

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle®

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Tennessee Libertarians help stop state income tax

Radio host: "If not for Libertarian volunteers, we would probably have an income tax today."

In what party leaders described as a "thrilling" turn of events, the Tennessee Libertarian Party has helped defeat a plan to impose an income tax on state residents.

"We took on the governor and legislature of the state of Tennessee — [and were] instrumental in helping block an income tax," said LP State Chair Richard Pearl, Sr. "That's pretty good for a group of less than 500, don't you think?"

The Libertarian Party's victory became official on August 7, when the State House and Senate overrode Republican Governor Don Sundquist's veto of the proposed \$19.6 billion budget for fiscal year 2002.

The House voted 66-33 to override the veto, while the Senate vote was 19-12. A simple majority vote was required in each house.

Sundquist had vetoed the budget because it did not contain a 3.75% income tax provision, for which he had been energetically lobbying.

The veto override climaxed a two-year battle over whether Tennessee — one of only nine states with no income tax — would impose hundreds of millions of dollars in new taxes to solve what Republican and Democratic politicians called a fiscal "crisis."

No funding crisis

But Tennessee does not have a funding crisis, said Pearl: It has an overly expensive government crisis.

"It's not difficult to figure out that the state has a major spending problem," he said, with a 2002 budget that is \$1.3 billion larger than the 2001 budget. "Government spending in Tennessee has gone up way faster in the past few years than real income has. But the solution is not to tax people's income — it's to stop being fiscally irresponsible."

To fight that irresponsibility, the state Libertarian Party led the charge against the income tax, said Pearl, and is now getting significant credit for the victory.



■ Libertarians and other anti-tax activists confront a line-up of stern-faced state troopers at an anti-income tax rally at the State Capitol in Nashville on August 7.

"Not only was the LP at the forefront of this effort, but we were recognized by the media," he said.

For example, former Republican Congressional candidate Steve Gill, who hosts the top-rated morning radio program in the state, lavished praise on Libertarians for their efforts.

"I can say without hesitation,

that if it were not for the support of Libertarian volunteers on the protest line, we would probably have an income tax today," he said.

The victory is especially remarkable, said Pearl, because Libertarians were facing off against a popular and politically powerful governor.

Ironically, Sundquist had run

for office in 1998 on a pledge not to levy an income tax. At the time, he said, "All an income tax does is raise the tax burden on Tennesseans and create a way to finance the easy and endless expansion of government."

But immediately after being elected, Sundquist abruptly reversed course and announced that an income tax was necessary, noted Pearl.

Rejected

The governor spurred legislators to consider income tax bills on three occasions since 1999, including during one special legislative session. However, under pressure from Libertarians and other anti-tax groups, legislators rejected each proposal.

Despite the defeats, Sundquist again pushed for an income tax in 2001, leading to the recent showdown.

To fight Sundquist's latest proposal, the Tennessee LP launched a statewide lobbying campaign, and urged Libertarians to call and e-mail legislators, said Pearl.

Then, when the legislature See **TENNESSEE** Page 2

SPECIAL FEATURE

The education of Val Venis

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

As World Wrestling Federation star Val Venis prepares to face off against "The One" Billy Gunn in a televised match on *Sunday Night Heat*, he is planning to do something very libertarian.

It isn't the neck-breaker or the Russian leg sweep. Venis tries those moves during the match, but Gunn kicks out each time, to the delight of the sold-out audience.

It isn't the Octopus submission hold, which Venis attempts after Gunn drops him to the can-

vas with a thundering tilt-a-whirl slam.

It isn't the rapid series of right-hand jabs to his opponent's head, which Gunn counters with a clothesline off the ropes, leaving Venis flat on his back.

And it isn't Venis's dejected walk out of the arena at the end of the match, after Gunn pins him with his signature finishing move, the One and Only, and then struts around the ring as flashbulbs glit-

See **VAL VENIS** Page 18



Finished strategic plan goes to LNC for approval

Plan urges six major strategic goals for party

After six months of work, the LP Strategic Planning Team is poised to deliver a final report to the Libertarian National Committee that will urge the party to focus on six major goals — including increasing public awareness of libertarian ideas, building the party's "market share among youth," and strengthening state and local affiliates.

The report will be presented at the LNC meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada on August 25-26, 2001 for National Committee members to accept, reject, or modify. [The

LNC meeting was held after LP News went to press.]

The final report is the result of seven Strategic Planning Team meetings conducted since February, in which the 20 or so participants brainstormed, developed, and finalized a one-, two-, and three-year LP "battle plan."

See **STRATEGIC PLAN** Page 14

InSide

■ **PAGE 3**
Michigan LP helps stop Internet tax

NewsBriefs

Ron Paul files ballot access bill

Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) has filed a bill that would lower the number of signatures required for third-party U.S. House candidates to get on the ballot in most states. The Voter Freedom Act of 2001, filed on June 21, requires states to place on the ballot any candidate who gathers at least 1,000 valid signatures of registered voters in their district, or 1,000 eligible voters in districts without registration.

Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*, said the bill would ease the U.S. House ballot access requirements for roughly two-thirds of the states if passed, and could be beneficial for other races as well.

"I suspect that if states had to improve their laws for U.S. House, they'd probably make ballot access easier across the board, for all offices," he said.

The bill has already been endorsed by the Reform Party and the Association of State Green Parties, said Winger. Unfortunately, he said, it has not been receiving vocal support from rank-and-file members of alternative parties.

"The fact that it doesn't have any co-sponsors yet is because hardly anyone has written his or her member of Congress, asking for co-sponsorship," he said. "I'm going to be doing everything I can to get [third-party advocates] to do that."

According to Article I of the U.S. Constitution, Congress has the power to write laws governing congressional elections.

To contact your Congressperson, call the Congressional switchboard toll-free: (888)-449-3511.

Anti-tax activist ends hunger strike

A former Libertarian Party candidate has ended a hunger strike after Congress agreed to hold a hearing into the legality of the income tax.

After 20 days of consuming only water, Bob Schulz called off his hunger strike when Asst. U.S. Attorney General Dan Bryant signed an agreement on July 20 promising a hearing on Capitol Hill. The hearing has been scheduled for September 25.

Schulz said the agreement is a victory for his We the People Foundation, which argues that the 16th Amendment was never formally ratified, and that Americans are not required to pay income tax.

"We The People have been heard," he said. "The day that our government has shunned has arrived."

Schulz had launched the hunger strike on July 1, vowing to starve himself until the IRS or another high-level government agency agreed to a public meeting to discuss "questions" about the 16th Amendment and the income tax.

LP National Director Steve Dasbach said he was pleased Schulz had ended his fast with no lasting medical harm.

"Whether or not you share Mr. Schulz's convictions about the validity of the income tax, you have to admire his determination and willingness to put his life on the line," he said.

The LP platform calls for the abolition of the income tax, but doesn't claim Americans are not legally required to pay it.

Schulz was the LP's candidate for governor in New York in 1994. He is not currently a Libertarian Party member.

California PAC begins fundraising

A California LP activist has "renewed efforts" to build a political action committee to help state Libertarian candidates get elected.

Gail Lightfoot, head of the California Liberty PAC, announced in August she has reinvigorated plans to "raise funds to assist California LP candidates" in the 2002 elections.

"The California Liberty PAC is dedicated to providing 'start up' funds to worthy candidates pledged to run active campaigns," she said.

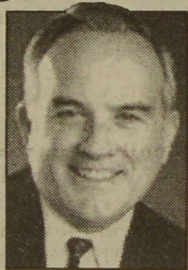
"Without financial support, candidates cannot take the time to leverage opportunities into campaign coverage. Left to sink or swim, more often than not they sink into oblivion."

To remedy that, Lightfoot said the California Liberty PAC will accept contributions and funnel that money to candidates.

"I believe the only way we can begin to hope to make headway in California politics is to play the game smart and pledge ongoing fundraising efforts for serious candidates," she said.

Lightfoot is a past State Chair of the California LP, and was the LP candidate for U.S. Senate in 2000.

For information or to contribute to the California Liberty PAC, write: Gail Lightfoot, P.O. Box 598, Pismo Beach, CA 93448. Call: (877) 616-1776. E-mail: GKLTft@aol.com.



■ Bob Schulz: Hearing is set.

Tennessee Libertarians help squash plan to implement state income tax

Continued from Page 1

was in session, several hundred protesters each day flocked to the Capitol building in Nashville — with an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people showing up on the day when legislators voted on the proposed budget.

With signs displaying the Libertarian label and the crowd chanting anti-tax slogans, the protest was a "great team effort," said Pearl.

"We had people out there early in the morning, all the way into the evening," he said. "When some people had to go to work, others took their place. Motorists were honking their horns so much that my own representative told me she could barely hear herself think inside the building."

Out-of-control?

Although three windows were broken, certain media sources were wrong to portray the protest as "out-of-control," said Pearl.

"For the most part, it was a very controlled protest," he said. "Parents were even bringing their

RICHARD PEARL:

"This is one of the most positive things we have ever done."

kids to the protest for a civics lesson. It was a great thing to see."

Under pressure, the legislature rejected the income tax proposal — and then, on August 7, sealed the deal by overriding the governor's veto.

"This was one of the most positive things we have ever done, and I am so proud of our members," said Pearl. "Best of all, the people of Tennessee won!"

The state Libertarian Party also benefited from the anti-income tax campaign, he said. For example, the number of hits on the state party website has quadrupled, the party is receiving more telephone inquiries every day than during a typical month before the protest, and dozens of people at the rallies signed up for information about the LP.

"There are also some elected officials who are talking about their disgust with their parties and are considering a change to the LP," he said. "Will it happen? I doubt it. [But] the fact that it is being seriously considered, however, is a major boost."

Media attention

In addition, the party is drawing considerable media attention, said Pearl, with Libertarians appearing on several major radio stations and television affiliates over the past month.

As a result of all the publicity, Pearl said he is frequently recognized and thanked by citizens around the state — including his mechanic, who did free work on his car in appreciation.

"[The victory] was thrilling, and it certainly bodes well for the party in the future," he said.

Georgia GOP leader joins Libertarians

Charging that the GOP has strayed from libertarian principles, a former Republican County Chair and current officeholder has defected to the Georgia Libertarian Party.

Jim Lenahan, who served as the chair of the Gwinnett County GOP in the late 1980s, officially joined the LP in June.

"I am excited to be a member of the Libertarian Party of Georgia," he said. "They have made tremendous strides to promote freedom and liberty throughout the state, despite restrictive laws passed by the Democrats and Republicans in the General Assembly to keep them off the ballot."

Lenahan, 39, said he decided to make the switch after realizing the Republican Party "only gives lip service to the principles of limited government."

Oppressive taxation

As evidence of the GOP's big-government tendencies, Lenahan cited "oppressive" taxation, federal mandates for local schools, "ludicrous" seat belt and bike helmet laws, and fingerprinting and registration at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Currently a member of the Suwanee Planning and Zoning Commission, Lenahan is in the second year of a four-year term. The computer consultant and business owner said his position on the commission has given him "a remarkable opportunity" to speak up for Libertarian values.

"While it may appear at first glance that the Planning and Zoning Commission is antithetical to the ideas of liberty, in reality, the two play well together," he said. "What we do is try to make sure that expression of liberty by one party does not infringe upon the right of another party. It is very refreshing to see that principles can be put into practice."

During his tenure as GOP county chair, Lenahan said he met many potential candidates who did not adhere to the Republican

Party platform. In contrast, he said, LP members and candidates all seem to share a common set of values.

Awakening people

"This is what interests me the most about the Libertarian Party of Georgia — awakening people to excesses of government, and fostering discussion and action for diminishing the cradle-to-grave mentality of elected officials of every stripe and at every level," he said.



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"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

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Michigan LP helps derail bill to impose tax on Internet shopping

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Michigan LP has helped temporarily derail a bill that would have paved the way for a tax on Internet purchases — saving state taxpayers an estimated \$100 million to \$300 million per year.

"We are extremely pleased that we were able to play a major role in disrupting the state's plans," said Michigan LP Executive Director Tim O'Brien. "This is a major victory for the LP as well as everyone who opposes Internet taxation."

The bill, SB-433, would have authorized representatives appointed by Republican Governor John Engler and the state legislature to negotiate a "tax compact" with representatives from other states.

Uniform tax rates

The compact would have established a uniform sales tax rate across several states, allowing those state governments to later levy and collect taxes on Internet purchases within the jurisdiction of the agreement.

But on July 12, the state legislature adjourned for the summer without taking any action on the bill, leaving it languishing in the Tax Policy Committee.

The LP had launched its campaign against an Internet tax more than a year ago, when the idea was first proposed by Governor

TIM O'BRIEN:

"We were able to play a major role in disrupting the state's plans."

nor Engler. The party ran two weeks of radio advertisements criticizing the plan.

Once the bill was introduced into the state legislature, the LP resurrected its lobbying website — www.SpeakOutMichigan.org — to allow concerned state residents to contact their legislators and voice opposition to the proposal.

The website may have turned the tide, said O'Brien.

"It is our belief, and the belief of many other people involved in this issue, that our e-mail lobbying campaign played a major role in stopping this legislation," he said. "Also, we had activists phone calling, sending out letters, and I even had two op-eds published in newspapers. This was a great example of grassroots opposition."

O'Brien also had words of praise for two Republicans on the House Tax Policy Committee — Rep. Robert Gosselin and Rep. Leon Drolet — who were instru-

mental in killing the bill.

"Representatives Gosselin and Drolet were unflagging in their commitment to smaller, less expensive, less intrusive government," he said. "They may not be Libertarians, but they certainly are champions of liberty."

Tax "fairness"

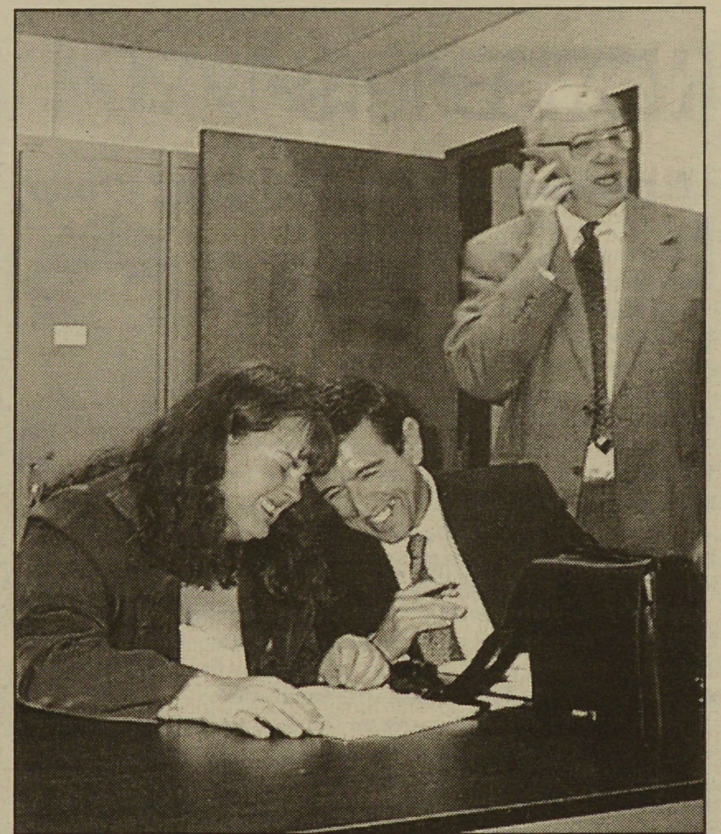
After the bill died, Governor Engler criticized the legislature, saying an Internet tax was a "no-brainer" that would establish "fairness" between traditional retail businesses and their cyber counterparts.

But Engler is wrong, said O'Brien.

"It is certainly true that a 6% sales tax is a disincentive to buying products from 'brick and mortar' businesses," he said. "But simply because the legislature has tied an arm behind their backs doesn't mean the solution is to tie an arm behind the backs of Internet retailers [with a sales tax] as well. The solution is to repeal the sales tax for all businesses, not extend it."

Although proud of the victory, O'Brien predicted the issue would rise again when the legislature reconvenes after summer break.

"The Republicans have already promised to bring [SB-433] back as soon as the legislature reconvenes in September," he said. "But they will find us still standing our ground, throwing sand in the gears of the government juggernaut."



Libertarian wins petition challenge

■ Diane Hittner, the LP candidate for State Assembly (District 13) in New Jersey, shares a lighthearted moment with Monmouth County LP Chairman Pat Bontempo (seated) at a hearing where she defeated a Republican Party challenge to her nominating petition.

At the July 11 hearing, the election board ruled that only 12 of the 67 petition signatures filed by Hittner were invalid. Fifty valid signatures were required to get on the ballot, but the local Republican Party had challenged 39 of Hittner's signatures. The ruling paved the way for the Libertarian candidate to appear on the ballot in the November general election.

Hittner, 26, who is making her first run for public office, said the ruling is a victory for local voters.

"I'm pleased that 13th District voters will have a real alternative," she said. "Now everyone who feels overtaxed and over-regulated will have the opportunity to send a message to the politicians and political parties which have been taking them for granted."

Geoff Neale announces bid for National Chair

Vowing to implement a decentralized leadership style so every state affiliate will "be free to choose its own course," Texas LP Chair Geoff Neale has jumped into the race to become the next LP national chair.

Neale announced his candidacy at the Texas LP convention in Houston on July 14. If elected national chair, the 46-year-old software company president said he would take a hands-off approach to the position.

"In Texas we did what we could, in the way we thought best," he said. "But the same may not work everywhere else. As national chair, I will put the priority on expanding discourse, not discouraging it."

Neale said he has been pleased with the success of the Texas LP in recent years. In 2000, the party ran a slate of 114 candidates, and more than 4 million

votes were cast for a Libertarian candidate in a statewide race.

In addition, the LP candidates averaged more than 15% in six statewide races, far surpassing the 5% required to maintain ballot status in the state.

However, Neale said the role of national chair is not to set an agenda based on personal experience and expect other Libertarian National Committee members to obey.

Instrumental

As representatives of thousands of Libertarians, he said, the opinions of all other members of the LNC should be equally instrumental in setting national policy.

"I will be a leader in facilitating discussion, settling disputes, and helping other members follow a specific game plan," he said.

"But I'm not going to try to impose a master plan for the



■ Geoff Neale: "As national chair, I will put the priority on expanding discourse, not discouraging it."

party on anyone."

Building the LP into a major party is important, said Neale — but it is equally important that new party members and candidates are true adherents of the Libertarian philosophy.

"Our victory, when it comes, See NEALE Page 15

Asset forfeiture reform initiative begins in WA

A Libertarian Party member is spearheading a drive to put on the Washington state ballot an initiative that would drastically curtail the ability of police to seize property under asset forfeiture laws.

The measure, called the "Innocent Owners Defense Initiative," was filed on May 24 at the statehouse in Olympia. It is sponsored by Liberty Initiatives, a non-profit organization headed by LP member Erne Lewis.

Under attack

If the petition drive to qualify the initiative is successful — and if voters approve it in November 2002 — it will represent a major step toward restoring respect for private property rights, which have come under attack from the Drug War, said Lewis.

"The purpose of this initiative is to [uphold] basic individual

ERNE LEWIS:

The initiative will "[uphold] basic individual rights" for WA residents.

rights recognized by every American: The presumption of innocence, the right against unreasonable searches and seizures, the right against double jeopardy, the right against deprivation of property without due process, and the protection against cruel and unusual punishment," he said.

"[Currently], all of these rights are immediately void in See FORFEITURE Page 15

NewsBriefs

LP member joins redistricting group

In what appears to be a historical first, a Libertarian has been appointed to a county redistricting committee in Washington state. The Pierce County Redistricting Committee elected Kelly Haughton, 47, as its fifth member and chairman on July 13.

"This is a great victory for the local party, much more than for myself," said Haughton, who is also the campaign chairman for the Washington state LP. "It shows we are being treated with the respect the party deserves."

"The Libertarian Party has a role to play in local politics, and getting appointments such as this one moves us further to where we want to be."

The redistricting committee is charged with redrawing Pierce County Council districts to reflect changes in population. It meets every 10 years, with two appointees from the "major parties" electing a fifth to head the committee.

Libertarians earned a seat on the committee by pointing out that three of their statewide candidates last year had received at least 5% of the popular vote. As such, the LP had achieved major party status, and should have qualified for two spots on the commission, said Haughton.

"We ended up compromising," he said. "The charter calls for only five members, so we made a deal."

Poll: Anti-Drug War activists like LP

An online poll at a website dedicated to "bringing about an end to the War on Drugs" has discovered that a majority of anti-Drug War activists feel most comfortable with the Libertarian Party.

The survey, taken at www.Smokedot.com in mid-July, revealed that 32% of poll-takers said the Libertarian Party is the political party that their "views fit in with the most."

Coming in second was the Green Party (24%), followed by a tie between the Communist Party (9%) and "Don't care" (9%). The Republican and Democratic parties each received 5%.

While not scientific, the poll suggests the LP may be best positioned to capitalize on the growing sentiment against the War on Drugs, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

"If 32% of the tens of millions of Americans who are opposed to the drug war voted for Libertarian candidates, we would quickly become a powerful force in politics," he said. "And the fact that only 5% of poll-takers chose the Republicans or Democrats indicates there is a 'market demand' the old parties are not filling. That's good news for us."

More than 500 people took the poll at www.Smokedot.com.

Salon.com: Bill Maher no libertarian

Bill Maher, the host of ABC's *Politically Incorrect*, says he's a "libertarian" — but he's actually a liberal, says a new report.

In an article posted to the Salon.com website on August 1, writer Dann Lahem said the smart-alecky talk show host "isn't much of a libertarian. Maher clearly approaches most issues with a decidedly center-left bent. His views are much closer to Clinton's than they are to [Harry] Browne's."

Lahem reached that conclusion by comparing Maher's positions on seven policy issues to the Libertarian Party platform. Out of those seven issues, Maher scored liberal on four, liberal/libertarian on one, and libertarian on only two.

For example, Maher took a big-government liberal position on guns, public education, foreign policy, and the environment. He was "libertarian" on Social Security and ending the Drug War, and took a "libertarian/liberal" position on abortion.

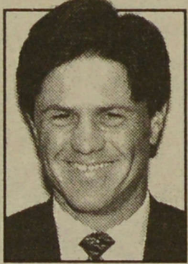
Maher also urged people in 1996 to vote for Bob Dole for president, and in 2000 to vote for Ralph Nader, noted Lahem.

So why does Maher call himself a "libertarian"? Perhaps, Lahem speculated, Maher is just using a trendy description.

"Though his positions are no different from many liberals, Maher's labeling is clearly a politically savvy move," he wrote.

Whatever the reason, the article was an interesting pop culture milestone, said LP Communications Director Bill Winter.

"It's not our business as a political party to give a litmus test to celebrities, and determine who is a *real* libertarian," he said. "But it's fascinating that an outside publication — for the first time ever, as far as I know — used our platform to gauge whether someone deserves the title of libertarian."



■ **Haughton:**
Great victory.

Michele Kubby jumps into race for Lt. Governor in California

Medical marijuana activist vows to fix "broken legal system"

Promising she will work to fix a "broken" legal system, Libertarian anti-Drug War activist Michele Kubby has announced she will seek the LP's nomination for lieutenant governor in California in 2002.

Kubby, 35, announced her intentions at the *New York Times* Drug Policy forum on July 17.

Acquitted by a Placer County jury in a high-profile medical marijuana trial earlier this year — a case that garnered her and her husband Steve national press attention — Kubby said she wants to use her newfound media clout to advertise the Libertarian Party to voters.

"Steve and I have gotten a lot of media coverage lately," she said. "Even my campaign announcement was covered by Yahoo News and KCRA, the largest cable TV station in Northern California. We really want to use the media to benefit the Libertarian Party and galvanize supporters."

Exceptional

Should Kubby — who currently has no challengers — win the California LP primary in March, she would make an "exceptional" candidate for office, said outgoing California LP Executive Director Juan Ros.

"Michele Kubby is a charismatic, passionate, principled Libertarian, and her journey has



■ **Michele Kubby:** Campaign will generate "media to benefit the Libertarian Party and galvanize supporters."

been a truly inspiring one," he said. "The Libertarian Party of California looks forward to her aggressive, professional, and energizing campaign."

Kubby said her decision to run for office began when her family ran into legal difficulty with California's medical marijuana laws.

Both she and her husband are longtime medical marijuana users: Steve used the drug to treat a rare form of adrenal cancer, and Michele used it to alleviate irritable bowel syndrome. In 1995, the couple helped spearhead Proposition 215, which legalized

medical marijuana in California.

But in January 1999, local police raided the couple's home in Olympic Valley, California. There, the officers found marijuana plants and minute quantities of peyote and psilocybin. The Kubbys were subsequently charged with 19 drug law violations.

When a hung jury refused to convict the couple, the charges against Michele Kubby were dropped. Steve Kubby was later convicted on "comparably minor" misdemeanors for possession of the peyote and psilocybin.

As a result of that experience, Michele Kubby said she will focus her campaign on reforming the California legal system.

Jury nullification

For example, Kubby, who has two degrees from U.C. Berkeley in Political Science and Eastern Studies, said she will work to give public defenders better resources, and allow for "jury nullification" of unconstitutional laws.

"We have gone from a society where a defendant is considered innocent until proven guilty to [the reverse]," she said. "It's scary to think we are moving more and more toward a police state."

However, a campaign "is not a time to educate" voters on all Libertarian positions, said Kubby.

See **MICHELE KUBBY** Page 16

In Wisconsin, Ed Thompson sets up committee for gubernatorial race

Libertarian Mayor Ed Thompson has set up an exploratory committee to run for governor of Wisconsin in 2002 — although he has yet to officially announce his candidacy.

Thompson, brother of former Wisconsin governor Tommy Thompson and popular mayor of Tomah, said he is waiting to build grassroots support for the effort before formally committing to the race.

"I probably won't announce until next year," said the 56-year-old restaurateur. "But it's very exciting to me. I think that if we can stir up enough grassroots support, we would have a real chance to win the whole thing."

Enthusied

Wisconsin LP Chair Bob Collison said he was "enthused" about an Ed Thompson for Governor campaign.

"Ed provides the party with

ED THOMPSON:

"If we can stir up enough grassroots support, we have a real chance."

a real shot at winning this election," he said. "His candidacy has the ability to do for Wisconsin and the Wisconsin LP what Jesse Ventura did for the Reform Party in Minnesota."

In fact, Thompson said his goal is to raise about \$600,000 before the election in November 2002 — about the amount Jesse Ventura raised in his successful 1998 campaign for governor of Minnesota. He said he has raised

more than \$25,000 so far.

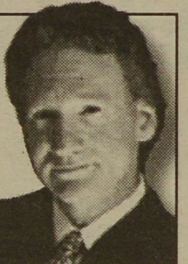
In addition, Thompson said he has familiarized himself with the strategy that Ventura used in his campaign. In fact, Thompson met with Ventura in April and got suggestions on how he might overcome the odds against a third-party candidate and win statewide office.

Pretty excited

"Jesse was pretty excited that I was seriously considering a third-party run for governor," said Thompson. "He got out a lot of young voters in his race, and people who hadn't voted in a long time. He gave them a new reason to go to the polls, and that's what I want to do."

If he announces, Thompson would face incumbent Republican Governor Scott McCallum, who currently has more than \$2 million in his campaign war chest.

See **ED THOMPSON** Page 16



■ **Bill Maher:**
Mostly liberal.

"HELP US SEND TEDDY KENNEDY, MIKE DUKAKIS, & THEIR BIG- GOVERNMENT, HIGH-TAX POLITICAL PALS A MESSAGE THEY'LL NEVER FORGET," — Says Carla Howell —

Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Massachusetts Income Tax

If it were possible to put our Libertarian Initiative on the Ballot to End the Massachusetts Income Tax — would you want it?

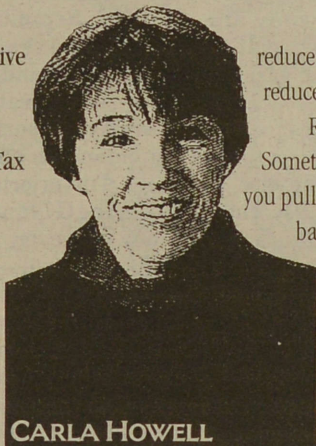
A Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax in Massachusetts? *Massachusetts?*

What would *The Boston Globe* say? *USA Today*? *The Wall Street Journal*? *The Washington Post*? Or magazines like *Time*? *Newsweek*? *National Review*?

Will Carla Howell's recent TV appearance on *The O'Reilly Factor* be the first of many National TV appearances?

Will Carla Howell be invited to make our case on Nightline with Ted Koppel? *Face the Nation*? *Meet the Press*? *Hardball*? *Crossfire*? *Politically Incorrect*?

Will John Stossel of ABC's *20/20* do a nationally tele-vised story about our End the Income Tax Ballot Initiative?



CARLA HOWELL

reduce government income. Dramatically reduce all taxes. Or remove the biggest taxes. Reduced taxes *always* grow back. Sometimes slowly. Usually quickly. But when you pull up a weed by the roots, it can't grow back. When we end a tax, it doesn't grow back.

No tax on wages. No tax on interest or dividends. No tax on capital gains. No Income Tax.

Our Small Government Act to End

OUR LIBERTARIAN INITIATIVE

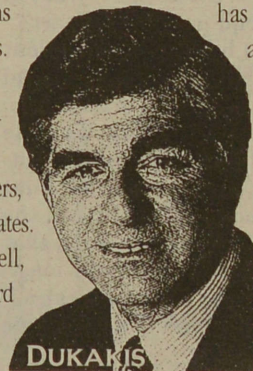
the Massachusetts Income Tax Ballot Initiative is a bold first step to make government small.

We've formed The Committee for Small Government. Individual Liberty. Personal Responsibility. Small government. 100% Libertarian.

WHY MASSACHUSETTS?

"Tax-achusetts." Bone-crushing taxation. Strangling regulation. Big Government social engineering. The state that gave us Michael Dukakis and Ted Kennedy. Now we have a growing movement of Tax-Cutters, Gun Freedom supporters, and small government advocates.

Dream Team of Libertarian Activists: Carla Howell, Michael Cloud, Peter Kuntz J.D., Hugh High, J.D., Edward McCormick, J.D., Andy LaRocco, Kay Pirrello, R. Dennis Corrigan, Dave Rizzo, Muni Sayon, Celeste Parent,



DUKAKIS

Kamal Jain, Lance Romanoff, Peter Cuff, Jeanne Barreta, and many more.

Growing Impact: 308,860 votes for Carla Howell for U.S. Senate against Ted Kennedy; 40% name recognition; 726 campaign volunteers; 5,106 campaign donors; \$821,362 raised; The Most Successful Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign in Party history.

We must collect over 100,000 raw petition signatures starting now. We have until early November. Barely more than 60 days to petition this fall. In the rain. The cold. In "Tax-achusetts."

We need volunteer petitioners. But trained, skilled, professional petitioners are indispensable to our success. And they cost money.

We are thrifty and frugal. As careful with your money as you are. Dollar for dollar, we will give you the most value for your donation.

Good News: There are no limits to how much you can donate! No artificial political restrictions to your involvement.

Very Good News: There are no limits as to how much your business can donate!

The Great News: Michael Cloud, the Rainmaker who has raised more than \$6,000,000 for Libertarians, has arranged for Challenge Grant Donors to match every dollar you donate. Double your money and your Liberty, too!

That's right. We'll match every dollar you donate. Your \$500 donation today will pay for 208 signatures. Our matching \$500 will bring in another 208 signatures. \$500 will make a big difference.

Or \$250. Or \$150. Or \$85. All matched. Every dollar. *Please donate today.*

EXTRA-ORDINARY OPPORTUNITY

WHY NOT TAX LIMITATION?

to put a lid on Big Government growth in California?

Tax rollbacks and tax limitation ballot initiatives swept the nation.

In Massachusetts, we passed Proposition 2-1/2 — which limited government spending growth to 2-1/2% each year.

Then state and local governments created loopholes. Exceptions. Unfunded mandates. Relentless referendums to override the limits.

Politicians, bureaucrats, and judges gutted Proposition 13 and Proposition 2-1/2. Big Government kept growing.

Why didn't tax limitation stop the growth of Big Government? Why didn't tax limits work?

Tax limitation never works. Tax limitation guarantees the growth of government. Massachusetts government is guaranteed to grow 2-1/2% every year. Unless the bureaucrats and politicians engineer an override. Then Big Government grows even bigger.

This happened in *every* state that passed tax limitation.

DOES THIS GO TOO FAR?

Early 1990's. Still more than Governor Michael Dukakis' bloated 1980's Massachusetts budgets.

"Spending rises to meet income," says Parkinson's Second Law. Government spending rises to meet government income. High Taxes mean Big Government.

The only way to make government small is to dramatically

Tax limitation got popular in the late 1970's in California.

Remember Proposition 13? Remember how it rolled back property taxes and tried to put a lid on Big Government growth in California?

Ending the Massachusetts Income Tax would cut the state budget back to — Republican Governor William Weld's first term.

NO LIMITS TO HOW MUCH YOU CAN DONATE! NO LIMITS TO HOW MUCH YOUR BUSINESS CAN DONATE!

SGA901LP

<input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$750 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> \$85 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$ _____		
I'll pay by: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> AmericanExpress		
Here's my check made out to: "The Committee for Small Government"		
Mail to: The Committee for Small Government • 6 Goodman Lane • Wayland, MA 01778 • Massachusetts law requires us to report the name, address, occupation, and employer of each individual whose contributions total \$200 or more. Paid for by the Committee for Small Government, R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer. Carla Howell, Chair		
www.smallgovernmentact.org		

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OCCUPATION _____	EMPLOYER _____	
PHONE _____	EMAIL _____	

TalkingPoints

Lockstep Republican socialists, and art community cash junkies

■ A problem solved

In the finding-solutions-for-problems-that-don't-exist category, in late June the North Carolina State Senate passed a bill that would prevent "profanity, indecent, or obscene language in the presence of a dead human body."

— C.E.I. UPDATE
August 2001

■ Republican leadership

Any hopes for modernizing Social Security in the near future may have been dashed on Sunday [July 29], when House Speaker Dennis Hastert — a Republican, it is rumored — said he could not support a proposal to partially privatize the program.

On NBC's *Meet the Press*, the speaker said he could not back partial privatization because "we're not going to raise taxes for Social Security and we're not going to cut the benefits."

Earth to Mr. Hastert: Taxes will be raised and benefits will be cut, regardless of whether partial privatization is enacted."

— LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL
July 30, 2001

■ How to waste \$60 billion

The United States spends an estimated \$30 billion to \$60 billion a year [in military expenses] on safeguarding Middle East oil supplies, even though its annual oil imports from the region totaled only \$10.25 billion between 1992 and 1999.

— THE CATO INSTITUTE
August 1, 2001

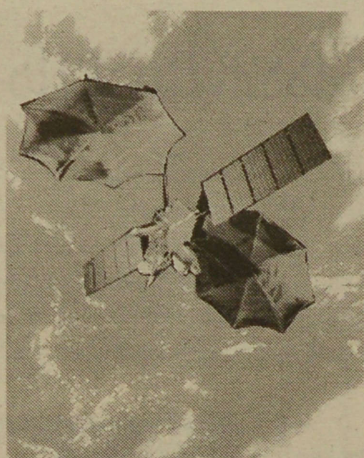
■ Magical government

"Mr. President, Please Make Us Proud." That was the cover story in the January 28 issue of *Parade*, the nation's most widely circulated magazine.

The magazine had asked teens across America what they would "ask our new President to do for them [and] their families, schools and communities."

And boy, did the teens have ideas. They seemed to regard the new president as a combination of Superman, Santa Claus, and Mother Teresa. "Help save our planet," they implored. "Everybody, no matter how much money they have, should be able to go to college . . ." "Please care about homeless people." "How come our burnt-up houses and our school can't get remodeled?"

No task is too small for the president — "Can you make a



**A TAX ASSESSOR
in Los Angeles is
trying to collect
property tax on
eight satellites
orbiting the earth.**

national hotline where teens can get advice when they're sad or angry?" — or too large — "Will you help to mend my broken heart?"

[They] believe the president can do anything, and only a bad president would fail to do good.

Many of us grow up. We come to realize that homes and computers have to be produced, that wishes and results are not the same things. And we learn that the president doesn't have magical powers; he can't cure cancer, or hate, or poverty, or economic fluctuations.

Unfortunately, a lot of people don't grow up. They retain a magical view of the power of the president, or of government generally.

[They believe that if] we just pass more laws about health care, education, homelessness, equality, and so on, we will at the very least affirm our own goodness — if one magical spell doesn't work, you need another.

— DAVID BOAZ
Cato Policy Report
July/August 2001

■ Sky-high taxes

A Los Angeles County official has given new meaning to the term space cadet.

In a grab for power best described as out of this world, Los Angeles County Assessor Rick

Auerbach is trying to impose local property taxes on eight satellites currently orbiting the earth.

Never mind that the satellites were launched thousands of miles away from L.A. County, are in fixed orbits above the equator, and come nowhere near passing over California, Mr. Auerbach argues — with a straight face, no less — that they are subject to local taxes because no one else is taxing them and because they were manufactured by a Los Angeles County-based company, namely Hughes Electronics.

Who knows, perhaps next Mr. Auerbach will attempt to tax the sun for having the audacity to set in what was once the Golden State.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
July 17, 2001

■ Plan Cocainia

Percentage change in the size of Colombia's coca crop since its "Plan Colombia" coca-eradication campaign began in 1999: +11.

— HARPER'S, July 2001

■ Killer regulations

For years, critics of these regulations — known as the Corporate Average Fuel Economy program, or CAFE — had warned that by forcing manufacturers to build cars able to get more miles per gallon, the federal government was sending motorists to their deaths.

As cars have shrunk, the death toll has grown. In 1999, *USA Today* analyzed government crash data and found that in the

25 years since fuel-efficiency standards were first imposed, 46,000 people had died in crashes they would have survived if they had been driving bigger cars.

— JEFF JACOBY
The Boston Globe
July 19, 2001

■ Attack politics

Michigan resident David Jaye applied for unemployment in May. Happens every day, right? Not exactly. The job Jaye lost was serving in the Michigan State Senate. Jaye was ousted by his colleagues after he was arrested in April for assaulting his fiancée.

— C.E.I. UPDATE
June/July 2001

■ Lockstep socialists

The Republican Party bills itself as the champion of limited government and free enterprise. Many conservatives tag along, claiming support for the Constitution and an end to the welfare state. The priorities of President Bush, the GOP, and conservatives today, however, prove that such talk is . . . well . . . talk.

Republicans and many conservatives have adopted countless Third Way welfare-state plans as their own. They now praise Social Security, public school "reform," health care "reform," national energy "plans," national labor "policy," the minimum wage, the Fed (credit controls), and Lincoln, FDR, and Truman, to boot.

With Bush in charge, the GOP in lockstep, and conservative leaders keeping the troops in line, it's not unfair to say, "They're all socialists now."

— MICHAEL CHAPMAN
Jewish World Review
July 10, 2001

■ What government's for

[Consider] the saga of wool and mohair (from goats) supports. Supposedly killed in 1993, this special interest rip-off was resurrected six years later as a "temporary" measure. Congress approved \$20 million for impecunious sheep and goats this year and in June voted an extra \$16.9 million in supplemental spending.

Several congressmen are trying to kill the program, but they aren't likely to succeed. After all, explains Zane Willard, executive director of the Mohair Council of America, "That's what our government's there for."

— DOUG BANDOW
The Washington Times
July 25, 2001

■ Art junkies

From time to time, I have exasperated my beloved friends in the arts community by refusing to call various attempts by the government to control the content of things it funds "censorship." I think it's unwise; I think it hurts the free exchange of ideas; I think it reveals narrow-mindedness, and stupidity.

But, dear friends, you made a deal with the devil. You knew they were narrow-minded and stupid when you took their money. Now the devil acts like the devil.

There is a solution: Don't take the money. Alas, the government has made cash junkies of too many people and institutions, and there's nothing more hypocritical than the whining of a junkie.

— JON CARROL
The San Francisco Chronicle
July 24, 2001

■ Better candidates

The blue-ribbon commission headed by former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford has come up with a list of ways to improve the next presidential election. I've got an idea. How about better candidates?

— JAY LENO
The Tonight Show
August 1, 2001

■ Demonic risk

In the demon-filled world of the late 20th and early 21st century, risk is everywhere, and among the noblest activities of government is its continual search to slay each and every demonic risk.

That, at least, is the impression one gets about the American attitude toward environmental, industrial and lifestyle risk from the popular culture. How noteworthy, then, when the press gets the story on risk right.

In her July 9th column, *San Francisco Chronicle* reporter Carolyn Lochhead reports the inconsistencies — and often lunacies — in promoting "zero risk" policies across the board.

In our daily lives we often undertake pursuits far riskier than the ones we ask lawmakers to prevent. We sunbathe, we barbecue, we drive in small cars. At the same time we worry about global warming, trace levels of impurities in drinking water, and flying in ultra-safe airplanes.

"So, while we lie on the beach this summer doing our own little risk/benefit analysis," Lochhead writes, "we might ponder another useful summer statistic: more people are injured by tennis rackets than by arrows."

— THE LIGHTHOUSE
July 23, 2001

"A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman, of the next generation."

— J.F. CLARKE



Yes, Mr. Clarke intended his comment as a gentle insult. But we need politicians in the LP who think about the next election — and how to win it. But we also need statesmen (and stateswomen), who think about the next generation — and how to help them win the battle for liberty. Here's one way to do that: By naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. It's your gift to the next generation of freedom fighters. To discuss this option, call National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 858-0915. Or e-mail him: dnc@multiopro.com.

"Hungry for Personal Responsibility?"

ASKS MICHAEL CLOUD

Michael Cloud's Libertarian U.S. Senate campaign against John Kerry (D-MA)

Why is personal responsibility the key to individual liberty?

Conventional Wisdom says,

"Everyone wants to be free, but no one wants to be responsible."

Conventional Wisdom says, "Responsibility is a hard and thankless burden and everyone avoids it."

Conventional Wisdom says, "Responsibility means blame and punishment."

Conventional Wisdom is Wrong. Dead Wrong. The polar opposite of the Truth.

Americans are hungry for personal responsibility. Personal Responsibility could be the hottest issue in politics.

The Dirty Little Secret

Big Government does *not* grow by seizing individual liberty. Big Government grows by assuming *personal responsibility*.

Individual liberty and personal responsibility are two sides of the same gold coin. We cannot surrender one side of the coin without surrendering the other.

We must take back personal responsibility to restore individual liberty.

Personal responsibility is the most exciting political message in America.

America is starved for personal responsibility.

But no one is talking about it.

Until now.

This is why Michael Cloud's Libertarian campaign for U.S. Senate is a campaign for personal responsibility.

Because personal responsibility sets us free.

Because personal responsibility makes us prosperous and civil.

Because personal responsibility is indispensable to individual liberty and small government.

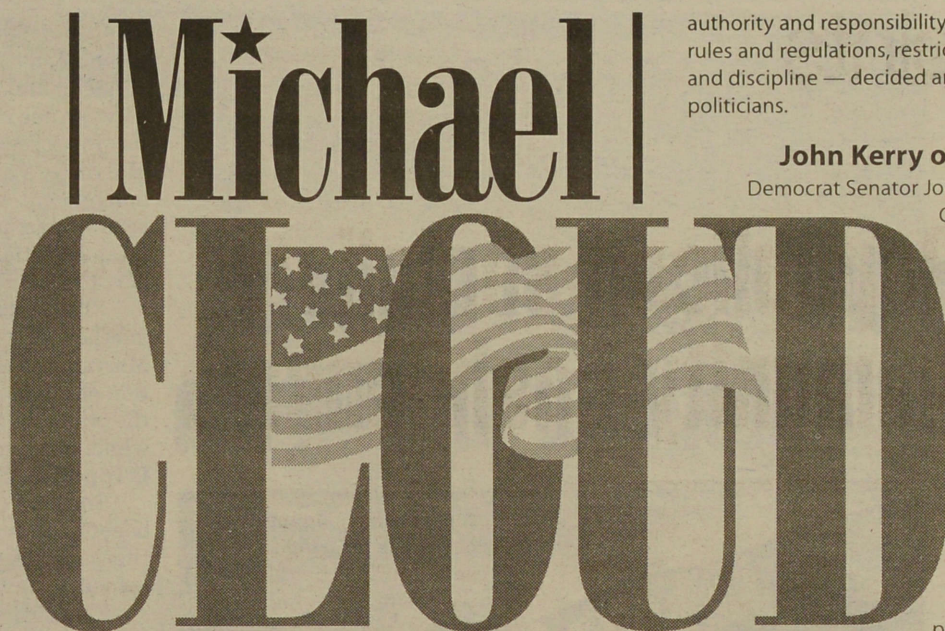
John Kerry: National Poster Boy for Government Responsibility

Health Care? More Government Responsibility. John Kerry's U.S. Senate votes drive us toward a single-payer, Big Government Health Care Monopoly. Hillary's dream. One big V.A. hospital for America.

Education? More Government Responsibility. John Kerry's U.S. Senate votes impose more Federal control. Although the Federal Government puts only 7¢ into every \$1 spent on public education in Massachusetts, they strangle us with miles of red tape, mandates, restrictions, regulations, and standards.

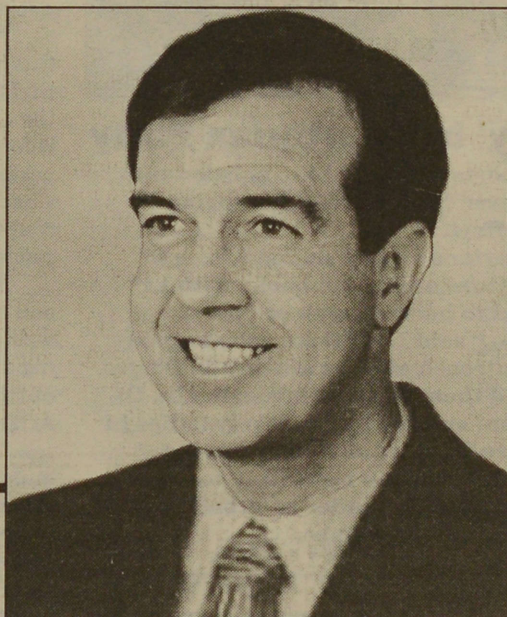
Social Security? More Government Responsibility. John Kerry's prized Social Security system is structured as a Ponzi scheme. (Charles Ponzi, like John Kerry, hailed from Boston.) Social Security is nearing insolvency. This monopoly retirement system is inherently flawed and unworkable. But John Kerry refuses to break it up and privatize it.

The Family? More Government Responsibility. John Kerry's politically correct U.S. Senate votes for "the children," for "family leave" and "family planning" are destroying the



**Libertarian
for
U.S. Senate
MASSACHUSETTS**

**Personal
Responsibility
Vs. Government
Responsibility**



Michael CLOUD
LIBERTARIAN FOR U.S. SENATE

authority and responsibility of parents. More government rules and regulations, restrictions and requirements, values and discipline — decided and guided by bureaucrats and politicians.

John Kerry or Michael Cloud?

Democrat Senator John Kerry *always* votes

Government Responsibility.

More Big Government Authority. More Big Government Control. More Big Government Power. More Big Government.

Every time Massachusetts Senator John Kerry votes, we lose personal responsibility. And that means we lose individual liberty. Michael Cloud's Libertarian campaign for U.S. Senate is a campaign for personal responsibility. A campaign for personal responsibility is a

campaign for individual liberty and small government.

Government Responsibility or Personal Responsibility.

Which do you want? Government Authority or Personal Authority. Which do you want? Government Control or Personal Control. Which do you want?

Big Government or small government.

Which do you want?

John Kerry or Michael Cloud. Which do you want?

Why Michael Cloud?

Black Belt Master of the Art of Libertarian Persuasion. National Tom Paine Award winner. "Persuasion Power Points" columnist with over 57,217 subscribers. Libertarian strategist. Nationally acclaimed speech-writer. National organizer of 2 Libertarian Presidential campaigns. 2 Nationally Televised Libertarian Speeches. CEO of the Carla Howell for U.S. Senate campaign.

Jo Jorgensen, 1996 Libertarian VP nominee said, "Michael Cloud is, hands-down, the best public speaker in the Libertarian Party."

Take Responsibility. Help Michael Cloud.

Help Michael Cloud persuade hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts voters that Personal Responsibility is the Issue.

Help Michael Cloud enroll hundreds of new Libertarians.

This month, Michael Cloud will speak to over 46,000 people at the MassCann/NORML Freedom Rally on the Boston Common. Help fund Libertarian campaign materials for all 46,000.

431 days. Michael Cloud will campaign across Massachusetts. Speeches. TV appearances. Newspaper and Radio coverage. Colleges and Universities. Gun Clubs. Churches and Synagogues. Civic Organizations. For 431 days.

Help us put Michael Cloud and our message of Personal Responsibility in front of every voter in Massachusetts.

Join our campaign for Personal Responsibility.

Please donate generously.

Donate today. Thank you.

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250
☐ \$150 ☐ \$85 ☐ Other: \$ _____
I'll pay by: ☐ Check ☐ Mastercard
☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ AmEx

You may donate up to \$2,000: \$1,000 for primary and \$1,000 for General Election

Personal Responsibility Is the Issue

NAME _____ CREDIT CARD # _____
ADDRESS _____ SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRATION _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ OCCUPATION _____ EMPLOYER _____
PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Donate to: Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate • 131 Bridge Street • Salem, MA 01970 • Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and employee for each individual whose contribution aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Not tax deductible. Paid for by Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate, R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer.

Affiliate News

Standing up for Marilyn Manson, and taking a 'Gatorbite' in Florida

■ ALABAMA

The Libertarian answer for 'unfair' sales taxes

A Libertarian student has offered a solution to compensate for "unfair" sales tax practices at University of Alabama sporting events: Exempt everyone.

Members of the Tuscaloosa city council have said exempting independent vendors from the sales tax would be unfair to other sellers who must pay the tax.

So, at a city council meeting on July 17, economics student **Art Carden** made a suggestion: Lift the sales tax on game days for everyone.

"Government meddling, regulation, and taxation have no place in a country that deigns to call itself the Land of Opportunity," Carden told the council.

Members of the council, said Carden, were "bemusedly impressed" by the idea, which was originally proposed by Alabama LP Secretary **Dan Bowden**.

"They could tell that I knew what I was talking about, but they didn't seem to take it terribly seriously," he said. "Hopefully we'll follow up on it."

■ CALIFORNIA

Two bills would help ease state energy cost crunch

The California LP has announced its support for two energy bills being considered by the state senate, saying both would give substantial relief to taxpayers.

SB X2 72 would repeal California's 15 cent-per-gallon sales tax on gasoline, which is imposed on top of federal taxes.

"The sales tax is, in part, a tax on a tax, pulling an additional \$4.5 million per day from the wallets of California drivers," said **Juan Ros**, California LP executive director.

SB X2 69 would force local governments to assess utility taxes on use instead of on retail prices, as is presently the case. Currently, many cities tax power and oil companies based on retail prices, which generates "soaring revenues" when prices spike, said Ros.

"The California LP urges taxpayers to order a halt to these government windfall schemes," he said.

Both bills must be passed out of the legislature by September 14 in order to go into effect next year.



Putting the 'party' in Libertarian Party

■ A group of San Diego Libertarians combine politics and revelry — with their first-ever "Pub Crawl/Libertarian Matchbook Distribution" effort.

In mid-July, the Libertarians visited six local bars to hand out Libertarian literature and matchbooks with LP contact information . . . and to hoist a drink or two.

"[It] was a great success," said **Lou Misko**, who helped organize the unorthodox outreach effort with **Amy del Nagro**. "All of the six bars accepted them most enthusiastically. Of course, [they may have been] swayed by the lovely ladies in our group and all the fun we all were obviously having. Maybe I have found a new Libertarian recruiting tool!"

Shown above, Misko hands a bartender at Tuba Man's Bar Libertarian matchbooks and literature.

■ CALIFORNIA

LP member starts new website for city voters

A Huntington Beach Libertarian has launched a new website — www.ModernPublic.com — to encourage citizen involvement in city government.

Norm Westwell, a former LP candidate for Huntington Beach City Council, said his free site allows any visitor to create an issue poll or cast a vote in an already existing one.

"I created ModernPublic.com as a technology tool intended to be used to improve our community and to illustrate how the public should be seeking non-govern-

ment solutions to government's problems," he said.

The website will soon host other cities as well, and Libertarians from all over the country will be able to register their opinions, said Westwell.

"This is the type of website the city should provide for the people," he said. "The city could have created a site like ModernPublic.com for a couple thousand bucks. They haven't, so I have."

■ COLORADO

County LP rejects idea of 'marriage' amendment

El Paso County Libertarians have announced opposition to a

proposed U.S. Constitutional amendment that would officially define "marriage" as a legal union between one man and one woman.

Proposed by the Alliance for Marriage, a non-profit group, the amendment would deny benefits such as partner's insurance, hospital visitation, and spousal support to homosexual couples.

"The Marriage Amendment is another way for the Alliance for Marriage to enforce their definition of marriage, as well as limit the privileges of marriage, to those whom they see fit," said **Steve D'Ippolito**, El Paso LP chair.

Instead of extending legal benefits to homosexual couples, the government should simply refuse to favor one institution over another at all, said D'Ippolito.

"If [special privileges for marriage] didn't exist, people would live with whomever they chose and there would be no legal advantage to any of the possible choices," he said.

■ COLORADO

Even Marilyn Manson is entitled to free speech

Shock-rocker Marilyn Manson may be offensive — but he deserves robust First Amendment rights. That was the message delivered by Colorado LP Publications Advisor **Ari Armstrong** at a rally in Denver on June 20.

"I agree that Manson's lyrics are sick and revolting," said Armstrong. "But using government force to shut out messages that some people find offensive is a terrible precedent."

The rally, sponsored by the Citizens for the Protection of the Right to Free Speech, was held at the Capitol building on the day before Manson came to the city to perform at the Ozzfest concert. The rally was scheduled to counter demands that the city cancel the concert.

But Manson, whose morbid and graphic lyrics have been cited as a possible cause for the shooting at Columbine High School, is entitled to free speech, said Armstrong.

"In an open society, people must be socially tolerant of each other, unless they are harming someone else in their person or property," he said.

■ FLORIDA

Operation Gatorbite helps double LP officeholders

Thanks to an aggressive effort dubbed "Operation Gatorbite," Florida Libertarians have doubled the number of elected or appointed LP officeholders over the last year.

Is Abortion Aggression? Scientific & Philosophical Arguments Show Why It Is

Go to: <http://www.L4L.org>
For a literature list, send a S.A.S.E. to
Libertarians for Life, 13424 Hathaway
Drive #18, Wheaton, MD 20906
(301) 460-4141 • libertarian@erols.com

Since August 2000, the number of Libertarian officeholders in Florida has jumped from 10 to 21, reported LP State Chair **Frank Longo**.

"We're very pleased with the way Operation Gatorbite is going so far," he said. "The best part is it is [also] drawing out more people to run as candidates for local office in 2002."

The goal of Operation Gatorbite, said Longo, is to triple party size, quadruple the number of registered Libertarians, and put 10-30 Libertarians in office per one-million population — all over six years.

To accomplish this, the effort focuses on "critical actions" such as giving high school presentations, offering guest speakers for radio shows, placing Libertarian literature in public libraries, and writing letters to local newspapers.

■ GEORGIA

More school choice, not new windows, says LP

As a means to boost school test scores, the Atlanta Public School system has proposed adding more windows to government schools at a cost of more than \$1 million to taxpayers.

But Georgia LP leaders said they have a better suggestion: School choice.

"Atlanta City schools spend more money per child than nearly every other school system in the state, yet they continue to produce some of the worst test scores," said **Jason Butler**, political director for the Georgia LP. "It's time to put parents back in control of their children's future."

Butler suggested increasing magnet schools and charter schools, and loosening home-schooling restrictions would improve the state's sagging academic record.

The average public school expenditure per child in Georgia is above the national average, yet Georgia ranks 49th out of the 50 states in Scholastic Aptitude Test scores, trailing only South Carolina, said Butler.

"Educational choice is the best way to ensure that no child is left behind," he said.

■ ILLINOIS

Taxpayer's Advocate is needed to end corruption

State Libertarians have launched an effort they claim is unusual but "necessary" — the creation of a new government position.

On July 9, LP members circulated a petition to create a position of "Taxpayer Advocate" in Cicero, where the city council has misappropriated millions of dollars and whose mayor has been targeted by the FBI for fraud.

"Libertarians are inherently against the creation of more layers of government," said LP State Chair **Austin Hough**. "[However], we feel the creation of this new governmental position will

allow the town of Cicero to take gigantic leaps forward."

At least 6,000 valid signatures must be collected by December to place such an initiative on the election ballot in 2002. Libertarians have collected about 50 signatures so far.

"The town of Cicero is so corrupt we feel appointing someone to look out for taxpayer interests is necessary," said Illinois LP Executive Director **Scott Kohlhaas**.

■ MARYLAND

College student plans LibertyWeek 2002 event

A University of Western Maryland student has announced plans for a "LibertyWeek" — an entire week of Libertarian guest speakers and bands.

LP member **Jeremy Keil** has already raised more than \$600 for the event, which is scheduled to take place in March 2002.

"I expect a huge turnout," said Keil. "We expect 100-200 people per night, and several thousand for the concert at the end of the week."

Keil said it is important for the LP to recruit college students, because many already agree with much of the LP platform.

"If we show college students there is an alternative to not voting as a way to separate from the present process, then we will have a huge influx of new members who will stay in the LP for 50 [or] 60 years," he said.

For more information, visit: www.libertyweek.org. Or call: (410) 751-8936. Or write: Liberty Week, WMC, 2 College Hill, Westminster, MD 21157.

■ MISSOURI

Rural Libertarians: End damaging livestock law

A group of Missouri Libertarians are going after the ultimate pork: Laws that force livestock producers to sell hogs at below-market prices.

"Missouri livestock farmers are losing money every week as a result of this market-wrecking law," said **Chip Taylor**, spokesman for the Missouri Rural Libertarian Caucus.

"It's a classic case of unintended consequences — a bill meant to help farmers is doing them in."

The law requires packers to pay uniform prices for hogs, cattle and sheep in order to "level the playing field" between small and large producers. But the law is bankrupting many livestock producers, said Taylor.

And, unfortunately, Missouri Governor Bob Holden has refused to call a legislative session in order to solve the problem, he said.

"Governor Holden is doing to Missouri's livestock farmers what Governor Davis has done to California's electricity producers," said Taylor. "Missouri livestock farmers are worse off than before it took effect; the law should be repealed."



County Fair outreach effort in Oregon

■ LP activist and past Congressional candidate **Beth King** gives the "World's Smallest Political Quiz" to an interested voter at an Operation Politically Homeless booth at the Washington County Fair in Oregon in late July.

"We did the Operation Politically Homeless [booth] with great success," said **Mark Vetanen**, who helped organize the effort. "We tested 218 people, and got 45 names and addresses for further contact."

At the five-day fair — which draws tens of thousands of visitors from all over the state — LP volunteers passed out "lots of pamphlets and exposed Oregonians to the Libertarian Party," he said.

At the OPH booth, passersby were invited to take a short, 10-question quiz that identified them on a four-way political grid: Libertarian, Liberal, Conservative, or Authoritarian. People who scored Libertarian were encouraged to sign up for more information about the LP.

■ NORTH CAROLINA

LP participates in anti-tax Tar Heel Tea Party event

Libertarians participated in a "Tar Heel Tea Party Against Taxes" to discourage the state legislature from raising taxes to cover spending deficits.

The event, which was co-sponsored with other organizations including the Citizens for a Sound Economy and the John Locke Foundation, took place at the Legislative Building in Raleigh on July 31.

"We had about 1,000 people there at any given time," said **Sean Haugh**, North Carolina LP executive director. "The impressive part is this crowd was organized on about five days' notice."

The North Carolina legislature is facing a budget deficit of about \$800 million, Haugh said, and is considering a wide array of tax hikes to remedy the problem.

"Everyone definitely knew we were there in force," he said. "That's the important reason why we should be there in my view — everybody there saw our leadership on the issue."

■ OKLAHOMA

Bethany LP member helps stop new seatbelt law

A Bethany Libertarian has helped defeat a proposal to make failing to wear a seatbelt a primary offense, punishable by police citation or fine.

Christopher Powell, vice-chair of the Oklahoma Libertar-

ian Party, spoke against the measure on June 5 at a city council meeting, saying that selective enforcement would be unavoidable.

"This nation is based on the notion that the people are sovereign and the various levels of government derive their powers from the consent of the people," he said. "I urge each of you serving on the Council to uphold justice and the dignity of Bethany by opposing this change."

The proposal was tabled after Powell's comments, and failed when the item came before the Council again on July 17.

Council member **Richard Engle** said Powell's vocal opposition was "instrumental" in defeating the measure.

■ OKLAHOMA

State LP joins coalition to reform ballot laws

Third-party advocates have formed a coalition to ease ballot access restrictions in Oklahoma — a state with some of the harshest election laws in the nation.

The group, which includes the Libertarian Party, the Green Party, and the Southern Party, held a meeting on July 22 at the Midwest City Library to discuss a plan of action.

"Ballot Access News said Oklahoma has the strictest ballot access laws in the union," said Oklahoma LP Chair **Richard Prawdzieński**. "So we are trying to target specific legislators who might introduce a bill to change that."

Currently, third parties must gather signatures equal to 5% of the vote in the last presidential or gubernatorial election — up to 80,000 signatures.

To change these laws, **Prawdzieński** said the coalition is encouraging supporters to write letters to newspapers and their representatives.

"When citizens aren't given a choice at the ballot box, there's very little interest in them voting," he said.

■ WISCONSIN

In Tomah, August 1st is declared 'Hemp Day'

Libertarian Mayor **Ed Thompson** has declared August 1

"Hemp Day" in the city of Tomah.

Thompson made the announcement when two businessmen driving a car fueled purely by hemp-seed oil made a stop in Tomah on their cross-country tour.

"I just thought that recognizing a day in honor of the hemp crop would be a fun thing to do," said Thompson. "It was very interesting, and gave me a chance to draw attention to our failed Drug War."

Wisconsin was the nation's only producer of industrial hemp from 1948-1957, until the federal government outlawed its production. However, hemp products continue to be sold in the state, said Thompson.

"Hemp used to be a wonderful crop for the state economy," he said. "It can be again, with a better Libertarian drug policy."

■ WISCONSIN

Bill of Rights: Bad news at 4th of July festival

As America celebrated its 225th year, the Bill of Rights is in trouble, according to a new survey by Wisconsin Libertarians.

Of 232 people surveyed during Green Bay's Celebrate Americafest over the 4th of July weekend, only 11 recognized the Bill of Rights, according to **Eric Christianson**, vice chair of the Northeast Wisconsin LP.

And only about 40% said they agreed with the language of the Bill of Rights and would be willing to sign a petition supporting the 10 amendments that guarantee the right to free speech, protection against unreasonable search, and others.

"My favorite response is from the guy who declined to sign, saying, 'This would interfere with the judicial system because there's a vagueness inherent to the Constitution and this would make it black and white,'" said Christianson.

Overall, the results were frightening, said **Bob Collison**, State Chair of the Wisconsin LP.

"They'll parade in the name of freedom, but ask [people] about issues, and they don't come down on the side of freedom," he said.

Michael Cloud

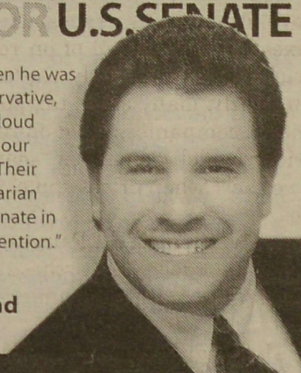
LIBERTARIAN FOR U.S. SENATE

"In 1998 in Nevada, I was with Michael Cloud when he was a guest on 6 talk radio shows in one day. 3 Conservative, 1 Christian, 1 Liberal, and 1 Show-Biz. Michael Cloud mesmerized the hosts and their audiences with our Libertarian Principle of Personal Responsibility. Their phones rang off the hook, and so did our Libertarian inquiry line. Michael Cloud's campaign for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts could bring us National media attention."

— **Chris Azzaro**,
Director, Libertarian Victory Fund

PLEASE SEE MICHAEL CLOUD'S AD ON

PAGE 7



The Issues

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Patients' Bill of Rights is bad medicine

If the Patients' Bill of Rights passed by the U.S. House becomes law, Americans will be poorer, sicker, and increasingly under politicians' thumbs, the Libertarian Party predicted.

"The Patients' Bill of Rights is a classic case of what happens when Congress decides to create new rights: Prices will go up, quality will go down, and politicians will get more powerful," said Steve Dasbach, Libertarian Party national director.

"We understand that Congress wants to reform HMOs, which are unpopular with many Americans. But if there is one thing worse than an HMO, it's an HMO that is smothered in federal regulations and micromanaged by politicians."

On August 2, the U.S. House passed by a 218-213 vote the Patients' Bill of Rights — which, politicians claimed, would reform Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs).

The bill requires HMOs to give patients equal access to specialists, treatments, and drugs when they change health plans; institutes a review process when an HMO denies coverage of a doctor-prescribed treatment; and allows patients to sue HMOs if they disagree with medical decisions.

But while politicians are bragging about the new "rights" they give patients, they ignore the costs, said Dasbach.

"Memo to politicians: There is no such thing as free medical treatment," he said. "If you mandate more benefits, the price goes up. If the price goes up, patients get charged more, either through higher deductible payments or through higher employer costs. And if the costs to the employer go up, fewer people will be covered by health care plans — which will only add to the 44 million Americans who have no medical coverage."

Program takes a bite out of swimmers

The next time someone claims government programs don't really cost an arm and a leg, tell him about the federal shark-stock rebuilding project — which has apparently contributed to a 325% increase in the number of shark attacks.

"As amazing as it sounds, politicians appear to have created a federal program that increases the likelihood of shark attacks," said Steve Dasbach. "In an effort to protect one species, politicians have endangered another one — human beings."

Wait a second: Isn't it going a little too far to blame politicians for shark attacks? Not according to a story published in *National Review Online*, which reported that the federal government began a shark-stock rebuilding project in 1993, in an effort to protect what some said was an endangered species.

New federal regulations strictly limited the number of sharks that could be harvested. As a result, as many as 236,900 fewer sharks were caught in 1999 than in 1993.

The consequences have been deadly. The number of shark attacks off U.S. coasts jumped to 51 last year — up from only 21 in 1993. And in Florida, the number of shark-attack victims rose by an astounding 325%, to 34 last year.

While it is impossible to say with 100% certainty that the program directly caused those attacks, there must be some connection, said Dasbach. "You don't have to be a marine biologist to figure out that more sharks are going to lead to more shark attacks," he said. "It's obvious — unless you're a politician."

Do we need a two-drink law for airlines?

A U.S. Senator is threatening to file a federal law to restrict airline passengers to just two alcoholic drinks per flight — a proposal that could cause more of the "air rage" it's supposed to prevent, say Libertarians.

"Who else but a drunk-with-power politician could decide that she knows exactly how many drinks are appropriate on a commercial flight?" asked Steve Dasbach.

In July, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) announced she had sent letters to the major airlines, asking them to voluntarily limit every passenger to two alcoholic drinks per flight.

If the airlines do not agree, Feinstein announced that she is writing legislation to make the two-drink limit a federal law.

Such a limit would help reduce the number of air rage incidents and "help ensure our skies are safe," said Feinstein.

But there is no proof that such a law would prevent air rage, said Dasbach — and the flight attendants' union has suggested it might create more problems by irritating passengers.

"And you have to assume that flight attendants — the people who actually serve the drinks and have to deal with customers — have a better understanding of this issue than a pampered Senator who wants to fly the federalized skies," he said.

Aaron Russo launches effort to fund Nevada medical marijuana program

Politicians refuse to allocate money for medical pot registration program

Despite opposition from the state's Republican establishment, potential LP gubernatorial candidate Aaron Russo has kicked off a campaign to privately fund a medicinal marijuana program in Nevada.

Russo, 58, said he will air television commercials in Las Vegas and Reno throughout the months of August and September in an attempt to raise money to fund a medicinal marijuana registration program that was passed by voters last year. State politicians refused to allocate money for the program.

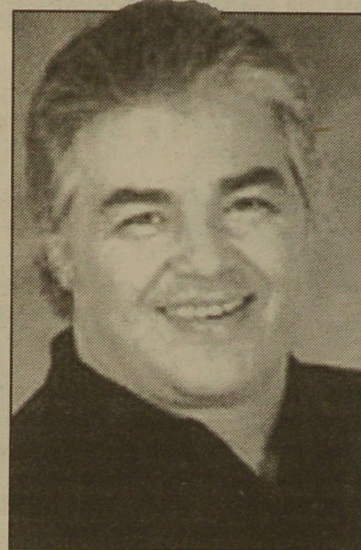
"I believe this is one of the biggest issue campaigns of the year," said Russo, a former Hollywood producer who worked on such blockbusters as *The Rose* (1979) and *Trading Places* (1983). "We have the momentum to push this through. This is a very popular issue with voters."

Russo said the TV ads will attempt to raise, via individual contributions, at least \$15,000 of the \$30,000 necessary to fund the program. Americans for Medical Rights, a non-profit group that upholds a patient's right to use medicinal marijuana, has pledged to match the funds Russo raises, dollar for dollar, up to \$15,000.

Passed with 65%

Known as Question 9, the initiative allows patients to register as medical marijuana users and obtain up to seven marijuana plants to treat certain illnesses. It passed with 65% voter approval in November 2000, and is scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2001.

But the measure isn't nearly as popular with Republican governor Kenny Guinn as it is with Nevada voters, said Russo. In fact, Guinn refused to fund the program in his \$3.8 billion bud-



■ Aaron Russo: "We have the momentum to push this through. This is a very popular issue with voters."

get for fiscal years 2001-2003, saying the state cannot afford the program's estimated \$30,000 administration costs.

"How dumb does [Guinn] think we are?" asked Russo. "Kenny Guinn screwed [Nevada voters]. Our citizens should recognize this fact and once and for all take off the blinders and see what a corrupt government we really have here."

Russo joined the LP in 1999 after winning 25.9% of the primary vote in an unsuccessful quest for the 1998 Republican gubernatorial nomination. Guinn, the candidate favored by the Nevada Republican Party leaders,

won that contest.

However, Guinn received just 220,000 votes in the general election, while the medical marijuana initiative received 380,000 votes, said Russo.

"There clearly is a stronger base of support for this issue than there is support for Kenny Guinn for governor," he said. "That could very well translate into votes for the Libertarian candidate for governor in 2002."

Professionally, Russo has won six Academy Awards, and received two Golden Globe nominations. He was also the first Hollywood movie producer to command a \$1 million fee.

Last, best hope

In 2000, Russo gave a fiery speech at the Libertarian National Convention, calling Libertarians the "last, best hope for freedom in America." He said he expects to announce his bid to run for governor of Nevada as a Libertarian in the "near future."

"I want to be the first Libertarian governor in America," he said. "It's very important for the party to have a breakthrough soon. If we can just get one person into high office, we could set off a chain reaction across the country."

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: www.russoplan.com.

Or call: 1-877-95-Russo. Or write: Medical Marijuana Fund, P.O. Box 90743, Henderson, NV 89009.

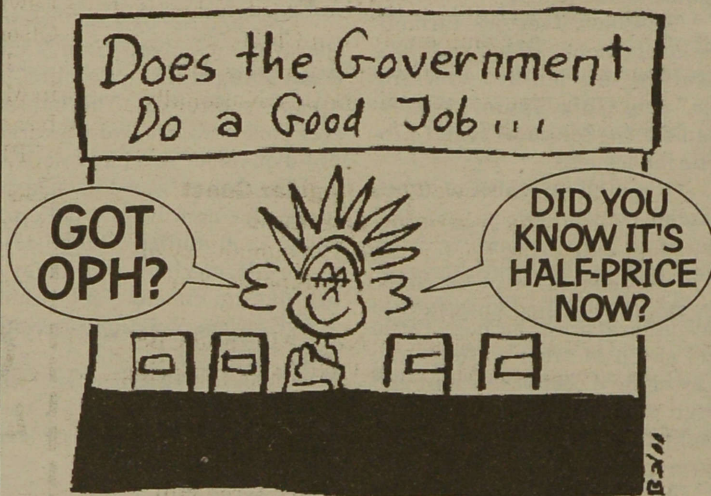
Corrections

■ August 2001: The article, "Mass. LP files bid to end income tax," may not have made it clear that the initiative to repeal the state's income tax was filed by the Committee for Small Government headed by Carla Howell, not by the Massachusetts LP.

■ August 2001: Rapper Ice-T was incorrectly identified as a former member of N.W.A. in the article, "The Top 25 Liberty Songs." In fact, rapper Ice Cube was a member of that group.

■ July 2001: The bill filed by Congressman Ron Paul to repeal the Selective Service Act was incorrectly identified. The bill is HR 1597.

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7 Reasons Why Carla Howell's Libertarian Campaign for Governor could become the Surprise National News of the 2002 Election

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2. Carla Howell is a Powerful and Persuasive Libertarian Public Speaker

She gave her "small government is beautifulSM" Libertarian campaign speech hundreds of times in 1999 and 2000. To over 46,000 people at MassCann/NORML's Freedom Festival on the Boston Common. To Gun Clubs. Homeschoolers. Churches and Temples. High Schools. Colleges and Universities. Nationally Broadcast on C-SPAN TV.

3. Carla Howell is a Regular Guest on Television and Radio

The O'Reilly Factor. A PBS Documentary on her Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign. The Hiller Instinct on NBC.

Boston TV Coverage by NBC, ABC and CBS. Plus Providence ABC. And WGGB-TV in Springfield. And WTKK, WBZ, WRKO, WAAF, WBOQ, WBUR, and WATD.

Welcomed by Radio Personalities like David Brudnoy. Gene Burns. Howie Carr. Greg Hill. Blute and Mose. Jay Severin. Larry Elder. Neal Boortz.

4. Newspapers Cover Carla Howell

Boston Globe, Front Page Sunday Edition. *MetroWest Daily News*, Front Page. *Boston Herald*, Front Page. *The Pittsfield Gazette*. *The Woburn Advocate*. *The Lowell Sun*. *Daily Times Chronicle*. *Worcester Telegram Gazette*. *The*

Patriot Ledger. PLUS a complete interview by *Massachusetts News*. PLUS columns by Jeff Jacoby, Wayne Woodlief, Barbara Anderson, Eric Biss, Rick Cooper, and Wendell Woodman.

5. Carla Howell: An Eager and Proven Campaigner

She campaigned 15 Months Full-Time for U.S. Senate against Ted Kennedy. Starting with just a handful of activists, she recruited and mobilized 726 campaign volunteers.

She gave speeches, attended events, worked crowds, and asked for votes. Over 11,500 Yard Signs. \$50,894 in Radio Ads. \$150,577 in Prime TV Ads on Boston CBS, NBC, and ABC.

Carla Howell turns doubters into believers.

Harry Browne says, "Carla Howell is the Rising Star in the Libertarian Party."

6. Carla Howell's Libertarian Campaign Dream Team

Michael Cloud, Libertarian Persuasion Expert. Dave Rizzo, Manager. Kay Pirrello. Muni

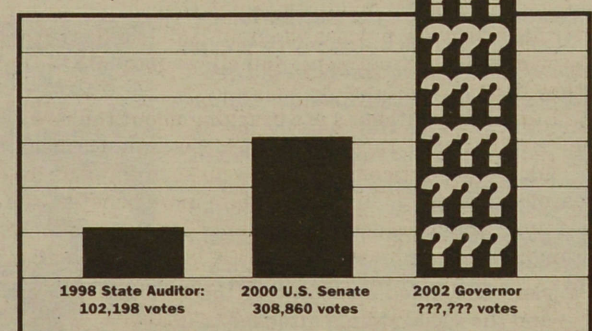
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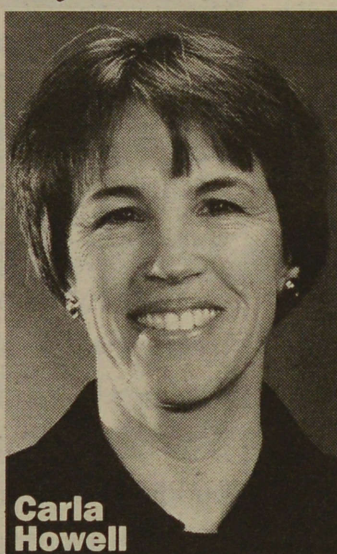
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The Review

What's dirtier: Sex or politics?

From *Bordello to Ballot Box*, by Jessi Winchester (with W. Lane Startin). Bain Bridge Books. Hardbound, \$24.95.

Reviewed by Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

What do you get when a former prostitute turns in her high heels to seek high office in the political arena, and discovers that politics is dirtier than the sex industry could ever be?

You get the subject of the sizzling autobiography of Jessi Winchester, "working girl" turned Libertarian activist, entitled *From Bordello to Ballot Box*.

Written by Winchester and W. Lane Startin, the book is split into two parts: One chronicling her experiences prior to and during her stint in the Nevada brothels, and the other documenting her subsequent experience in politics.

Believe it or not, Winchester grew up on a ranch in small-town Iowa. She explains how her libertarian feelings first surfaced when government officials condemned her family's ranch, leading to a relocation to California.

"Losing the ranch was my first experience with out-of-control federal agencies," she wrote. "Government's total lack of humanity formed the basis for my intense dislike and distrust of the system."

After briefly working for a Hollywood movie studio, Winchester married and moved to Nevada. There, she auditioned for a job at the Mustang Ranch "as a joke," but ended up accepting the job — and the social stigma attached to it.

The following section of the book describes her experiences with various customers, as well as with other girls in the industry. Chock full of interesting story nuggets, the reader gets a good feel for an average day at one of America's most renowned houses of ill-repute.

Most intriguing is the recollection of the variety of people who frequent the establishment regularly to "party" — from ranch hands to wealthy businessmen. She gives colorful description with each encounter, including one of a 6'3", 280-pound construction worker named "Tater" who had a fondness for cross-dressing and liked to be called "Marilyn" when in full regalia.

Winchester repeatedly stresses how working in the brothels is "just another job," and condemns those who believe prostitution to be immoral. Methinks the lady doth protest too much. After all, any profession that includes tying up an irritating co-worker and shaving her head isn't your typical nine-to-five.

In truth, I was more titillated by the stories of corrupt politicians than of the prostitutes — the former was much dirtier. And Winchester doesn't mince her words, either.

While running for Congress in 1996 as a Democrat, and then running for lieutenant governor of Nevada in 1998 as a Republican, Winchester had run-ins with plenty of politicians. She deliciously demolishes Democrats such as Senator Harry Reid and former Senator Richard Bryan. She also goes after Republicans — including Chuck Muth (now with the Republican Liberty Caucus) and lieutenant-gubernatorial candidate Lorraine Hunt.

"It occurred to me that both Hunt and I made ourselves available to the highest bidder," she wrote. "The difference was, I didn't hurt anybody in the process and I did it with honesty."

At the end of the book, Winchester becomes involved with the Libertarian Party, writing that she has "great admiration" for Chris Azzaro — then the Nevada LP state director.

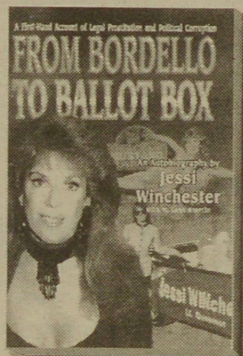
At certain points in the book, Winchester espouses solid Libertarian positions. For example, she makes a fine point about how Nevada — the only state with legal prostitution in certain counties — has the lowest sexual crime rate in the nation.

In addition, she writes that law enforcement search-and-seizure to bypass the Constitution is "the single biggest threat to individual freedom we face today."

But at other times I was rather confused by her political opinions. What kind of Libertarian advocates taxpayer funding of elections? Or compulsory political donations from union members? Or John McCain for president?

Winchester does — and it made me think she is still evolving from a Democrat to a Republican to a Libertarian. Nevertheless, Winchester's candid style and intriguing subject matter made the book fun to read.

From Bordello to Ballot Box may not have convinced me that prostitution is a totally respectable job, but it sure did confirm my suspicion that politics usually isn't either.



Ruwart's bid for FDA commissioner picks up endorsements, momentum

Dr. Mary Ruwart's longshot campaign to become the next commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration has received a boost with endorsements from several prominent medical associations.

Since May, the American Academy of Pain Management, the American Prostate Society, and the American Preventative Medical Association have each sent a letter to President George W. Bush pledging support for Ruwart's candidacy. The combined membership of the three organizations exceeds 150,000.

In addition, her picture appeared on the cover of the July issue of *Life Extension* magazine, with the headline: "Will she be the next FDA commissioner?" The magazine is published by the Life Extension Foundation, a free-market medical organization with 65,000 members that has also announced its support for the longtime Libertarian activist.

The endorsements and publicity show that her candidacy is being taken seriously, said Ruwart.

"From the beginning, I knew that my campaign would depend on getting the support of two groups: The medical professionals, and the public," she said. "I've gotten the first — now it's time to kick the second into high gear."

More needed

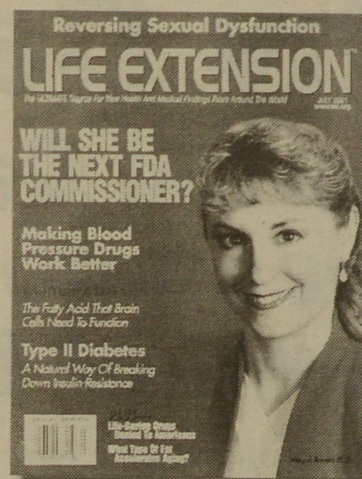
Ruwart said a considerable number of letters have already been sent to the president on her behalf — including two from Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX). However, many more are needed for her campaign to be successful, she said.

"We need to make my appointment the letter-writing campaign of the year to overcome the resistance that Bush might have to appointing a libertarian to such a powerful position," she said.

No specific date has been announced by the White House for the appointment of the next FDA commissioner.

Ruwart, who has worked as a research scientist for the Upjohn pharmaceutical company and taught in the Department of Surgery at St. Louis University, kicked off her campaign in June.

With a workforce of more than 9,000 people, and a 2001 budget of about \$1.29 billion, the FDA approves and regulates medical drugs and inspects food for safety. The FDA commissioner



■ Dr. Mary Ruwart appears on the cover of the July issue of *Life Extension* magazine.

sets the policy for the day-to-day operation of its Washington, DC headquarters and nine field of-

fices.

Ruwart, who is currently serving her second term as an alternate member of the Libertarian National Committee, was a candidate for the LP's presidential nomination in 1984 and vice-presidential nomination in 1992.

She writes a monthly column called "Ask Dr. Ruwart" for the *Advocates for Self-Government* newsletter, and has written a book titled *Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle* (1992, SunStar Press).

For more information, visit: www.ruwart.com. To support Dr. Mary Ruwart for FDA commissioner, write to: President George W. Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20500. Or write or e-mail your U.S. Representatives. (Contact information is available at: www.congress.org.)

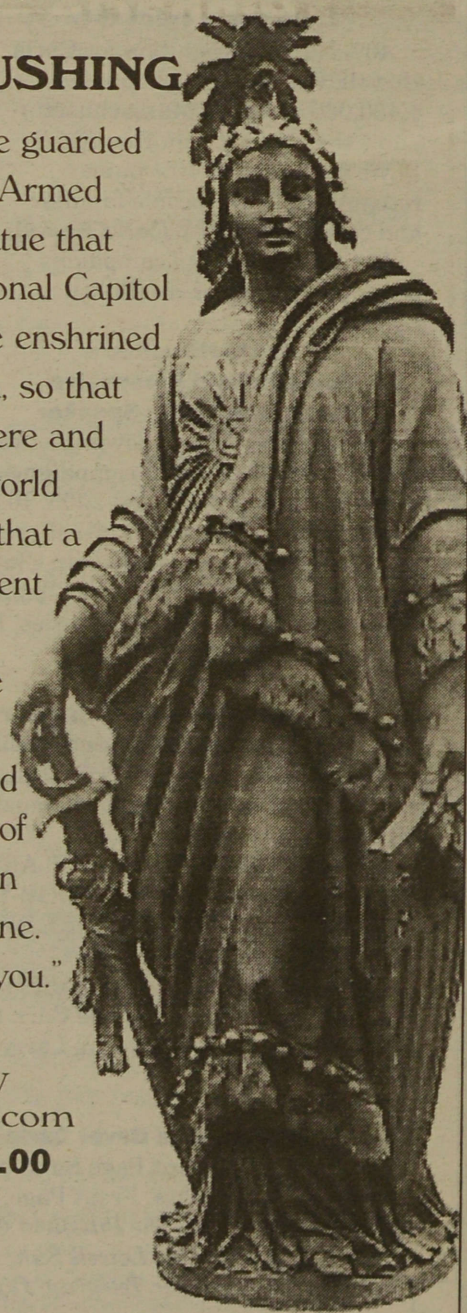
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JAMES RUSHING

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How to Make Liberty Happen Now

For the Next Elections: Instant Libertarians

“16% of Americans are libertarians” said the Rasmussen Survey. (*LP News*, October 2000) So why is Washington D.C. growing faster than ever?

Buried in the article is the key: most of those 16% don't know they're libertarian! Even though they have somehow withstood the calls to dependency upon the megastate, they look upon proponents of political and economic freedom with ignorance, suspicion and fear.

It's obvious, if we're going to make liberty happen, we're going to have to look to the free market for a solution.

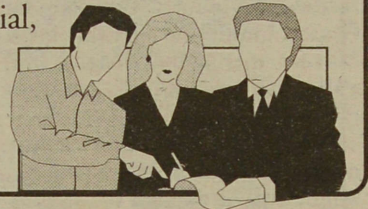
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16%
RASMUSSEN SURVEY

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L. Neil Smith is focus of presidential draft effort

A group of LP members has launched an "ad hoc conspiracy" to draft libertarian science fiction author L. Neil Smith to run for president in 2004 — either as a Libertarian or as an Independent.

Smith has pledged to make a presidential run if he receives the LP nomination, or gets at least one million signatures supporting an Independent campaign.

Thomas Knapp, who is spearheading the effort, said Smith would make an ideal presidential candidate for the party.

"We are determined to make him our candidate," he said. "Not only does he articulate a persuasive vision of a libertarian society, but he already has a loyal Libertarian following from his novels."

Knapp, who serves as an alternate member of the LNC for Region 1 and is an editor at Free-Market.net, acknowledged that gathering one million signatures is a longshot.

But even if the effort generates fewer signatures, he said, it might still be enough to convince the LP convention delegates to make Smith their nominee.

"After all, Harry Browne got about 382,000 votes in the general

election," he said. "If we can get at least that many signatures for L. Neil Smith by the 2004 LP convention in Atlanta, we can show he's got a solid base of support."

This is not the first time Libertarians have attempted to draft Smith; a similar effort was mounted during the 2000 campaign. It garnered fewer than 5,000 signatures, although Smith did end up as the LP presidential candidate in Arizona following a state party squabble.

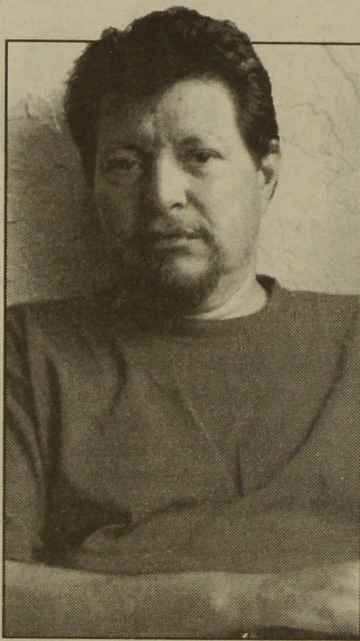
More focused

However, Knapp said the current "Ad Hoc Conspiracy to Draft L. Neil Smith" is more focused.

"We got started three years before the convention this time," he said. "We also have a definite game plan."

To drum up support, the group will run banner ads on Internet sites, ask supporters to contact media outlets, and place copies of Smith's non-fiction political/philosophical book, *Lever Action*, in public libraries.

Knapp said these efforts are designed to steer people to the petition website at www.smith2004.org, where more than 200 people have signed the petition.



■ L. Neil Smith: He "already has a loyal Libertarian following from his novels."

Smith is the author of more than 20 novels, including *The Probability Broach*. That novel, as well as his 1994 book *Pallas*, won him the Libertarian Futurist Society's Prometheus Award for best libertarian novel.

Smith joined the LP in 1972, although he has allowed his paid membership to lapse. He served on the LP Platform Committee in 1977 and 1979, and in 1978 ran for Colorado state legislator, gaining 15% of the vote.

For more information, visit: www.smith2004.org. Or e-mail: TLKnapp@free-market.net.

With ruling, Alabama LP wins major party status

Thanks to a favorable ruling by the state's attorney general, the Alabama LP has officially achieved "major party" status — marking the first time in 30 years three parties have been recognized in the state.

"This is a huge step forward for liberty," said Alabama LP Vice Chair Matthew Givens. "Voters who are disenchanted with the Democrats and the Republicans now have a place to go."

On August 18, Attorney General Bill Pryor ruled the LP had gained major party status under the state's election laws.

His decision ended months of controversy over whether Libertarians would join the Republicans and Democrats as a "major party" in the eyes of the state.

According to Alabama law, any party whose candidate for statewide office wins at least 20% of the votes cast in the last election cycle qualifies as a major party.

Libertarians argued they had met that burden in 2000 when Sydney Albert Smith ran for Supreme Court Place 2 — a statewide race — and received 20.16% of the 1,120,677 votes cast.

However, state election offi-

cials challenged the LP's contention, claiming that to obtain major party status, a third-party candidate must win 20% of the vote in the most popular statewide race — not in any statewide race.

In response, the LP sent a letter arguing its case to Secretary of State Jim Bennett in July. Bennett then asked for an advisory opinion from Attorney General Bill Pryor, who subsequently affirmed the LP's position.

Milestone

"We are delighted that the Attorney General ruled as he did," said Givens. "The legal precedent was plain, and the Libertarian Party has achieved a significant milestone."

The greatest benefit for the Libertarian Party — as a major party — is automatic ballot access, said Givens, which will allow the LP to spend money publicizing candidates that would otherwise be spent on petition drives.

Previously, the LP had to obtain valid signatures equal to 3% of the number of people who voted in the most recent gubernatorial race (or about 40,000 signatures) to get a statewide candidate on the ballot.

Strategic Planning report ready to go to LP National Committee

Continued from Page 1

The strategic plan is a combination of new ideas and tried-and-true strategies from the past, said Steve Givot, facilitator of the strategic planning process.

"I would characterize the plan as building on past strengths while adding significant new emphasis on building state and local organizations, aggressively running candidates for local office, placing emphasis on recruiting young people, and defining and popularizing the Libertarian Party as a 'brand,'" he said.

The plan also attempts to strike a balance between practical and more challenging objectives, said Givot.

"Most of the components of the plan — taken individually — are very realistic," he said. "I believe implementing *all* of the plan is ambitious. I think most of our members will embrace the plan."

The final report recommends that the party focus on a half-dozen major strategic goals:

- Increase the number of Libertarians holding public office.
- Strengthen Libertarian state and local organizations.
- Increase the Libertarian Party's support base — members, contributors, and activists.
- Increase the LP's market share among youth.
- Increase public support for

STEVE GIVOT:

"I think most of our members will embrace the plan."

Libertarian ideas.

■ Remain the "Party of Principle" as the LP grows.

To accomplish those goals, the report recommends 20 major political strategies. Here are some of the most significant:

- Define, develop, and promote the LP "brand."
- Develop and use high-quality presentations of Libertarian ideas, which show both [political] directions and destinations.
- Redevelop the LP platform, presenting both direction and destination, with an eye toward electoral success (without compromising core beliefs).
- Track the performance of critical activities in state and local LP organizations; encourage and support them in creating plans to improve performance.
- Strengthen LP local, city, county, and campus groups.

■ Recruit more and better-qualified candidates.

■ Target races and allocate resources for maximum effectiveness.

■ Increase the commitment of those already within the Libertarian Party's support base.

■ Increase the number of new people in the LP's support base.

■ Provide better training and support for LP candidates and organizations.

■ Develop and implement a program of ideological internal education.

■ Target public opinion leaders to embrace and espouse libertarian ideas.

■ Encourage state, local, and campus LP organizations to be involved in the political process, outside of just campaigns.

■ Focus resources to achieve the repeal of drug prohibition at the federal level by 2010, and get substantial credit for it.

■ Increase LP activism by recognizing and rewarding effort and success.

The strategies and goals are

interconnected, said Givot, and different strategies will be used to accomplish one or more goals.

Support base

For example, the strategy of promoting the Libertarian Party "brand" should help accomplish the goals of increasing the party's support base; increasing public awareness; and increasing the LP's market share among youth.

If the LNC accepts the plan, National Committee members will work to explain and market

it to party members, said Givot.

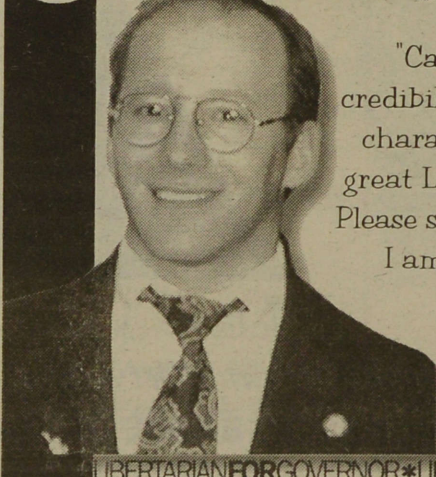
"We plan to hit the road and sell this plan face-to-face wherever possible," he said.

If LP members "buy into" the strategic plan, it will help the party achieve greater political success, promised Givot.

"A great deal of effort went into this plan," he said. "I hope our affiliate parties and our membership give it serious consideration and end up supporting it. If they do, I am very confident that it will take the LP to the next level."

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Massachusetts
Libertarian activist

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ON PAGE 11

Beginner's Introduction

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Asset forfeiture initiative gets underway in WA

Continued from Page 3

Washington state whenever a seizing agency asserts that illicit drugs are involved."

The initiative has already won the support of Washington state Libertarians.

"[The Innocent Owners Defense Initiative] is a terrific way to show state legislators the handwriting on the wall," said Washington LP Chair John Mills.

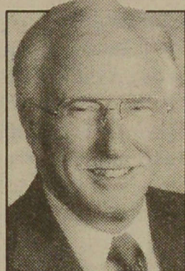
"I am hopeful that if we get enough signatures, the legislature

will get behind this. Although they haven't been willing to make a major change in asset forfeiture laws on their own, they might be waiting to see broad public support for the measure."

The initiative would require a criminal conviction before any asset forfeiture action can proceed; the state to bear the burden of proof against a property owner; forfeited property to be directly related to the crime for which the owner has been convicted; and all

money received from the sale of seized property to go to state education funds or to a drug treatment program.

However, Lewis said getting the initiative on the ballot won't be easy, since 200,000 valid signa-



■ Erne Lewis: Plans initiative.

tures are needed to qualify it for the ballot.

Nevertheless, Lewis said he is "cautiously optimistic" about the outcome.

"Just getting the initiative on the ballot will show that it has a broad base of support," he said. "This is what Liberty Initiatives aims to do with many Libertarian positions. It's a way for us to make changes, one issue at a time."

If enough signatures are collected to qualify, the legislature

can either pass the initiative during the 2002 session, or take no action and send it to Washington voters for consideration.

Liberty Initiatives was incorporated in January 2001, and is "dedicated to monitoring the legislative process and, when appropriate, recommending necessary reforms via the initiative process in those instances when the legislature fails to act," said Lewis.

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: www.libertyinitiatives.org. Or call: (360) 866-8784. Or write: P.O. Box 11716, Olympia, Washington, 98508-1716.

Neale runs for LP Chair

Continued from Page 3

must be a 'Libertarian' victory," he said. "And we can only achieve this if we build on what we are as Libertarians. To win 'at any cost' is to belie what we hold most dearly: That principles matter."

Neale said he has received verbal endorsements so far from several people encouraging him to run for national chair. However, he said he was hesitant to announce his candidacy almost a year before the national convention because "it makes for a long campaign season."

"But I figured that unless I waited until next year to make the announcement, I should do it this year at the Texas convention," he said. "I felt I should let Texas LP members know first."

Member since 1986

Neale became a member of the LP in California in 1986. He served as the San Fernando Valley Region Chair of Los Angeles, and a member of the California Executive Committee.

He has also served four terms on the Libertarian National Committee, holding positions such as National Convention Oversight Committee chair and Audit Committee chair. In addition, he was a member of the National Platform Committee, the National Bylaws Committee, and the National Credentials Committee.

He was elected chair of the Texas LP in 1998, and re-elected without opposition in 2000.

Professionally, he is the president and owner of Genama, Inc. software design and development company.

Neale's announcement follows that of Eli Israel, chair of the Massachusetts LP.

The LNC chair heads the Libertarian National Committee for a two-year term. The new chair will be selected by a vote of the delegates at the LP National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 3-7, 2002.

For more information about the Neale for Chair campaign, e-mail: liber8or@austin.rr.com. Or visit: www.GeoffreyNeale.com.

Bonnie Flickinger for County Supervisor

Support a Winner!

Bonnie Flickinger has been elected and re-elected three times in Moreno Valley, CA. She is in her second term as Mayor in a major city in California and this is a non-partisan race with an open seat!

Bonnie is a Winner!

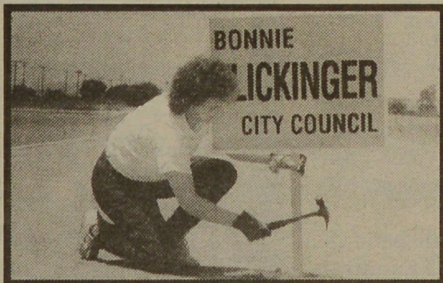
This is not a pie in the sky dream. This is a realistic and attainable race with an experienced candidate ready to win in a politically influential state. Donating to Bonnie Flickinger's run for County Supervisor will lead to a stronger, more influential Libertarian Party because she can really win. She has already won three times in the second largest city in Riverside County. Back a proven winner!

Bonnie is already one of the highest elected Libertarians in the country!

Moreno valley is the largest American city (pop. 142,000) ever to have elected a Libertarian Mayor. During her career Bonnie:

- Turned the operation of the library system over to a private company
- Defeated a proposal to build an \$18 million baseball stadium with taxpayers' money
- Defeated an ordinance that would have made "possession of a graffiti implement by a minor" a crime.
- Repealed ordinance which prohibited federally licensed firearms dealers from using their home addresses for business purposes.

Bonnie also has a proven campaign team of people who have shown they can win, like Chris Azzaro and Art Olivier.



If your activism dollars must go somewhere in 2002,

FUND A WINNER!

This is real politics, getting elected and IMPLEMENTING our ideas! As Mayor Bonnie has

- Reduced her city budget by \$500,000!
- Appointed Libertarians to office!
- Reduced restrictions on gun sales!
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NewsBriefs

N.H. meets 'Discover Liberty' goal

New Hampshire has become the first state to meet its goal for "Discover Liberty," the massive nationwide outreach program sponsored by the Advocates for Self-Government. In fact, they not only met their goal, they've exceeded it by more than 50%, said Advocates President Sharon Harris — and they're shooting for more.

"Way to go, New Hampshire libertarians!" she said. "They've set a standard for the rest of the nation to follow."

On August 1, New Hampshire libertarians achieved their goal of nine Operation Politically Homeless booths, and by September 14 will have completed twice that number, said Harris.

"And they have scheduled enough OPHs [in subsequent months] to complete four times their goal!" she said.

Discover Liberty is a new program by the Advocates to "oversee and coordinate" 2,000 OPH booths in all 50 states in a 12-month period. If successful, as many as 500,000 Americans should take the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," generating 36,000 new names and addresses for the libertarian movement.

The program, which kicked off June 30, has received endorsements by leading libertarians, including Dr. Mary Ruwart, LP National Director Steve Dasbach and LP Chair Jim Lark.

In other Discover Liberty news, the Advocates has appointed Linda Comstock as the project's national coordinator. Comstock is the chair of a three-county LP in Ohio, and secretary of the Advocates' Board of Directors.

For more information about the project, visit: www.DiscoverLiberty.org. Or call: (770) 386-8372.

Libertarian cruise set for February

The fifth annual Libertarian cruise has been scheduled for early next year — and Libertarian Party members from around the USA are invited to participate.

If you sign up, you'll enjoy two weeks of "rest and relaxation" and "many valuable opportunities for thoughtful discussion" with fellow Libertarians, promised Libertarian National Committee member Ken Bisson, who is coordinating the trip.

"Join your fellow Libertarians for fun and fellowship," he said. "Many of the people who made the last few years' cruises so much fun have already decided to book again this year."

The cruise, which circles the Hawaiian Islands and includes stops in Honolulu, Maui, Kauai, and Kona, takes place from February 1-16, 2002. The ship, MS Statendam of the Holland America Line, will sail from and return to San Diego, California.

The cost for the cruise (including port charges and taxes) starts at \$2,953 per person.

For more information, call Bisson at: (219) 833-6700. Or, e-mail: kbisson@usa.net. Or, visit: <http://members.tripod.com/~kbisson/CRUISE2002.htm>

N.C. Libertarians end 'gang' policy

A group of Libertarian activists in Durham, North Carolina has convinced the city to remove signs prohibiting "gang symbols" on public property.

In mid-June, the Durham city government removed signs from the city-run DATA bus station that prohibited "Gang Related Symbols, Signs and Gestures" on city property.

The sign removal was a victory for a group of local Libertarians who had threatened to hold a peaceful rally at the bus station to protest the ordinance.

"When a small group of activists takes on the mayor, the police, and the city-owned bus system, which is likely to win? Why, the ones armed with the Constitution, of course," said North Carolina LP activist Tom Howe.

The gang symbol debate began in April, when Libertarians heard that police had harassed a young man at the bus station for wearing a black bandana. The head gear, said police, violated the city's ordinance against gang symbols.

The ordinance was apparently directed against gangs like the Crips and the Bloods, which wear signature colors.

In response, local LP activist Ray Ubinger publicly announced a June 9 rally against the signs. But, just before the scheduled rally, the signs disappeared, said Howe.

"The City of Durham apparently got the message," he said. "We hope that people will remember that Libertarians will stand up for the rights of the unpopular."

One person already has remembered, said Howe: "The young man with the black bandana said, 'Thank you' to local Libertarians, he said. 'Victory is sweet.'"



■ Ray Ubinger: Got message.

Kubby begins Lt. Governor campaign

Continued from Page 4

Instead, she said she will focus on telling the story of her run-in with the law, in order to "make people stop and think" about how defendants — and accused drug users in particular — are treated under the American legal system.

With a list of more than 3,000 potential campaign contributors, Kubby said she has the fundraising resources necessary to be a factor in the race. The list is comprised of people who contributed to the Kubbys' legal defense.

Non-Libertarian

Kubby said she also intends to actively solicit funds from non-Libertarian sources. For example, she purchased the *Playboy* magazine mailing list and plans to make an appeal to its readers.

In addition, she said she gets free advertising on the Internet with the show she hosts with her

MICHELE KUBBY:

"Winning elections is all about name recognition."

husband on www.pot-tv.net.

"We definitely have a variety of sources from which we can raise funds," she said. "And in a state-wide campaign, that's the name of the game."

Kubby said she is running for lieutenant governor instead of governor — as her husband did in 1998 — because Libertarians have historically garnered a much higher percentage of the vote in

the lieutenant-gubernatorial race.

In addition, she said current Democratic Governor Gray Davis, who may run again, has already raised upward of \$30 million for his campaign.

"Even with his mishandling of the energy crisis, challenging Davis doesn't seem like the best way to go," she said. "Besides, if wealthy Californians can buy a governor, middle and lower-income Californians should at least have a lieutenant governor."

If she receives the LP nomination, Kubby said she will do her best to make "Libertarian" a household brand in California.

"Winning elections is all about name recognition," she said. "If the media finds my story appealing enough, who knows where this election will go?"

For more information on the Michele Kubby for Lt. Governor campaign, visit: www.kubby.com.

Thompson edges closer to campaign

Continued from Page 4

Possible Democratic opponents include Attorney General Jim Doyle and U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett, who have each raised \$1 million.

However, the depths of his opponents' pockets don't intimidate Thompson.

"We're not going to outspend them, that's for darn sure," said Thompson. "But that doesn't matter as much as your ability to energize supporters to get out on election day. The key is to get into the televised debates — that's what put Jesse over the top."

Although it is too early to develop a campaign platform, Thompson said issues such as school choice and lower taxes would be high on his list.

Video gambling

A former Republican, Thompson split from the GOP two years ago after his Tee Pee Tavern and Restaurant was raided by police, and he was charged with operating three nickel-slot video gambling machines. He successfully fought felony charges.

When state Republicans refused to help him, Thompson joined the LP and won election as the mayor of Tomah, a town of about 15,000 people.

In his first year in office, Thompson said he has helped knock off \$2 million of town government debt, and currently has a proposal to reduce the 24 town government committees to 15.

"I love being mayor," he said. "If my brother was still governor, I probably would be more than satisfied staying mayor. But now I'm looking to even bigger things."

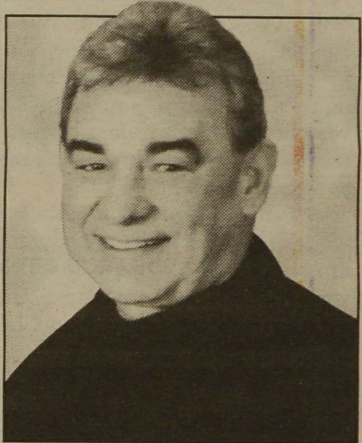
Getting onto the ballot as a Libertarian shouldn't pose a problem, said Thompson. A candidate needs only 1,000 signatures to have their name and affiliation

listed on the Wisconsin ballot.

The key, he said, is to make his candidacy known throughout the state. In September, Thompson said he will speak before members of the Tavern League, and then before the Wisconsin Builders Association.

"[Getting elected is] going to be an uphill battle," he said. "But people love the underdog. If I can reach enough people, this could be a victory."

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: www.edthompson.org. Or write: Friends for Ed Thompson, P.O. Box 13184, Wauwatosa, WI, 53213.



Tomah Mayor Ed Thompson: "People love the underdog."

The Concise Guide to Economics by professor Jim Cox



With remarkable succinctness, this common-sense economics handbook packs a wealth of useful information into 37 brief, clear & straight-to-the-point chapters. Humor, plain language, and vivid real-world examples help bring economic theory to life. Excellent references. Solidly libertarian—a fine "first stop" for economic enlightenment.

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ILANA FREEDMAN is ready to turn the tables in Massachusetts

We are at a major turning point in our political history. At a time when our liberties are being stripped away with alarming speed, the Libertarian idea offers Americans the best hope for true freedom in a real democracy. Here in Massachusetts, the Democrats have become autocrats and their candidates have run unopposed for years. Libertarian views are making sense to a rapidly growing number of people. In the home of John Adams and Paul Revere, the Libertarian concept of small government, personal responsibility, and freedom of choice is an idea whose time has come!

As I talk to voters throughout the state, I see a prevailing sense of disempowerment. In the last election, more than 60% of Massachusetts races were unopposed! I hear people say they are tired of having no choice on the ballot. I hear them say that their voices cannot be heard on Capitol Hill. I hear their anger at legislators who ignore their concerns, while limiting their personal freedoms and prerogatives.

But here's the good news. There are currently twenty-seven Libertarians serving as elected officials throughout the state. And in 2002, there will be more Libertarians running for office in Massachusetts than ever before, with a better chance of winning than at any time in our history. The people are ready — and so are we.

So between now and November 2002, I will be out in the district, speaking to the people. I will talk to them about taxes and education, about gun ownership and drugs, and about the right to choose on all the issues of our lives that matter. I will talk about the responsibilities that come with democracy. I will ask them about their hopes and their concerns. We will find areas of agreement, and issues on which we differ. But most of all, I will offer them an alternative — a Libertarian alternative. I will make friends and I will get votes!

There has never been a better time!

This race can be won, and, with the support of people like you, I will win in 2002! A Libertarian victory in Massachusetts will open the door for Libertarian victories nationwide. This will be a high-profile, high budget campaign. We need to raise at least \$2 million if we are to succeed. Yes, you read that right. **\$2 million!** We will be up against a well-oiled Democratic machine with a multi-million dollar war chest. We can do it, but we need to start now. And we need your help!

**Join our campaign and help send
ILANA FREEDMAN to Washington in 2002!
LET'S SEND A WINNER TO CONGRESS!**

<http://www.ilana.org>

e-mail: ilana@ilana.org



Yes! I want to support **Ilana Freedman for US Congress** and help send the first Libertarian to Capitol Hill! Enclosed is my contribution for:

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$750 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250
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Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

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The education of wrestler Val Venis

Continued from Page 1

ter and the crowd roars in approval.

No, as Val Venis — the larger-than-life alter ego of professional wrestler Sean Morley — leaves the Skyreach Center in Edmonton, Alberta, on May 29, he is planning to get surgery on his hip to repair the damage from almost two decades of professional wrestling.

But not in Canada, where, as a Canadian citizen, Morley is entitled to "free" health care.

He is going to the United States for the surgery. Because Morley — perhaps the only libertarian in the WWF — scorns the "socialistic health care system" of his native land.

"I'm against the public health care system here in Canada," he says. "Expensive and inefficient are only *some* of the problems. How does a six-month waiting list for an MRI sound to you?"

It's typical of Morley: Mention any political topic — whether it's politicians, censorship, the War on Drugs, welfare, or health care — and he's got an opinion. He's also got a polished delivery, honed by years of playing to wrestling crowds around the globe.

As you watch him, you realize: He is Val Venis.

He is 6'3" and 250 pounds of muscle.

He is a bad guy turned good guy turned bad guy in that money-making, ratings-grabbing, controversy-inspiring behemoth known as the WWF.

And he is that rarest of combinations: The libertarian wrestling philosopher.

* * *

How does one become a wrestling philosopher — libertarian or otherwise?

First, one becomes a wrestler.

In Morley's case, it started in high school in Peterborough, Canada, where he competed on the school's wrestling team.

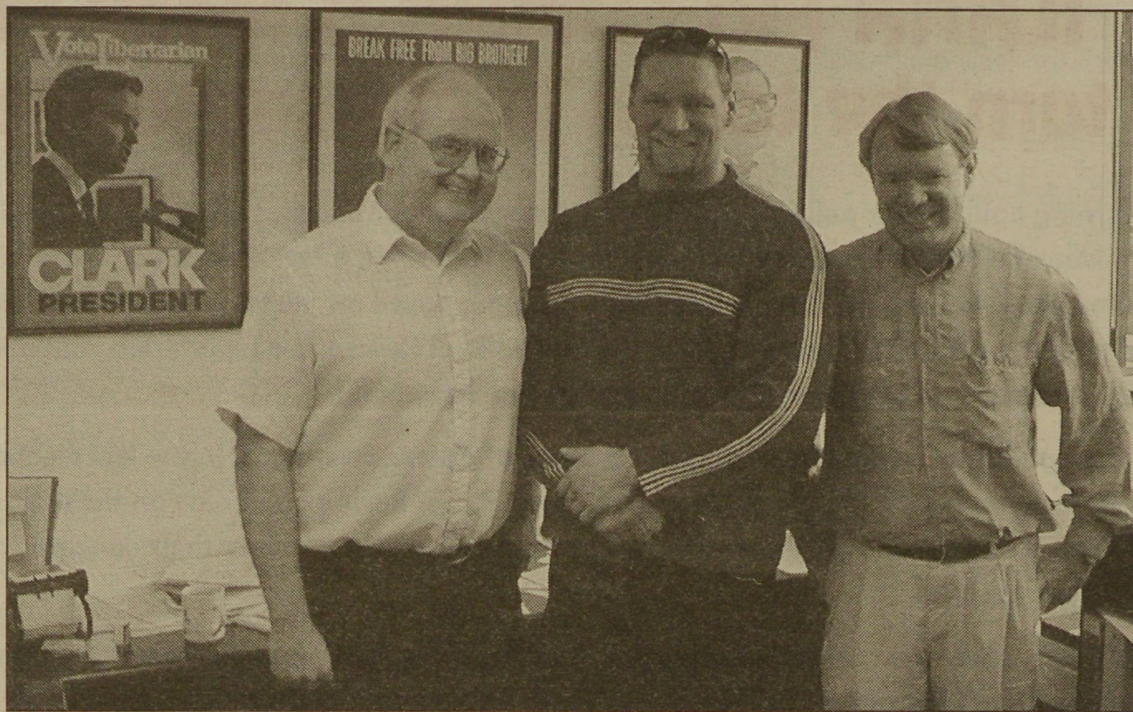
He expected to go on to college to study aeronautic science. He wanted to become a commercial helicopter pilot.

But Morley was already bitten by the professional wrestling bug, and started training on weekends with a former wrestler known as "The Missing Link."

There, Morley learned the basics: How to fall (to take a "bump," in wrestling lingo). How to execute the vast arsenal of pro wrestling moves without hurting himself or his opponent. How to develop a character the crowd could love or hate.

He showed immediate promise, and was offered a job in the British Wrestling Federation when he graduated from high school.

For the next seven years, Morley was a pro-wrestling nomad, fighting in the United States, and Puerto Rico, and Japan, and Mexico. He performed as Scott Borders in England, and as



■ Sean Morley — aka Val Venis (center) — visits the Libertarian Party headquarters in Washington, DC in March. He's shown with LP National Director Steve Dasbach (left) and Political Director Ron Crickenberger. Morley said his goal is to one day become a spokesman for the Canadian Libertarian Party and "get them built to where it can be a force."

the mask-wearing Steel in Mexico.

Then, in late 1997, he got a call from the "big leagues" — from Vince McMahon's WWF.

For wrestlers, that's like getting a call from God.

* * *

A word about the WWF.

In the competitive world of professional wrestling, the WWF towers above all else. It's got the top-rated program on cable television (Monday night's *Raw Is War* on TNN) and the top-rated show on the upstart UPN network (Thursday night's *Smackdown*).

It's got arguably the two most popular stars in the "sports entertainment" field: The Rock and Stone Cold Steve Austin.

Its pay-per-view programs generate millions in revenue, as does its merchandising arm — which slaps the WWF logo on everything from tee shirts to key chains to sunglasses. Its live shows sell out across the country.

It is so dominant, in fact, that it recently bought its two main competitors: World Championship Wrestling (WCW) and Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW). That's like Coke buying Pepsi and Seven-Up.

The WWF is also a lightning rod for controversy. As the designated "bad boy" of pro wrestling, it has been criticized for its over-the-top violence, for parading buxom WWF Divas around in skimpy attire, and for vulgar language. For groups like the Parent's Television Council, the WWF is the Anti-Christ in wrestling tights, corrupting the youth of America.

But Morley has little sympathy for the WWF's detractors.

"We're here to entertain people," he says.

As for impressionable chil-

dren who might watch wrestling, "it's something the parents have to control" — *not* the critics who "feel they have a right to decide what we can or cannot watch."

* * *

Morley's libertarian views on censorship developed slowly — like his views on most political topics. He started out, he says, as a typical leftist Canadian.

"I was educated by the public school system in Canada — a breeding haven for liberty-robbing liberals," he says. "All through my public education years, I was taught to be stupid. So by the time I finished high school, liberalism had taken a chokehold on my bleeding heart."

That began to change when he started having discussions with a libertarian-leaning uncle.

"Sometimes the debates would last for hours," says Morley. "We would debate issues such as abortion, income tax, welfare, health care. The debates sometimes got out of control with a lot of yelling and screaming."

"Funny thing was, I was the only one screaming. My uncle always kept his composure. Needless to say, my debating skills were very shallow because of my public education. Public education had taught me to think with my heart, not my head."

At the same time, Morley became exposed to libertarian talk show host Neal Boortz, conservative talk show host Allen Keyes, and author Harry Browne. The impact was profound.

"I continued to challenge my uncle," he says. "However, I now debated to learn. I began to read more books. Things started to make sense. Issues were becoming easier for me to debate — because I started thinking with my head instead of my heart."

* * *

Meanwhile, in the WWF, Morley was thinking with his groin. Or, at least, his character was.

When he signed with the WWF in 1998, Morley sat down with CEO and mastermind Vince McMahon to discuss the character he would play.

McMahon had a proposal: Val Venis, a former porn star-turned-wrestler. It was typical WWF: A combination of sex and wrestling. Titillations and body slams.

Morley agreed, and started working on the character. Val Venis was transformed from theory to reality. And Morley was transformed into Val Venis.

At matches, Venis would saunter into the ring wearing a towel around his waist. He would suggestively remove it, to the wolf whistles of the women in the audience.

He formulated a trademark greeting, a growly, "Hellooooo ladies!" He developed a finishing

move: The Money Shot, a wink-and-nod reference to the porn business.

And along the way, something interesting happened: Venis, who was supposed to be a bad guy (a "heel") started winning over the crowd. They cheered for him. They laughed at his double entendres. They loved the "Big Valbowski."

He was still a vulgar, trash-talking, former adult movie star — but he had become a good guy, a "babyface."

And then the porn star saw the light.

* * *

Sean Morley had also seen the light. As a fledgling libertarian, he was reformulating his views on almost every issue.

■ **On welfare:** "I used to think with my heart when it came to issues such as welfare," he says. "Welfare to me was a right for people who lost their job or could not work. [But] it wasn't long before I began to understand that these social programs were really liberty-stealing programs."

"[Government] is just pure force. 'We're going to force you to be compassionate and give us your money.' I think that being forced to be compassionate is only good in a communist country."

■ **On government-run health care:** "A socialist health care system has never worked on any part of the planet — and it's never going to work."

■ **On gun control:** "In my bleeding heart days, I firmly believed that government should ban all guns. I believed guns were the cause of murders. I never would blame the murderer. NO WAY! It was all the gun's fault."

"I now believe that every person has a right to bear arms and defend themselves. If you're walking city streets and a bunch of thugs swarm you, you have every right to defend yourself. Oh, wait. I forgot. [In Canada] you're not allowed to carry a gun. [Sarcastic.] Don't fear. Big daddy government."

See VAL VENIS Page 19

Michael Cloud

LIBERTARIAN FOR U.S. SENATE



"Michael Cloud is, hands-down, the best public speaker in the Libertarian Party. He was my persuasion coach when I ran for U.S. Congress in 1992 and for Vice-President in 1996. Join me and support Michael Cloud."

— Jo Jorgensen,
1996 Libertarian VP Nominee

PLEASE SEE MICHAEL CLOUD'S AD ON

PAGE 7

The education of Val Venis

Continued from Page 18
ment will come to your aid."

■ **On income taxes:** "A slave tax. Basically, you don't own your skill, labor, work, and talent."

■ **On the Drug War:** "While I was in high school, drugs were taboo for me. I was totally against the use of drugs. However, I am now totally against the War on Drugs."

"Fact: Drugs are dangerous. The War on Drugs is even more dangerous. The government should not waste police time or taxpayers' money going after anyone who has not violated anyone's right to life, liberty, or property. Yes, drugs are stupid. But you can't legislate stupidity!"

■ **On crime:** "I think a criminal should be defined as someone who violates the life, liberty, or property of another individual."

Back in the WWF, Val Venis changed his ways.

The former porn star was born again. He became a crusader against — get this — sex and violence.

Actually, it was Vince McMahon's idea, says Morley.

A year or so ago, McMahon became enraged at the Parent's Television Council (PTC), a conservative group that loathed the WWF as an exemplar of all that was wrong with television. The PTC launched a boycott against the WWF, and convinced several major sponsors to pull their advertisements from *Raw Is War* and *Smackdown*.

McMahon vowed revenge.

"Vince said we need somebody to play the part of the PTC [on television]," says Morley. "But we're not going to call it the PTC, we're going to call it the RTC — the Right to Censor. Basically, we're mocking the PTC."

And so the Right to Censor was born. The puritanical group would march out into the ring and lambaste the audience for everything they loved about the WWF. The violence. The crude language. The adolescent sexism.

The crowd hated them, and showered them with jeers. The other WWF stars, still in their vulgar, unenlightened state, would routinely beat them to a pulp in matches. Just as Billy Gunn did to Val Venis in the match on *Sunday Night Heat*.

Val Venis, reformed porn star-turned-prude, had become a heel again.

And Sean Morley, who scorned the would-be censors of the real Parent's Television Council, loved the political theater.

"We're just mocking them," he says. "If we can get people to hate the Right to Censor, then maybe people won't support the Parent's Television Council either."

However, the Right to Censor may not last much longer. As a

WWF story line gimmick, it is just about played out.

The old Val Venis could be back soon, in his incorrigible glory.

But Morley knows that Val Venis — and his career in wrestling — will eventually come to an end. Although he's almost recovered from his recent hip surgery, and could be back in action any time, he's already started thinking about life after wrestling.

His real "cup of tea," he says, is politics — debating libertarian-

ism with other wrestlers, publishing an on-and-off political newsletter called *Hardball*, and plotting how to turn Canada away from its "socialist" path.

For example, he says he would love to help the Canadian Libertarian Party, a struggling group that has never managed to build the infrastructure or rack up the political victories of its American counterpart.

"I'd love to be a spokesman for the Libertarian Party and really

try to get them built to where it can actually be something of a force," he says. "And not just in Ontario [where he lives], but across Canada."

And he looks forward to the day when he can help "tear down the Canada Revenue building and sell pieces like we sold off pieces of the Berlin Wall."

Strong words for a former "bleeding heart" teenager who never questioned his country's big government programs and had been, he says, "proud to be living in Canada . . .

"Until I saw the dark side of this socialistic system."

Looking back at his journey from liberal to libertarian, Morley can only describe it by using a metaphor from his day job.

"Wrestling that chokehold off of my bleeding heart was hard," he says. "Becoming a libertarian was a long, rough, bumpy, sometimes confusing road. But I made it! I am now home."

"I am a libertarian."

■ **Editor's note:** Some of Morley's quotes are from an interview with Peter Jaworski, from The Queen's University Journal, Kingston, Ontario, January 16, 2001.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!

DO YOU WANT TO:

Live free of oppressive taxation and control NOW?
Regain your privacy and natural right to live free NOW?

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- ✓ Working out of the comfort of your home?
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- ✓ Work without giving anyone a Slave Surveillance Number (SSN)?
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ASK YOURSELF: ARE YOU...

A red-blooded American who rather than just complaining and talking about lack of freedom is committed to living free NOW?
Tired of attending "meet, eat and retreat" seminars and reading books and articles where you learn how our rights and freedoms are taken away by the government, yet no solution is offered in helping you live free NOW?
Waiting for the right opportunity to make things happen for you and your family?

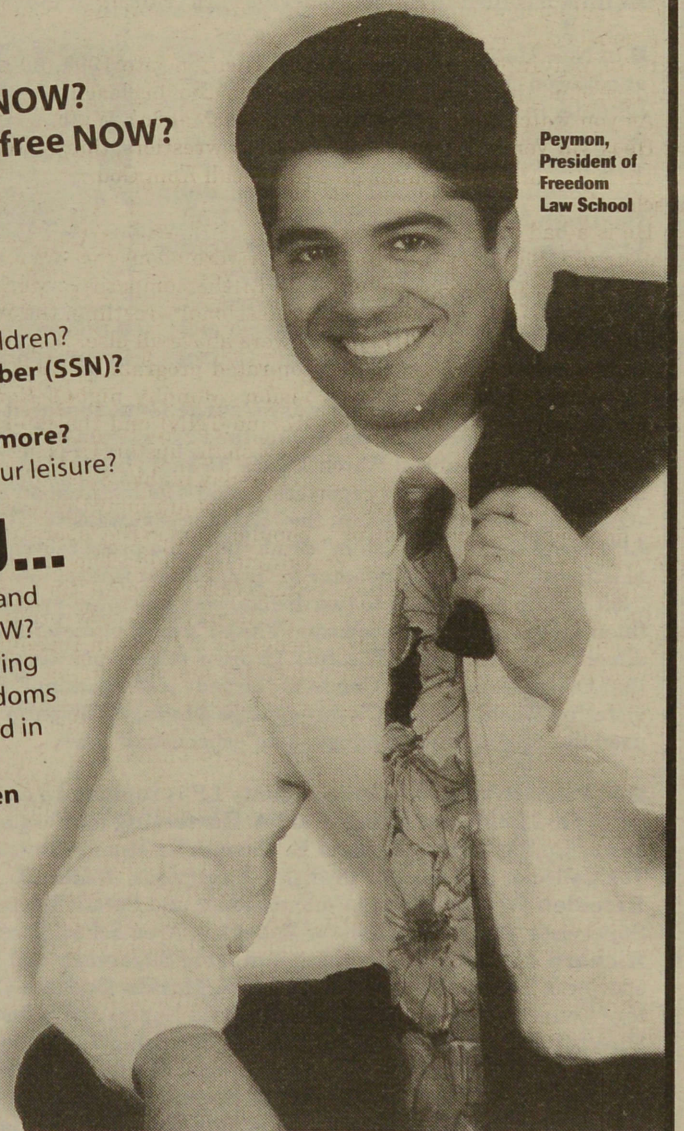
If you answered "yes" to the above questions, then you want to contact Freedom Law School immediately. We show Americans how to live free now by enforcing the law on our public servants. Our courses are easy to understand and use by the average freedom lover. We have recently begun our new Freedom Opportunity program. We are in the process of assisting others to open up their own Freedom Law School on a part-time or full-time basis. Contact information is given below!



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Politics2001

Offices, candidates, & drink recipes

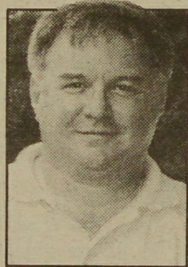
■ In California, **Jonathan Richter** was appointed to the seven-member Northeast Plan Review and Implementation Committee. In Oklahoma, **Amy Powell** of Bethany has been appointed to a three-year term on a Post Adjudication Review Board in Oklahoma County. In Florida, **Michael Barnett** has been named to the City of Saint Petersburg Board of Adjustments, while **John Majdiak** and **Aaron O'Brien** were appointed to the Lee County Nuisance Abatement Board.

■ In Indiana, **Chris Nelson** was named Chair of the new Miami County LP, while **Matt Wilkin** was elected Chair of the St. Joseph County LP. In New Mexico, **Denise Griffith** was elected as Chair of the Otero County LP; **Elaine Poncelet** was named Chair of the Dona Ana County LP; and **Bill Hartwell** is the new president of the N.M. State University Libertarians. In Oregon, **Richard Burke** has been named as the state's executive director.

■ In Minnesota, the state LP announced it will open a storefront office in Minneapolis. The facility, on Nicollet Avenue, will serve as a party office, meeting facility, reading room, and more. "We expect this center to become a focal point and resource for all freedom-seekers in Minnesota," said State Chair **Bob Smith**.

■ In Tennessee, **Charles Wilhoit** has announced his candidacy for governor in the November 2002 election. The state LP will select its gubernatorial candidate at its Spring 2002 convention. In Washington state, 21 LP members are running for non-partisan office in 2001, reported LP Executive Director **Jacqueline Passey Bartels** — "and a couple more might file during the extended filing period." In North Carolina, **Kevin Rollins** has filed to run for Asheville City Council.

■ In New Hampshire, **Bob Kingsbury** has announced that he is running for mayor of Laconia. In Ohio, nine Libertarians have declared their candidacies for public office: **Bob DeBrosse** for Piqua City Commission; **Pat Friedrich** for Dublin City Council; **John Hartman** for Lakewood City Council; **Ron Lisy** for Bedford City Council; **Jim Schrader** for Millcreek Township Trustee; **Garry Seaman** for Grafton Township Trustee; **Sky Stargel** for Hilliard City Council; and **Ron Williamitis** for Oakwood City Council.



■ **Bob DeBrosse:** Commissioner

■ Media notes: LP Press Secretary **George Getz** appeared on four different types of media during the first week of July: He was a guest on Judicial Watch TV, did 10 radio interviews, talked to two newspaper reporters — and was featured on a streaming video interview on the NRA.live.com website. The LP's recipe for the "Feinstein" drink (part of a press release blasting the California Senator for proposing a federal law to limit airline passengers to two drinks) was reprinted by the influential www.HotlineScoop.com. The LP's most successful media effort of the month: The July 12 press release pointing out that Congressman Gary Condit is "already a sex criminal" for violating Washington, DC's law against adultery. The party used the case to argue against such "consensual" laws.

■ In Pennsylvania, the Centre County LP is running 15 candidates for 18 different offices: **Carl A. Easterling** for Ferguson Township Supervisor; **Ronald E. Gascon** for Huston Township Tax Collector and Huston Township Supervisor; **Julian P. Heicklen** for County Jury Commissioner and Patton Township Supervisor; **Karry L. Koon** for Bellefonte Area School Director; **Richard J. Lalley** for Ferguson Township Supervisor and Inspector of Elections (write-in); **Heidi K. Martin** for State College Council; **Thomas A. Martin** for Bald Eagle Area School Director; **Teresa S. Martin** for Huston Township Tax Collector; **Tesha S. Omeis** for Inspector of Elections; **Michael A. Reitz** for Inspector of Elections; **Robert J. Speers** for State College Mayor; **Kathleen L. Stroh** for Bellefonte Tax Collector; **Kevan P. Talley** for State College Council; **Jessica L. Zehngut** for Inspector of Elections (write-in); and **Richard J. Zych** for State College Council.

■ In Washington state, **Lonny Eachus** will run for Spokane City Council, while **Bob Bromley** is mulling a run for mayor of Sumas. In Wisconsin, Tomah mayor **Ed Thompson** declared August 1 "Hemp Day" in the city to celebrate the economic benefits of industrial hemp. In Maine, **Duke Harrington** was appointed to the Sumner Planning Board.

CAMPAIGN



REPORT

James Maynard: Keene residents need small government solutions

In New Hampshire race, one-on-one "networking" is the key

When New Hampshire resident James Maynard graduated high school in 1986, he immediately entered the workforce. At age 19, he became the manager of a rug department at a successful retail chain.

Maynard enjoyed his work. However, he wasn't fully satisfied. So at 27, Maynard enrolled at Keene State College.

"I wanted to better myself, even though I was doing okay," said Maynard, who will receive Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemistry and Physics in May 2002. "It's similar to the city of Keene. I think Keene is a fine place, but I want to make it better, and I have good ideas about how to do that."

That's why Maynard is running for one of five at-large seats on the 15-member Keene city council.

The 22,000 city residents need to support "small government solutions" to the "big government problems" that are lowering their quality of life, said Maynard.

"The city council has adopted one big government program after another and it has to stop," he said. "They've accepted the idea that big government is the solution to every problem — but it's expensive and ineffective."

Networking

Maynard's campaign strategy relies heavily on one particular campaign technique: Networking.

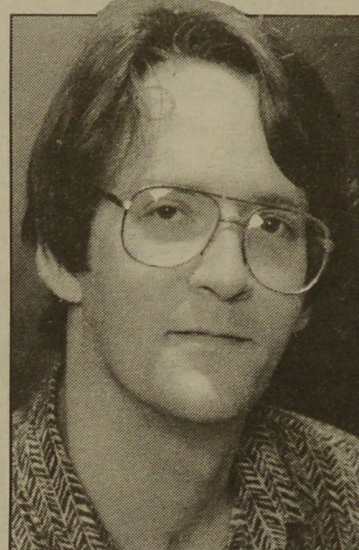
For example, he has hooked up with former Libertarian legislator Don Gorman, a veteran political expert who sought the party's presidential nomination in 2000. Gorman has taken Maynard under his wing, and organized a fundraising dinner for the candidate tentatively scheduled at the end of August.

Maynard has also received campaign advice from the Libertarian Victory Fund, a PAC dedicated to helping Libertarians be competitive in local races. LVF Director Chris Azzaro said Maynard has "great ideas."

"James Maynard is a quality candidate running in a very winnable race," he said. "I only wish the LP had a thousand candidates like James Maynard running for office all across the country."

But Maynard said networking means little if a candidate doesn't get into the public eye.

That's why he has manned an LP booth at several festivals, including a recent Hemp Rally. He



■ **James Maynard:** "I really believe small government is the only answer" for Keene.

has shaken hands and gave campaign brochures to more than 200 registered voters so far, and said he has gotten a positive reaction from more than 90% of them.

"I feel very optimistic," he said. "I've gotten great responses so far to my ideas from most people that I meet and talk to."

He has also started an aggressive direct-mail campaign to a list of about 50 past LP donors. Considering the average successful Keene city council candidate only raises about \$400, Maynard said he has a good base.

The race is non-partisan, although Maynard said he proudly states his party affiliation to potential voters so they will know there is a candidate proposing policies rooted in individual liberty and personal responsibility.

For example, he said, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation has proposed a \$75 million new bypass highway to relieve traffic congestion in the city. The state officials have left the plan to be adopted by the city council.

But residents would be much better off with old-fashioned roundabouts, said Maynard. The traffic circles create a greater free-flow of vehicles — and would cost less than one-third of the bypass highway proposal.

Baseball stadium

In addition, Maynard opposes a proposal to use tax money to build a \$3 million baseball stadium on undeveloped downtown land, favors the abolition of parking meter fees, and believes local juries should engage in "jury nullification" if they perceive a law to be unjust.

"Although one member of the city council is limited in what he or she can actually do, every vote I get will be a vote cast by citizens who want smaller government," he said.

And with an aggressive plan to campaign door-to-door and tout his "small government solutions" theme, Maynard said it's likely he will receive substantial support from Keene's voters — perhaps enough to put him over the top.

"The city of Keene has a lot of problems," he said. "I really believe small government is the only answer. Now I have to convince other city residents as well."

For more information, or to make a contribution, visit: www.jmaynard.org.

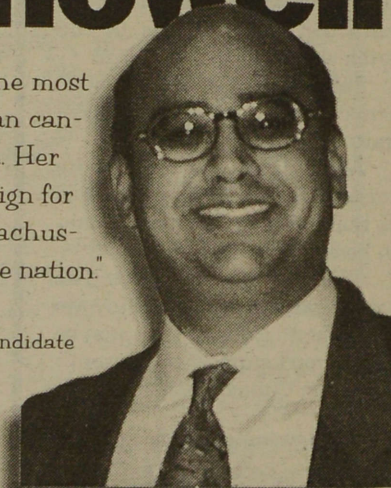
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Carla Howell

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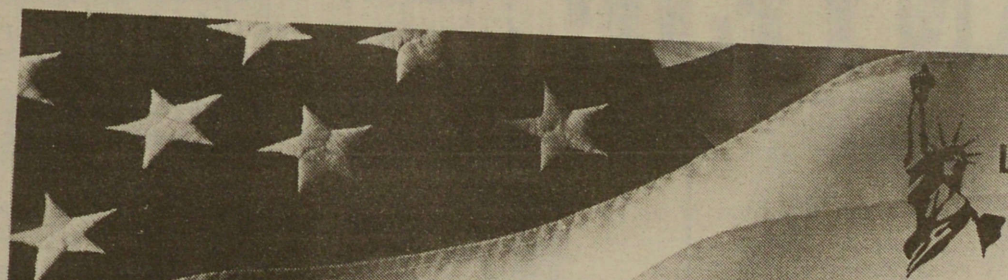
— **KAMAL JAIN**

Former Libertarian Candidate



SEE CARLA HOWELL'S AD ON PAGE 11

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Libertarian Party of Illinois

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An Open Letter to the Libertarian Party

A witch-hunt has been taking place in the State of Illinois that is threatening the life of a Libertarian and the existence of a profession.

This summer, midwife, and Libertarian Party member, Yvonne Cryns was tried on two counts of involuntary manslaughter in the death of a baby during a delivery. It did not matter that the parents of the baby felt there was no negligence on her part. Nor did it matter that doctors have stated that even if the child was delivered at a hospital, chances are the result would have been the same. Nor did it matter that criminal charges are never brought against doctors who oversee the nearly 1,500 babies that die in Illinois hospital delivery rooms every year.

The State of Illinois decided that midwives, and Yvonne Cryns in particular, should be held to different standards and rules: Midwives will be treated as criminals. The government had set out to destroy the profession as we know it and take away yet another freedom from its citizens.

Ms. Cryns was found not guilty on the first count, but the jury was hung on the second count. Now, the State of Illinois plans to try her again on that second charge in the hopes of returning a guilty verdict and a crushing defeat for traditional Illinois midwives.

With over \$200,000 in legal debt already, Ms. Cryns does not have the means to fund any more legal battles. As a wife, mother of seven, and the primary financial supporter of her family for a number of years, this trial has placed an astonishing burden on her and her family. As a fellow Libertarian, and for a fellow Libertarian, I am asking you for your help with the costs of Yvonne Cryns' legal expenses.

Everyday we as Libertarians have to fight for our freedom. Today, however, one of our own is fighting for more than that. She is fighting for her life.

If the government is successful in its attempt to destroy the life of Yvonne Cryns, not only will her freedom be completely stripped away, but a big part of ours will be too.

Contributions should be sent to The Yvonne Cryns Defense Fund in care of the Libertarian Party of Illinois at the address above.

Please join me and come to her aid.

With liberty and justice for all,

Austin L. Hough
State Chair Libertarian Party of Illinois

ORDER FORM

There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow up to 2-3 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add \$5 for Post Office box deliveries. Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party. **Federal law** requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Books for Sale

Q'NTY COST

Why Government Doesn't Work • Browne
Libertarianism In One Lesson • Bergland

Ready-to-use Literature

Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"
Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
World's Smallest Political Quiz
"Million Dollar Bill" Literature

Yard Signs

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Buttons

Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US
Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL

Tools for Campaigning

Libertarian Political Action Booklet
Statue of Liberty logo master
LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

Large & Small Banners

Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5'w)
Please check preferred second line:
☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-ELECT-US
Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5'w).

Total Due

Merchandise Total
RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling
RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange
Send to a Post Office Box: \$5 extra
TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)
☐ Bill my Visa ☐ Bill my MasterCard
☐ Bill my AMEX ☐ Bill my Discover Card

Acct. #

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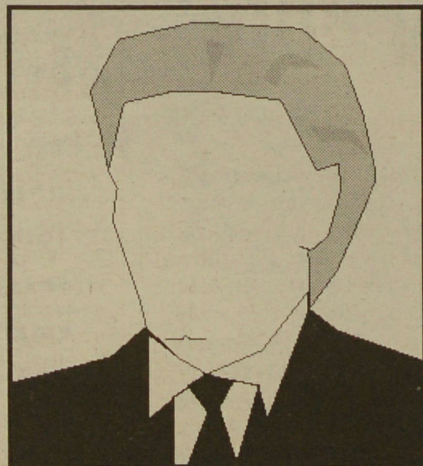
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THE NEXT LIBERTARIAN REWARD: A BIGGER, STRONGER LIBERTARIAN PARTY

There's a Libertarian out there... who doesn't yet know that he or she is a Libertarian. Will you be the one who tells them? Will you be the one who hands them the brochure or book that changes their life — and makes them part of our libertarian movement? We've got the literature... and you've got the opportunity. Will you help us find the most "WANTED" Libertarian — the next one?

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For? Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy. Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Ending the Welfare State. Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners. Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Yard Sign

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH /VOTE LIBERTARIAN. Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.
Cost: \$8.00 each.

What Happened To Your Family Budget? Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again. Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

Working to Cut Your Taxes. Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.
★ Cost: Sample: 50¢ Or \$7 for 100

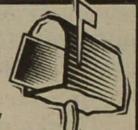
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LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

LP Literature & Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. Cost: \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. Cost: \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners — unlike the Republican Party, which constantly sells them out. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. Cost: \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending — and points out that the federal government spends more than \$1 million every five seconds. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1999) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. Cost: \$1 for 100

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ each for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) Cost: \$25 each

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. A must read! Cost: \$3.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. Cost: \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. Cost: \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. Cost: \$3 for set

Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." Cost: \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) Cost: \$40 each

The Volunteer

Dealing with the 'Wasted Vote'

He warned me. "When this commercial break is over, I'm going to throw you the toughest question for Libertarian candidates," said WORC Talk Radio Host Tom LaRoche. "So buckle your seat belt."

I smiled. I love tough questions. Especially on the radio.

When we came back on the air, LaRoche said to me: "I don't want to waste my vote. If I vote Libertarian, the worst of the other two candidates might get elected. I want to vote Libertarian, the Libertarian is the best candidate, but I just can't take the chance."

"Mr. Cloud, how do you answer this argument against voting Libertarian?"

"Do you want your vote to matter?" I asked. "Do you want your vote to count?"

"Of course I do," he said.

Right message

"Voting for the lesser of two evils, voting Republican or Democrat out of fear that the other is so much worse — that vote is wasted," I said. "Because that vote doesn't send the right message."

"The candidate who gets your 'lesser of two evils' vote thinks that you are voting for him. He thinks you like what he's doing. Is that the message you want to send?"

"No, of course not," he said.

"You know how K-Mart got the message that you didn't like

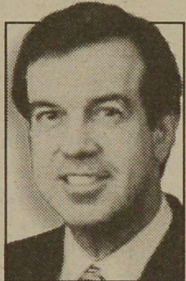
anti-gun activist Rosie O'Donnell in their ads?" I asked. "When they saw Wal-Mart's profits going up. When they saw K-Mart's profits going down."

Now I was warming to the subject.

"Do you know when the Republican politicians and the Democrat politicians got the message that the American people didn't want deficits? When Ross Perot got 19% of the vote for President in 1992 — campaigning almost exclusively on *the deficit!*"

"Politics is a marketplace. A business knows you're happy with their service and products when you spend money with them. Lots of money. Suppose you don't like the service or the products, but you keep shopping there. Would they clean up their act?" I asked. "Would they get the message that you're unhappy with them? What if you go to their complaint department again and again, but you keep shopping with them? Would they get that message?"

"But when you spend money with their competitors, they get the message. When their competitors' market share increases, they get the message. When their mar-



By Michael Cloud

ket share decreases, they get the message," I said.

"And then they change their behavior — or lose your business."

"When you vote Libertarian, when Democrat and Republican politicians see Libertarian candidates getting 10% or 15% or 20% of the vote — on a 100% pro-gun freedom platform, on a platform of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and small government — that's a message they pay attention to," I said.

Make sense?

"You waste your money when you spend it with businesses you don't like. You waste your vote when you spend it on politicians you don't like. The only way to get rid of bad businesses and bad politicians is to do business with their competitor," I said. "The only way to make your vote count is to vote Libertarian. Does that make sense, Mr. LaRoche?"

"Yes it does. I agree," he said.

How do I know this wasted-vote argument works?

Because a lifetime Republican from Arizona was in the studio during my interview. When the radio show ended, this Republican said that I had changed his mind. He filled out a Libertarian Party membership form, paid his \$25, and joined us.

About the author: Michael Cloud is the LP candidate for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

30-second soundbites for LP candidates

Here are some soundbites for LP candidates, crafted by Richard Boddie, a long-time LP activist, past candidate for the party's presidential nomination, and 1994 candidate for U.S. Senate in California.

"Try these when dealing with the press," said Boddie. "They work for me. [They are] 30-second sound bites that survive the cut on major media. It really works!"

■ The Libertarian Party represents *alternative* politics because the Libertarian Party offers the only alternative to politics.

■ Americans don't need daddy Republicans and mommy Democrats to take care of them.

■ Consumer protection occurs when consumers are actually allowed to protect themselves without having to rely on a government alphabet agency.

■ Pollution is trespass, and trespassing is always a crime regardless of the EPA.

■ Government "providing" schools is government controlling schools. This means the fate of our children is ultimately decided by politicians. I believe in the complete separation of School and State, much as I believe in the separation of Church and State.

■ The smallest minority on the earth is the individual.

■ Politicians make lousy caretakers of patients, children, the environment and just about everything else.

■ Imagine what would happen to crimes against women if even just 10% of them were armed. (That's empowerment!)

■ I want to break the chains of poverty for the disadvantaged. I want poor people to be well off.

■ No victim. No crime. Simple.

■ I approve of no law that can jail consenting adults for making love.

■ Minimum wage laws hurt poor people. I will repeal them.

■ I will remove all laws that prevent work.

■ What is more benevolent, voluntarily helping others or forcing others to help others?

■ Many who consider themselves liberals value free expression. Many who consider themselves conservatives value free enterprise. Libertarians value *both* free expression and free enterprise. Authoritarians value neither.

■ Most Americans are Libertarians, they're just now in the process of discovering it.



By Richard Boddie

PRACTICAL POLITICS

Press releases, optimism, & speeches

How long do you have to make an impact with your **news release**? Less than the duration of a 100-meter dash, according to Thomas Hunter of the Effective Communications Group, who says editors spend "just four to 10 seconds" scanning each new release they receive.

And call it a "news release," not a "press release," cautions Hunter; television and radio editors are often irked by the word "press," which refers to print media, and may just ignore your "press" release altogether.

Positive thinking leads to positive results.

According to the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, insurance agents who were "optimists" did 37% more business in two years than "pessimists." Why? Because of their attitudes toward adversity.

When things go wrong, opti-

mists look ahead and try to learn from the setback. Pessimists blame themselves.

As your next LP membership drive or campaign gears up, cultivate your optimism. Learn to look at long odds as a challenge, not a threat.

Good **speeches** start with great opening lines. But where do those lines come from? Not necessarily from a speechwriter, according to Kalish Communications: Many of the best kickoff lines are quotes.

"Cite a memorable quote." Churchill lines are especially

good, Kalish says.

Or, "cite a recent news story." This is especially true if you're a candidate — because there's probably something in the local news that relates to one of your campaign themes.

Or, you can lead with a "joke or humor, but only if you're good at it," says Kalish. Test any punchline on a small group of friendly supporters before putting it in your speech.

Doing a **radio interview**? Create a one-sentence summary of your primary message *before* you go on the air, suggests LP Press Secretary George Getz. "If you can't do this in one sentence, chances are that you aren't clear about what your message is," he says. Also: Prepare a list of the three main points you want to make, and check them off as you deliver them (so you don't forget, or repeat yourself).

Editor's Note

On a regular basis starting in this issue, *LP News* will print political advice, tips, and suggestions for LP members in this new section, "The Volunteer."

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The Forum

When to apply 'Libertarian principles'

We call ourselves "The Party of Principle," and we have a Statement of Principles which defines that principle. What does this mean in daily practice? When, how, and to whom should "Libertarian principles" be applied?

Our members express a variety of answers to these questions. I don't pretend that any one set of answers is correct to the exclusion of all others. However, I would like to set forth my own beliefs. Our Statement of Principles was adopted and is amendable only by our national convention. It states, in part:

"We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose."

Fair enough. As individuals we may do as we please as long as we do not forcibly interfere with the rights of others. The Statement of Principles goes on to describe limitations on government. It says that government should leave us free to deal with

each other. It says nothing about how we should treat each other — so long as we do not forcibly interfere with the rights of others.

However, in discourse among Libertarians, it is common to hear how "Libertarian principles" should be applied to a wide variety of situations involving how individuals associate with each other, in which government is not involved.

I often cringe

When I hear such discussions, I often cringe. Our Statement of Principles is clear: each of us has the right to do as we please so long as we don't forcibly interfere with the rights of others. So how can the same "Libertarian principles" dictate what any of us should do if what we are doing does not forcibly interfere with others?



By Steve Givot

And how can any individual be labeled "unprincipled" if he or she decides to do something which does not forcibly interfere with the rights of others?

And what of private, voluntary organizations? Our Statement of Principles is clear: "... we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals."

There is nothing in our Statement of Principles that in any way restricts the rights of individuals to form private, voluntary associations to be operated as they see fit, as long as such associations do not forcibly interfere with the rights of others.

Thus, Libertarian principles do not dictate how any private, voluntary association should be organized or operate as long as they pass that one threshold test.

The Libertarian Party is a private, voluntary association. Thus, there is nothing in "Libertarian principles" that dictates how the party should be organized or governed. In fact, the organization and governance of the party are determined by its Bylaws which have been voluntar-

ily adopted and amended by the party's national convention.

Thus, the organization and governance of the party has been defined and constrained by the two-thirds supermajority required to adopt or amend the party's Bylaws.

In recent years, I have sometimes heard people claim that "Libertarian principles" dictate that the party should be run or governed one way or another. These have ranged from statements that the party should adopt certain types of voting (e.g., instant runoff voting) or that the LNC should "govern" in the same restricted manner that the party feels the United States government should govern.

To the contrary

I can find nothing in our Statement of Principles which would lead to those conclusions. Quite to the contrary, my reading of our Statement of Principles is that the party should be free to establish whatever Bylaws the delegates choose to adopt.

What about those who think the party should be run differently?

All that is needed to implement their proposals is either (1) a compelling argument to convince the Libertarian National Committee, or (2) a compelling argument to convince two-thirds of the delegates at a national convention.

It is difficult for me to discern a difference between those claiming that "Libertarian principles" require that their proposals be adopted and a Democrat claiming that people have a "right" to health care or a Republican insisting that America must go to war in the name of national security.

In each case, the claim lacks merit. It reflects nothing more than the desires of those advancing the proposals to win support — not some "principle."

This is not to say that all of these proposals are bad — not at all. I am not passing judgment on the proposals en masse.

However, I believe that those wanting to establish policy on how the Libertarian Party operates would be well advised to make certain that they not confuse "what they want" with "what Libertarian principles require."

If we permit the cry of "Libertarian principles" to inappropriately be used to argue that our principles dictate the details of how private, voluntary associations must behave, our principles have been violated and we will cease to be "the party of principle."

About the author: Steve Givot, a resident of Colorado, is the secretary of the national Libertarian Party.

Why voters frequently caricature Libertarians as 'selfish'

Libertarians are prone to 'selfish' attacks; here's what we can do to fix the problem

I must admit, I'm rather new to this whole Libertarian game. I've been eligible to vote during only one election so far, despite having done volunteer work in some form for four Virginia Libertarian campaigns.

In each of these cases, I have been encouraged to see Libertarian Party members working hard and working together to affect real change. But one thing seems to be collectively holding us back from breaking a lot farther than we already have: Selfishness.

Negative comments

"Selfish" is a word I've heard all too often from our detractors, when I have petitioned in the general public. For quite a while, I shrugged it off, as one must do with virtually all negative comments one receives while petitioning. But, as I heard this grievance more and more often, I began to look for any evidence of it among party members. What I realized is that this accusation merits serious concern for us as a party.

A philosophy such as liber-

tarianism is easily prone to these attacks, even when expressed flawlessly. The entire idea is that of "self" — do not harm my person or property, and I will respect you in the same way. As such, we may expect committed Republicrats to use terms like "selfish" to keep voters away from us.

However, I think it would benefit each and every one of us to examine not only the way we present ourselves, but our actual motivations for holding the philosophy of liberty.

It's especially important for us to appear as unselfish as possible while the party relies so heavily on grassroots methods of expansion. The way you express libertarianism to somebody is only half rooted in libertarian ideas. The other half is in how you personally present those ideas.

Since I began working for the party, I have seen a disturbing trend to sound victimized by the excesses we are working so hard

to fight — rather than to effectively reach out to other people.

For example, if a potential libertarian hears you complaining about the burden of taxation, no matter how much they empathize, they're going to see you as miserly and possibly uncompassionate. But if you tell someone why a government program doesn't truly help people or how effective your favorite private charity has been, they see you as someone who's making positive changes in the community — without seeking the aid of any coercion.

Anti-tax rant

Once you have opened this door, you can use the fact that Libertarians seek lower taxes to further entice them towards us. In this way, you can reap all the benefits of an anti-taxation rant without damaging your presentation at all.

Additionally, it's easy for someone who hears any discussion of ending drug prohibition to see all Libertarians as druggies and slam that mental door once again. But tell someone of the horrors of asset forfeiture or the violence that has resulted from driving drugs into the underground, and you can cast yourself and the

whole libertarian movement as defenders of real community values without ever actually talking about drugs themselves.

In both of these examples, the key is to frame the desired change in the context of a greater good instead of immediate benefits to yourself. For our party to continue its growth, we have to be able to convert people who are less political from the outset, and who are

probably much closer to the center of the political spectrum.

These people are going to hear a message about a new, real choice for the country — while a radical tirade will go in one ear and out the other.

Certainly, our message should not change. The minute it did, we would cease to be the party of principle. But we must

See **SELFISH** Page 25

Michael Cloud
LIBERTARIAN FOR U.S. SENATE

"Michael Cloud is the most persuasive Libertarian spokesman I've ever seen. He came on my WORC Talk Radio Show, electrified my audience, and persuaded a Republican in the studio to join the Libertarian Party."

— Tom LaRoche,
WORC Radio & Gun Freedom Activist

PLEASE SEE MICHAEL CLOUD'S AD ON

PAGE 7

It's time for Libertarians to grow up and be a 'big party'

Protests and old-style "hippie" demonstrations won't move the LP into the political big leagues

The Libertarian Party has made great strides both nationally and locally since 1971. This is unquestionable. All of the efforts of those that have come before me have my deepest respect and appreciation. There is nothing that could be proposed to happen today had it not been for the past Herculean efforts of every hard-working Libertarian member, past and present.

However, there must come a time for a change of direction, and I propose that that time has come.

Libertarian Party activists have traditionally focused on fighting local, state and national laws that restrict your freedom.

Solving the LP's selfish problem

Continued from Page 24

emphasize the right part of the message to gain the attention of those whom we're pursuing.

Do excessive taxation and laws on our personal behavior add up to oppression today? Most Libertarians would say "absolutely," and I agree. But it's even more important to realize that we're going to make progress toward freedom only if we leave lasting, positive impressions of our beliefs upon everyone we encounter.

As political outsiders trying to move in, it's important for Libertarians to work *harder* than the average Republican or Democrat. We just have to learn where to channel all of our energy.

Volunteer work

I think one solution to the perceived problem of selfishness is Libertarian community service. Local parties should organize volunteer work that is unrelated to actual party-building in the short term. In the long term, we stand to gain incalculable amounts in terms of respect.

Anyone who sees a Libertarian doing charitable volunteer work has the image of a non-governmental solution to a problem burned into their heads. And our name is written all over it.

■ **About the author:** College student Steve Damerell selflessly worked as an intern this summer at the Libertarian Party's national headquarters in Washington, DC.

This has been the primary focus. A lot of time and energy of the party and its members have been put into demonstrating, petitioning, and speaking against the tidal waves of unfairness found everywhere out there.

Despite the best courageous efforts of everyone, Libertarians cannot come close to stemming the relentless tide of statism. Their efforts are like a mosquito trying to drop an elephant in full charge. This leaves many Libertarians frustrated and angry.

Too high a price

The energy absorbed in waging battle against the omnipotent government at all levels is too high of a price to pay for a political party. A political party is the sum total of the membership and their efforts in getting candidates elected. The efforts of a political party must be for the party's purposes only in order for it to properly function and grow as a political party.

I suggest to everyone that you now consider what it will take to grow up to be a *big* political party.

First, ask yourself, are we or are we not a political party? If so, are we legitimately competing

with the two major parties? What do the two major political parties do? How do the two major political parties do it? Is the LP doing what is necessary to grow up to be a big political party?

I submit that the answer to all of these questions is presently "No."

While we call ourselves the Libertarian Party, too many Libertarians act like members of a dinner club or like old style "hippie" demonstrators. As a whole, not many Libertarian Party members act like they belong to a political party. Since many have never belonged to a major political party, this is not surprising.

However, a successful political party uses different tools and weapons to engage in all-out political warfare. Libertarians do not have to re-invent the wheel to become a major political party either because we have two successful major political parties from which to pattern ourselves.

Before you get all huffy, let me explain.



By Ghazey H. Aleck II

Republicans and Democrats market themselves all the time. Their local meetings can be found in every county in the nation. They are always recruiting membership. More importantly, they are constantly recruiting candidates for all offices and looking ahead to the next election. This is a daily obsession with them.

Each of the two major parties has an array of supporting organizations and political action committees to add to their efforts. Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats spend any significant time on demonstrating, petitioning or speaking about issues (unless to further market themselves toward winning the next election).

They have one function — to get ready to win elections. Every day of every year is spent getting ready to win the next election!

Obsessed

The Republicans and Democrats are obsessed with getting ready for the next election. Imagine every day (yes, I mean every day) looking for candidates, raising money, and recruiting new members. This is what the Libertarian Party must do to compete, to ultimately win elections and to grow into a big political party.

Earlier I made a point of saying that a "political party" should not let its energy be absorbed by

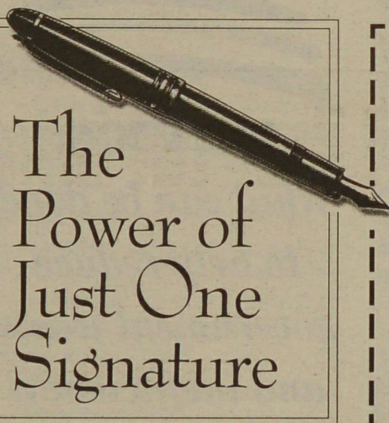
demonstrations and the frustrations that follow. Yet, you will probably want to point out that individual Republicans and Democrats also engage in demonstrations, petitioning and speaking on issues. I submit that individual Libertarians can do the same.

The point I want to make is that none of the organized local, state, or national Libertarian parties should be used for this, participate in this or spend any time encouraging this. The party's job is to build an organization to win the next election.

Thus, the change in direction I propose is that the primary focus of the Libertarian Party organization everywhere be to shift the focus of the membership to do the same things that the two major parties do — constant recruitment of members, constant marketing, constant recruitment of candidates, constant fundraising and always, always, getting ready for the next election.

We can grow up to be a big party. The time is upon us. Let's change our direction and compete to win!

■ **About the author:** Ghazey H. Aleck II is a former County Prosecutor from Clare, Michigan, and is the current Chair of the Clare-Gladwin County LP.



Do you think that our government has gotten too big and too powerful? Do you think a maze of bureaucrats and politicians are chipping away at the freedoms Americans used to take for granted? Do you think the Bill of Rights is being silently repealed — one precious freedom at a time?

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Libertarian Party! We're the only political party that is fighting — with 100% of our energy — to lower taxes, to reduce the size of government, and to defend the Bill of Rights. With your support — and your proud signature on this membership form — we can work harder than ever to build a powerful political force for freedom.

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
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The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

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FROM THE Director

A party of principle... or one of intolerance?

How should we balance our desire to build a large, broad-based Libertarian Party that can elect Libertarians to public office, with the desire to simultaneously remain the Party of Principle?

That's one of the questions that we wrestled with during the LNC's recent series of strategic planning meetings. One principle, strongly supported by the entire strategic planning team, was that the Libertarian Party should welcome new members who fall anywhere within the libertarian quadrant.

Several members noted that over time, LP members tend to become more consistently libertarian in their views. So, it simply doesn't make sense to exclude people who agree with us far more than they do the other parties, even if they are not 100% libertarian when they first join.

The committee also expressed support for the idea that in marketing its ideas, the LP should more greatly emphasize *direction* than *destination* — while acknowledging that both are important. This is also relevant when evaluating the efforts of our Libertarian candidates.

Should we demand that our Libertarian candidates toe the party line on every issue? Or is it enough that they generally support moving in the right direction?

In Virginia, this recently became more than a theoretical issue. For the first time ever, the Libertarian Party will have a candidate for governor of Virginia. The candidate: Bill Redpath, a long-time, well-respected party activist.

Old-timers like me will remember that Bill was the person who spearheaded our successful 50-state ballot drive in 1992. He managed the entire effort as a volunteer, while simultaneously working his regular full-time job.

Bill has probably collected more volunteer ballot access signatures than anyone else in the LP. He is one of our most dedicated and principled activists.

However, there is one issue where Bill has always held a more moderate view than most members of the LP. I'll let him express it in his own words:

"With respect to firearms: I am not for licensing. I am not for gun registration. I do think that negative rights [i.e., the right to life, liberty, property, etc.] will be advanced by keeping convicted violent felons from having legal access to firearms, therefore I favor instant background checks, with statutory protections against gun ownership list compilations by government or confiscation of any legally sold firearm."

"If, upon review of evidence that shows me that my cost-benefit analysis is wrong . . . I will declare my position wrong and change it. I hope that would be the case with anyone."

Bill recently got into a discussion at a gun safety class he was taking and the Second Amendment came up. The person he spoke with then proceeded to attack Bill on the Internet . . . an attack that was unfortunately picked up by some of his fellow Libertarians. Some of the attacks were quite vicious.

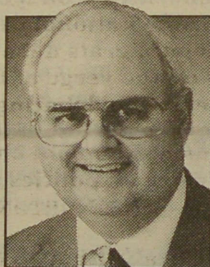
Do Bill's views reflect the consensus within the LP? No. Do they fall within the libertarian quadrant? I think so.

For me, the issue isn't whether or not Bill's interpretation is correct, or 100% "pure" libertarian. The issue is how open we will be as a party to members and candidates who hold opinions on issues that differ from the positions expressed in our platform and/or those held by most Libertarians.

If members, candidates, and activists face personal attacks when they express views that differ from the party line, how enthusiastic will they be about renewing their membership? Or running for office again? Or continuing to volunteer?

Here's what I think: Members, candidates, and activists like Bill Redpath should be *commended* for their positive contributions to the cause of liberty — not condemned for failing to support every jot and tittle of the party platform.

Sooner or later, every Libertarian is likely to run into a situation like this. I hope that when it happens to you, you will choose to disagree without becoming disagreeable with your colleagues and fellow freedom-fighters.



By Steve Dashbach

LP National Director

Reducing pork-barrel spending and other federal boondoggles

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Question: What does \$5 million for a parking garage in Massachusetts, \$1.5 million for a Vulcan statue in Alabama, and \$500,000 for a project to reduce swine manure odor in Iowa have in common?

Answer: They are all examples of pork-barrel spending — one of the most egregious examples of waste, courtesy of your federal government.

Pork is a not-so-flattering term describing taxpayer money appropriated for special projects in the districts of influential legislators. These funds are tacked on during budget conferences, as politicians trade favors to ensure that each will have bacon to bring home to his or her constituents.

However, the litany of wasteful government practices doesn't end with pork. Indeed, government funds allocated for "legitimate" purposes are squandered as well, due to inefficiency and a lack of accountability.

In fact, Martin L. Gross writes in his book, *The Government Racket: 2000 and Beyond*, that government wastes about \$375 billion per year.

Accountability

During the 1990s, increasing public concern about waste and fraud led former Vice President Al Gore to head a project called the "National Performance Review," a commission designed to "reinvent government" into a model of efficiency and accountability.

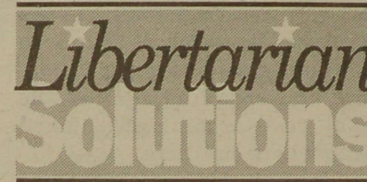
The resulting 1996 report from the House Government Reform and Oversight committee found the project identified and addressed only \$3 billion of government waste each year — hardly a stellar job of "reinventing government" from the self-proclaimed inventor of the Internet.

Why is government so rife with waste and abuse?

To understand the problem, one first needs to understand the underlying mechanism of government as an institution.

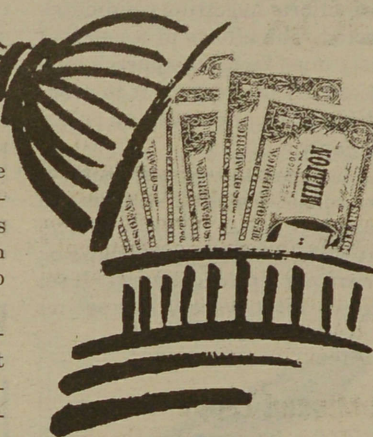
A business must be efficient in order to grow. It must cut its costs and keep its prices low (though high enough to still be profitable), as well as seek to improve the quality of its products and customer service.

If it fails to do so, that busi-



ness will lose customers to competitors. This mechanism exerts a natural push toward efficiency.

But the federal government does not rely on voluntary payments from individuals who can seek alternative services from competitors. As a result, government bureaucracy grows unabated — without keeping its costs low, without improving its service, and without delivering on its promises.



QUESTION:

What can be done to help reduce government waste and inefficiency?

The prescription for ending government waste is a simple one: Seriously reduce total government spending.

Unfortunately, history has aptly demonstrated that the probability of Democrats and Republicans proposing major spending cuts is similar to getting struck

by lightning — twice.

In fact, in the 2000 fiscal year alone, Democrats and Republicans in Congress appropriated about \$121 billion to programs with expired authorizations!

We don't have to wait until Libertarians constitute a majority in Congress before improvements can be made, however. Here are several steps that should be implemented immediately to weed out wasteful government spending:

■ End pork-barrel spending. In fiscal year 2001, Citizens Against Government Waste estimated that an amazing \$18.5 billion went to finance pork-barrel projects.

For the 2002 budget, more than 6,000 such requests were granted during the 2001 appropriations process — mostly to influential legislators on the appropriations committee. For example, Senator Ted Stevens, then-committee chairman, secured more than \$480 million for his state of Alaska alone.

Such expenditures should be immediately eliminated by changing Congressional rules to prohibit the allocation of funds during the appropriations process, the process which allows legislators to tack boondoggles onto spending bills.

■ Cut the federal bureaucracy. Mismanagement thrives in an atmosphere where no one is clearly responsible for specific tasks. Since layers of federal bureaucracy have proliferated in recent years, rampant abuse and unaccountability has become the norm.

For example, CAGW estimates Medicare bureaucrats improperly appropriated at least \$13.5 billion in 1999 and nearly \$5 billion is wasted on the food-stamp program due to illegal trafficking and distribution errors.

The federal government should be streamlined to combine departments and eliminate thousands of bureaucratic positions — starting, for example, with any position that has the words "Deputy" or "Assistant" in the title. Although certainly not a perfect Libertarian solution, it is an immediate step that could be taken to stop the fiscal hemorrhaging while Libertarians work to gain control of Congress.

■ Privatize assets and services. Privatization refers to two separate actions: Selling off government assets, and contracting out government services.

The Privatization Task Force, a committee of public policy think tanks, estimates that the federal

See **WASTE** Page 30

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The Mail Box

Liberty Songs

It was a joy to read the list of "Top 25 Liberty Songs" [August 2001]. I was glad to be reminded of tunes, like Jonathan Edwards' "Sunshine," which had long ago faded into memory, but clearly makes liberty's case at least as well as the Billy Joel song that was my libertarian favorite: "My Life."

I was also pleased to see that Joel made the list. One of the things I like best about "My Life," is that it isn't simply a song of defiance, or rejection of society. Just when the lyrics might make the listener think that the poet had no use for other people, he declares, "I still belong, don't get me wrong."

He accepts and participates in society, but has come to the point where he simply needs to draw clear boundaries that establish an inviolable personal space: a struggle that is familiar to and shared by all libertarians.

So when will we see the LP benefit CD containing all of those wonderful songs? Better yet, when can I buy tickets for the live show featuring musical artists of today and yesterday, as they perform and revitalize those songs for modern audiences?

Anyone for LibertyFest 2002?
— JAMES MERRITT
Santa Cruz, California

Missed one

You missed one. It may just be the Irish in me, but my favorite Liberty song is "Freedom's Sons" by The Clancy Brothers.

— JAMES WHELAN
Boca Raton, Florida

Missed two

Loved the liberty songs. I'm amazed that two of my favorite Rush songs didn't make the cut:

"Tom Sawyer" and "Freewill." There is one line in "Tom Sawyer" that expresses the Libertarian movement: "His mind is not for rent / To any god or government." And of course "Freewill" is all about choice. Good stuff.

— RANDALL WOODMAN
Allen, Texas

Missed Zappa

I was disappointed there was no mention of Frank Zappa. "Billy the Mountain," circa 1968, has all the excesses of government brought forward and ridiculed.

Zappa's long-standing support for personal freedoms is well known and is reflected in his lyrical content throughout his career. We miss you Frank.

— DAVE WOOD, JR.
Urbana, Illinois

WHEN WILL WE see the LP benefit CD containing those wonderful liberty songs?

Knee-jerk reaction

The August From the Chair column ["How to avoid being a knee-jerk Libertarian"] comes across as arrogant, condescending, parental and scolding — in a word, "knee-jerk."

With a little thought and professional editorial input, it could have had a supportive tone and actually been useful instead of irritating.

Mr. Lark, keep this suggestion in mind and I think you'll find

other people more responsive to your ideas. Or, you could go elsewhere to find people more supportive of your superior attitude.

— LEE MORRIS
Medford, Oregon

Poor article

I want to criticize the article "Libertarians Help Stop Shays-Meehan" [August 2001].

The article does not explain to readers how Shays-Meehan would have hurt third parties. It is probably obvious to informed Libertarians that all campaign reform is harmful, but I am not a knee-jerk Libertarian. I need more education.

Even a single sentence of information would have saved this poor article. Since the issue is not dead and may come up again, please make sure the next time that readers get some education from the news articles, then I can act.

It is not sufficient to just state that these things are bad and phony. I'll make that judgment for myself after LP News gives me the facts first. Otherwise, I will do nothing.

This was a very poor article.
— ALAN RICHTER
Spokane, Washington

Editor's note: The Shays-Meehan bill (and the similar McCain-Feingold bill) would hurt Libertarians — and, indeed, all challengers to incumbent Republicans and Democrats — because it would limit (or ban) the "soft money" contributions that political parties raise and spend to support candidates. The longer online version of that article — at www.LP.org — included additional information about the bill.

See THE MAILBOX Page 28

ThePulse

Libertarians' best strategy

It's typical: Give Libertarians two choices, and they pick a third.

In this case, it's in response to the question: Should the Libertarian Party focus more on a *national* or a *local* strategy? That is, should the party put money into supporting local affiliates and winning local races, or should it attempt to build the party via high-profile federal and statewide races?

The answer from contrarian Libertarians: *Both*. In fact, a majority — 53.1% — of the respondents to this month's unscientific Pulse survey said the party can only succeed by working at *both* the national and local level.

By contrast, 31.25% argued that "all politics is local" and the party must build from the ground up (although many acknowledged there was a role for "show the flag" high-level campaigns). Another 6.25% said the primary focus should be on federal or statewide races, because that's where the real political power is (although many recognized a need for local organizations and races).

And a final batch of contrarians (9.4%) said neither strategy is best, and suggested alternatives like targeting certain races or states, or building coalitions on issues.

Here is a representative sampling of the responses:

■ **Both:** Some of my Libertarian friends say we should concentrate on local races; others say we need a high-profile national candidate. You don't hear the Republicrats debating this issue. The Libertarian Party is on the verge of turning into a Major Political Party. Let's stop debating small-party issues and start winning both local and national elections. We're not changing our name. We're not changing our principles. We're changing American politics as you know it!

— TIM NORTON, Carbondale, Illinois

■ **Local:** Although the exposure of high-profile campaigns looks nice for the LP, my attempts at local activism have convinced me that people are unwilling to listen until we prove ourselves. Proving that libertarian ideas in government work is easier to achieve first at the local level.

— JOHN M. TAYLOR, Highlands, New Jersey

■ **Both:** Our party needs courageous freedom fighters eager to fight statist candidates at all levels. Too many sideline theoreticians substitute empty rhetoric for real campaign debate. I find that advocates of this "either/or" paradigm are usually non-candidates who push this false debate to disguise their own inactivity.

— LEN FLYNN, Morganville, New Jersey

■ **Neither:** There is a third choice, which is better than both of those: We should act like an issues-oriented movement, and focus on building coalitions (local, state or federal) around issues, such as school choice, drug choice, reproductive choice, and gun choice. Unless we can attract a celebrity candidate, Libertarians should never bother contesting national, or statewide, races.

— RON PETRIE, Lakewood, Ohio

■ **Both:** I favor junking the local vs. national argument entirely — our members will be working at their best when they're supporting candidates appropriate to their interests. Our candidates will be most successful when they're engaging audiences who are receptive to our message. Whether the activists or the audiences are local, state, or national in scope shouldn't matter.

— KEN PARMALEE, Morrow, Georgia

■ **National:** Policy flows from the top down. Generals make policy, captains interpret policy, sergeants implement policy, and privates live policy. The "grassroots" can't impact the making of policy. We don't need to win to win. Do we wish to elect people to office or make the country more Libertarian? That's the bottom line.

— FRED HEMKER, Maple Grove, Minnesota

■ **Let individual members decide:** We already have a mechanism in place to determine where we focus our energy. See THE PULSE Page 28

ThePulse

Continued from Page 27

ergy: the voluntary contributions of our members. By contributing to local candidates, members are automatically building the grassroots strategy. If they contribute to the national candidates or big names in other states, they are automatically building the high-profile strategy. It's a self-guiding, "free-market" system that requires no central decision or plan — the perfect Libertarian solution.

— JAMES MADISON, Middletown, Connecticut

■ **Both:** While it is true that "all politics are local," we could win thousands of local board seats and not achieve the major party status that will come when we win our first U.S. Senate or House seat. We should not have an either/or policy but continue to work on both fronts.

— NICK LIPSCHULTZ, Boca Raton, Florida

■ **Local:** Win local races! That is the only way to build a political party. By local races I mean state legislative races and county commission type races. These races provide a springboard to Congress.

— JOHN MCDIVITT, Albuquerque, New Mexico

■ **Both:** But compared to what we are doing now we need to put a much higher percentage of our resources on winnable local races. Otherwise we will be better known as the Losing Party — the party everyone can safely ignore because they will never get anywhere.

— TED APELT, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

■ **Local:** The best plan is to get Libertarians elected to local office where they can acquire experience and credibility and where they can initiate reforms that make it more likely for Libertarians to get elected to national offices.

— EDWARD TEYSSIER, San Diego, California

Nov. Question: Ideological tolerance?

In Virginia, LP gubernatorial candidate Bill Redpath was accused of being a "sell-out" because he suggested the government should conduct background checks to stop criminals from buying guns. In this month's MailBox, someone is accused of being "un-Libertarian" for supporting laws banning the use of cell phones while driving. And in online libertarian discussion forums, there is constant debate about the ideological purity — or lack thereof — of LP candidates, press releases, projects, and so on. Are these examples of a party with a healthy desire to maintain its principles? Or of a party overly obsessed with doctrine and prone to witch hunts?

■ **Question:** Is the LP too ideologically rigid? Do we spend too much time attacking each other for "straying from the faith" — or is such vigilance needed to keep the party from becoming as ideologically wishy-washy as the Rs and Ds? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ **DEADLINE:** October 8, 2001

Oct. Question: Lesser of 2 Evils?

Over the past several months, there has been a flurry of media attention about the LP's impact on the U.S. Senate. The *National Review* reported that Libertarians "are seriously hurting Republicans," because votes for LP candidates may have cost the GOP two U.S. Senate seats — and control of that body. The *Pantagraph* (Bloomington, IL) reported: "A new 'giant killer' has emerged in Washington, DC." But do we really want to be a "giant killer" if we take votes away from the least-bad candidate and cause the "greater of two evils" to get elected? Or, is it our job to run candidates — and not worry about what happens to Republicans or Democrats?

■ **Question:** Should the LP sit out races when our candidate might cause the "lesser of two evils" to lose? Or should we compete in every race we can, no matter the consequences? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ **DEADLINE:** September 8, 2001

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.
 ■ **E-mail:** Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. ("Pulse" in subject line.)
 ■ **Fax:** (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).
 ■ **Mail:** Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

TheMailBox

Continued from Page 27

■ Proper credit

I was honored to be asked for a few quotes on how Carla Howell's Small Government Act might help the Massachusetts LP, and I happily provided them ["Mass. LP files bid to end income tax," August 2001].

Imagine my horror, however, when I read the resulting article in *LP News* and found that it seemed to give the unfortunate and mistaken impression that the Massachusetts LP State Committee is responsible for this effort, rather than Carla Howell and her Committee for Small Government.

Please understand that I fully support Carla Howell's effort and that our state party fully intends to help make it a reality. However, it is the Committee for Small Government that has created and spearheaded this effort.

I would especially like to call attention to the invaluable work of the lead attorney, Peter Kuntz. Peter has put in months of effort on this project to make sure that it clears the considerable legal hurdles that Massachusetts politicians will put in the way of this bold proposal.

I am proud to come from a state like Massachusetts which has so many excellent activists, and I would be a poor state leader indeed if I were to allow their work to go accidentally misattributed.

— ELIAS ISRAEL

Massachusetts LP State Chair
Burlington, Massachusetts

■ Follow her lead

Congratulations to Carla Howell for introducing the Small Government Act, to eliminate the Massachusetts state income tax! Perhaps all other states that have a state income tax should follow her lead and attempt to eliminate state income taxes from our entire country.

She has a well-thought-out game plan that could serve as a blueprint for others. And it's great publicity for the LP as well.

— DAWN BARRY

New Hartford, Connecticut

■ After prohibition?

I was astonished by some statements made in the review of the book, *After Prohibition* [The Review, July 2001].

You say that the book "is weakest in the area" as to "what would America be like after prohibition." Nonetheless, you go on, the book "is an excellent addition

to the growing library of anti-Drug War books."

What mystifies me is how you could compliment the book in this extravagant manner when one of the most imperative unanswered questions about decriminalizing drug access and use by adults is how we then can keep drugs out of the hands of minors.

We have been notably unsuccessful in this regard with tobacco, I trust you concede. Smoking is a common practice by students on high school campuses, or on nearby streets.

THE PARTY HAS been loath to deal with the issue of access to drugs by children.

Thus, in my mind no excellent defense for repealing the present drug laws can legitimately be made unless it stipulates explicitly how society will protect children from gaining possession and use of drugs that adults find easy to obtain and imbibe.

Unfortunately, the LP historically has been extremely loath to deal with this issue. The party thus is more vulnerable to negative criticism on this score than on any other of its statements of principle, I venture. I am disappointed to find LP News equally at fault in this regard.

— PATRICK GROFF
San Diego, California

■ Cell phone aggression

In August's Mailbox, Mr. Frank D. Nesbit announced his support for government aggression. He claimed that New York's new handheld cell phone ban was appropriate because it supposedly protects us from "the irresponsibility of others."

bility of others."

Allow me to state the obvious: In a Libertarian society, Mr. Nesbit could purchase his own road and apply whatever rules he wished.

Since we're talking here about government roads that most of us don't have the option to choose not to use, we must be sure to apply our principle to the situation.

Mr. Nesbit claims that driving while talking on a cell phone is "irresponsible behavior." I would contend that driving poorly is irresponsible. What does it matter *why* someone is driving recklessly? If someone is an endangerment who cares if the person is drunk, adjusting the radio, or talking on a cell phone?

His last line is the only Libertarian sounding one: "Only time will tell how appropriately the bureaucrats go about enforcing this law."

Allow me to predict: Police will set up "headset checkpoints" where drivers and their cars will be searched for hands-free equipment.

Or, we'll read stories about police who swore they saw a man driving with his hand by his ear, indicating irresponsible cell phone use. The cop pulls him over, cites reasonable suspicion of DWT, and proceeds to tear his car apart looking for the cell phone that the driver had to have stashed, eventually finding nothing, and leaving the man to put his car back together.

— IAN BERNARD

Sarasota, Florida

■ Unlibertarian

In response to Frank D. Nesbit's letter supporting the ban on handheld cell phones while driving, I ask the following:

Why not ban smoking, drinking, and eating while driving?

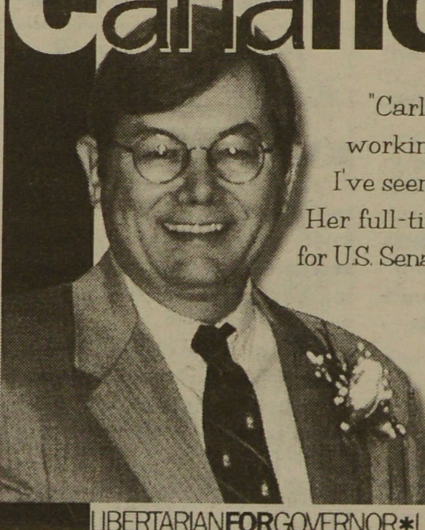
Banning the above would also "protect individuals from harm or death caused by the irresponsibility of others."

Very few accidents are caused by drivers using cell phones compared to its usefulness while driving.

Government continues to
See **THE MAILBOX** Page 29

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Carla Howell



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— DENNIS CORRIGAN
Former National Chair,
Libertarian Party of Canada

SEE CARLA HOWELL'S AD ON PAGE 11

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 28

pass laws as if we are all irresponsible.

To support this law is irresponsible and unlibertarian.

— **BENJAMIN GREENBERG**
Burton, Ohio

■ Sales tax outrage

I was outraged after reading an essay published in the August issue of *LP News* by Maryland LP member Steve Sass. Mr. Sass supports imposing a 23% national

sales tax as a viable alternative to our current income tax. As both a "small l" and "big L" Libertarian, I am mortified.

First, such a tax is entirely un-Constitutional. There is no Constitutional authority to impose a tax on all transactions.

Mr. Sass then completely disregards libertarian ideals by suggesting that families of four would be provided with monthly checks in the amount of \$383.33 to cover the new 23% tax of the average

\$20,000 they need to get by.

He doesn't say where that money will come from, but it would appear to be some type of welfare program. This is so contrary to my understanding of what the Libertarian Party stands for, that expletives would best describe my current feelings and I won't dishonor this publication by citing them.

However, the most glaringly offensive statement was Mr. Sass's admission that the FairTax is designed to be revenue neutral and gives the federal government as much money as it has currently been taking in.

Certainly, abolishing the IRS

is near the top of our to-do list, but let's not replace one horrendous idea with another that does absolutely nothing to reduce the size, scope and intrusiveness of the federal government.

— **KEN EVANS**

Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

■ No tax more unfair

I can imagine no tax more unfair, or more unlibertarian than a national sales tax.

Unfair, because sales taxes are inherently regressive, falling disproportionately on the poor. Unlibertarian because it makes every merchant a tax collector for the government, and puts the gov-

ernment into every transaction.

Labeling a sales tax a "Fair Tax" does not make it so.

— **KEN OBENSKIM**

San Diego, California

■ Mainstream tax

I was glad to see Steven Sass's article that urged the Libertarian Party to endorse the idea of a national sales tax or some plan similar to that proposed by Americans for Fair Taxation. The LP must get beyond simply calling for the abolition of the IRS and begin discussing and proposing the details of a tax plan.

Let's face it: There will al-

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30

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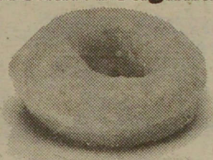
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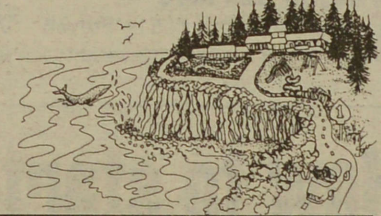
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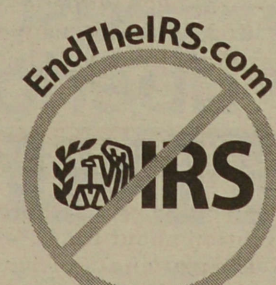
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The MailBox

Continued from Page 25

ways be taxes as long as there is government. (The President's salary isn't going to be paid out of tourist fees at the White House.) At present the public is presented with three plans: graduated income tax (current system), flat income tax, and sales tax. Many people confuse the flat tax with the sales tax. Others see the sales tax as simply an additional tax.

Neither of the two major parties wants to change the system. Each has its set of tax rates and deductions by which it hopes to satisfy constituents. However, they will adopt parts of any proposal that is gaining acceptance.

The time is now for the Libertarian Party to act. The LP has to demonstrate that it is moving into the mainstream.

— **WILLIAM F. MCLOUGHLIN**
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

■ Better tax idea

The FairTax touted by Steven Sass is a bad idea for reasons too

numerous to recount here. Instead, we should support Ron Paul's HJR 45, which would repeal the 16th Amendment and eliminate direct federal taxes on individuals entirely.

As noted in the Talking Points item by Joseph Farah on page 6 of that same issue, Congress can get along without our income taxes merely by returning to the 1990 spending level.

— **MICHAEL J. GONSIOR**
Cody, Wyoming

■ Another judge

A front-page story ["Libertarian appointed Superior Court Judge," July 2001] says: "It may possibly be the first time a registered Libertarian has been appointed to any judgeship anywhere in the country."

May I differ with you? I am a registered Libertarian Party member and am an appointed judge, the Municipal Judge of Junction, Texas, and have been for about 13 years.

Nice story about Judge John Buttrick, anyway!

— **JOHN C. PARKER**
Junction, Texas

■ NYC matching funds

Bill Clinton said, "The Era of Big Government Is Over!" and proceeded to create more government.

George Bush said, "Read My Lips . . . No New Taxes" and proceeded to raise taxes.

There is only *one* way to tell if a candidate is telling you the truth. Watch his actions. When a candidate tells you he wants to reduce government spending, watch what he does in his first opportunity to make a difference.

[Candidate for New York city mayor] Kenny Kramer has said he wants to reduce government spending. What do his actions say? Kramer has the opportunity to reduce government spending in New York City by a million dollars just by refusing to take matching campaign funds.

Do his actions speak? Or is he just another politician mouthing words like all the rest? You decide.

— **MICHAEL K. BARNETT**
St. Petersburg, Florida

UpComing

■ February 2-4, 2002

Florida LP Convention, Radisson Ponce de Leon Resort, St. Augustine. Speakers include Jim Lark (National LP Chair) and David Bergland (1984 LP presidential candidate). For information, visit: www.LPF.org

■ February 15-18, 2002

California LP Convention, Santa Maria Inn, Santa Maria. Speakers TBA. For more information contact: B.J. Wagener: (805) 928-1100. Or e-mail: bjwagener@hotmail.com.

■ March 8-10, 2002

Washington state LP Convention, Hilton Hotel, Bellevue. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (206) 329-5669. Or e-mail: director@lpws.org.

■ March 22-24, 2002

Illinois LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: Dobie1214@aol.com.

■ April 6, 2002

Massachusetts LP Convention, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Woburn. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: www.LPMA.org

■ July 3-7, 2002

LP National Convention, Marriott Downtown Hotel & Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana. Speakers TBA. For information, see future issues of *LP News*.

How to start cutting federal waste

Continued from Page 26

government could raise \$300 billion from the sale of federal assets and enterprises to the private sector, including defunct military installations, national parks, and federally owned land.

As far as contracting out services, competitive bidding would ensure that jobs for government services go to the most efficient providers — rather than the ones with the greatest political pull.

GOVERNMENT suffers from a pass-the-buck mentality.

.....
■ **Change the budget process.** Currently, Congress acts on

a system of "annual baseline budgeting." This system assumes that funding for each federal program will grow each year due to inflation and number of enrollees.

Unfortunately, this permits politicians to claim they are cutting spending when they are actually increasing it — albeit at a slower-than-planned rate. Also, baseline budgeting allows politicians to spend tax dollars as soon as they enter the Treasury on their favorite boondoggles.

Biennial non-baseline budgeting, which would force legislators to set budgets for two-year terms and include no growth provisions, would be a better alternative.

Pass-the-buck

In sum, a small government limited to providing a few, narrowly defined services is a smarter, more efficient, and more accountable government. A big government, on the other hand, is a mess of stifling regulation, overlapping bureaucracy, and pass-the-buck mentality.

When you accept the empty promises of big government, you are also accepting the waste, fraud and inefficiency of inept bureaucrats and power-hungry politicians.

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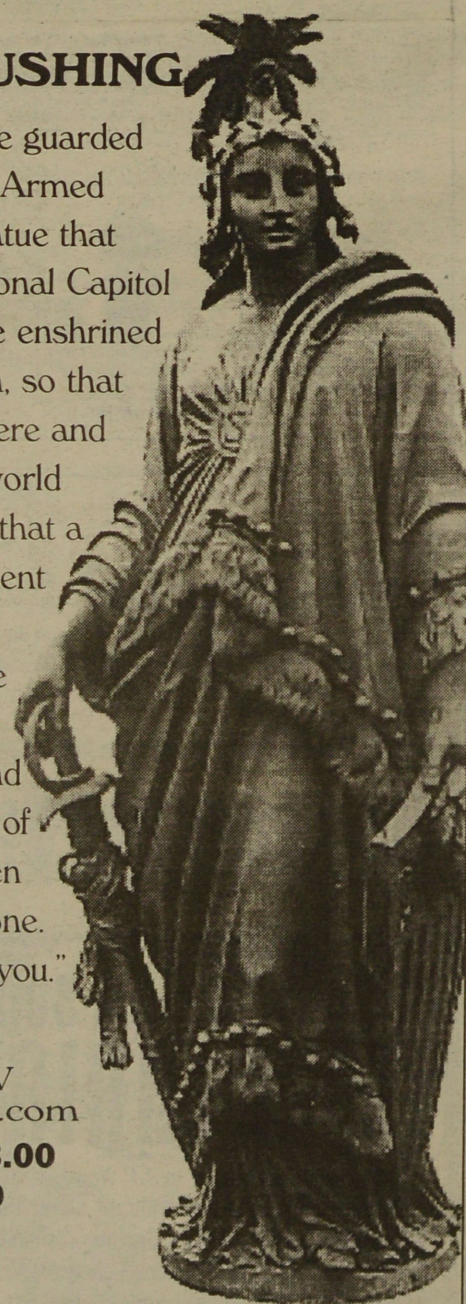
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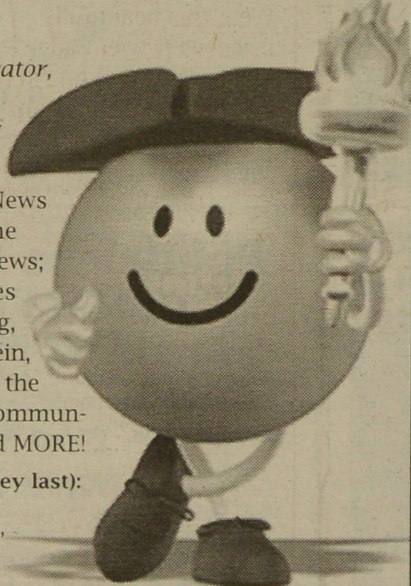
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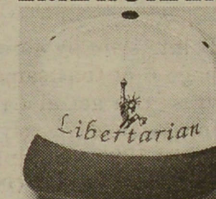


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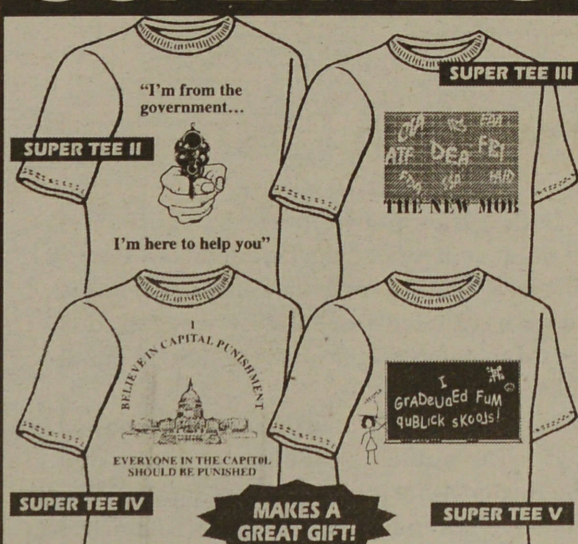
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UpComing

■ September 5, 2001

Twelfth Annual Fall Freedom Rally, Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts. Sponsored by the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition. For information, call: (781) 944-2266. Or visit: www.masscann.org.

■ September 21-23, 2001

Gun Rights Policy Conference, Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. Co-sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep & Bear Arms. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (425) 454-7012. E-mail: info@saf.org.

■ September 29, 2001

Sam Adams Dinner, Creekside Grill, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Sponsored by the Washtenaw County LP. Guest speaker is Terry Pell (CEO, Center for Individual Rights). For information, call: (734) 668-2607. E-mail: salvette@ameritech.net.

■ October 6, 2001

Connecticut LP Convention, Masonic Temple, Meriden. Speakers include Sharon Harris (President of Advocates for Self-Government) and Elias Israel (candidate for 2002 national LP Chair, current Massachusetts LP State Chair). For information, e-mail: jamadison@lpct.org.

■ October 6-7, 2001

Freedom Summit, Embassy Suites Hotel at the Biltmore, Phoenix, Arizona. An annual seminar "dedicated to promoting and advancing human freedom." Speakers include Jacob Hornberger (Future of Freedom Foundation), Vin Suprynowicz (syndicated columnist), Clint Bolick (Institute for Justice), Don Boudreaux (president, Foundation for Economic Education), and Aaron Zelman (executive director, Jews for the Preservation of Firearm Ownership). For information, visit: www.freedomsummit.com.

■ October 20, 2001

Colorado LP Fourth Annual Awards Banquet, Embassy Suites Hotel, Colorado Springs. Speakers include John Ross (author, *Unintended Consequences*). For information, call: (719) 596-6799. Or e-mail: ElPasoLiberty@aol.com. Or visit: www.LPEP.org

■ October 25-28, 2001

Cato University Seminar, Hotel Omni Mont-Royal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 218-4633. Or visit: www.cato-university.org.

■ October 27, 2001

New Hampshire LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Concord. Speakers include Libertarian State Representative Steve Vaillancourt (L-Manchester) and Richard Winger (publisher, *Ballot Access News*). For information, call Rosalie Babiarz at: (603) 523-8315. Or e-mail: rosalie@endor.com.

■ November 2-5, 2001

Libertarian International Fall Convention, Prague, Czech Republic. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: www.libertarian.to

■ November 9-11, 2001

Louisiana LP Convention, Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino, Bossier City. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (877) 457-7352. E-mail: jper0301@mindspring.com.

■ November 16-18, 2001

SepCon2001 (Annual Conference of the Alliance for the Separation of School & State), DoubleTree Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. Speakers include Marshall Fritz (Founder, Alliance for the Separation of School & State) and Joseph Sobran (columnist). For information, call: (888) 338-1776. Visit: www.SepSchool.org/SepCon2001.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 30.

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— SHARON HARRIS, *The Libertarian Communicator*, Summer 2001