

THREE LIBERTARIANS WIN IN PLACER COUNTY

A fourth is tied for victory!



Dennis Schlumpf

Three Placer County Libertarians were elected to nonpartisan offices November 5. A fourth is tied for first place, with lots to be drawn in December to decide the victor.

Dennis Schlumpf, former LPC northern vice chair, was elected to the Tahoe City Public Utility District board, defeating a two-term incumbent with 58% of the vote. The

board has a \$5,000,000 budget and deals with sewage, water and recreation issues in the Lake Tahoe area community. Schlumpf, a local contractor, has been prominent in the community for years. **Erik Henrikson**, a former Placer County Supervisor and registered Libertarian, tied for an open seat on the same board. The other board members will decide this seat by lot the first week of December.

Schlumpf ran a hard core campaign, spending \$3,000. He distributed two different brochures and

SAN FRANCISCO LIBERTARIANS LEAD FREE SPEECH VICTORY

Proposition O, the initiative sponsored by the San Francisco Libertarian Party to affirm that city's commitment to the First Amendment, won easily November 5 by a vote of 73% (119,115 votes) to 27% (44,936 votes). No organized opposition formed and there was no opposing argument in the ballot pamphlet.

Jim Peron wrote the initiative, later revised by John Whisman, Mark Valverde and George Meyer. It was endorsed by every group the Libertarians approached, except for the Republican Party and the Northern California chapter of the ACLU, which dislikes the LP. Mayor Art Agnos offered his support, writing that Proposition O would "send Jesse Helms a message that the First Amendment is alive and well." However, some voters felt this cut at Helms meant that the proposition supported National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) grants for pornographic art. Others incorrectly thought it would give free reign to graffiti!

The San Francisco news media didn't cover the campaign at all, while the *Wall Street Journal* and the San Jose *Mercury-News* spoke negatively of the measure. The *Journal* assumed that the measure was a fringe leftist idea, ignoring the remarks John Whisman made in his interview with them. Whisman later wrote to the *Journal* to chastise them on their cavalier attitude toward free speech.

posted 75 signs around the city. His campaign focused on exposing the incumbent's budget-busting projects, the cost of the board's office space and the general manager's salary and expenses. The district employees' union even endorsed Schlumpf after he promised to oppose incorporation of Tahoe City. Now an elected official, Schlumpf will earn \$400 per month. He intends to decline his fringe benefits, however, such as the \$600 per month comprehensive medical insurance.

Robert W. Page was elected to the Midway Heights County Water District Board, running second out of four candidates for two seats (the incumbent ran third). This board is similar to the Tahoe City board mentioned above, but covers the town of Meadow Vista.

Nyle A. Keller, son-in-law of longtime LP activist Dr. Bruce Daniel, defeated an incumbent by two votes to win a seat on the Loomis Union School District board. Keller held the position from 1985-89, during which time a recall was proposed because of his libertarian connections. He was defeated in 1989 when he ran for reelection. This campaign was won by door-to-door campaigning, door hangers, "candidate night" appearances and calling to get out the vote.

CAMPAIGN '92 UPDATE

We hope by the time you receive this newsletter, the California Supreme Court will have finished drawing the political maps for 1992 elections. Their report is due out November 29. Once we know the district lines, it will be easier to recruit Libertarian candidates. Petitions should be available December 27. Lists of registered Libertarians will be revised and up-to-date. Contact Steve Alexander at (408) 554-1119 for lists or labels.

56 Libertarians have already announced their interest in running. There are 156 open positions (2 U.S. Senate seats, 52 U.S. Congress, 20 State Senate, and 80 State Assembly). Since last month, these additional people have volunteered to run: Edward Suter of Danville, Eric Forste of Lafayette, Barbara Hutchinson of San Diego, John Wallner of La Jolla, Geoff Braun of Fullerton, Fritz Ward of Riverside, Charles Black of Malibu, Fred Heiser of Canyon Country, Kim Goldsworthy of Rosemead, Marc Denny of Hermosa Beach, Jordan Chodorow of Century City, Drew Consalvo of Culver City, Carin Rogers of Playa del Rey, Alan Carlan of Rancho Palos Verdes, and Bill Mirken of Sepulveda (soon to move to San Luis Obispo).

More candidates are needed. For information on what is involved in running, contact Campaign '92 director **Ted Brown** at (818) 568-8404 or your county chair (see page 7).



FROM THE CHAIR PAT WRIGHT

The Libertarian Party of California continues to grow. We have surpassed the 3,000 member mark, which was my minimum goal. I am now announcing my

intention to run for re-election.

However, this past month has been the most difficult I have faced—a month of waiting, problems and conflict. Consider this my "dirty laundry" column. I want to report on some of the negative parts of the job.

Next month we're sending out 10,000 outreach copies of *California Libertarian News*, and it will be geared to get people to join.

We have been waiting for the mailing lists we need for our next membership mailing. This list must be checked against our current membership list. We have also been waiting for our tax limitation initiative to be drafted and printed.

Our problems have been budgetary. We are working with a budget designed for an organization that wasn't supposed to grow. We are way over budget in the categories of Newsletter, Inquiries, Membership and Fundraising. The state executive committee had to do an emergency mail ballot just to continue operating. Consider this the cost of success. If your next newsletter comes on a postcard, you'll know the mail ballot failed. Our treasurer, Bonnie Flickinger, is working hard on a more growth-oriented, flexible budget for next year.

The conflicts I alluded to have been especially heartbreaking. There have been some very unlibertarian actions taken by the official Sacramento LP. To try to be even-handed, some poor judgment was exercised by non-officers in the Sacramento LP as well, but I believe the officers should be held to a higher standard. I do not believe in criticizing people in my column without giving them the chance to respond. I was asked by a Sacramento LP member if Libertarians have the right to free speech within the party. The answer is yes.

My compliments to the people behind SAIL, the Sacramento Association of Independent Libertarians. Personality conflicts have such a high cost for an organization like ours. My only request is to treat your fellow Libertarians (and everybody else) with the respect they deserve.

As for my suggestion to change the membership pledge to "I understand that members oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals," as opposed to our current McCarthyesque pledge, I have generated a lot of discussion and even a little support. I have submitted for publication some of the correspondence I have received. However, I feel foolish spending so much time and energy on this topic, while government continues to raise taxes and erode civil liberties.

TAKE FROM THE TAX MAN, GIVE TO THE LP

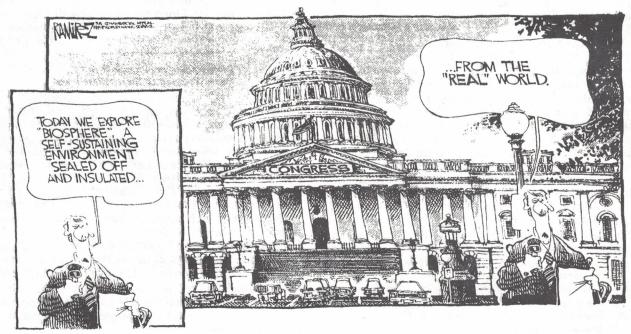
by Dick Rider

Here's a December hint for beating the tax man out of some of his ill-gotten gains. In California you can take a 25% tax credit (better than a deduction) against your state income tax for contributions to a political party and/or candidate. This little social engineering provision is limited to a total \$100 contribution per taxpayer per year.

Thus, this year a married couple can contribute \$200 to political parties or candidates and receive a \$50 reduction in their actual cash due.

This credit is available even if you don't itemize your deductions (i.e. take the standard deduction). On the the back of the hated California form 540 is a section dealing with credits. Most people take the party membership dues as a political credit, although some tax experts might assert that the portion of the dues that go for the newsletter is not eligible for the credit.

Now is the time to make a last contribution to the Libertarian Party or Libertarian candidate for 1991, and to further bankrupt the state treasury in the process.



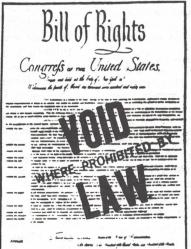
THE BILL OF RIGHTS: 200 YEARS AND HOLDING?

By December 15, 1791, the required 75% of state legislatures had ratified the first ten amendments to the U. S. Constitution, now known as the Bill of Rights. Unlike other national governments in the world, America's was forced, at least on paper, to respect the rights of individual citizens. Our form of government has, over time, become a beacon for freedom-loving individuals around the globe.

Under the restrictions imposed by the Bill of Rights, the federal government could not prohibit the free exercise of religion, abridge freedom of speech and of the press, or infringe on the right of the people to keep and bear arms. The Bill of Rights additionally protected Americans from unreasonable searches

and seizures, guaranteed them due process of law and the right to a public trial by an impartial jury, and protected them from cruel and unusual punishments. By the mid-20th century, the Supreme Court had applied these restrictions on the federal government to state and local governments as well.

Opponents of the Bill of Rights argued in 1791 that listing certain rights could give the government the ability to violate other rights that were not mentioned. This possibility was addressed by the now-ignored 9th and 10th Amendments, which state that even rights that are not listed are retained by the people.



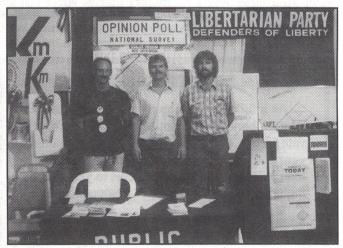
In 1991 the Bill of Rights is still under attack. Freedom of speech is threatened in the workplace and public places if it is not "politically correct." Colleges and universities are adopting "speech codes," which outlaw speech that is considered offensive on campus. Liberals continue to call for confiscating guns, arguing that militias, not individuals, have the right to keep and bear arms. Our courts at all levels are making "drug exceptions" to the Bill of Rights extending the applicability of warrantless searches and seizures, allowing massive wiretaps of suspected drug dealers, approving RICO statutes that steal property from people before they are convicted of a crime, and imposing draconian punishments, such as life imprisonment for cocaine possession.

Only the Libertarian Party fully supports all ten of the Bill of Rights amendments. For Democratic and Republican politicians, whose main goal is to control people, the amendments are an inconvenience that can easily be steamrolled over if it seems like a good idea at the time. But we agree with Lord Acton, who said, "Freedom is not a means to a higher political end. It is itself the highest political end." Happy birthday, Bill of Rights—200 and holding strong!

KERN COUNTY LP REVIVED AND PROSPERING

The Kern County (Bakersfield) Libertarian Party has reorganized and is bigger and better than ever. There were only eight members in January. Now there are 30. During the first official meeting on October 16, nine new members joined. **Michael Hodges**, **Bill Juneau** and **Michael Leake** were elected chair, treasurer and secretary, respectively.

During the recent Kern County Fair, Libertarians successfully staffed a booth that received an overwhelming positive response from local residents. The



LP booth, ten feet away from the Republican booth, boldly displayed the petition to recall Gov. Pete Wilson, which 800 people signed. Over 100 people registered Libertarian at the fair. Even a man staffing the Republican booth got angry at the GOP and walked over to sign up as a Libertarian!

Kern County LP members also received local television coverage during a rally against Ronald Reagan on October 26. Reagan was in Bakersfield to speak at a public policy forum sponsored by a prominent law firm. Economist Milton Friedman also spoke and received front-page newspaper coverage for his free-market, libertarian views.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

California Libertarian News is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained within do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated. Please send articles, local news, photos, letters, and advertising copy to the editor: Ted Brown, 125 N. Allen Ave. #107, Pasadena, CA 91106 (818) 568–8404

Defend our Activists

Editor:

Libertarians call themselves the defenders of liberty and it is so enshrined in our Statement of Principles. But defending liberty is much more than writing a check to the LP or even persuading your neighbor to vote Libertarian. True defense of liberty embodies a willingness to challenge the leviathan State.

Many Libertarians have challenged the State on matters of principle and have suffered for their courage. Recent issues of *CL News* have detailed the cases of Dixianne Hawks and Ron Tisbert, both of whom were arrested while passing out fully informed jury literature at courthouses in Oroville and Lancaster, respectively. Given the LP's ardent support of the Fully Informed Jury Amendment, I am surprised and a little saddened that the legal defense of these individuals is not a higher priority.

I was appalled to read that Ron Tisbert has to act as his own attorney. I spoke to Ron and he told me that he would have preferred to have any attorney represent him but could not afford one. Why hasn't some Libertarian attorney stepped forward to defend him, or why haven't we raised money so he can hire his own attorney? Have we been so cowed that we don't wish to stand apart from the herd? Or do we just not care?

When we see Libertarian brothers and sisters ensnared in the tentacles of the State, we must do two things and do them quickly: 1) Do what we can to bring about their freedom, or at least, to alleviate the hardship they and their families must endure; and 2) Do what we can to ensure that the State will have no desire to persecute Libertarians again! We must raise the political and economic costs of such persecution through letters, phone calls, personal visits and visible, vocal support for embattled Libertarians.

It is difficult for individualistic Libertarians to act in concert, even in support of other Libertarians. But remember this: if their liberty can be taken by a whim of the State, so can yours!

Steven Pencall Diamond Bar, CA

(Editor's note: Blake Ashley, a Libertarian attorney from Downey, has agreed to handle Ron Tisbert's appeal.)

Support Ron Paul

Editor:

I was discouraged to read that the Libertarian Party of California's executive committee voted to urge Ron Paul not to run for president in 1992 (*CL News*, November).

In Pat Wright's "From the Chair" column, he mentioned the increase in dues-paying membership in the last six months. I am one of those new dues-paying members. The first time I ever heard of the Libertarian Party was when Ron Paul spoke at UCLA while I was an undergraduate student. I voted for Ron Paul for President in 1988.

I understand the concern to the Marrou-Lord ticket, but I feel that any media attention to the libertarian movement is beneficial. I believe Ron Paul as a Republican challenger to George Bush will bring more attention, votes and membership to the Libertarian Party.

The same executive committee gave an award to Assemblyman Tom McClintock, a Republican. I think they should have voted to support Ron Paul as well as Marrou/Lord. I know I will.

Shannon Anderson

Long Beach, CA

(Editor's note: I have been advised that Ron Paul has decided not to seek the Republican presidential nomination. Republicans will be able to choose conservative columnist Patrick Buchanan as an alternative to President Bush instead.)

Another View from Sacramento Editor:

Your front-page report (October 1991) on Dave McCann's campaign for the California legislature neglected an important issue raised by the campaign which all Libertarians need to consider. Shortly before the election, the campaign's spokesman Thomas Dahlberg issued a statement to the local metropolitan paper declaring that McCann *opposed* legalization of drugs and favors "maintenance of the status quo" in the War on Drugs.

Those of us who know McCann and Dahlberg know that both Dave and Tom actually favor drug legalization. Their repudiation of the Libertarian position was merely a campaign tactic aimed at deceiving voters as to McCann's real beliefs.

This strategy typified the campaign, and, at least in the short term, the stategy worked extremely well, garnering 38% of the vote as your article noted.

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Is this the right approach for Libertarian candidates to pursue? Or, does denying and repudiating Libertarian ideas gain us short-term electoral gains at the price of throwing away our greatest long-term strength: the consistency and truth of our principles?

In judging the success of the McCann campaign. CL News readers also ought to know that McCann claims he could have done much better if not for widely publicized charges that, during the campaign, he assaulted and battered his own campaign manager, an elderly retired schoolteacher, at a taping of the local libertarian television progam: the alleged victim, a local Libertarian, is pressing charges. The allegations were prominently aired in the local media and widely exploited by McCann's Republican opponent. The case has been investigated by a special unit of the police dealing with abuse of the elderly and is now in the hands of the DA. McCann has attempted to expel a number of local Libertarian Party members who answered questions from the press or the police about the alleged incident.

> David H. Miller Sacramento, CA

Another Vote for the Pledge Editor:

Regarding the "non-initiation of force" pledge for Libertarian Party members, the subject of Pat Wright's "From the Chair" column (October issue): I signed that pledge when I became a dues-paying party member a few months ago. I didn't mind doing it at all.

I would agree with those who contend that no one should be coerced into signing a pledge. But on the other hand, we need to keep a sense of perspective. Take my word for it as a recently-defected Republican: the LP is still perceived as the lunatic fringe. This may be slowly changing, but as recently as last month I got hoots of derision from a staunch Republican friend when I told him I was deserting the party of Rip Van Reagan and Beat-Around-The-Bush in favor of the party that seemed to stand for basic constitutional principles.

Invariably you hear two statements: 1. "The Libertarian Party? Those people are NUTS! They want to legalize everything!" and 2. "You're just wasting your vote, joining a party that can't possibly elect a President." (This second statement I give especially little consideration, recognizing it as nothing more than a variant of the old "six million flies can't be wrong, eat manure" argument.)

A Libertarian Double Feature

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But I think the LP does itself credit maintaining, up front, a stated principle that it doesn't advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals. A key word in this pledge, surely, is "initiation." If the forces of tyranny hit first, surely it is they who have done the initiating and then to respond with force may be well justified. I have a certain amount of admiration for Emma Goldman as a historical figure, but I don't think the moniker "Bomb-throwing Emma" ever did much for her credibility.

The "non-initiation of force" pledge doesn't bother me because I think it shows the LP as the political entity determined to act responsibly, even if Libertarians are, as Pat Wright pointed out, "the orneriest people on earth" and not bound to get together on much of anything. In view of that, perhaps it would be better if the signing of such a pledge were made optional, although I acknowledge the potential for "pro-pledge" and "anti-pledge" factionalism by doing so.

Incidentally, Emma Goldman never actually threw bombs.

Kelley Dupuis Washington, DC

Get Rid of the Pledge

Editor:

I agree 100% with Pat Wright that the LPC modify or delete the "non-initiation of force" pledge as a requirement for membership.

Party members seem to think that signing this pledge will automatically keep non-libertarians out of the party, and that it will give us a reason to expel those who do advocate the initiation of force. Folks, I have some bad news for you: it won't do either of these. People who are not libertarians aren't going to mind lying if they have some important, underlying motive for joining the party, and the process of actually kicking someone out is so onerous that this is about as effective as capital punishment is currently (i.e. it almost never happens).

Let's get rid of the pledge as a requirement of membership. If we really want the party to grow, we need to remove all the roadblocks we can—including the pledge. If you really think that the pledge keeps the party "pure," then I suggest we retain it as a requirement for our candidates to sign if they want the party's endorsement.

Scott Lieberman San Jose, CA

Does Pledge Evoke Image of Longhaired Peaceniks?

Editor:

The LP's pledge confused me when I saw it in materials from both the national and state parties. What bothered me intellectually was that the pledge doesn't mention the government. I assume the party stands for the non-interference by government in citizens' economic and personal decisions. I don't believe the party stands for non-violence in general.

From a marketing perspective, someone reading your pledge can easily get the picture that you are fellows with long hair, beards, peace symbols around your necks, and are former members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. I objectively asked several persons to read your pledge and asked them what kind of organization it represented. They all identified it as belonging to an anti-war protest group.

If the Libertarian Party is to become even more of a political force, it has to achieve greater penetration among voters. It does the party a disservice to confuse potential supporters at the outset. I respectfully suggest you consider amending the pledge to add the words "by the State" after the word "force."

Jeffrey W. Gettleman

San Diego, CA

(Editor's note: Mr. Gettleman inquired about the LP but didn't join. His letter is condensed from a letter to state chair Pat Wright. I received an excellent letter supporting the pledge from Joseph Miranda of Palmdale and excellent letters against the pledge from former state chair Jack Sanders and Rusty Nichols, both of San Diego. I regret there isn't enough room to print them all.)

NEWS BRIEFS

The good ...

- ☆ Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin pushed lawmakers to adopt a constitution that would place the rights of individuals above the rights of the state for the first time in Russian history. One part of the draft document, called the Declaration on the Rights and Freedoms of a Person and Citizen, resembles the U.S. Bill of Rights. Its author, Viktor L. Sheinis, said, "Past constitutions declared human rights, but in reality they were based on the priorities of the interests of the state."
- Frederick Chiluba, a trade union leader, won 80% of the vote and defeated Zambia's dictator Kenneth Kaunda in that African nation's first multi-party elections in 27 years. Chiluba said one of his first tasks would be to lift the state of emergency laws, which include powers of detention that Kaunda had wielded against political opponents—including Chiluba. The new president evidently backs free market-oriented reforms, including the selloff of Zambia's copper mines, once the source of 90% of the country's earnings. The mines have floundered since being nationalized in 1970.
- Due to a hiring freeze and chronic budget difficulties, there are 21,126 job vacancies in California's state government, representing 14% of jobs funded from general purpose tax revenues and 12% of jobs in agencies supported by special funds, such as gasoline taxes. A record 9,379 workers have retired this year or plan to retire by December 31. The Wilson Administration expects to lay off another 2,500 to meet its budget obligation.

... and the bad:

Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Simi Valley) has proposed a Constitutional amendment that would deny U.S. citizenship to children born of illegal immigrants in this country. The Ventura County xenophobe believes that only children born to mothers who are citizens or legal residents should be granted citizenship—a move that supposedly would save taxpayers billions of dollars a year in welfare payments. Illegally-born children would be treated as other illegal residents—given due process in court and deported (!). Indigent illegal immigrants receive \$5.4 billion a year in social services nationwide.

The amount they add to the economy in productivity and tax payments is not quantifiable. For Libertarians this issue is simple: allow anyone to move to the U.S. who wants to, but do not offer any taxpayer-provided social services. While we're at it, let's eliminate these social services for citizens, too.

LIBERTARIAN NOTES

- ★ Libertarian Adam Sparks will be publishing "Common Cents," a monthly journal in tabloid format for the San Francisco business community. It will offer public policy positions with a libertarian/ free-market slant. An editor is needed. If you have a strong journalistic background and over one year experience as a hands-on editor, you are urged to apply for the position. Salary is negotiable based on experience. Send resume to Adam Sparks, 520 Jones St., San Francisco, CA 94102.
- "Vote Libertarian" buttons are a hot item in Riverside County, according to Vice Chair John Farr. The Riverside LP has been producing its own buttons for about 40 cents each. Interested Libertarians should call Badge A Minit at 1-800-223-4103 to ask for a catalog. The basic hand held button machine sells for \$29.95. The company sells all the materials and will even produce the Vote Libertarian design. For a free sample, please write to John Farr, Riverside County LP, P.O. Box 1297, Riverside, CA 92502.
- ★ Based on the LPC's most recent membership figures, there is one dues-paying member for every 9,540 Californians. By county, the best figure is in Santa Cruz County, with one member for every 2,965 residents, followed by Santa Clara, San Diego, Calaveras and Shasta Counties. Only seven of the 58 counties have no current members: Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Kings, Lassen, Modoc and Sierra.

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RESERVE NOW FOR THE STATE CONVENTION

The Libertarian Party of California's 1992 state convention will be held February 14-17 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, 18800 MacArthur Blvd., in Irvine, across from the Orange County John Wayne Airport.

The convention opens Friday night with a keynote address by David Bergland, 1984 LP presidential nominee, followed by music by the blues band, Luke and the Locomotives. The rest of the weekend will consist of party business such as platform and by-laws discussion and the election of party officers. Speakers will include Larry Dodge of the Fully Informed Jury Association, Dr. Steven Guffanti of the Choice in Education Initiative and Jack Herer of the California Hemp Initiative. There will also be panels on "The Drug War vs. the 2nd Amendment" and with Libertarian officeholders. LP candidates for the 1992 election will also be featured. Dr. Nancy Lord, the LP vice presidential nominee, will be honored at the Saturday night banquet.

Full packages cost \$299 and include meals, speakers and other events. Send your check to LC-92, P. O. Box 8324, Newport Beach, CA 92660. The hotel room rate is \$70 per night, single or double. Reserve by February 1 to (714) 833-9999. Be sure you say you're with the LP convention.

Beginner's Introduction to Libertarianism

"I heartily endorse A Liberty Primer."

Ed Clark

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ The Libertarian Party of California's state executive committee will meet Saturday, December 7, at 9:00 a.m., at **John Vernon's** residence, 6469 Gloria Ave., in Van Nuys. The main agenda item will be the 1992 budget. For more information, call **Ed Moss** at (714) 986-6677.
- ★ The Free Enterprise Society hosts frequent meetings to educate the public about IRS corruption, illegal taxes and jury rights. Those scheduled for December are at Villa Felice, 15350 Winchester Blvd., in Los Gatos (Tuesday, December 3); South Point Inn, Rt. 99 at 47th Ave. east exit, in Sacramento (Wednesday, December 4); and Village Inn, 580 Orodan Blvd., in Oroville (Thursday, December 5). For more information, contact Free Enterprise Society, 300 W. Shaw #205, Clovis, CA 93612, phone (209) 294-0665.
- ★ Celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights and the 218th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, Sunday, December 15. The Libertarian Party of Los Angeles County will present the "Champion of Freedom" award to Dr. John Hospers, 1972 LP presidential nominee and author of the LP's Statement of Principles. This brunch event will be held at Parker's Lighthouse Restaurant, 435 Shoreline Dr., in Long Beach. Brunch is at 11 a.m., program at 12 noon. Cost for brunch and program is \$20 (by 12/8), \$24 (by 12/13), and \$28 at the door. Program only is \$7 (by 12/8), \$10 (by 12/13), and \$12 at the door. Send checks to LPLAC, P. O. Box 547, Reseda, CA 91337. For more information, call **Richard Boddie** at (714) 968-3973.

California Libertarian News

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