of Koch's once told me that Koch carries handkerchiefs with pictures of cowboys on them, which is pretty ridiculous if you think about it; maybe we could use that against him. As for his aide, he was planning to run for Stein's Assembly seat when Stein was planning to run for Senate. Kramer had only a vague idea who Stein was.

It's apparent I have a general knowledge and feel for these things that Kramer lacks. What he wants researched I take for granted. And that makes him uncomfortable. He doesn't welcome other people's talents, he finds them threatening.

This became apparent when Carolyn Keelen called me at home. She had been in to MW this morning, and had met Mr. Kramer (Bob hadn't bothered to tell me). I should mention that Carolyn has volunteered to do all the graphics for the campaign, and plans to take a week off work to collect signatures. To begin with, Kramer was evasive with her. And what he finally said was essentially that she should design buttons to her heart's content, and if he liked any, an outside printer would do up a mechanical. If you know Carolyn, you can picture how this exchange progressed. It wound up with the Lady Keelen telling Mr. Kramer to shove his fornicating mechanicals where the sun doesn't shine.

But Carolyn was equally disturbed about something else. Al and Mara had been pushing to get the petition sheets done, and Carolyn had agreed to give it top priority. "I mentioned the petitions to Kramer, and he said to hold off on them--that there were some decisions that had to be made first. I questioned him, but it was hard to get a straight answer."

JULY 29: Went to MW determined to get some straight answers. Kramer and Mara

were conferring. Asked if I could talk with them, Kramer said sure, if I could make it brief. I said I'd simply wait outside until they had more time--forever if necessary. Mara said, "Wait--what is it?" I said, "Well, for starters, are you planning to conduct an independent petition drive?" You could hear a pin drop. Kramer kept looking at the floor. "Well, yes, we have been seriously considering it," said Mara. "Why?" I asked. Mara did most of the talking. In short, they felt Al could get more votes on an independent line than on the FLP line. I told them they'd never get on the ballot that way. Sooner or later, they've got to see that.

Went to the FLP office this evening and let people know where things stood. I told Ann and Bill I wanted to forget the whole thing, but they urged me to see it through. I really want to crawl back into my shell, and not have to deal with anyone except fellow libertarians. But that's too easy--eventually we have to expand our base, and this is as good a place as any to begin learning how to do it.

JULY 30: Asked Kramer for the text of the Sexual Rights Amendment, and he said he hadn't seen it yet, that a lawyer was preparing the language. Then, it occurred to me: he doesn't care what it says. That's not his department. You don't have to eat a Big Mac to do a commercial for MacDonald's. One person does research, another does the writing, another does the promoting. The ideas involved could be any ideas. Who is the person with a general overview of the whole process, ends as well as means? Kramer? His talent is for PR, and he'd be very valuable tending to that aspect of the campaign. With Kramer in overall command, there is a danger of PR becoming the campaign's end, with ideas subservient.

I am really beginning to feel out of place here. A Calvinist in Sodom and Gomorrah. I have beliefs, ideas that matter to me; I stand out like a sore thumb.

Al returns from Jamaica on Monday. I'm going to prepare a memorandum for him.

AUGUST 2: Gave my memo to Bob and Mara, and put a copy on Al's desk. When I told Bob I wanted him to read the memo, he sort of looked at me as though I had two heads. The memo tears into this whole idea of a second line. With two separate petition drives, the value of each signature is cut in half. I estimate that FLP manpower should be good for between 2700 and 3300 gross signatures (3500 valid are needed). Of course, FLPers are very fickle, and depending how they feel, they might be worth nothing or they might walk on water. But, can Goldstein afford to throw away a minimum of 2700 signatures? I also point out that the FLP has a wealth of talent and energy, and we have a lot to lose by alienating members; I suggest Carolyn be given

free artistic rein. I also criticize the "blackout" of "other issues." If we're to get anywhere, Al must appear radical and strikingly different compared to Koch, and Koch must appear just another ho-hum liberal. This means outflanking Koch on whatever issues we can (I suggest marriage laws and education).

Al read it and agreed. So things look good now, though who knows how long it will be till they slip back again.

The Sexual Rights Amendment is heresy-free. Thank God.

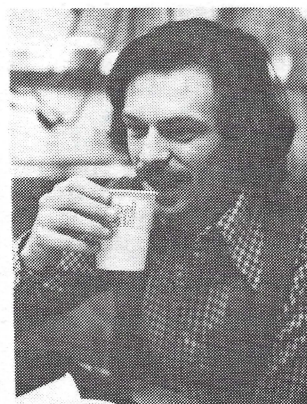
AUGUST 4: Press conference at Sardi's got only light coverage, but did get Al half-hour interview on WMCA.

AUGUST 11: Petitions are ready thanks to Carolyn. Al's sheets are designed to easily fit on the same clipboard as the MacBride petitions.

AUGUST 15: Al came to the statewide petition drive kick-off at the Williams Club. I enlisted a few volunteers, but this was clearly a MacBride gathering. Felt a slight apprehension. But tomorrow there is a kick-off party at Al's apartment, and things should look more encouraging there.

AUGUST 16: The party was a lot of fun. Place was filled. Couple of rough edges though: some people who ate and drank a lot but don't really intend to do any work; a few who rather discourteously kept partying when we tried to get on to some serious business; finally, Bill Lawry didn't like a piece to literature Al had done up today, and he and Ann took Al aside, and perhaps were a bit too didactic, because I hear Al got a little annoyed. The offending passage spoke against "tax loopholes." I rewrote it to conform to our principles while maintaining Al's disdainful tone toward the unfairness of present loopholes. Easy--no need for any fuss.

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An unidentified Bagel Nosh



New chairperson, Ann Weill, digs in

A SPECIAL REPORT: mass. movement

by Arthur O'Sullivan

The Massachusetts Libertarian Party has been called everything from "independent" and "courageous" to "obstructionist" and "left sectarian," depending on one's own perspective. That these people are the spiritual heirs of both the rabble-rousing Samuel Adams and the quietly principled Henry David Thoreau was evident at the 1975 national convention in New York; the former being reflected in their Sons of Liberty-esque consideration of dumping the L.P. presidential nominee during the storm surrounding his vice-presidential gambit; the latter showing itself in their more subdued --but no less intent--unanimous support of Dr. Robert Nozick's nomination of a veto-threatened v.p. contender.

That they've also inherited the New England values of hard work and fellowship is clear from their key role in ballot drives throughout the region, as well as two highly creditable, first-time, local legislative campaigns. And, through it all, a healthy streak of Yankee skepticism reflects itself in their good-humored iconoclastic newsletter, *Liberty*.

September: While in Boston on other business, I phone L.P. state chairperson Nathan Curland, who succeeded two-termed David Long last spring. Mr. Curland, who didn't make it to the presidential convention, expresses great enthusiasm for Roger MacBride's candidacy, also discussing L.P. support for the proposed Mass. Equal Rights Amendment and opposition to referenda that would ban handguns and install a graduated income tax--the latter being actively fought by Citizens For Limited Taxation, whose executive director is former F.L.P. vice-chair Don Feder. He also talks about Peter Hadley's race for state representative in Essex and Long's state senate candidacy in the Brookline-Newton area.

Chairperson Curland takes exception to the Bay State party's "radical" image: while conceding lingering criticism of National, he stresses that the party has as many viewpoints as members. He supplies me with the telephone numbers of a few others. (Dr. Nozick is in Israel for a year; I decide I can't afford to call him.)

Don Hunt, who coordinated the Connecticut petition drive, which garnered 15,800 signatures and for which he received a telephone "thank you" from MacBride (later, problems in filing apparently did in the effort), says he's "completely out of politics" now. Well, he's still designing literature for David Long's campaign and doing the layout for *Liberty*, but he's had it with "harassment" of people to get them out to work. "Instead of petitioning, we should be trying to throw out the petition laws," he suggests.

He estimates that two-thirds of the state party are "educationalists" while the other third seek a "Libertarian takeover" through the political system. As far as tactics, "people in Massachusetts

are strictly against any sort of lying."

"National ought to be there only as an organizational tool, a coordinator, and leave the locals alone." The Massachusetts L.P. has acquired close to 125 members "without National's help," through personal contacts, radio shows, and editorial rebuttals.

During our conversation, Don observes that Lee Nason has just come in, back from helping in Vermont. Lee says that Massachusetts is "a particularly cohesive party," which does a lot of socializing. She credits National with helping to mount petition drives across New England, but believes that with an equal amount of money, Massachusetts could have won the L.P. national ticket a spot on the Bay State ballot (as were achieved by the S.W.P and U.S. Labor candidates).

Past criticisms notwithstanding, Lee praises MacBride as a campaigner. "He knows how to do it and he's doing a good job of it." She feels that he is "not soft-pedaling that much," and that most area Libertarians are aware of "what went on at the convention and what is going on in National," and are supporting him anyway.

As editor of *Liberty*, Lee has in the past promoted closer scrutiny of National L.P. officials, seeking the facts behind "all these pronouncements from on high." Referring to the revelations by her newsletter, the *Free Libertarian*, and others, she asserts, "What we've accomplished is is healthy," but goes on to urge "a little more tolerance," giving party leaders "the benefit of the doubt."

While seeing a need for "some big rah-rah" publication like *L.P. News*, Nason also feels it's important for journals like *Liberty* to "poke fun at our mistakes and foibles," but "with a little lighter heart." Her editorial policy allows both criticism and replies from those criticized.

She also mentions plans to run for Region Eight Execom Representative at the '77 National Convention. "If you want things to be better you've got to take some responsibility."

By now it is close to 1 a.m., which may explain why she invites me to drop by the following morning and continue our discussion...

As a sleepy Don Hunt opens the door c. 10:30 a.m., Peter Hadley, Libertarian candidate for Representative to the Massachusetts Great and General Court [sic], sits on a couch, mulling over a victimless crimes position paper. In a party that sometimes seems dominated by Randian rhetoric, Hadley's approach is refreshing. His general campaign statement opens with the greeting, "Grace and Peace be with you." It declares that people should be free "to pursue our own happiness where we perceive it using those rights with which our Creator endowed us...While this would permit people to fail and to make a mess of their lives, it would also allow us to attain

glorious successes...The fundamental problem facing us now is not so much governmental or economic as it is moral and spiritual. I will help out here by going to church almost every Sunday. You should do what you feel is appropriate."

Though not an L.P. member--having reservations about signing the party's pledge--Peter is actively supported by about eight North Shore L.P. chapter members. A prime goal of his campaign is "to get some new members into the party so I won't be asked to campaign next time." He and Nason talk about people getting experience at running a campaign, finding out which methods work, and building a good North Shore organization for another effort next year.

The Mass. L.P. has been instrumental in other New England ballot drives, carrying petitions in New Hampshire and Rhode Island. (It is, of course, illegal for out-of-staters to petition in Connecticut and Vermont) There is discussion of a Massachusetts MacBride write-in, though this is hampered by a lack of funds.

I recall Don Hunt's remarks about pressuring people. Peter suspects that "it's impossible to have an organization like this without manipulators," but adds, "that doesn't mean you have to be manipulated."

"It doesn't mean we have to be run like other political parties," observes Lee. "I look forward to the day when the state party has no power." Lee sees local chapters building "enthusiasm and camaraderie, as I think we have on the North Shore...People who know Peter well enough to have dinner with him are more likely to get out and work for him."

Hadley feels that battle "has to be fought on the state or local level for the next few years." He would like to see effective alliances with issue groups, ranging from prostitutes' unions to gun groups and anti-tax organizations.

Lee also sees a need for the Libertarian Party to acquire "heroes," people who inspire. Not necessarily in response to that, I mention Dave Long. Don calls David and suggests he come over.

Some time later, Long arrives and promptly invites me out to "the best hamburger place in Boston." En route there, he credits Lee Nason as the driving force behind petition drives in Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, and to some extent in New Hampshire--where a man named Hunscher seems close to establishing an L.P. affiliate.

Between bites of a bagel-burger [sic], I ask David about his campaign, pouncing on the line in his declaration of candidacy that calls for "decriminalization of such 'soft drugs' as marijuana" but only "examination of alternative methods of alleviating the problems of 'hard drug' addiction."

Citing Bob Poole's *Reason* editorial on the subject, Long declares: "If we are to establish a viable party, we must engage in *realpolitik* and advocate do-able things. We should adhere to the 'vision' and should not mislead people," but not necessarily tell them everything up front. This, he feels, need not mean evasion.

After a moment's thought, he adds, "Perhaps a viable strategy would be to have candidates for higher office sound more radical, but at the grass roots...In Newton,

people are interested in things like the property tax and garbage collection."

Back in the summer, David had written me and defended the idea of all Libertarians focusing on a single presidential campaign "to raise the banner, and let people know we exist." Now, sitting on the grass at Harvard, he allows that he's been moving toward a belief that we should focus on grass roots campaigns and issues.

"By next spring I think we'll know where the party's going--whether we degenerate into a few viable state parties with a titular national organization, or we in fact become in some sense an established national force." He sees the former course as more likely.

Re carryings-on by National, Long has been "disturbed, but not morally outraged, by some things." He also observes that his Execom resolution calling for complete openness of accounting, including quarterly reports, "hasn't been implemented to my satisfaction." He plans to bring it up again.

One person I don't get to meet in Boston is vice-chairperson Steve Trinward, famous (or notorious) for his irreverent coverage of the Presidential Convention and other "partyarchy-baiting" in *Liberty*. In the process, he's both aroused the ire of certain L.P. luminaries and brought in at least a few out-of-state subscribers.

The next day I receive a long-distance call from Trinward, who allows that he's feeling rich lately. He's currently writing for a gay newspaper and a police journal--though neither gay nor a particular fan of the men in blue--and hopes to start slipping in libertarian ideas as he goes along.

Trinward's run for the Mass. L.P. chair had been "mostly to have a contest," stressing that social issues are not taken seriously enough. Citing psychological conditioning in schools and elsewhere, Steve notes that he's begun to spell titles like "president" and "chairperson" with small letters, to demystify them.

Steve remains angry about several party matters. Most disturbing, he feels, is "just the fact that there are people in the L.P. who want us to become the Republicans in twenty years." But he believes that pressures can be effective, mentioning "Roger's turnaround on the gay issue, via John Vernon's candidacy."

Trinward worries about making too quick "gains" by easing off on particular issues. Rather, "we've got to stress running for office to abolish the office." At the same time, he doesn't want elections to be the party's sole function; we need people "living liberty."

While he finds fault with the Poole editorial, Steve still feels that he and Long are in basic agreement on having local candidates focus on local issues, such as decentralization.

While the Mass. L.P.'s sense of camaraderies is "in many ways a good thing," Trinward cautions that it can also become "a clique-ish thing," alienating those on the outside.

In the future, Steve would like to see cooperation with leftist parties on things like challenging election laws, but mainly "a more personalized approach...Dealing with people on a one-to-one basis is more

effective, more rewarding."

December: During that peculiar lull between Christmas and New Year's, I dust off my notes and place follow-up calls to Peter Hadley and David Long.

Long reports receiving 2035 votes, for 3.3 percent of the total, against a strong liberal Democratic incumbent and a conservative Republican challenger. Hadley's race, a "mirror reflection" of Long's, with a strong conservative Republican incumbent and a liberal challenger, left him with 496 votes, a 4.4 percent share.

Figuring he spent about forty cents a vote, David notes that his vote exceeded the combined totals in the district for the Socialist Workers and U.S. Labor candidates for U.S. Senator.

Hadley reports doing best in areas where he had gone door-to-door, talking with people. He may have achieved his prime goal: one woman is already interested in carrying the Libertarian banner into next year's campaign, and several others are threatening to run for various local offices.

Long notes that the graduated income tax referendum was defeated, thanks in large part to Don Feder and Citizens For Limited Taxation.

The MacBride write-in may have yielded a few hundred votes; sufficient funds were never amassed for a major effort. Long feels that local candidates were major factors in the national ticket's relatively strong showing in states like New Jersey. He now wishes they had "gone for broke" with the locals; he and Hadley agree that this should be the future focus if, as Peter says, "we're going to be a party and not just run presidential candidates as a protest every four years."

And now? Well, Dave Long has inherited a weekly talk show on a university FM station; bills to reduce drastically the numbers of signatures required on state petitions and to place "None of the Above" have been introduced in the legislature; hearings will be scheduled. C.F.L.T. will be holding a political action conference on tax rebellion, January 15, in Boston.

More generally, money and good libertarian literature are still needed, Long believes. But, he warns, "1978 will tell for libertarianism. If we don't have a substantial number of grass-roots campaigns in '78 --for state representative, city council, and even lower--it's all over."

If, on the other hand, beliefs in individual initiative and making "leadership" --even Libertarian leadership"--earn its keep are to be the waves of the future, then Massachusetts, "Birthplace of the First Libertarian Revolution," will likely be in the forefront of the Second.

[Note: For information on the CFLT Conference, subscriptions to Liberty, and/or activities of the Mass. L.P., write: Libertarian Party/ P.O.Box 2610/ Boston, Mass, 02208--or call Nathan Curland at (617) 332-3184]

FI\$CAL CRI\$IS

Pete Wilson, Treasurer

Cash in bank, Dec. 9.....\$ 1,715.94
Income..... 309.13
2,025.07

Expenses..... 276.05
Cash in bank, Dec. 31.....\$ 1,749.02

Income:

Dues.....\$ 1.00
Contributions.. 133.46
Newsletter..... 6.67
Office fund.... 165.00
Misc..... 3.00
\$309.13

Expenses:

Electricity....\$ 12.88
Postage..... 92.00
Newsletter..... 138.00
Offset machine. 25.59
Supplies..... 7.58
\$276.05

Budget - 12/31/76

Allocated income..\$2,810.79
Cash in hand..... 1,749.02
COST DEFICIT..... 1,061.77

(IN THE HOLE)

What do these figures mean?

Basically, we're spending "windfall" income on day-to-day operating expenses. Those expenses (rent, phone, postage, etc.) should be coming out of membership dues and office-fund contributions, while windfall income (mainly from the Presidential Convention of 1975) should be spent exclusively on special projects and office equipment. We're not in debt, but if it weren't for the money from the Presidential Convention, we'd be over one thousand dollars in the hole! And the State Committee, in fact, allocated most of the windfall for special projects and equipment--so we've been paying the rent out of money deliberately set aside for other purposes.

What we have is not really a cost overrun, but an income underrun. We have four categories of membership: \$100 Life, \$20 Sustaining, \$1 Regular, as well as county-based members who pay no dues into the state treasury.

If every 1976 member, including county-based ones, renewed at the \$1 rate, the FLP would not receive enough money to cover the rent, phone and electricity for even two full months. The FLP has to get a large number of \$20 memberships, and hopefully a couple of \$100 Life memberships, in order to keep its head above water and expand its work.

Additionally, the FLP is beginning to sponsor fundraising events which will increase income...

opinionaire

by Jenny Graf, party pulse-taker

...and this increase can be accomplished--fairly painlessly--in several ways. Please send in the Opinionaire at left to let us know which you would prefer. The answers will be compiled and sent to the regional chairpersons.

viceCHAIRSPEAK

Carl Hastings
vice-chairperson

There is a lot of work and a lot of creativity that takes place in the county organizations throughout the state. Unfortunately, much of this valuable work goes unrecognized and unappreciated, because the newsletter editor doesn't hear about it, so that the happening or idea doesn't get communicated to the rest of the membership.

The party's growth and development is dependent on the ideas and activities of all the membership. Please share your plans and programs with the rest of us, to save the "re-invention of the wheel" in every country organization.

The chairperson of each organization should be sure that the news and activities are passed on to Glen each month for inclusion in the newsletter. Glen will call you if you will give him a phone number and set up a mutually agreeable time each month for the call, or better yet, write your activities up in the form of a column and earn yourself a by-line as a reporter.

DISCUSSION

This is an open forum for the discussion of ideas, and of issues confronting the FLP. There is no topical limit save relevancy; however no personal invective will be printed. It is open to all members of the FLP. Limit: 1000 words.

THE PARADOX OF GARY GILMORE By Robert Cassella

"Give me Liberty or Give me Death" Words first spoken by Patrick Henry long ago but more recently uttered by Gary Gilmore when his death sentence was once again delayed. At first glance, these seem like strange words to be spoken by a self-admitted convicted killer. Yet, everything about the Gilmore case is coated in paradox. Consider, for example, that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), an organization purposely dedicated to the rights of the individual, is fighting against Gilmore's will to save his life. Consider that twice a state organization which intends to execute Gilmore has saved his life after Gilmore's suicide attempts. Consider that a woman who left Gilmore because "she didn't love him any more" joined him in a suicide pact and now is being held against her will in a state mental institution. Consider that some lawyers are trying to have Gilmore declared insane because he has admitted his crime, accepted the consequences of his action as well as the responsibility of that action, and wishes justice for his acts of wanton murder.

Given all this, who is really insane--Gary Gilmore or those who wish to prevent his execution? Insanity is a legal (not medical) term which means the inability to distinguish right from wrong. Given that Gilmore murdered two men without reason or just cause, it is perfectly right that his life be forfeited in return. (The only valid objection to capital punishment is the risk of an innocent person being executed.) However, in this case, there is no question of Gilmore's guilt; therefore there should be no question of his punishment. If one is an atheist as I am, the guiding principle is one of value for value, that is, equal value for equal value. Since Gilmore denied two other individuals their lives, it is right that his life be denied also. If one is a Christina or Jew, the guiding principle is "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." What makes this case unusual is that it is

Gary Gilmore, himself, who recognizes this principle. He has stated over and over that he is guilty, that he accepts the fact that he is responsible for his actions, and that he wishes to accept his punishment as a man. Not once since his conviction has he tried to evade or make excuses or shift the blame. In today's world that kind of behavior in a convicted murderer is unheard of, and for good reason--individuals who speak and act as Gilmore has since his conviction are usually not capable of murder because they understand too well the value of life. Yet, murder Gilmore did commit. Why? We'll probably never know but I, for one, who deplores the killing of anyone without just cause, must admit I wish I knew Gary Gilmore and the reason why he acted as he did. For his actions since his conviction, far from being insane, are not only sane but highly rational and moral.

I also wish that I had seen or heard a libertarian voice cry out in the defense of Gary Gilmore's desire to die. The right of an individual to his or her own life is a sacred one and each individual should have the right to end that life if they so choose. To make Gilmore live with his is indeed cruel and unusual punishment; to make innocent taxpayers pay for his upkeep when he, himself, wishes to die for his crime is a mockery of justice and truth. Libertarianism will never gain ground until its advocates are willing to jump at every chance to apply the principles to everyday events. Gilmore's case is another lost opportunity to do so. Gary Gilmore may be dead by the time you read this. (I hope he is.) Still it is not too late. Libertarians should begin at once, with every effort available, to protest and demand the release of Gilmore's girlfriend who is being held against her will in a state mental institution. Her only crime is that she chose not to live without her highest value--the man she loved--Gary Gilmore. Who has the right to decide that she must live when she wishes not to? Who said this is a free country? It is your job as a libertarian to tell them it is not and why it is not!

(continued from page 6)

Loads of people volunteered to help, and I promised to call each one daily. Sharon Presly, Aubrey Schwartz, and Allyn Brodsky are especially enthusiastic. I've been authorized to hire paid petition workers; hopefully some of the volunteers will be salaried.

Al is on WBAI right now, and he's holding his own very well with a host who is hostile to the FLP. He just advocated selling the post office to the private sector.

AUGUST 17: Well, here we go, hangover or not. I spent about 3 1/2 hours petitioning (two shifts) and got 41 signatures--and one for MacBride. Virtually impossible to get people to sign twice, so I made my choice. I imagine MacBride workers are finding the same, and making their choices. What bothers me is that of my 41 signatures, I estimate that not more than 18 are valid, and the others really can't be counted. I'll try again tomorrow.

AUGUST 18: MW people got about 50 signatures yesterday. Kramer wanted to know how the FLP did. Told him I didn't know, as I'd spent my free time petitioning. Hit the streets and got 22 signatures. Stopped by the bookstore and talked with Sharon. She said she and Aubrey Schwartz got 70 signatures at a rock concert last night. Great! If we keep the momentum going, we may just make it. Tried to make phone calls, but most people weren't home. A few had gathered a handful of signatures; others had only promises to offer. If I weren't so tired, I'd begin worrying.

AUGUST 19: Kramer and his assistant, Chris Jonas, have prepared a leaflet concentrating mainly on "other issues." It condemns "tax loopholes," advocates "better housing," calls for tuition at CUNY with low interest loans available, and--here's where I hit the ceiling--advocates the "legalization, taxing, and regulation" of prostitution and gambling. I can understand occasional problems with the economic issues, but if we're going to get soft-core on victimless crimes, we might as well pack it in. Gad, it's rewrite time again! Strike the empty phrase about housing, forget CUNY and talk about vouchers, couple the elimination of special loopholes with a general tax cut, and for God's sake legalize, period, prostitution and gambling. Went right to Al with my rewrite, and he approved it, agreeing with my objections to the original. Told Kramer, he shrugged and said OK, though it's obvious he doesn't like such a fuss being made over what he considers trivialities. Chris Jonas, however, is dead against advocating flat legalization of prostitution. After much haggling, I hit on a compromise: prostitution and gambling should be treated no differently than other businesses. God, after this I'll be ready to write speeches for Jimmy Carter. Finally I went out to collect signatures: 17 today.

I'm getting worse. How can I petition, I've got to watch these people every minute.

Was supposed to meet Larry Kobak for more petitioning tonight. Totally exhausted, I got the downtown instead of the uptown train. Realizing my mistake, I switched trains--from the downtown local to the downtown express. I'm losing my marbles! Badly in need of some consolation, I went to Carolyn's house and looked at her button designs. Absolutely beautiful. Made some calls, news was unencouraging.

AUGUST 20: Al loved the buttons, too. So did Kramer. We sat down and looked at the shape of things. We're going at a steady pace of 100 to 120 signatures a day. Unfortunately, that's not good enough. We agreed that the weekend would be decisive. I privately hope it goes bad, since a quirkish upturn will only prolong the agony.

AUGUST 23: Kramer called me at home, and I told him I was resigning my position. He didn't seem to understand what that meant, so I told him it meant I quit. "Oh," he said after a long pause. I'll tell Ann, Bill, and Carolyn, and then I'm not answering the phone for a week. Totally irresponsible, but I don't give a damn. I've had it.

SEPTEMBER 9: Art O'Sullivan is in town, and we talked a while. "John, what's going on? No local campaigns? Not Goldstein, not Savadel, not Sugar, not Sicilia, no one? It's the same old story--the one big campaign swallowing up the local efforts." Yes, Art, I know, I know. Don't bother me, please. It's no one's fault, individuals just made their choices, and the locals lost out. "But the leadership just pushed The Campaign," said Art. Yeah, but what do you expect? I don't blame the MacBride campaign.

SEPTEMBER 14: Mara called me to say I had some back salary waiting for me at MW. Quite unexpected. Chatted with Mara; she told me she was actually a socialist--she'd never let on before. Al was friendly, told me to say hello to everyone, especially Carolyn. He jokingly suggested that the FLP's main problem was it had too many est graduates.

DECEMBER 29: Here I sit in Bagel Nosh as Glen England nervously sips his fourth cup of coffee, and I've got to think up some profound ending--or any ending.

Was the campaign a mistake? No. It was an experience. The FLP has got to keep trying to reach out, to make common cause with such natural allies as Percy Greaves and Al Goldstein. If we don't, if we grow timid each time our overtures to the outside world turn out less than perfect, we'll wind up like the Socialist Labor Party--pure as the driven snow and totally impotent. The point of this article (and the Percy Greaves article) was not to say "Let's not take risks reaching out," but rather, "Here's what happened this time, learn from it, then let's try again."

miniconvention

This is an open letter (more like an invitation) to all you downstate Libertarians to let you know that you're invited on Saturday, Feb. 12, 1977, beginning around 1:00 p.m. The informal (very informal) meeting will be held at my home in Baldwinsville (see map attached), and is being organized primarily by Guy Riggs. We hope to attract Libertarian party members from Albany to Buffalo and also anticipate attendance by a number of upstate New Yorkers who are just finding out about the Libertarian political movement. Response thus far has been exceptional and I'm beginning to wonder if I'll have enough room, since as many as 50 people may show up.

As stated, the meeting will be informal but I believe several areas of discussion should be considered as follows:

1. Explanation of libertarian ideals to new people at meeting not familiar with libertarianism.
2. Discussion of what has been learned from recent campaign and elections.
3. Libertarian activities at the local level --
 - a. Local elections.
 - b. Contact with local governments, Poole's book, cut local taxes.
 - c. Obtaining press coverage for libertarian solutions to existing problems.
4. How to gain more exposure for the Libertarian Party, especially among those most susceptible to the idea of reducing government control over their lives.
5. How to deal with or explain better the libertarian position on welfare vs. private charity. I have found the most difficult part of the libertarian position to get across to others is that which deals with the treatment (or lack of treatment) of the poor, elderly, or other disadvantaged people.

Other suggestions would certainly be welcome. We have sufficient room to separate into two or three groups for discussion purposes should it seem advantageous.

Very truly yours,

Ron Taylor

8292 Oswego Road

Baldwinsville, New York 13027

Home: (315) 635-5536

Work: (315) 638-2572

(DIRECTIONS FOR GETTING THERE: from Exit 39 on the Thruway go along Rt 690, turn right on Farrel Road, turn left on Rt 48, otherwise known as Oswego Road, go on for 7.3 miles and you're there. Park on side street please.)

MHLC: a pause

On January 20th, the following resolution was passed by the Mid-Hudson Libertarian Club: "Be it resolved that the Mid-Hudson Libertarian Club be adjourned *sine die* [indefinitely] at the completion of this meeting and the current officers be directed to complete any outstanding commitments, and the treasurer be directed to satisfy all outstanding debts."

Cheryl Blanchette, who proposed the resolution, said that it came as a result of declining attendance. The members decided to adjourn indefinitely, rather than to disband, so that, should interest be rekindled in the MHLC, members would have an organizational framework and by-laws extant. The resolution was passed by a 7-1-1 vote; it does not in any way affect the Mid-Hudson chapter of the FLP, which is a separate organization.

Ms. Blanchette said that she felt many of the MHLC members were "simply tired" and needed some time to rest. For the time being all libertarian activities will be channelled through the FLP chapter in the Mid-Hudson region.

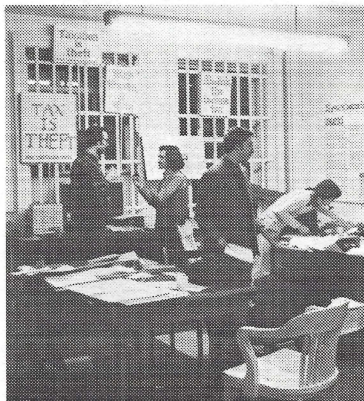
FREE TRADE / letters

TO THE EDITOR:

I was not at last fall's convention, and have only heard of the disturbance connected with the Middle East panel discussion through Adam Reed's letters and through reports from witnesses. As I have heard that many people were dissatisfied with the panel discussion, I would like to know if there is sufficient interest in a debate with Dr. Rothbard on the subject of the relative merits of the Israelis' and Palestinians' claims.

If you are interested in this, please contact me in care of the FLP office.

Dan Karlan



WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
AT
THE
OFFICE

kid's lib

Berl Kaufman

Appropriate for the first 1977 meeting of the Manhattan FLP, the topic of discussion was "Children's Rights". The greater part of the meeting consisted of responses to a lecture given by Len Rubin. Len referred to his relationships with his own children and the problems he's encountered raising them.

Later the question of social and legal rights was approached when Charles Bell commented on the inaccessability of "alternate life styles" to young people. John Caulfield remarked on Libertarian ethics, saying that we should not regard "children" as a group, distinct from "adults", but rather as individuals having their own capabilities and desires.

The meeting was chaired by Ann Weill.



Rod and Brent Stockwell, guest speakers at NY county's January meeting on Kid's Lib.

ERRATUM

In the last issue of the newsletter, the writer of the "Discussion" was Guy Riggs; the column is a reprint from the November 6th Poughkeepsie Journal.

Also, we apologise for the lateness of this issue, however, there were reasons: the editor was sick for two weeks, the typewriter was sick for two weeks, but not the same ones, then the editor was burgled and couldn't leave home to work on the paper for lack of a door. Ever have a month..?

SMI²LE

ROBERT ANTON WILSON

CO-AUTHOR OF THE BEST SELLER

ILLUMINATUS

WILL BE SPEAKING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH
AT 2 PM. THE LOCATION IS P.S. 41 (11TH
STREET WEST OF SIXTH AVENUE),

THE TOPIC OF HIS TALK WILL BE:
SPACE MIGRATION, INTELLIGENCE INCREASE
AND LIFE EXTENSION

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION IS \$2.50

mousenotes

I spent the month asking friends from around the country if they knew what mouse notes were. No one knew. So, thinking it was an Ohio phrase, Glen, while home for the holidays, asked a close friend if she knew. She didn't. But--everyone knows now!Happy New Year to you all.....Here in NYC we have been busy at our usual Wed. work nites; the office gets messier and messier as we all listen to Brahms. With the opening of Burger King nearby, Blimpies isn't getting quite the workout it had, but we still seem to end up at Bagel Nosh every week. If you are nearby and are thinking of joining us, just stop hesitating and come (membership is not criterion). The possibilities are endless: come to work or chat; do your own libertarian work or FLP work; meet old friends or new (just because you are a long-standing fellow traveller doesn't mean you won't meet anyone new!) or any combination of the above. I can't speak for anyone else, (what's this? mousespeak?) but I know I'd like to meet you, or see you again. Just come..... Speaking of new members, this is probably a good time to tell you about Berl Kaufman one of our new members (you might have seen his name in last month's Free Liber-

tarian) who has volunteered to be the official photographer for the newsletter. Maybe he was motivated by the absolute dearth of photos last month. Don't you just hate it when there aren't any pictures? Results of his work are in this issue. Berl has already begun to build a photographic morgue. And, he's also very nice.....There was this hunk of metal sitting in the office, month after month. Glen said he'd begun to think it was there for aesthetic value, as sculpture. But he was wrong. It was our offset press. Now, if you read state committee meeting minutes end to end (and I know everyone of you out there does) you know that money was appropriated to get parts necessary to make it work. But the place where the parts can be bought is on Long Island (tho the machine is in Manhattan) and the model number of the machine is no longer on the machine. So you think the machine is still scrap? Wrong. Bill Costello made two trips and took time off from work to get the parts and we now have an offset press. The visible results of this may be seen as early as next month via this newsletter. So, thank you, Bill..... Suffolk county had no meeting in Dec. but has two in Jan. This newsletter will not be in time to announce them, but scheduled speaker for the public meeting of the 19th was Howie Katz, who was to have spoken on his book..... Virginia Walker says that a fellow traveler who teaches history in a middle school [Now, here in NYC we have jr. high: grades 7, 8 and 9; and intermediate school: grades 6, 7 and 8; Virginia thinks middle school is grades 8, 9 and 10] in Suffolk is planning a seminar for the semester on "Political Theory in America" which will have an entire unit devoted to libertarianism. In public school yet. How many times have you thought we needed to have our ideas exposed to younger people?.... And, Suffolk has 5 new members. I'm not one of the people who thinks that numbers are all that definitive, but doesn't it sound nice? Five new members.....Writing letters to the media is always good. If, when they aren't printed, it lets them see our name one more time, which, after a while, might get us more coverage--or at least some letters printed. So, how much better when a letter is printed. All the above, plus, the public gets to hear our ideas and see our name (till one day, at last: **LIBERTARIANISM**--a household word!) Well, a "letter to the editor" that was in Computerworld was sent to the office this month by Bob Klar who suggested that we find the author to mail him some literature. As it turns out, he is a county based member from Suffolk. Bruce Martin's letter was about the role of federal regulatory agencies in enhancing the "professional" status of jobs. For years I have heard the idea of wedding libertarianism to our own life and work and

this was a lovely example of this....Another letter was printed, this one in the Village Voice whose author was Berl (you remember, I just told you, the one who takes the pictures). The subject was the relationship between business, pregnancy and government intervention. It ended with the line "...there is no freedom of expression without freedom of enterprise." An awfully pretty phrase, I think.....Also busy writing away has been David Kahn who had 2 letters printed in The New York Times. Good work.....Well, I don't know what you did New Year's eve, but I mostly read. There was a party in NYC however (as per announced in the last Free Libertarian). Many celebrities were there, chairpersons and treasurers and newsletter editors and photographers and bookstore owners and lifetime members, but I wouldn't want to drop names. First hand reports included such adjectives as "warm" and "mellow" with all good words for the hostess, Jenny Graf. With all the talk about good food, guitar playing (with particular praises for Steve Daniels--who also made the punch), singing, and good friends, I think they all just wanted to make me feel jealous. It worked..... NY state is losing Ralph Raico to the West Coast, where he will have a position with Cato. I remember Ralph best for his spirited keynote address at out last state convention. We all wish him well.....I'm afraid this column has again centered primarily on the city. I can't help it. This where I live. Tho I have numerous talents, I cannot count mind reading or prophesy amongst them, so you must help me. If you have "Wed. nites" where you live, or special activities or new members or letters printed or written or parties or even if you're in love and you think it bears sharing, please let me know. Drop a note or make a call to the office. Send me the facts, or write it up yourself (the copy will be subject to editing--just like my copy is). I wish I could know everyone and be everywhere, but surely you understand that's impossible. You do understand? Then help me.....And lastly, may your year be one of happiness and health, and may we together grow, be tolerant, have good times and come closer to freedom in our time...

...monaslota

PS. I grew up in the part of the Bronx near the northern tip of Manhattan. The woods over there, overlooking the Hudson are beautiful. If you have no plans for Sun. Feb. 27th, I will be pleased to share the beauty with you if you'll meet with me at 10:30 AM (real time, not libertarian time) at the southwest corner of Dykman St. and Broadway. Take the "A" or #1 train to Dykman St. (The "A" train is closer) We will go in any weather except overt rain. If you've never seen the Cloisters, don't deny yourself. ms

ACTION LINE



AREA EVENTS

STATE COMMITTEE

February 12 in Baldwinsville in conjunction with the upstate Mini-convention. The major item of business will be plans for the 1977 Annual State Convention.

CAPITAL DISTRICT: ALBANY, FULTON, RENESSELAER, SARATOGA, SCHENECTADY COUNTIES

Regular meeting on the first Sunday of the month.

January: meeting as snowed out. Next meeting is February 6 at the Deane's. Topic is finding out what's open for the upcoming election. John Deane had an operation and will be out of his cast soon. Contact Linda Deane at (518) 356-0369 for details on upcoming activities.

GENESEE REGION: LIVINGSTON, MONROE, ONTARIO ORLEANS, WAYNE COUNTIES

February 25: Libertarian Supper Club at the home of Karl Brunner. Speaker is Prof. Dave Henderson who will speak on "Coal Mine Safety Regulations". For more information and/or reservations contact Dave Hoesly (716) 671-2055 res. or (716) 422-4348 work.

KINGS COUNTY: BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

February 28: meeting at 7:30PM at 75 Henry Street - Apt. 14A. For information contact Bob Flanzer at (212) 33206466 or (212) 475-7656.

MID-HUDSON: DUTCHESS, ORANGE, PUTNAM, SULLIVAN, ULSTER, WESTCHESTER COUNTIES

February 11: Slumber party at Cheryl Blanchette's. Bring sleeping bag.

February 17: meeting, topic "Why Do We Have Party Meetings?" Location: Cheryl Blanchette's. Will also feature representatives from the Republican, Democratic and Liberal parties.

For information contact Cheryl Blanchette at (914) 677-3252.

NASSAU COUNTY

Last meeting snowed out. No date set for February. Contact Donald Moses at (516) 759-9791.

NEW YORK COUNTY: BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

Regular meeting is the first Tuesday of the month at Laissez-Faires Books: 206 Mercer Street at 7:30PM.

March 1: speaker will be Jerry Klasman, author of *Living with Equals* - an individualistic guide to romantic love, and former FLP Chairperson.

QUEENS COUNTY

Major interest of organization is getting candidates for upcoming local school board elections. For information on next meeting contact Al Cappellazzi at (212) 886-2374.

SUFFOLK COUNTY

February 16: meeting at the Walker's. 8PM. 561 Birch Hollow Drive; North Shirley. For information contact Virginia Walker at (516) 924-3794.

SYRACUSE REGION

See separate notice about upstate Mini-Convention.

WESTERN NEW YORK: CATTERAUGUS, CHAUTAUQUA, ERIE, GENESEE, NIAGARA, WYOMING COUNTIES

Snowed under at the moment. For information on activities contact Bill Barzel (address in directory on last page).

If you happen to be in Manhattan, visit us at the 15 West 38th Street office. We're open every Wednesday night from 6:00PM on. Scheduled is anything that happens to need doing. Ring the night bell 5 times so we know it's you.

FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY
15 West 38th Street, Room 201
New York, N.Y. 10018



FIRST CLASS MAIL

LOCAL FOCAL POINTS

The Free Libertarian Party lives at 15 West 38th St., New York, N.Y. 10018 (Telephone: 212-354-0292). For information on local activities, contact:

CAPITAL DISTRICT

[Albany, Fulton, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady counties]

Mike Kessler
4 Sugar Plum Ridge
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065
(518) 371-1718

GENESEE REGION

[Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Wayne counties]

David Hoesly
971 Maple Drive
Webster, N.Y. 14580
(716) 671-2077

KINGS COUNTY (Brooklyn)

Ray Goldfield
1501 East Tenth Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230
(212) 376-4891

MID-HUDSON REGION

[Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester counties]

P. Jean Carroll
R.D.#2 - Box 144-C
Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572
(914) 876-2888

NASSAU COUNTY

Steve Schneider
P.O. Box 227
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