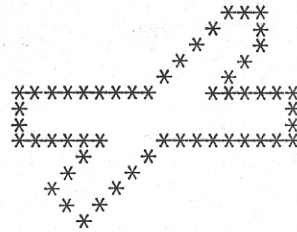


The I L L I N O I S  
L I B E R T A R I A N

The newsletter of  
The Libertarian Party  
of Illinois  
P.O. Box 1776  
Chicago, IL 60690



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Volume I, Number 3 "All the news that gives 'em fits." March, 1975  
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LP CO-SPONSORS NATIONAL TAX PROTEST DAY

THE CARBONDALE PRIMARY ELECTION

Irene Gets a Scare

The Libertarian Party has joined the Society for Individual Liberty and the National Taxpayers Union in sponsoring the third annual National Tax Protest Day, to be held this April 12. In recognition of the average taxpayer's "tax bite" approaching the 50% mark, "celebrations" are being planned around the country, complete with speech-making, demonstrating, and leafleting.

Illinois is not without its would-be celebrants: the NOTA group is busy organizing tax protest activities in the Chicago area. What will happen on the 12th is unclear, but there are definite plans afoot to stage a demonstration in front of the Main Chicago Post Office on the night (10 PM to midnight) of April 15. Usually at that time and place, there is much commotion as hundreds of procrastinators rush in to beat the deadline for filing state and federal tax returns. Usually, also, there is a newspaper photographer or two hanging around hoping for a good story. We intend to give them one.

Bob Randall is coordinating the activities for NOTA. All in the Chicago area are invited to bring their ideas, pithy slogans (to go on the placards--but they must be "in good taste," says Bob), and artistic talents to an organizational meeting in Bob's home at 1536 W. Farwell, 2C, Chicago, Ill. (phone: 312/973-2199) on Monday, March 31st (an earlier meeting was held on the 16th of this month).

The mayoral campaign of libertarian Irene Altschuler almost died this past February 25th. On that day, the voters of Carbondale went to the polls to declare their preferences thus: 1,115 for the Democratic incumbent, Neil Eckert; 563 for city councilman Hans Fischer; and only 330 for the candidate of the Rational and Good, Irene Altschuler. According to the rules of the primary, which award a place on the ballot to the top two vote getters only, Irene had been bumped. What went wrong?

Ms. Altschuler was one of only two declared candidates, and thus her ballot position seemed secure. But who could have foreseen the last-minute (announced the day before the election) write-in campaign for Fischer? And who could have predicted he would do so well?

So well, in fact, that it raised a few suspicions, one of them being that the whole primary was a hoax, a collusive effort to deprive the citizens of Carbondale of any real choice at the polls (Fischer admits to there being no substantial difference between him and the current mayor, though "I'd probably tend to be a little more aggressive in my conduct of the office.") Fischer was said to be out of town when the write-in campaign was being organized on his behalf. Further, prior

(continued on page 8)

## A CHOICE, NOT AN ECHO?

by Joe Cobb

To alleviate the boredom that most libertarians might feel about the April 1, 1975 Chicago City Elections, the unofficial officials of the Libertarian Party in Chicago have selected

### CHRISTINE M. MASON

as our write-in candidate. Chris Mason is an aggressive, modern young woman who is studying to be a psychotherapist. She is 25, unmarried, intelligent, and articulate. Among her other activities, she is presently providing a foster home for two teenage "wards of the State" and contributing positively to their development of self-reliance and self-esteem. In this reporter's opinion, every libertarian in Chicago could make a valuable point by taking the time on Tuesday, April 1 to "write in" for Christine Mason.

What are the goals of this write-in campaign? In the first place, write-in votes are counted by the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, whereas "None of the Above" votes are not counted. We would like to chalk up as many votes as possible. If a "large" number were cast, we would have the basis for a news item or two. And we do need news items.

In the second place, the campaign might generate a number of "talk show" appearances--possibly some joint appearances with the other woman candidate, Willie Mae Reid of the Socialist Workers Party (which is on the ballot because they are presently a larger party than we are).

In the third place, and perhaps most significant, it is important to have a candidate for this election because the entire raison d'etre for the Libertarian Party is to offer candidates for public office. It's time to put up (and generate votes) or shut up!

Here are the mechanics of voting (have you ever used your right to write in a name?). There are little slots at the top of each

voting machine. Open the slot and hold it open with one hand as you print "CHRISTINE M. MASON" with your pen or pencil on the paper underneath. [It is imperative that you print precisely "Christine M. Mason," and not some variant such as "Chris Mason" or "Kris M. Mason"; otherwise, Christine M. Mason could lose votes unnecessarily. Got that?!] You can ask the election judges to supply you with a pencil and to show you how before you enter the voting machine, but don't expect them to be very cooperative. Write-in votes mean more work for election judges, most of whom are employed by the Daley Machine to ensure the Mayor's re-election.

There are more offices to be elected April 1 than just hizzonner, so feel free to give Christine your full support. Vote early--vote often. Vote to abolish city hall!

\* \* \* \* \*

### CANDID CANDIDATE

An Open Letter from  
Irene Altschuler

Dear Libertarians:

I went into the primary elections with only the incumbent and myself on the ballot. This was not as favorable as it might appear on the surface: many people felt they did not have to vote because they thought we were a sure thing and had nothing to fear from a write-in campaign. Hans Fischer, a town councilman and a previous mayoral candidate (narrowly defeated), waged a well-organized blitz and succeeded in knocking me off the ballot. I contested the election, pointing out that only 27 ballots had been thrown out (an incredibly small number) and that it appeared the election judges had been much more generous to this write-in candidate than had ever before been the case. Mr. Fischer had to file in order to secure his position on the ballot. After a week, when it became clear that we were determined to examine the ballot boxes via a recount, Mr. Fischer announced that he would not be a candidate; and, so, I am now back on the ballot, fighting for libertarian ideals.

(continued on page 3)

## STOUT CAMPAIGN

The LPI meeting of February 23rd heard Paul Stout describe his experiences in getting on the ballot as an independent candidate for village trustee in Lombard.

The April 15 election is the first in which the six Lombard trustees will be elected from specific districts. With about a thousand votes having been cast in the previous election, Paul was required to collect 51-81 signatures of registered voters on his petition for a place on the ballot. He collected 80 names on three (warm) January afternoons. Local political parties fielding six candidates are required to collect 300 names.

Paul is running against the candidates of two local political parties, the United Action Party and the Citizens' Action Party, and one other independent, a cast-off from the CAP. Both parties have a record as practitioners of a pragmatic, common-law approach to government, which assumes that everything is a fit subject for legislation and results in a sort of authoritarian village socialism. Some recent examples are a subsidized commuter bus system and a sign control ordinance.

In a sense, Paul has been campaigning for this post for a long time. He and other members of the Libertarian Club of DuPage have been very active in the last couple of years on issues such as subsidized suburban housing and regional transit. This has included some radio and TV exposure.

Paul is also a prolific letter writer. Hardly a month goes by without one of his letters appearing in one of the local suburban newspapers.

The Lombard sign ordinance, passed last year during the height of the RTA [Regional Transit Authority] controversy, is a prize example of authoritarian law. It begins with a "General Prohibition" which reads: "Any sign not expressly permitted by this ordinance is prohibited." Paul has been actively working for repeal of this law since last summer and has had favorable response from several businesspersons.

You can get some healthful outdoor exercise and, at the same time, help Paul get elected by helping canvass his neighborhood. Leaflet distributions (house-to-house) are scheduled for the weekends of March 29-30, April 5-6, and April 12-13.

If you can help for an hour or two or more (between 9 AM and 6 PM) on any of those days, call Paul at 312/627-1421, or just show up at 150 N. Main Street, Lombard (between North Avenue and St. Charles Rd.). Light refreshments and a hearty welcome are assured.

(submitted by the Stout for Trustee Committee)

\* \* \* \* \*

CANDID (continued from page 2)

I have found that in a political campaign it is vital to keep the number of issues to a minimum because each new issue causes dissension among one's political workers and drives off potential voters. For example, in this mayoral contest it makes no sense at all to take a stand on birth control, ERA, public vs. private schools, etc. We can all agree that government is getting too big and is spending too much. We can agree that bureaucracy has become self-serving, inefficient, and contemptuous of the people. These issues can be documented on the local level fairly easily. Voters can support these ideas and all libertarians can agree upon them.

It is essential to have party unity. It has been very trying to coordinate the activities and public statements made by people who are born individualists. Unless we can agree on aims and methods, we will always be severely handicapped.

I would appreciate any help my fellow libertarians can give me. Your support has already proved itself of great value. Any contributions, at this point, can be sent to

Gary Patrick, Treasurer  
203 West Monroe  
Carbondale, IL 62901.

The general election will be on April 15.

Sincerely,

IRENE ALTSCHULER

## THE LIBERTARIAN CHESS CLUB

by Steve Nelson, Chairman

The "Libertarian Chess Club" may stand as a paradigm for a thousand kinds of associations which have been suggested as sub-groups within (or even substitutes for) the Libertarian Party. In general, it may be said of these associations that they are perfectly proper activities, and many of them would contribute a modest measure to the social pleasures of libertarian life, perhaps even to the extent of helping recruiting. But it must also be said of them that their contribution to the ultimate goal is small indeed.

The management of any purposeful organization is immediately concerned with reconciling three abstractions: the goals of the organization, the enormous number of possible actions which might lead to those goals, and the extremely limited (in terms of the possible actions) resources of the organization. A beginning is made by ruling out all those actions which involve unavailable resources, and scheduling those few actions which involve negligible expenditures. Thereafter, the expenditure associated with each of the remaining (still very large) number of actions is estimated, and the real labor begins: what combination of actions equal to the resources gives the greatest progress towards the goals?

If the organization is a political one, there are complicating factors--all the goals (except the ballots themselves) are intangible and nonquantifiable; most of the resources (except dollars in hand) are intangible, nonquantifiable, and future; the information invariably has serious gaps in it. Further, many important factors are subject to very rapid change, necessitating continuous re-evaluation. (At this point, the orthodox economist commits suicide.)

What has this to do with The Libertarian Chess Club? Well, some proponents of these associations are careful to confine their requests to the "negligible expenditure" level, but others are not. Let

us examine the goals and resources of LPI to see what kind of expenditure can be considered negligible.

LPI's long-term goal is to elect Libertarian officials. As a means to that end, we must convince the general population of the truth of libertarian thinking, recruit, and organize the recruits into a party capable of carrying out the mechanics of election.

LPI's assets consist largely of work-hours from three overlapping groups of people: those directly contributing skilled labor (managerial, legal, accounting, etc.), those indirectly contributing labor (by donating money), and those contributing unskilled--but very necessary--labor (for licking stamps, distributing flyers, and all the other nitty-gritty needful to propagandizing). Accumulated assets include a bank account (about one ten-thousandth the amount needed for a minimum serious state campaign) and an established newsletter (with a circulation of 200). Which is to say, only those actions with a maximum immediate payoff or those with negligible expenditure can be considered. Since the Libertarian Chess Clubs do not (by definition) have any great immediate payoff in either the fiscal or the political sense, LPI aid to them must be confined to those things that do not consume labor or money to an appreciable extent.

\* \* \* \* \*

### LPI GENERAL MEETING FOR MARCH

We will meet on Sunday, March 23, at 2:00 in the afternoon (this differs from our past policy of meeting in the evenings--see page 7) at 1960 N. Lincoln Park West (near the corner of Clark & Armitage) in Chicago. The meeting will be on the "P" (for "penthouse") floor in the Party Room. Topics to be discussed include: appropriating Party money to publicize (via the mail) (1) a possible fundraiser, with featured speakers being members of the LP Executive Committee (who will be in town the Memorial Day Weekend), and (2) a possible county fair campaign this summer. Contrary to recent practice, this will not be a dinner meeting.

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

IF YOU CAN'T BEAT THEM, ENJOIN THEM

The Des Plaines City Council  
Votes to Kill Public Housing

You may be wondering why this issue is typewritten, and not done in professional typeface (with justified margins) as promised. Primarily because it is easier for me this way. Also, I can have more control over the layout; the other way would have required nearly a third of the month for actual physical production--simply intolerable. So, we keep the same appearance awhile. This does not mean, however, that we won't alter the format in said way six months from now, when I will have more experience under my belt and (hopefully) more copy in my files.

In the last issue of this newsletter, we reported that the City Council of Des Plaines was considering the expenditure of federal funds on "community development" projects in that city. We also reported that libertarians in the Des Plaines area had spoken out against such expenditures at two public meetings on the same subject. Now we are pleased to report a victory in this matter: On February 18, the Council voted 12 to 2 (with one abstention) to reject public housing and to return the HUD money to Washington whence it came. That the Department of Housing and Urban Development will return the money to the taxpayers whence it really came is of course too much to expect; but half a victory is better than none.

More copy in my files. Sigh... Remember the story of the old woman who when she went to her cupboards always found them bare? That is similarly my predicament a week before every publication deadline. In other words, send things in--submit! That's less work for me, more glory for you. And besides, you won't be subjected to so much of my babble. (The keen-eyed among you have already noticed that I have this uncontrollable passion for word-play--an alliterary amour.)

The victory would have been unlikely, if not impossible, were it not for the efforts of LPiers Dale Nelson, Steve Nelson, and Paul Stout, and libertarian individualist Bernie Sommer (who "won't join anything," not even LP). It was their actions that turned the tide and prompted the City of Des Plaines to publicize the controversy (the first two "public" meetings went virtually unnoticed) with a

(continued on page 6)

Enough of myself. What of this newsletter? I envision it as, primarily, a compilation of news edited in the tone of a personal letter. I would like to keep lofty philosophical discourse away from these pages; that stuff is better suited elsewhere, notably in books. If the reader hasn't already done so, he/she is entreated to "subscribe" (it's free) to the "Laissez Faire Review," put out bi-monthly by Laissez Faire Books of New York (206 Mercer St., NY, NY 10012). Another good bibliographic quarterly is the "The Libertarian Scholar" (\$4/yr, Box 394, DeKalb, IL 60115). Two other publications indispensable to libertarians are Reason (monthly, \$12/yr, Box 6151H, Santa Barbara, CA 93111) and LP News (bi-monthly; see the coupon to the right).

Aside from keeping it "newsy" and practical--but I certainly don't mean to exclude ideas--I would like to keep this a local paper of record, with home-grown news and articles. But, again, to do it that way I need your help--that means you!

GIFT SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please send the individual below the LP NEWS on a regular basis.

- Enclosed is  \$3 for six issues  
 \$5 for twelve issues

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Mail to: **Libertarian Party  
550 Kearny Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108**

mailing to everyone who receives a water bill. The third and final meeting was attended by over 200 people, many of them senior citizens. Ordinarily one would have expected them to support the community development proposal, which included such things as the restoration of an old house to serve as a senior citizens crafts center, the rebuilding of a water mill on the Des Plaines River, and the establishment of a local bird sanctuary, besides the public housing construction. But when the libertarians pointed out to them that the money for these projects doesn't come from heaven but rather from taxes, their taxes--be they direct or indirect (as with inflation)--the oldsters joined in the clamor for the proposal's defeat. Who says libertarian agitation is to no effect?

During the course of this affair, certain facts came to light which would set a muckraker's mouth a-drooling. Space limitations prevent our going into them here (except to say that they involve the land developers). But if there are any budding Upton Sinclair or Lincoln Steffens types out there in our libertarian readership--here's your chance. Hop to it!

\* \* \* \* \*

BOONDOGGLE-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB. Tired of the same old legislation? Long for the exciting days of the New Deal? Perk up! And get My Deal: Send me just \$12.98 and I will sponsor for you--not one, not two, but--twenty-four bills in the U.S. Senate over the rest of my term. Now you too can have a (dirty) hand in all that fun you've been hearing so much about. I will propose a bill for virtually anything you ask, from aid for arteriosclerotic Andalusians to a Tomb for the Unknown Zwinglian. If you have difficulty in deciding, for an additional \$1 I will rush you my pamphlet, "1001 Boondoggles: A Congressional Cornucopia." And, as a special offer, if you send me \$599.95 by the first of the fiscal year, you can have me all--lock, stock, and pork barrel. Think of it! Be the first on your block to own your very own U.S. Senator! Don't delay, write today: "Honest Sam" Foggybottomless, Senate Office Building, Washroom A, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Or a Cop-Out Maybe?

The following piece appeared in the Chicago Tribune recently as part of a discussion of the differences between Liberals and Conservatives in America:



Sen. John Tower

## Conservative's basic beliefs

By John Tower

*The author, a Republican, is the senior senator from Texas.*

**YOU. YOU** are what makes conservatism different from liberalism, Fascism, Communism--every other "ism" that is, was, or is ever likely to be.

Modern American conservatism is the antithesis of authoritarianism. The conservative would leave as much as possible to popular control in the area of public decision.

Basically, we believe that you have the right to do whatever it is you want to do, provided you do not interfere with any other citizen's God-given rights to life, liberty, and property.

We believe in the free-enterprise system because we believe that nobody has the right to tell you what kind of work to do or what you can be paid for doing it.

Ours is the only political philosophy based on the concept of individual sovereignty--the notion that you, and you alone, have the right to determine your own destiny.

"The Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party"?

Oh?

The only?

Basically, that is. However, ...

C A L E N D A R

MINUTES & SECONDS

The LPI General Meeting  
for February

by Robert Osterlund, Secretary

19 March (Wed.), Sheraton Oak Brook Hotel (in the main ballroom), 1401 West 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Ill. RONALD REAGAN to give a dinner address. The public is invited. Social hour at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30. Tickets \$30. Make checks payable to the John Ericson Republican League, c/o Mark Rhoads, 600 Hillgrove Avenue, Western Springs, Ill. 60558. For more info, call Mark at 312/246-1282.

23 March. LPI GENERAL MEETING (see p. 4).

26 March (Wed.), 8:00 PM. A meeting of the LIBERTARIAN CLUB OF DUPAGE at the residence of Don Parrish, 5536 East Lake Drive A, Lisle, Ill. (phone: 852-2844).

29-30 March (Sat. & Sun.). STOUT CANVASS (see page 3).

31 March (Mon.), 8:00 PM. A meeting of the TAX PROTEST organizers--everyone is welcome. At the residence of Bob Randall, 1536 W. Farwell, 2C, Chicago, Ill. Phone: 312/973-2199. (See page 1.)

1 April (Tues.). CHICAGO CITY ELECTIONS.

1 April (Tues.). LPI OFFICERS MEETING.

3 April (Thurs.). A meeting of NOTA (or the "None of the Above" Club, otherwise known as the Northern/Northwestern Cook County/Lake County Libertarians--this includes north Chicago). For meeting time and place, call either Bonnie Kaplan (967-1339) or Dale Nelson (298-0056); or send \$1 ("tanstaaf1") to Bonnie Kaplan at 7820 Nordica, Niles, Ill. 60648 to receive meeting announcements in the mail thru June.

5-6 April (Sat. & Sun.). STOUT CANVASS.

12-13 April (Sat. & Sun.). STOUT CANVASS.

15 April (Tues.). CARBONDALE & LOMBARD MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The meeting was gaveled to order at 8 PM with only 15 people in attendance.

I. Treasurer's Report

Fran Holt noted an allocation of \$200 toward the mailing expenses for the New Orleans Money Conference and reported that as of that moment there were \$1,039.64 in the Treasury.

II. Announcements

The Chair called for volunteers to help out with the mailing for the conference.

III. Old Business

A. The by-laws issue was discussed and dismissed.

B. About incorporation: no rush.

C. Chris Mason was suggested as the Party's Chicago Mayoral candidate [see page 2].

IV. New Business

A. Jeff Smith moved that it be the general policy of LPI to hold its General Meetings on Sunday afternoons rather than evenings. A friendly amendment to alternate between afternoon and evening meetings was defeated. Another friendly amendment requiring the host club to determine the meeting time was defeated.

The original, unamended motion was passed by show of hands.

B. The question of having a fund-raising event sometime this spring or early summer was tabled.

C. The possibility of having an early state convention to vote on the by-laws awaits the recommendations of the by-laws committee.

V. Special Announcement

Paul Stout spoke of his candidacy for village trustee of Lombard [see page 3].

The meeting adjourned at 10 PM. Ho hum. [The McDonald's cokes were watery. So was the sky. The off-the-record debates, on the other hand, were simply smashing.]

DYNAMIC DUO: LPI Chairman, Steve Nelson, and LPIer Paul Stout appeared on Jim Conway's "Weekend Show" on WNUS-FM (Chicago) this past Feb. 15. The two talked of libertarianism, stressing its philosophical foundations, and in general were quite effective in their presentation. [Hip...]

\* \* \* \* \*

FOLLOW THE LEADER: LPIer John Cody, who is also a Professor of Classics at Northwestern University, made an appearance on Bill Mencarow's "Dialogue" show, WYCA-FM (Hammond) from 11 PM to 1 AM on Feb. 24. John debated and discussed our current economic problems and how to cope with them with a representative of the U.S. Labor Party (a Marxist organization) who gave dire warnings of an impending economic collapse and worldwide ecological holocaust unless the government steps in to save the poor American farmer, who "doesn't have enough money to buy the seeds necessary for spring planting." It was a most entertaining two hours. [...hip...]

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WINSTON GOES WIRELESS: LPI and Execomm member Winston Duke appeared on Bill Mencarow's "Dialogue" on March 3 from 11 PM to 1 AM. [The officers of LPI hereby extend their thanks to Bill for providing us with a radio forum on a fairly regular basis.] Winston's partner in the dialogue was one of Sherman Skolnick's associates. [Does anyone know the number of Skolnick's telephone hotline? Indeed, does it still exist?] The topic of their dialogue was "The Energy Crisis: Who's to Blame?" Duke spoke up in defense of the oil companies. [...hooray! for these 4 LPIers' efforts.]

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TOMES FOR THE TAKING: Libertarians can buy Murray Rothbard's new book, Conceived in Liberty, at \$5 off the list price of \$15, and Ludwig von Mises' classic, Human Action, at over \$7 off the list price of \$17.50, by--here's the catch--signing up for a year's membership in the Conservative Book Club, which generally requires you to purchase 4 books (all at a substantial saving) in the space of a year. Write: The Conservative Book Club, 81 Centre Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801. [It's a good club--they won't rip you off.]

CARBONDALE PRIMARY (contd. from page 1)

to the vote he had announced his support of Eckert. (In the 1971 election, Fischer lost by 2% to Eckert, who incidentally was Governor Walker's running mate [for lieutenant governor] in 1972.)

Ms. Altschuler's backers cried foul. They understandably felt angry and upset (one rumor has it that city workers were directed to vote for Fischer--shades of Daleytown!). And they demanded a recount.

Perhaps it was the threat of recount that convinced Fischer to drop out of the race. Perhaps he simply decided that his political base wasn't strong enough, or that personal concerns precluded his running. Whatever, runner-up Fischer decided not to file; and as a result of his dropping his "non-candidacy," Irene was reinstated on the April 15 ballot.

It is said that many of Irene's potential votes stayed home, figuring she was a shoo-in. There is some hope she will benefit from a sizable "sympathy vote" come April. But win or lose, libertarians everywhere should learn at least one lesson from this experience: Don't ever expect the Reprocrats to give us an even break. When it comes down to us or them, them'll stick together and try to shut us out--alway.

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