

Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 31, Issue 4, April 2003

News Of Local Libertarians' Struggle For Freedom



LIBERTARIANS REACH OUT TO TEENS AT NORCAL JSA'S SPRING MEETING

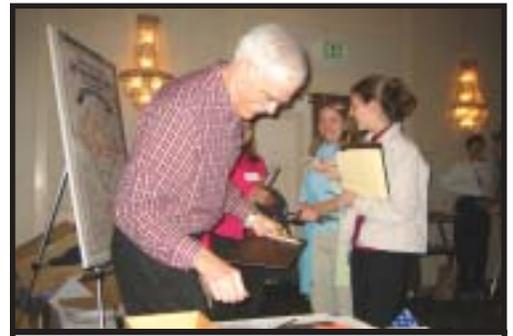
Reported by Mike Laursen and Marv Rudin

Organized by LPSCC Treasurer Jon Hugdahl, on April 12th ___ local members joined with ___ other Bay Area Libertarians to reach out to hundreds of politically inspired teenagers from all over Northern California attending JSA's Spring Conference at the Marriott Hotel in Santa Clara. Libertarian Northern California Vice Chair Larry Samuels of Monterey Rled the LP contingent as usual, providing all the fixtures and literature, including two OPH stations.



Jon Hugdahl

Mike Laursen, who was attending a JSA conference for the first time, covered it for the SCL News, reporting "Ray Strong, who always seemed to be surrounded by a group of young women, manned one of the OPH boards. Chris Fox from the San Francisco LP was at the other OPH board. They collected 151 cards of which 18 scored in the Libertarian sector. 23 of the 151 gave us their name and address of which 8 scored Libertarian. There were lots of



Ray Strong working OPH board and girl fans

dots in all the quadrants, except the conservative quadrant, which had only about 3 dots in it. We had a huge amount of literature, buttons, handouts, etc. that stretched along one side of the room. None of the other parties came close. I believe most of this stuff was provided by Lawrence Samuels. He seemed to have a pamphlet or book on every conceivable topic."

Mike went on to describe somewhat unenthusiastically the presentation material brought by Samuels: "We had several buttons, for example, with anarchist slogans on them. I thought this
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UMPHRESS AND ABU-GHAZALAH TELL OF RUNS FOR CONGRESS AT LPSCC'S SPRING MEETING

Reported by Marv Rudin

The Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County's spring Central Committee meeting at the Fish Market Restaurant in San Jose on April 17th was highlighted by Libertarian candidates for U.S. Congress Dennis Umphress (15th Congressional District) and Maad Abu-Ghazalah (12TH Congressional District), recounting and analyzing what happened in their races and what they learned from their campaigns.

Umphress recounted how in 1999 he had first been persuaded by state Campaign Committee head Ted Brown to run for Congress in 2000, which converted him to a highly active Santa Clara LP Campaign Chair and candidate in 2002 and continuing as Campaign Chair this year. He described the fun of being in the various candidate debates and being interviewed by media reporters in the 15th Congressional District, summarizing it as "An experience not to be missed."

Abu-Ghazalah may have been the highest funded candidate the California LP has ever had. He amassed donations to his campaign totalling \$150,000, which enabled him to produce a professional video about himself and his candidacy and to pull perhaps the highest percentage of votes of any Libertarian candidate running for a federal office in California history - 10%. This compares favorably with the 7% drawn by Terry Savage in 1994, although Savage's campaign fund of \$50,000 gave him a lower cost per %, about \$7,000 per % versus \$15,000 per % for Abu-Ghazalah.

The experience hasn't soured Abu-Ghazalah on the Libertarian principles, but it has on his chances of winning as a Libertarian. He said he's decided that he will continue to run and advocate libertarian principles, but next time as a Democrat, the party that has by far the largest number of registered voters in the 12th Congressional District, but also the present incumbent Tom Lantos. He said he has already reregistered as a Democrat.



Umphress tells of fun being LP candidate



AbuGhazalah jumps to Dems

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LPSCC SUPPORTS U.S.-LOCAL LP BOOTH AT NORML CONFERENCE IN S.F. ONLY WITH DOLLARS

Reported by Marv Rudin



Terry Floyd

This year the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), held its annual convention in San Francisco from April 17 through the 19th, and the national Libertarian Party once again had an outreach booth at the convention led by its Political Director Ron Crickenberger. The NORML booth planned by the East Bay LP region, and to which up to \$200 was offered conditionally by the LPSCC Excom (see SCL: March Issue page 7) joined forces with Crickenberger's national LP booth after initially being unaware of there being duplicate national and local plans for boothing at the event.

About their smooth adjustment to the situation, East Bay Treasurer Terry Floyd said "When we discovered that the National LP had secured a booth at the NORML Conference, we decided to combine our forces and use a single table for the effort. Ron Crickenberger was able to negotiate a credit from NORML so that we would only be charged for a single table instead of two. Therefore, Santa Clara County's part of the cost is much less than you pledged. The booth cost was \$150 (less the \$150 for the single conference attendee pass included), so you need only pay \$50."

Santa Clara Libertarian -- Schedule of Publication to Year End

COVERAGE PERIOD	FINAL EDIT	PUBLICATION
May Issue	June 15th,	printed & bulk mailed June 22nd
June Issue:	July 20th,	on web site July 22nd
July Issue:	August 17th,	on web site August 19th
August Issue:	September 14th,	printed & bulk mailed September 22nd
September Issue:	October 19th,	on web site October 21st
October Issue:	November 23rd,	on web site November 25th
November Issue:	December 13th,	printed & bulk mailed December 20th
December Issue	January 4th	on web site January 6th

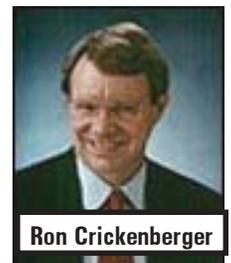
- (1) Email "SCL notice" to rudin@lpty.org to be notified at time of issuance
- (2) Last 5 years' SCL issues may be read online at <http://www.lpty.org/scnews/>

He continued "Besides Ron and myself, other volunteers who participated included James Eyer, Constance Ericson, Scott Wilson, Kelly Simpson, Eric Fine, Curt Cornell, Frank Manske, Starchild, Aaron Smith, Lance Keating, Steve DeKorte, and Eric Brenner. These folks are from the East Bay LP, Sonoma County LP and the LP of San Francisco, who also agreed to co-sponsor the project.

Overall, we collected more than 100 new contacts through the World's Smallest Political Quiz and signed up at least two new members (though there may have been more). I was only able to be there two days, so do not have the full count."

Floyd explained that the NORML booth fit into the East Bay LP's Membership Acquisition and Retention Committee Single Issue program, by which they are attempting to reach out to like-minded organizations to work together to achieve mutually desired goals (and perhaps cross-pollinate memberships).

Political Director Crickenberger has been a strong advocate for supporting marijuana freedom as a priority issue of the LP. Because neither of the major parties supports it, he believes the LP can differentiate itself from them as the political home of those members of the vast majority of Americans who support marijuana freedom, who see it as their most important issue. Of course those who attend NORML's annual conference are likely to fit that description. In an announcement of the event Crickenberger said: "The NORML conference is always a great place to prospect for new Libertarian Party members, and we have had as many as two-dozen new members sign up during one of their conventions. And the members who sign up at NORML are committed activists, who are already putting their time and their money on the line for liberty. Can you please help sponsor the booth? With the cost of the booth, literature, prizes for the drawing, and a supply of T-Shirts to sell, we will invest well over \$1,000 for this event. Your contribution of \$500, \$100, \$50, or \$25 will be well invested in bringing new people to the Libertarian Party! If we raise more than needed for the booth, well reserve the rest for our ongoing efforts to end the drug war. Please go now to: <http://www.lp.org/contribute?prog=drugwarfocus&fund=2002-0030> to make your contribution.



Ron Crickenberger

EXCOM ADDRESSES MANY ITEMS AT APRIL MEETING

Reported By Marv Rudin

With Chair Ray Strong presiding as usual, the April LPSCC EXcom meeting was held at the usual place and time - Rosegarden Library in San Jose on the first Saturday of the month - April 5th - from 10 am to noon .

After setting of the agenda and approval of the minutes of the March meeting and a call for any urgent reports by the officers and committee chairs (none), old and new business were taken up. The only old business was the Libertarian petitioning for the Friends of Sunnyvale charter measures to take RDA programs and private-to-private eminent domain property transfers out of the hands of the city council was addressed. Mike Laursen and Zander Collier volunteered to call registered Libertarians to recruit petitioners. and Mike had obtained four who said they'd do it plus two Excom members volunteered to petition (see story on page 5 of this issue for details)

New Business:

OPH Booths in April: Staffing by LPSCC members for the OPH booths for the upcoming NORML national convention in San Francisco and for the Norther JSA Conference in Santa Clara County was discussed. No volunteers for NORML were reported, but a number were recruited by Jon Hugdahl for JSA (see story of event, pg. 1)

Radio plan: Zander Collier proposed a Bay Area radio campaign supporting speeches by Libertarian candidates to promote Libertarian positions and the LP. Strong said a PAC would need to be formed if candidates are to be involved. Because broadcasts by the stations expected to be used, ones with Libertarian talk shows like KSFO and KGO, the LP Bay Area regions would need to combine in financing the program. It was suggested that such a wide area program might be supported an LPC or a national LP program. It was suggested that the national LP could provide a "branding" slogan. Your author suggested his "FREEDOM - Choose It Or Lose It - Libertarian Party" slogan to be used on the side of the FREEDOM WAGON. Like the FREEDOM WAGON this idea took off like a lead balloon 8-)).

Spring Central Committee Meeting: Dennis Umphress and Maad Abu-Ghazalah will be the speakers.

Candidate recruitment: Dennis Umphress will be trying to recruit past candidates.

Local politics: Dennis Umphress reported that the official measures arguments recently principally authored by himself and other Libertarians (see March issue) are not yet up on the League of Women Voters website, which still point to the past measures up for election in Nov. 2002. He also mentioned an effort to catch school officials and contractors as constituting an "Education-Developer Complex" by tracking who donated to school tax and bond election campaigns and who were awarded contracts by the schools. He said Gerald Nome is doing it for San Jose, and he is doing it for Eastside Unified.

Mailing to registered Libertarians for signatures: Umphress has a plan to conserve funds for getting candidate petitions signed by putting up on the web a downloadable one-page (blank back-side) petition which he determined to be legal last year, and mail request cards with the web address rather than costly mailers with petition and self addressed return envelope.

presented a very confusing message about what the Libertarian Party is about. Obviously, we're a political party, which

means we have chosen to work within the existing political system. {Editors note: hopefully this experience will motivate Mike to find and provide better materials at the next JSA event.}

Mike also had some criticism and some praise for how Libertarianism was presented to the young people. "At the end of the event, a teacher came by to talk to us. The teacher said that he has a son who is schizophrenic and expressed concern about how he would get financial assistance to help take care of his son in a libertarian world. It's pretty common to hear this kind of "safety net" concern from people. It deserves a thoughtful response. Instead, our {Editor's note: name withheld to protect the innocent:)} LP rep started arguing with him. Contrast this with Jon Hugdahl. I spent most of the event next to Jon, having in-depth conversations with young people. I was impressed by his ability to present libertarian ideas with wit and conversational give-and-take."

Mark Hinkle sat on a panel about the Iraq issue - both war and post-war. Mike said he caught the tail end of it and reported "There were about 40 young people in the audience. A man representing the Peace & Freedom Party gave a picture of what he thinks the Libertarian Party is about: basically, he said we are a shell for corporate interests since we are pro-capitalism." Mark countered with "Politicians who decide what we can buy also can be bought."



(l to r) Mark Hinkle, Frank Groffie, Jon Hugdahl respond to teens at the three Libertarian tables

ELECTIONS

news of current election campaigns & business

SCHOOLS MAY AGAIN BE SEEKING VOTES BY ILLEGAL METHODS!

Reported by Marv Rudin

The June School tax elections for which our LPSCC leaders wrote vote-no arguments are rapidly approaching. As might be expected, when schools are facing hard times, being a publicly operated politically financed entity rather than a business limited to the voluntary purchases by customers they turn to no-holds-barred methods of getting local money to replace what they fear they'll lose from prior state funding. Evidence has been surfacing that local schools are continuing to engage in illegal use of public facilities and labor to persuade voters (not to mention a bill proposed in the state legislature to eliminate laws forbidding the practice.) Maybe this is a credit to our argument authors - the schools (Judging by results "educational" would be a misnomer8-) establishment may fear the Libertarian's arguments will sway too many voters..



Umphress will look into charges

Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress reports "I will be looking into the possibility that Campbell is hosting nightly phone banks, in local schools, for its "Yes on B" campaign. He said a situation has been brought to the attention of the Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association (SVTA):

"Hi, I just answered a phone call on the Taxpayer's line from a homeowner in the San Jose Unified District. His child is in the district and the child came home with something in his envelope that urged a yes vote on the parcel tax. This man said he was most upset about this and wanted to know what he should do about it. Please advise. Donna"

The SVTA president George Swensen advised: "I would suggest he complain to the principal and notify him that this is breaking the law, then check with other parents and see if it is widespread.

The unfortunate reality is it is not something we can take to court easily, but we can shine the light of day on it, so making noise and perhaps writing the paper is a good idea. He could also file a complaint against the principal or teacher (depending on where it came from) with the district, copying the board of trustees.

I would certainly make clear the hypocrisy of having the school system, which is supposed to help instill American values of honesty and integrity in our children, breaking election laws to get a tax passed. No wonder there are so many crooks out there in business!!"

Also, Umphress had a call from a school district secretary that could have been from a school facility. He said: "I got a call last night urging me to vote yes on C, the Franklin-McKinley parcel tax. I explained to the caller why this was unlikely. The caller said 'The district's teachers union voted to support the tax on paper' (but not with any of their money.)

Regarding the LPSCC arguments in the June ballot pamphlets, Chair Ray Strong said "I just want to let everyone know that I endorse Allen Rice's "gloves off" political experiment (referring to Rice's strongly worded statements on the LPSCC's No-on web sites). I think the text for VoteNoOnA.org is great. We know from the SJUSD polling that the vote will be close. A swing of half a percent ought to defeat Measure A. Of course, the "friends" of the district are out in force; and polling also shows that a good argument for Measure A could swing as many as 4%. The question is how many people will we reach with ballot argument and web-site. It's down to the wire.."



Ray Strong says "LPSCC NoOnA web site has great text"

CANDIDATES BEING LINED UP NOW FOR 2004 ELECTIONS

Reported by Marv Rudin

Dennis Umphress will be lining up candidates to run for the 2004 elections, which start in less than a year. He says he will be recruiting candidates for the Nov. 2003 non-partisan election and the Mar. 2004 primary election. "I will start with contacting those who ran in 2002. Then, I'll contact the people who responded to Operation Breakthrough and said they might be interested in running."

Although Umphress will try to fill all slots, history indicates that LPSCC candidate opportunities for all offices will not be filled, so if the reader would like more than his or her fated "15 minutes of fame" here's your chance to put your name on a ballot pamphlet that will be out there for over a month, and get yourself on TV and in the papers as well.

MAYBE IRV WILL BECOME POSSIBLE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY?

Reported by Marv Rudin

A five-year contract to develop an SCC electronic voting system has been awarded to meet a court-ordered deadline to replace punch-card voting systems in California.

Such a system will make IRV (Instant Runoff Voting) possible, which in turn can enable demonstrating that a significant number of pro-Libertarian voters are out there whose votes are now lost because of the "wasted vote syndrome".

LP HELP TO SUNNYVALE GROUP FIGHTING CITY HALL FIZZLES

Libertarian Contribution To Friends Of Sunnyvale's Anti-RDA/ED Initiative Is Insignificant But Builds Good Relationship And Is Lesson To Build On For Future Initiative Petitioning Efforts

Reported by Mike Laursen

The Friends of Sunnyvale's petition drive to put a charter amendment that limits the powers of the Sunnyvale Redevelopment Agency and the City Council on the November ballot may have been defeated by "technicalities." As reported in the February Santa Clara Libertarian the Friends of Sunnyvale met with the LPSCC Executive Committee to ask for any help the Libertarian Party could lend to an effort to prohibit the Redevelopment Agency from using eminent domain to force private owners to sell their property to other private parties, and also to require by charter amendment that redevelopment plans be approved by a popular vote.

LIBERTARIAN PETITION SOLICITORS RECRUITMENT

In an effort to find volunteers to circulate petitions, your reporter called many of the registered Libertarians in Sunnyvale using a registered Libertarian list supplied by Allen Rice. The procedure I used may be worthy of mention, considering that those recruited did not successfully contribute signed petitions. If the callee wasn't home, I'd just leave them a message pointing them to the FoS web site. If they were home and express any interest, I'd take down their name as a possible volunteer and ask them if (a) I can give their info to FoS, (b) direct them to the FoS web site. I didn't do any follow up to make sure anybody I called actually volunteered. Of those called, four volunteered on the spot. Many others learned about the petition drive for the first time. Disappointingly, a recent follow-up revealed that none of the four volunteers turned any petitions in to the organizers. Newsletter editor, Marv Rudin, who promised the FoS members who visited our February Excom meeting that he'd get them 10 signed petitions (actually got 11 RDA's and 10 Eminent Domains), is the only Sunnyvale Libertarian known to have circulated petitions and turned them in on time. Excom member Randy Overbeck and his wife Kim also got some petitions signed (about 5 to 10 he said), but unfortunately didn't manage to submit them to the Friends of Sunnyvale before the mid April deadline.

[Editors note: To ascertain what happened with these Sunnyvale Libertarian volunteers, I interviewed two of them - Arthur Wellersdick and Kathy Boucher. Wellersdick, who works as an HVAC technician, said he didn't find the idea resonating with the folks he approached. And on further thought, he decided that a purely democratic vote on issues instead of trusting our elected representatives is not the republican form established by the Constitution. Kathy Boucher, who is a real estate sales agent, echoed Wellersdick's difficulty in getting people interested in signing the petitions. This flies in the face of the very high percentage of people the Friends of Sunnyvale claimed were signing at their petition table at Sunnyvale Farmers Market, and the fact that 100% of the neighbors I approached signed my petition sheets. Apparently it depends how it's presented, and means that in future, Libertarian petitioners may need to be coached on what message to use in approaching people. I used the question "Have you heard about the plan for creating Mathilda Canyon?" to pique their curiosity. Then I explained that there would be 6 story buildings on either side of Mathilda from downtown to El Camino blocking out the sky except directly overhead, that if the plan fails to pay off commercially, taxpayers would have to cover the shortfall, and that owners would be unfairly forced off their property to give subsidized sweetheart deals to developers and new owners. I then said "Who knows what kind of relations the city council members have with those who'll profit from this high density redevelopment plan?"

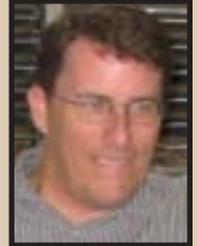
In addition to the phone calling effort, the Executive Committee arranged for the Friends of Sunnyvale to give a presentation at the February 12th LPSCC Speakers Meeting. The Executive Committee also approved spending up to \$500 for a mailing to Sunnyvale Libertarians, but did not follow through on the idea.

OUTCOME - THE USUAL GOVERNMENT RESISTANCE

There's a well worn saying - "Don't Fight City Hall". It seems to fit here. According to Olaf Hirsch, one of the leaders of the Friends of Sunnyvale, they submitted 6200 signatures to the City of Sunnyvale on April 14th. Knowing that it is normal for some signatures to be disqualified when a petition is evaluated, the Friends of Sunnyvale made sure to collect more than the required 5432 signatures. Several of the Libertarians involved in helping the Friends of Sunnyvale were surprised (pleasantly) that they had met their deadline. Hirsch recently reported, however, that the city "threw out many of the signatures based on technicalities." After these signatures (about 1500!) were rejected, the city determined that the Friends of Sunnyvale "did not make the 95% to have all signatures counted." The Friends of Sunnyvale are "currently working on possibilities to get the withheld signatures included into the count."

Unwilling to tolerate this attempt by the city and ROV to abort the initiatives FoS President Melinda Hamilton filed a law suit against Sunnyvale and the ROV charging unlawful withholding of petition signatures and information by the city, and improper handling of the results of the verification samples. Apparently the ostensible problem besides the probable real motive - Sunnyvale's desire to nip the initiative in the bud - was that some solicitors didn't fill in "Sunnyvale" as part of their address!

The Friends of Sunnyvale have expressed gratitude for our attempts to help their drive and indicated that they will ask us for help in the future. The LPSCC has now formed ties to organizations working to limit eminent domain in San Jose and Sunnyvale. For more about the Friends of Sunnyvale see <<http://www.melinda.org/fos/>> and the February 2003 Santa Clara Libertarian <<http://www.lpty.org/sclnews/2003feb/Vol%2031%20Issue%202.pdf>> .



Mike Laursen recruited volunteers



Randy Overbeck got signatures but too late

BRIERLY IS NEW EDITOR/PUBLISHER OF "CALIFORNIA FREEDOM"

Reported by Marv Rudin

Active local Libertarian, 2002 candidate for State Board Of Equalization and former Secretary of the state party, Elizabeth Brierly, has been hired by the Libertarian Party of California to be Editor/Publisher of its newly named monthly newsletter, "California Freedom," replacing Scott Wilson of the East Bay LP.



Elizabeth Briely
lands LPC Editor/
Publisher Contract

In announcing Brierly's hiring, state chair Aaron Starr said "Combined with the work of T-Dogg Studios, who will be doing design and layout, we're anticipating an exciting new look for the LPC Monthly, beginning with the June issue. To better prepare for this brand new publication, we will be skipping the May issue of LPC Monthly, though party members will continue to get the May issue of LP News, our national publication."

For those wishing to submit articles or story ideas to our new editor, please e-mail them to BrierlyServices@Netgate.net."

In accepting the appointment, Brierly said "Yes, I am delighted to accept this agreement to serve as editor of LPC Monthly. Thank you so much for the opportunity to join you in taking this publication to its next level of quality, readership, enthusiasm generation, and hopefully, advertising revenue."

The appointment is not as a term contract, but instead is on an at-will basis under direction of the Chair, eliminating the need for an LPC Excom vote (Bylaws require that any contract over 3 months needs an Excom approval). In this regard Brierly commented "I appreciate your having thought through and having established guidelines on communication channels, schedules, etc. As are inevitable, when unanticipated situations arise I will be sure to consult you with any concerns. I understand the "at-will" arrangement, and I too hope we will be working together for a long time to come! Though if my circumstances were to change, I see no reason that I would be unable to provide sufficient notice and a transition period for a new editor. Aaron, thank you again for your business. I look forward to getting started! Elizabeth C. Brierly"

The at-will contract is with Brierly's business in San Jose: Brierly Services Company -- Professional Editing and Communications Consulting; P.O. Box 611021 San Jose, CA 95161-1021; 408/272-3191 (telephone and facsimile); 408/930-4172 (mobile); BrierlyServices@Netgate.net

COMING EVENTS...

Central Committee Meetings: July 10th (location yet to be decided)
October 10th (location yet to be decided)

Executive Committee Meetings: Normally 1st Saturday of month, 10:00am
June 7th Denny's at 1015 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose; July 5th undecided (Rosegarden library unavailable again)

Speakers Meetings: 2nd Thursday in months without central committee meeting
Cocos Restaurant, Sunnyvale (Oakmead Parkway & Lawrence Expressway)
Next speakers meeting: *Thursday 12 June*. Come at 7pm for dinner, meeting at 8pm



Hiram Pierce on the mend from heart surgery

GOOD NEWS! PIERCE'S HEART SURGERY IS SUCCESSFUL

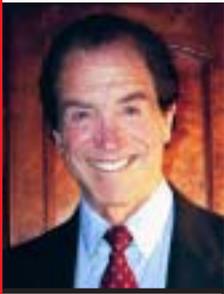
Reported by Marv Rudin

Newsletter committee member Hiram Pierce is rapidly progressing toward his old raring-to-go self after having his aortic valve and outlet artery segment replaced. Pierce, who handles mailing prep and bulk mailing of the quarterly printed issues of the Santa Clara Libertarian, had been in a lowered energy state for some time due to the valve problem. He said he's glad that after assessing the risk as not being too great and considering his gradually deteriorating state of health he'd bit the bullet and get it done.

Hiram is not just an arm chair Libertarian. He's one of the very few local members who's proud to advertise the Libertarian Party and it's principles by carrying a bumper sticker or sign on his vehicles and wearing a Libertarian cap when out. He said he's even willing to be custodian of the FREEDOM WAGON for a week So as he now gets better and can be more active, lookout public - here come those much needed pro Libertarian messages again.

PUBLICITY

How local Libertarians won't help publicize the party



Marvin B. Rudin
Publicity Chair

In last month's SCL News (page 2) I asked you Libertarians to contact me if you will do one of the following easiest things I can think of to publicize the LP to those local Americans who don't know their beliefs are libertarian:

1. Bumper Sticker on back of your car or sign in your back window that people in cars behind you will be able to read while you're stopped in traffic; 2. Put cards on cars near where you are parked when you go out. 3. Submit an opinion letter (written for you if needed) to your weekly community paper. 4. Park the Freedom Wagon at a visible location on a busy street near where you live.

I also asked you if you have other ideas for easy ways that members can help get the message out. And I said "please don't hesitate to call or email me at 408-736-5626 evenings, 408-738-8204 days, rudin@lpty.org. And thanks for any support you can give." And finally, I said "To date the LP's record in marketing its very attractive ideas for the role of government is probably the worst in the history of man, considering that nearly 17% of people think libertarian, yet just 0.6% are registered Libertarian. But it doesn't have to stay that way - not if you'll help me." Result? You didn't call me and you didn't email to discuss doing any of the 4 actions, as easy as at least the first three are, and you offered no ideas.

Starting in '97, I decided to investigate why the party wasn't growing fast enough to be competitive in any of our lifetimes. It's been an exhaustive study and now I know. I can only conclude that you members'll reluctantly put up \$25 per year to pay for three newsletters to occasionally see what a few volunteers are doing. But beyond that you won't do the slightest thing to save freedom by helping the party get much better known and to grow. I'm not talking about a few activists who are at least getting us some visibility by engaging in recreational politics. I'm talking about those of you who do nothing at all, as if somehow a little money will do the trick.

If I seem discouraged with you members I am. I'm sorry if some of you are offended. But that's the truth as best I can see it. If you'd worked as long and as hard as I have to find a way to publicize and grow the party here in Santa Clara County, how would you feel if you asked people to do such simple things and figuratively got nothing but a 100% collective yawn?

MARK HINKLE INTERVIEWED BY FOX ON CA BUDGET CRISIS

Reported by Mike Laursen

On April 21st Mike Laursen reported "Just caught Mark on Fox News at 10 commenting on the California budget crisis. They gave him a pretty good amount of air time: maybe a little over a minute. I saw him in the second half (10:30 PM - 11:00 PM) of the Fox (TV channel 2) News on Monday night. I think they introduced him as a former chair of the Libertarian Party of California. They asked him a question about why California is having a budget crisis. He answered by giving some numbers about growth rates of California government spending and taxes vs. economic trends." Mark responded "The numbers were 21, 28, and 36. 21 is the percentage growth of inflation & population since Gray Davis took office. 28 is the percentage growth in government revenues, and 36 is the percentage growth in state government spending. So, you can see it's spending that's causing today's problem, not revenues."



Mark Hinkle



Arquimedes Garcia registering LP on air

LIBERTARIAN RADIO TALK HOST ARQUIMEDES GARCIA DIES!

Reported by Marv Rudin

Some of our members who used to follow his show on Libertarian Night in 1999 and 2000 will be saddened to learn, as was I, that Arquimedes Garcia, peripatetic local radio call-in talk show host of "Naked Radio" for many years on KSJS, and more recently on KKUP, died suddenly and unexpectedly at the end of April of a massive heart attack. I will miss my friend "Arq"!

His wife Tami, who came here from Wisconsin after they met on his internet radio show, said he was on his cell phone in the yard when "he just fell over and couldn't be wakened." She said it was such a surprise that she asked for an autopsy, which concluded that it was a massive heart attack because of bad condition of his arteries.

Garcia went Libertarian in May of 2001 (see story on page 1 of May 2001 SCL) after allied himself a "new Democrat" and argued vociferously with your reporter when I was on his show monthly during 1999 and 2000 for what was billed as "Libertarian Night on Naked Radio." The series of shows which brought the Libertarian message to a very liberal audience, finally ended in a rancorous blowup when Garcia ordered my guest, Publicity Chair Bill Chew out of the broadcast studio. Then out of the blue, 9 months later Garcia called me to say he'd had an epiphany and decided to register as a Libertarian and invited me to sign him up at the studio while on air.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
*Had a Libertarian
outreach experience?*

Converted someone?

Tell it to the editor!

*Email or phone Newsletter
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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY



of Santa Clara County

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The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business).

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

Signature: _____

Membership Application

- \$25 Basic
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