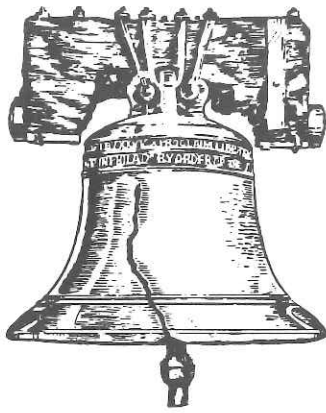


April 1989



Sandhills Libertarian Gazette

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBERTARIANS IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MIDLANDS

Libertarian Speaks Out Against Licensing of Nutritionists

The South Carolina Dietetic Association is again trying to get a bill passed that would license dietitians and nutritionists. Senate Bill 397 was the subject of a public hearing by a senate subcommittee on March 15 in Columbia. S.C.L.P. Treasurer David Morris spoke against the bill at the hearing.

Morris, a physician from West Columbia, had opposed a similar bill in 1986 which would have made it illegal for any unlicensed person to give any nutritional advice to anybody (even a family member). That bill died in a house committee. The 1989 bill isn't nearly as bad, for licensing would be voluntary, not mandatory. Even so, it seems that some of this bill's supporters wish to become dictators.

Here is the major portion of Morris' presentation to the senate subcommittee:

"I am opposed to Senate Bill 397, for I feel that it would set a dangerous precedent and worsen the government's intrusion into areas where it does not belong. This bill would set up a bureaucracy to license dietitians and nutritionists. While this licensing board would be a small one, I object to any unnecessary bureaucracy.

"New laws should not be proposed unless there is a clear need for them. There is no convincing evidence that a licensing board is needed for dietitians or nutritionists. Private organizations operating in the free market could do a better job of safeguarding the public and assuring the competence of these professionals. For example, the American Board of Nutrition and other groups could easily issue certificates of competence. Anyone who falsely claims to be certified by one of these groups would be guilty of fraud. We already have laws against fraud, and these laws are adequate. We don't need any new laws.

"I spoke against a similar bill in 1986, one that would have been even more intrusive than the one being considered here. While the present bill doesn't go that far, it will allow the government to get one foot in the door. This small step will make it easier for the government to take subsequent steps toward bureaucratic control of our lives.

"The citizens of South Carolina will be much better off if the government sticks to its only legitimate function: the protection of each individual's natural right to life, liberty, and property. The government should not intrude into the free market of ideas, products, and services."

Morris has thanked Russ Mellette, a lobbyist for the National Nutritional Foods Association, for

notifying him of the hearing. Mellette also spoke against the bill, as did Patricia Williams, Marcia Halpern, and Dick Edwards, all of whom are involved with local nutritional enterprises.

The subcommittee favorably reported the bill to the full Senate General Committee, which is not surprising, since two of the three subcommittee members were sponsors of the bill. The bill remains in committee as of the date of publication of this newsletter. Everyone is urged to write to their state senator and ask him/her to vote against this absurd bill.

News from the S.C. Libertarian Party

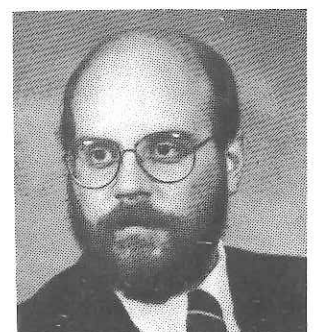
The high level of S.C.L.P. activity has carried over from the campaign into 1989. The January 29 state meeting had the highest attendance of any recent non-convention state meeting. Enthusiasm was so high that several vacant positions were filled on the spot (Membership Chair, Finance Committee Chair, Education Committee Chair, and Media Liaison). In addition, several new positions were created, including Executive Director, Outreach Chair, School Outreach Co-ordinators, and Congressional District Co-ordinators. Each of these persons has begun a new project or has plans for such a project. Please call them if you want to help. The S.C.L.P. also needs money to fund these projects, so please contribute! (S.C.L.P., P.O. Box 50643, Columbia, S.C. 29250).

The S.C.L.P. also plans to fight the local option sales tax bill for the fourth straight year (see article on page 3). However, the bill has not yet been introduced, since city and county governments are evidently squabbling about details (they can't agree on how to divide the stolen money).

THE NEXT STATE MEETING WILL BE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1:30 P.M. AT BILL GRIFFIN'S HOUSE IN WEST COLUMBIA. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE URGED TO ATTEND. CALL 755-9304 FOR DETAILS.



John Heaton has been S.C.L.P. Chairman since 1986. This year, he is getting some much-needed help from all the new officers.



Official 1988 Election Results

OFFICE SOUGHT	CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF OPPONENTS	VOTE TOTAL	PER- CENTAGE
President	Ron Paul	3	4,935	0.5%
Vice-President	Andre Marrou			
U.S. Congress				
2nd District	Geb Sommer	2	1,061	0.6%
3rd District	John Heaton	2	1,183	0.7%
S.C. House of Rep.				
District 71	Mark Johnson	1	534	7.6%
District 88	Bill Griffin	1	556	8.0%
District 93	Gil Atkinson	2	68	0.7%
District 107	Jim Wilson	2	231	2.6%
District 114	William Morea	1	839	10.7%
District 115	Phil Borden	2	130	1.3%
District 116	Tony Anderson	1	404	7.0%
District 119	Tom Limehouse	2	98	1.3%
Aiken Co. Council	Johnnie Parker	2	1,005	1.0%
	Wayne DuBose	2	77	0.5%
Charleston Co. Council	H.B. Limehouse, Jr.	2	1,421	1.8%

EDITOR'S COMMENTS ON ELECTION RESULTS

Nationwide, Ron Paul and Andre Marrou got 432,355 votes, which is more than all other third party candidates combined. While this was less than some of us had hoped for, it was almost twice the votes received by David Bergland and Jim Lewis in 1984 (228,796). Considering the extreme difficulty in getting on the ballot (more about that below), this wasn't bad at all.

In South Carolina, Ron Paul got only 576 more votes than Bergland received in 1984. However, it is important to realize that the Bergland-Lewis ticket did extremely well in South Carolina compared to other states.

The counties with the highest Paul-Marrou vote percentages were Richland (1617 votes - 1.9%), Darlington (202 votes - 1.1%), Spartanburg (397 votes - 0.62%), and Lexington (286 votes - 0.54%).

It's clear that the vote total would have been higher had Ron Paul been able to run television ads. In many states, it was much more difficult to get on the ballot than had been expected. Thousands of dollars had to be spent to get over these hurdles. For example,

in Florida, the state government arbitrarily charged the Libertarian Party \$8,000 extra to verify signatures on petitions. The Ron Paul campaign sued them and won, but when the Secretary of State refused to listen to the court ruling, another suit had to be filed.

In many states, government officials made it difficult for petitioners to get signatures to put Paul on the ballot. In Wyoming, petitioners showed the police a letter from the state Attorney General stating that they could collect signatures on public property. The police looked at the letter, laughed, and ordered the petitioners off the sidewalks!

In Missouri, after petitioners had collected more than enough signatures to qualify, the state government invented a new technicality to keep Paul off the ballot, but they refused to apply it to the Democrats or the Republicans.

According to Ron Paul, "They used every dirty trick in the book to keep us off the ballot. It was a tremendous victory that we got on 47, but it cost us more than \$640,000 and took up more than half the campaign time and energy during the most crucial phase."

The Libertarian Party Ballot Access Fund is already raising money to put Libertarians on the ballot in 1992. Perhaps, with this head start, we can make it in every state. More importantly, there will be more money for television ads during the next presidential campaign, the news media will pay more attention, and more voters will become aware of the Libertarian alternative.

I.R.S. Crime

by Dr. Ron Paul

Recently the EXPRESS NEWS in San Antonio, Texas, reported that Ms. Carol Bevins beat welfare by establishing a one-woman cleaning firm to feed her two small children. This business was destroyed by an I.R.S. bill which the I.R.S. now acknowledges may have been in error.

The I.R.S. was approached and questioned on this case, but their press officer in Austin responded by saying they cannot comment because they will not risk violating privacy laws. Isn't this amazing? The I.R.S. does everything possible to violate a citizens privacy, in trying to find out what the individual is doing, but once the I.R.S. is asked something about their tactics and their mistakes, they hide behind the argument that they are going to protect privacy - a bit of hyperbole to say the least.

* * * * *

The above is quoted from the RON PAUL POLITICAL REPORT, 1120 Nasa Blvd., Suite 104, Houston, Texas 77058. Interested persons are urged to subscribe to this newsletter, since it contains a wealth of information about the government's plans to violate your rights.



Let Us Solve Your Payroll Problems.

For only about \$1.25 per check,
from your phoned-in hours, we will
produce paychecks and complete stubs,
keep all records,
and provide all required reports.
Call Dick Winchell at 781-5427.

EDITORIAL

Property Taxes Are Too High, but Sales Taxes Are Not The Answer

Everyone is fed up with rising property taxes. Nobody doubts that property owners need relief. South Carolina has one of the highest total tax burdens of any state in the South. Figures published in *U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT* show that Atlanta is the only city in the Southeast with a higher tax burden than Columbia.

South Carolinians would obviously benefit from lower property taxes. However, politicians often take a good idea and turn it into bad legislation. The local option sales tax is a good example, and so are efforts to give counties the power to tax motor vehicles. The local option sales tax bill (often called the Local Government Finance Act) would allow local governments to impose a sales tax, using part of the extra tax money to roll back property taxes a little bit.

If cities and counties are allowed to impose sales taxes on their citizens, the economy of the state will suffer. Property taxes are deductible on federal income tax forms, but sales taxes are not deductible. Therefore, if any property tax revenues are replaced by sales tax revenues, South Carolinians will be forced to pay more in federal income taxes. This will leave less money in South Carolina and more money in Washington. Does anybody seriously believe that this would help South Carolina?

The Libertarian Party is fighting for the taxpayers and against higher local taxes, and is opposing the local option sales tax for the fourth straight year. If taxes are increased, small businesses will find it more difficult to offer new jobs. This will reduce our standard of living and increase the unemployment rate. Higher sales taxes will be especially harmful to the poor and the elderly.

According to a recent poll in *THE STATE*, 51 percent of South Carolinians are against higher sales taxes, but 73 percent would favor a local option sales tax "if it means your property taxes would be lowered." This wording is deceptive, however, since no politician or government can make an unbreakable promise. Any property tax relief will be temporary, unless voters begin to elect persons who understand the value of

frugality, privatization, and free enterprise. No government has ever voluntarily lowered taxes without later raising them much higher.

Instead of raising taxes, governments should reduce spending by privatizing many of their services. For years, Libertarians have pointed out that privatization can result in better services at less cost to the taxpayers. This has worked when it has been tried, as an article in the October 1987 *GAZETTE* pointed out (copies of this article are available). However, most elected officials don't seem interested in being frugal with other people's money. The worst thing to do would be to give them more of our money to waste!

Legislators Express Contempt for Constitution

Senator John Land (D-Clarendon) and Rep. Herb Kirsch (D-York) are backing a bill that would outlaw bumper stickers which contain "profane, indecent, or lewd words describing sexual acts, excretory functions, or parts of the human body."

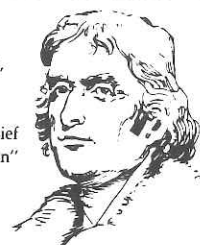
Both Land and Kirsch have publicly acknowledged that such a law might be declared unconstitutional, but they have also said that it's important to try to get it passed anyway.

While it is dangerous enough to give the government (or even a jury) the right to determine what is and isn't "profane" or "indecent", it is even more dangerous for elected officials to express such contempt for the constitution. All legislators take an oath to uphold the S.C. Constitution and the U.S. Constitution, and violation of this oath is supposed to be a serious matter.

Fortunately, a few lone words of sanity were to be found in the legislature - a rare event, indeed. Rep. Timothy Wilkes (D-Fairfield) said "I find obese people in bikinis offensive, but I just look the other way." That is the only proper approach to matters of personal taste.

"In questions of power, then,
let no more be said of
confidence in man,
but bind him down from mischief
by the chains of the Constitution"

Thomas Jefferson



G. LEON'S BOOKSTORE

Home of Quality Used Books

CLASSICS ■ SCI-FI ■ PHILOSOPHY ■ HISTORY
SCIENCE ■ SOCIAL SCIENCE ■ THE ARTS
CHILDREN ■ RARE & COLLECTIBLE ■ FIRST EDITIONS
AND MANY OTHER CATEGORIES

Our Stock of Books Changes Daily ■ We Trade and Buy from the Public

2002-H Greene St.
(in Five Points)

252-3513

YES! I would like to help the fight
for MY freedom. Enclosed is
my contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$5 ☐ Other _____

☐ Please send more information.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

home

work

Send to:

Lexington County Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 2297, West Columbia, S.C. 29171

American Libertarian

Dana Rohrabacher

Meane and Paul
Launch Campaign

NOT FOR EVERYONE...

American Libertarian is not for everyone...But if you appreciate the inside stories on the liveliest political and intellectual movement in the world, the **American Libertarian** is for you. Monthly. Sent First Class.

Rates: ☐ 1yr. \$20 ☐ 2 yrs. \$38 ☐ Back issues \$2

American Libertarian, 21745 Park Brook Drive, Katy, TX 77450

S.C.L.P. OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN: John Heaton (Aiken): 648-9806

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Bill Griffin (West Columbia): 755-9304

SECRETARY: Jan Chapman Morris (Lexington): 796-3161

TREASURER: David Morris (Lexington): 796-3161

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Geb Sommer (Lexington): 359-5295

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Mark Johnson (Little Mountain): 345-5502

OUTREACH CHAIR: Bill Griffin (West Columbia): 755-9304

EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR: Mary Lou Seymour (Bath): 593-6876

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Gonzalo Leon (Columbia): 252-3513

MEDIA LIAISON: John Harllee (Florence): 669-8345

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CO-ORDINATORS:

1st: Phil Borden (Folly Beach): 588-9407

2nd: Ed Underwood (Columbia): (Box 50651, Cola. 29250)

3rd: Tom King (Bath): 593-6876

4th: Bill McCuen (Greenville): 232-7476

6th: Mitch Olinger (Darlington): 383-4241

SCHOOL OUTREACH CO-ORDINATORS:

Public and Private High Schools:

Tahirih Gelardi (West Columbia): 794-7662

University of South Carolina: Ed Underwood (see above)

U.S.C. Aiken: Tim Moultrie (North Augusta): 278-0686

ANTI-TAX POST CARDS

Eight different kinds for \$1.

Order from John Harllee, Rt. 10,
Box 52-A, Florence, S.C. 29501.

The editor thanks Jan Chapman Morris
for her assistance in preparing this
newsletter.

LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT EXTRA
COPIES OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO GIVE
TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

* * * * *

The Sandhills Libertarian Gazette
is published by the Lexington
County Libertarian Party.
Ad rates available on request.
Please address all correspondence
to the Editor.

EDITOR: David Morris

Have Your Insurance Agent
Call Us For Quotes On:

TERM, UNIVERSAL, CURRENT
ASSUMPTION, ANNUITY AND
IMPAIRED-RISK
LIFE INSURANCE

Brokerage Services of Carolina, Inc.

Bill Brooks, Jr.
President

P.O. Drawer 5697
Columbia, S.C. 29250
Phone: (803) 254-2215
S.C. WATS 1-800-223-2762

South Carolina Association of Taxpayers



"the voice of the taxpayer
in South Carolina ..."

Post Office Box 50799 / Columbia, South Carolina 29250 / (803) 782-6913

SCAT is an educational, non-partisan, and non-profit organization

LATE NEWS FLASH

The Aiken County Libertarian Party has selected Timothy Moultrie to run for the North Augusta City Council. The election will be held on April 25. Moultrie, 25, is a student at U.S.C. Aiken and is the founder of the student group Libertarians for America. He plans to attract those voters who "oppose the current trend toward socialism in local government circles." He will be the only non-Republican on the ballot, since no Democrat is seeking a Council position.

LEXINGTON COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY
Post Office Box 2297
West Columbia, S.C. 29171

Address Correction Requested



BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
West Columbia, S.C.
Permit No. 188