

LIBERTARIAN PARTY® LP NEWS

The Party of Principle®

March 2003

The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 32 / Issue 3

INSIDE

- 3** Libertarians join anti-war protests
- 3** New York LP hands out 'Guns for Tots'
- 4** Airline ID lawsuit survives first test
- 10** Alaska Libertarians file hemp lawsuit
- 18** Sour milk: Failures of U.S. dairy policy

10 reasons why the U.S. should not attack Iraq

For a Libertarian, there's only one valid reason for the United States to go to war: Self-defense.

The party platform makes that clear. It states: "Any U.S. military policy should have the objective of providing security for the lives, liberty and property of the American people in the U.S. against the risk of attack by a foreign power."

Such a "risk of attack" must obviously be immediate, grave, and unequivocal. Otherwise, the government could point to almost any risk — no matter how unlikely or insignificant — as a rationale for war.

Given this straightforward self-defense mandate, is the United States justified in going to war against Iraq?

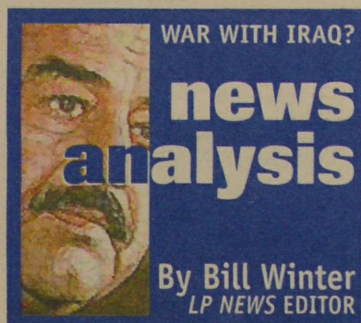
The Bush administration says it is. It argues:

1) Iraq possesses nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons of mass destruction (WMD) that threaten the security of the United States.

2) Saddam Hussein is a past and future ally of terrorists who threaten the United States.

Below, we will address each of these arguments.

The Bush administration has offered other rationales for war: Saddam is a thug who oppresses his own people and threatens his neighbors. He has violated U.N. and international agreements. And he has hin-



dered U.N. weapons inspections.

Those accusations all seem to be true. But for a Libertarian, they are not valid reasons to go to war, since they go far beyond any proper defensive role for the U.S. military. It is not the job of the United States to liberate the oppressed people of the world, nor to defend Arab or Persian Gulf nations against aggression, nor to enforce international treaties, nor to compel Hussein to open his borders to U.N. weapons inspectors.

U.N. report?

What about the U.N. report that says Iraq did not prove conclusively that it dismantled its weapons of mass destruction? The mere possession of weapons is not a valid reason for the U.S. to invade a sovereign nation. After all, Iraq is not the only nation with such armaments. Accord-

See **IRAQ** Page 14



■ At the Oregon LP office in Beaverton, Libertarians — (front, l-r) Drake Davis, Eric Winters, Ken Montone, and state Executive Director Richard Burke — applaud a local television news broadcast that shows anti-Measure 28 votes piling up on January 28. Measure 28 ended up losing, 55%-45%.

Oregon LP wins battle to halt \$725m tax hike

LP's 'Turn the Tide' anti-tax lobbying campaign makes the difference

Oregon voters have rejected a temporary income tax surcharge — handing a major victory to the state Libertarian Party, which led the fight against the proposed tax hike.

On January 28, in a statewide referendum, voters rejected Measure 28

by 55%-45%. Had it passed, the initiative would have raised taxes by \$725 million over three years.

"When the numbers came up on election night, and I realized we would win, I felt a mixture of relief and exhilaration," said Oregon LP Executive Director Richard Burke, as the magnitude of the anti-tax vote became clear. "The Libertarian Party won the campaign, and it was seen as our victory — we weren't just tagging along or riding someone else's coattails."

Too close to call

Just eight days earlier, a statewide poll by Portland's KATU Television had said the vote was too close to call.

But on the evening of the vote, about 40 Libertarians at the state LP headquarters in Beaverton applauded and cheered as TV news reports showed Measure 28 decisively falling behind.

About 65% of the state's registered voters cast a ballot for or

against Measure 28 — one of the largest turnouts for a special election in state history, reported the *Salem Statesman Journal*.

Measure 28 would have increased the state's top personal tax rate from 9% to 9.5%, and the top corporate tax rate from 6.6% to 6.93% in 2002, 2003, and 2004. It would have cost the average Oregon taxpayer about \$114 per year.

The state legislature had voted to put the measure on the ballot in September.

To fight Measure 28, the Oregon LP had launched a vigorous "Turn The Tide" campaign, visiting 27 cities and towns in 17 days to offer arguments against the tax hike.

"I and other Libertarians put over 4,000 miles on our cars visiting newspapers, radio stations and TV stations all over Oregon," said Burke.

A January 6 press conference in Salem to kick off the effort generated statewide media attention.

See **OREGON** Page 7

LP cheers measure to stop spy system

The Libertarian Party has applauded a decision by the U.S. Senate to block the Total Information Awareness system — but warned LP members that they need to continue to lobby against the massive surveillance scheme.

"Score one for Americans' privacy and freedom," said LP Chair Geoffrey Neale after the U.S. Senate voted on January 23 to halt funding for the Total Information Awareness (TIA) project.

The measure to put a moratorium on the TIA passed on a voice vote without debate as part of a package of amendments to an omnibus spending bill. It was introduced by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and co-sponsored by Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Charles E. Grassley (R-IA), and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA).

The amendment instructed the Defense Department to halt all TIA



research within 60 days, unless the U.S. Senate receives a detailed report that listed the TIA's costs, its potential impact on civil liberties, its effect on privacy, and its prospects for stopping future terrorist attacks.

The measure also prohibited the Pentagon from implementing the TIA in the United States until Congress passed new legislation specifically

See **TIA SYSTEM** Page 2

NEWS BRIEFS

Vanity Fair editor says he's a libertarian

Graydon Carter, the flamboyant editor of *Vanity Fair* magazine, says he's a libertarian — albeit an unorthodox one who doesn't mind paying taxes and likes big government "in some areas."

Carter, 53, made the comments in a January 10 article in the *Financial Times*.

The Canadian-born editor, who recently branched out to produce the film, *The Kid Stays in the Picture*, acknowledged that his political philosophy is somewhat contradictory.

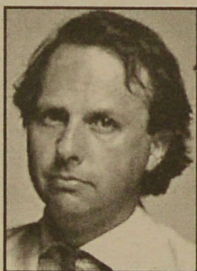
"I'm a libertarian," he said. "I don't vote. I find both parties to be appalling and OK at the same time. I've never met a politician I've actually liked. I think they are all charlatans; they think they can tell you how to live your life better than you can. They're bossy."

On the other hand, said Carter, "I like freedom, the environment, big government in some areas, small government in some areas. Good education. I don't mind paying my taxes."

A 1978 immigrant to the United States, Carter previously worked for *Time* magazine, the *New York Observer*, and the satirical *Spy*.

As editor of *Vanity Fair*, he is "probably the biggest media player in America," according to the U.K.'s *Guardian* newspaper.

Vanity Fair, which covers Hollywood, politics, fashion, and culture, is "perhaps the pre-eminent magazine commenting on the American scene today," according to *Magazines of America*. It has an average monthly circulation of 1.1 million.



■ **Graydon Carter:** Bossy politicians.

Bill Masters plans new anti-Drug War book

Libertarian Sheriff Bill Masters has announced that he is editing a new book critical of the War on Drugs, due out in 2003.

The as-yet untitled book, which will feature an introduction by former Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura, will include essays from Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), Judge John Kane, retired Sheriff Richard Mack, David Kopel, and others.

Masters, the sheriff of San Miguel County, Colorado, said he decided to edit the book because he wanted to expand on the scope of his first book, *Drug War Addiction: Notes from the Front Lines of America's #1 Policy Disaster* (2001).

"Since my last book, I realized our resources have been used more against our own public in the war on drugs than against the terrorists who are out to destroy our nation," he said.

"In addition to taking on new issues, I want to bring together the perspectives of others from law enforcement, public service, and public policy to figure out how we might cure our nation's addiction to the drug war. It's time to get back to the real business of preserving the peace and protecting our neighborhoods."

Masters, who has served as San Miguel County sheriff since 1980, won re-election without opposition in 2002. He is Colorado's senior-ranking sheriff and the nation's first LP sheriff. He also serves on the advisory board for Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP).

Ladies of Liberty calendar returns in 2004

Rachel Mills, the LP candidate who created the 2002 Ladies of Liberty calendar, is planning a new edition for 2004. But this time she's giving equal time to men — and pets.

In January, Mills announced that she was accepting applications for the 2004 Ladies of Liberty calendar, a 2004 Sons of Liberty calendar, and even a 2004 Party Animals calendar.

The calendars will be based on the popular 2002 calendar, which featured photographs of Libertarian women posing in skimpy attire in the 1940's pin-up style of Alberto Vargas.

That project generated national attention for Mills and her campaign for North Carolina House (District 31), including appearances on CNN's *Crossfire*, MSNBC, and the *O'Reilly Factor* on the Fox News Channel.

Mills, 27, said she wants the 2004 calendars to be a fundraising tool for all LP candidates — both in and out of North Carolina.

"Proceeds will go to Libertarian causes, including campaigns and local party affiliates," she said. "They will be available to any Libertarian running for office to sell to finance their campaign efforts. I am hoping these calendars will be a useful tool to all candidates."

To apply to appear in the calendars, Libertarians should submit a photograph, a brief essay explaining why they should be selected, and a \$5 processing fee, said Mills. Deadline for entries is March 5, 2003.

For more information, visit: www.rachelmills.com/calendar.html.



■ **Rachel Mills:** Party Animals

Libertarian Party applauds U.S. Senate measure that halts TIA system funding

Continued from Page 1
authorizing its use.

However, the measure contained one loophole: It said TIA research could continue if President George W. Bush certified to Congress that such a report could not be provided, or that any research delays "would endanger the national security of the United States."

Nonetheless, the vote indicated that the government is reacting to the anti-TIA lobbying by Libertarians and other civil-liberty activists, said Neale.

"The public's input has changed some minds on Capitol Hill," he said.

The TIA program, which has a \$137 million budget in 2003, will create a massive database that the federal government will use to try to "detect patterns" of terrorist activity.

When completed, it will feature a database that includes the telephone, bank, and medical records of every American, as well as airline ticket information, educational records, gun purchases, drivers' licenses, ATM transactions, rental car contracts, arrests, flying lessons, phone calls, and e-mails.

Pentagon spokespeople said the database will allow them to spot "suspicious" activity — such as a person who purchases explosives and then buys a one-way airline ticket — that might indicate a terrorist plot.

Police stakeout

It was that potential of ubiquitous surveillance that prompted Neale to call the TIA "the electronic equivalent of ordering a 24-hour police stakeout on every American, even though they're not suspected of doing anything wrong."

Eventually, the TIA database is scheduled to be connected to a system of biometric identification, such as face recognition technology or digital fingerprinting. The project is being developed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and is being directed by former Navy Rear Adm. John Poindexter.

In November 2002, the Libertarian Party joined an emergency coalition of more than 30 organizations to try to scuttle the project.



ONLINE PETITIONS

There are at least two online petitions that Libertarians can sign to show opposition to the TIA:

■ www.thepetitionsite.com (click on "Politics & Govt - USA," then "Stop Big Brother - shut down Total Information Awareness").

■ www.PetitionOnline.com/privacy/petition.html.

The coalition — which included the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the Free Congress Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Eagle Forum, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, and others — sent a letter to then-Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, urging them to support an amendment to the Homeland Security Act that would have halted the program.

But the Senate rejected the amendment, and President Bush signed the bill into law on November 25.

Senator Wyden said he introduced his amendment to block the TIA because "as originally proposed, the Total Information Awareness program is the most far-reaching government surveillance plan in history."

As an amendment to a spending bill, the anti-TIA provision will now go to a House/Senate conference

committee. If it survives the committee, it would go back to the House and Senate for another vote.

Two weeks after the Senate vote, the Pentagon named two boards to oversee the TIA program, to ensure that it "develops and disseminates its products to track terrorists in a manner consistent with U.S. Constitutional law, U.S. statutory law, and American values related to privacy."

The oversight boards, announced February 7, would consist of an internal panel and an outside board of specialists.

The Pentagon said it was working with the Senate/House conference committee, and said it expected to come to a "compromise that is acceptable."

Despite the promised oversight panels, Libertarians need to remain vigilant about the Total Information Awareness system, said Neale — and should continue to pressure politicians to permanently end it.

Step up pressure

"Now that politicians have been put on the defensive over this un-American spy scheme, it's time to step up the pressure and bury it once and for all," he said.

Libertarians should call their U.S. House Representatives and U.S. Senators, and ask them to support any bill or amendment that would block the TIA program, said Neale.

To contact Congress, call the U.S. House switchboard toll-free: (888) 449-3511. For e-mail or mailing information, visit: www.congress.org.

Libertarian Party News (ISSN 8755-139X) is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party® of the United States. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published in this newspaper do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated.

NATIONAL CHAIR:

Geoffrey J. Neale
12903 Grubstake Gulch
Austin, TX 78738
E-mail: chair@LP.org



LP NEWS EDITOR:
Bill Winter

LP NEWS PUBLISHER:
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

EDITOR EMERITUS:
Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

SEND NEWS, LETTERS, ESSAYS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR ADVERTISING:
Bill Winter

1640 Worcester Road, #330-D
Framingham, MA 01702
Phone: (508) 820-7340
E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
Libertarian Party

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037
Or call: (202) 333-0008 x 223

Libertarians rally against war with Iraq

LP members in at least five states participated in protests against a U.S.-led war with Iraq — hoping to show that Libertarians oppose an interventionist foreign policy.

LP members in California, Oregon, the District of Columbia, Nevada, and Illinois joined anti-war protests in January and February, according to reports from around the country.

The activity by Libertarians allowed other anti-war demonstrators — many of them leftists — to hear the “libertarian spin on foreign policy; [that] asking government to do something can have all kinds of unintended consequences, mostly bad,” said Nevada LP activist Bob Tregilus.

Highlights of Libertarian anti-war activities included:

■ **Washington, DC:** Libertarians took part in a major anti-war march on January 18.

About a dozen Libertarians carried signs and chanted slogans as they marched with more than 100,000 demonstrators from the National Mall to the Navy Yards in Southeast Washington, DC.

“We can’t let the liberals and lefties be the only ones getting the message out,” said Carol Moore, who coordinated the Libertarian effort with Aaron Biterman.

The goal of the march was to show opposition to “[President George W.] Bush’s criminal war that seeks to conquer the oil, land and resources of the Middle East,” according to the group that organized the rally, A.N.S.W.E.R. [Act Now to Stop War & End Racism].

Speakers at the march included Rev. Al Sharpton (National Action



■ Carrying “Libertarians for Peace” signs, LP members from several states attended a massive anti-war march in Washington, DC on January 18. The Libertarian delegation is shown posing in front of the Capitol Building before marching to the Navy Yards in Southeast Washington, DC.

Network), Jessica Lange (actress), Ron Kovic (author, *Born on the Fourth of July*), Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Free Palestine Alliance, the New York Youth Bloc, and the Partnership for Civil Justice.

The march included “lots of peaceniks who’d be open to libertarian ideas if anyone ever told them they exist,” said Moore.

■ **Nevada:** Libertarians joined more than 500 other protesters at an anti-war demonstration in Reno on January 18.

The rally, sponsored by the Reno

Anti-War Coalition, was held at the Manzanita Bowl at the University of Nevada.

The purpose of the demonstration was to show opposition to an American invasion of Iraq, said Nevada LP State Chair Brendan Trainor.

100 countries

“I got the LP message out in a four minute speech,” he said — pointing out the fact that the U.S. has troops stationed in about 100 countries.

“We have troops in Iceland. Are we protecting them from Greenland?”

he noted. “The military shouldn’t protect foreign investments.”

If some Americans want to topple Saddam Hussein, they should volunteer to fight the Iraqi dictator, as individuals did with the Lincoln Brigade to fight fascism in Spain from 1936-1939.

Protesters at the rally carried signs that said, “Americans don’t shoot first,” “Peace is patriotic” and “War doesn’t decide who’s right, only who’s left.”

Also in Nevada, Tregilus built a website for the Reno AntiWar Coali-

tion that has become the “official site for the movement here in Northern Nevada.”

“Libertarians across the nation seem to be complaining that peace rallies preached a lefty liberal socialist message; I agree,” he said. “Only if we get involved will we get our message heard.”

In addition, Nevada Libertarians participated in a demonstration in Elko at the County Courthouse.

■ **Oregon:** Multnomah County LP members attended a rally in Portland on January 18, reported county chair Michael Wilson.

■ **California:** Libertarians participated in a demonstration in Stanford on January 16, said Libertarian National Committee member Joe Dehn.

“We distributed 200 flyers to demonstrators and onlookers,” he said. “The point is not really to win an argument with these people, but rather to give them an opportunity to make contact with libertarian antiwar groups, if they might be so inclined.”

■ **California:** About a dozen Region 67 Libertarians attended a demonstration in downtown Los Angeles on January 11, reported Bryan J. Lackey.

Since most of the marchers were liberals, “We stressed that [Libertarians] were anti-war too, but that we had a different anti-war perspective — not only is the war immoral, but under the Constitution it is illegal,” he said. “We also pointed out that wars are almost always used to justify massive destruction of freedom.”

Libertarians handed out more than 2,500 flyers and pamphlets, said Lackey.

See **ANTI-WAR** Page 7

California LP officeholder survives union-led recall

Libertarian officeholder in California has survived a recall effort.

Salinas resident Mark Dierolf will remain a member of the Hartnell College Board of Trustees because leaders of a recall effort failed to file the required paperwork to oust him.

On January 6, Monterey County assistant registrar of voters Junel Davidsen belatedly announced that recall supporters had missed a November 18 deadline to show proof that a formal announcement of the recall effort had been published in a local newspaper.

Public relations ploy

In response, Dierolf charged that the failed recall effort was a “hoax” — a public relations ploy designed to help defeat an anti-tax measure he had sponsored in 2002.

“I was targeted] because I support low taxes and responsible spend-

ing,” he said.

Dierolf, 39, had spearheaded Measure O, an initiative that would have phased out Salinas’s 6% tax on gas, electricity, cable, and water over a three-year period. It would have saved taxpayers about \$8 million.

After Measure O qualified for the ballot, Local 817 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) announced it would try to recall Dierolf, charging that he had “used his public office to pursue a personal agenda to enhance his own political career at great harm to the people he is sworn to represent.”

The SEIU opposed Measure O, said Dierolf, because had it passed, some local government services would probably have been privatized, costing union members their jobs.

Although the tax repeal represented only 12% of the Salinas city government’s \$69 million budget, city officials said the passage of Measure



■ **Mark Dierolf:** “I was targeted] because I support low taxes and responsible spending.”

O would force them to lay off police, paramedics, and school crossing guards, and close public libraries, and the city-run swimming pool.

The initiative was defeated 65% to 35% on November 5, 2002.

Dierolf is serving his third term on the Hartnell College Board of Trustees. He was first elected in 1993.

Dierolf also serves as the Chair of the Monterey County LP.

New York ‘Guns for Tots’ effort attracts attention

Tongues firmly in cheeks, the Manhattan Libertarian Party organized a “Guns for Tots” drive to protest a new city gun-control bill. Toy guns, that is.

On February 6, Manhattan LP members distributed toy guns — including water pistols and cap guns — at P.S. 72 in Harlem.

The giveaway was designed to draw attention to a bill that would make it illegal to sell or possess any toy gun in New York City, said Manhattan LP spokesman Jim Lesczynski.

City Hall spoilsports

“Playing with a water pistol is one of the most cherished rites of childhood,” he said. “We want to give that experience to New York’s children before the spoilsports in City Hall take it away permanently.”

The Guns for Tots drive got underway on January 22, when the Manhattan LP publicly announced

“I DON’T WANT
the [New York City]
government telling
my child what
kind of toys she
can play with.”
—Jim Lesczynski

the “philanthropic” campaign.

The campaign was a response to a bill (Int. 0298), sponsored by city council members David Weprin (D-Queens) and Albert Vann (D-Brooklyn) that would prohibit the sale or possession of any toy gun.

Currently, it is legal in New York
See **GUNS FOR TOTS** Page 15

POLITICAL NEWS

National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin resigns

Libertarian Party Treasurer Deryl Martin has resigned, citing the "all-consuming" nature of the job and a desire to spend more time with his family.

Martin announced his resignation on January 29, effective immediately. He had assumed the treasurer's position in April 2001, and been re-elected for a two-year term in 2002.

However, the time required by his current job and "the amount of time it has taken to steer the party through its current financial woes has been an all-consuming affair," said Martin. "I could not fulfill all the duties that fell to me."

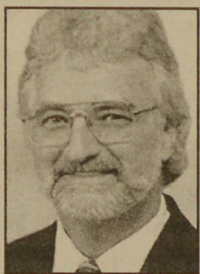
Martin is taking a one-year sabbatical from teaching to work with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to reduce its debt.

"I could not have anticipated how much time away from family [the TVA position] would take," he said. "Except for a three-month period in 1998, I have been an officer in the party at some level for over a decade and that's enough."

LP National Chair Geoffrey Neale said he regretted Martin's decision. "I will sorely miss his great efforts, diligence, and most of all, his counsel," he said. "He's a great guy."

The Libertarian National Committee has approved Bill Redpath as acting treasurer, said Neale. A Virginia resident, Redpath had previously served on the Libertarian National Committee (1989-1993), and is a certified public accountant.

The LNC will select a permanent replacement for Martin at its next meeting on March 22 and 23, or via mail ballot, said Neale.



■ **Deryl Martin:**
Too much time.

DC Libertarian named 'Hero of the Week'

Washington, DC Libertarian Carol Moore has been named the Hero of the Week for being the "perfect peace activist."

"When it comes to opposition to state violence, Moore must be ranked among the most consistent voices against the U.S. government's use of aggressive measures, both internationally and domestically," reported PressAction.com, which bestowed the honor.

Moore was honored on January 17 for "protesting against U.S. military adventures abroad, advocating nonviolent public action against state terror" and for "her actions for peace and freedom."

"Moore recognized a long time ago the destructive nature of Washington's war addiction, but she refuses to relinquish hope that the government will end its bullying ways," wrote PressAction.com.

For example, Moore participated in the January 18 Washington, DC demonstration against the looming war with Iraq. At the rally, the LP activist sold buttons "promoting love, peace, and liberty."

"It's fun to commit verboten capitalist acts in the midst of the anti-capitalists leading the antiwar movement!" she said.

Moore is the author of *The Return of Street Fighting Man: The Pathology of the New Progressive Violence*, an e-book that challenges the street violence that has overshadowed anti-WTO protests.

A co-founder of Libertarians For Peace, Moore has also criticized the Libertarian Party and "less committed or aware libertarians" for not being "vocal enough on the non-intervention and peace issues."

Moore, a legal secretary, served as Chair of the District of Columbia LP from 1999-2001. She also works on the Committee for Waco Justice.

The Arlington, Virginia-based Press Action publishes online investigative news and commentary "from a libertarian point of view."

San Jose Libertarian is new rent board chair

Libertarian Scott Lieberman has been elected Chair of the San Jose (California) Advisory Commission on Rents. Lieberman was elected by his fellow commissioners on January 16 and will serve until December 2003.

Although he is opposed to rent control, Lieberman said he thinks he was elected because he was "polite to city staffers and my fellow commissioners, even when I felt they were not acting in the best interests of the city's landlords and tenants."

As chairman, Lieberman said he hopes to schedule a debate between a pro-rent-control spokesman and an anti-rent-control expert at the commission's annual retreat in March.

The Advisory Commission on Rents advises the San Jose city council on the Rental Rights and Referrals Program, which oversees landlord-tenant disputes related to the city's rent control ordinance.

In San Jose, landlords are allowed by law to raise rent by only 8% per year — or 21% every two years — for apartments built before 1979. Apartments built after 1979 are not subject to rent control.

Lieberman, a member of the commission since 2000, is also an Alternate Representative (Region 2) on the Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Professionally, he is a doctor.

Suit against airline ID regulation survives first courtroom challenge

LP member John Gilmore can move forward with his lawsuit challenging a federal regulation that requires Americans to show ID before flying, now that a federal judge refused a government motion to dismiss it.

On January 17, U.S. District Court Judge Susan Illston agreed to hear the lawsuit, which Gilmore had filed against Attorney General John Ashcroft, Southwest Airlines, and United Airlines.

"These aren't made-up issues," said Gilmore about his case. "We free citizens have not only a Constitutional right to travel throughout the U.S. without government-imposed restrictions, but also a Constitutional right to refuse to identify ourselves to government agents unless there is probable cause to suspect us of a crime."

At a preliminary hearing in San Francisco, Gilmore's attorney, William Simpich, argued that requiring individuals to show identification or be frisked by airport security violates the Fourth Amendment's protections against unreasonable searches.

It also creates a de facto "internal passport" that allows federal authorities to track Americans' domestic travel, and prevents individuals from traveling freely, he said.

In addition, Gilmore charged that



■ **John Gilmore:** "We free citizens have a Constitutional right to travel [in] the U.S. without government-imposed restrictions."

the ID requirement is the result of an unpublished, "secret" directive from the Transportation Security Administration [TSA].

"If there's a law that requires the public to show an ID, we ought to know about it," he said. "We citizens have a right to know what the laws are that affect the general public."

Joseph Lobue, an attorney for the Justice Department, disputed

Gilmore's claims, and said the ID rule is necessary to protect passengers and airlines from the threat of terrorism.

"The only way airlines can compare passenger lists with terrorists is by asking for an ID," he said.

Lobue also said the regulations didn't affect Gilmore's right to travel, since he could have taken another form of transportation.

"The right to travel does not necessarily include the most convenient way to travel, if you won't show an ID," he said.

And searching airline passengers for weapons did not violate the Fourth Amendment, argued Lobue, because such a search was not "unreasonable."

Gilmore, the co-founder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), said he was inspired to file the lawsuit because of an incident on July 4, 2002, when he was prevented from boarding a flight from Oakland to Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

Gilmore was stopped by Southwest Airlines employees who demanded to see his identification. Gilmore declined to do so, saying, "It's Independence Day. It's a good time to exercise some freedom."

He was then given conflicting information about whether the ID

See **AIRLINE ID** Page 5

Montrose, Colorado LP collects petitions to repeal city's \$2.5 million grocery tax

The Western Slope LP has launched a petition drive to repeal a tax on groceries in Montrose, Colorado — saying the tax is a hardship for poor families.

Libertarians need about 450 signatures to bring a measure before the city council, which can act on the proposal or call a special election to allow voters to decide.

If the grocery tax is repealed, Montrose residents would save about \$2.5 million a year.

Limited incomes

"We're in tough economic times here in Montrose, and the city needs to realize that, and do what's right for the elderly and people on limited incomes," said local Libertarian Tim Jacobs.

The 3% tax applies to all food purchased for consumption at home, and generates about 24% of the city's sales tax revenues.

Montrose politicians said if the tax is repealed, the city will have to "cut some services" — perhaps the police department, lunches for the elderly, the Montrose Pavilion community center, or grants to local non-profit groups.

**"THE CITY OF
Montrose claims it
needs the money,
but citizens on fixed
and low incomes need
the money more."**

—Tim Jacobs

Libertarians dismissed that claim. "Our position is that there are several ways to save money instead of spending it all of the time," said Western Slope LP Chairwoman Jo-Jo Ping. "There are certain places in the budget where they are overspending."

For example, the city could restrict the number of city-owned vehicles, and postpone or cancel \$52 million worth of expansions and new building projects, she said.

Jacobs said the harmful impact of the grocery tax on the poor and fixed-income residents outweighed the city's need for money.

"The city of Montrose claims it needs the money, but Libertarians say citizens on fixed and low incomes need the money more," he said. "The smaller the income, the bigger percentage of it goes towards groceries. In a \$7-an-hour town, that tax is a substantial part of poor people's incomes."

A food tax is an especially onerous tax, agreed Ping, since it hits the poor hardest.

"[A] sales tax on food is the most regressive of all taxes; those least able to pay must pay a higher proportion of their limited incomes," she said. "Taxing food puts the poor and elderly at a disadvantage. [Repealing the tax would be] a gift which will keep giving."

180 days

Libertarians have 180 days from the date they started the petition drive to collect signatures — giving them a mid-April deadline.

However, they hope to collect all the required signatures by the end of February, said Ping. Then, the city clerk will check the signatures to ensure that only city residents signed the petition.

Airline ID lawsuit gets go-ahead from district court

Continued from Page 4

requirement was a government regulation or an airline policy, he said.

"I felt like I was a rat in a maze," he said. "I was just being harassed unless I followed their orders, which I wouldn't do."

Gilmore went to the San Francisco airport, where he tried to buy a ticket from United Airlines. He was again informed that he could not fly without showing identification unless he agreed to undergo "an intense search of [his] person and bags."

As intrusive

"I wasn't about to let the airport workers sift through my private property," he said. "That would have been at least as intrusive as requiring me to show my ID."

After Gilmore refused, he was informed by a security agent that the airport was following directives from the Transportation Security Administration. However, he was told, the directives were transmitted orally, and were not available in writing.

The TSA was created after September 11 to regulate airport security and to implement the provisions of the Aviation and Transportation Security

Act. That bill was signed by President Bush in November 2001.

Gilmore, who had arrived in the courtroom wearing a button on his lapel with the words "suspected terrorist" over the image of an airplane, has argued that checking ID cards is not an effective way to deter terrorism.

"If we knew who the terrorists were, we could just arrest them all,

**"CHECKING IDs IS
an exercise in futility
that provides a false
sense of security."**

—John Gilmore

rather than stopping them when they try to fly," he said. "The people who hijacked the planes on 9/11 also showed their IDs. Professional terrorists have great access to fake IDs.

"There are many ways to deter terrorism, but checking IDs is not one of them. It is an exercise in futility that provides a false sense of security."

Gilmore acknowledged that some

people might say his lawsuit demonstrates an obsessive concern about civil liberties, given the threat posed by terrorists.

But, he said, "no security threat is as important as the threat to American society caused by the erosion [of Constitutional rights]."

For information about the lawsuit — *Gilmore v. Ashcroft* — visit: <http://cryptome.org/freetotravel.htm>.

Vermont LP raps Brady gun report

Vermont Libertarians have blasted the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (BCPGV) for giving Vermont a "D-" for its gun laws — even though the state has one of the lowest rates of gun deaths in the country.

"Vermonters should feel insulted by [this] attempt to spread misinformation about gun-related deaths in order to generate support for greater gun control laws in our state," said State Chair Brendan Kinney.

In January, the BCPGV, a notorious anti-Second Amendment group, issued a "Report Card" that graded efforts to shield children from guns.

Vermont received a low grade because it lacked laws that "protect children" from gun violence, such as gun-lock laws and restrictive concealed-carry laws, said the BCPGV.

"The report implies that Vermonters don't care about protecting children, and makes it appear as if there is an epidemic of gun-related deaths among children," said Kinney. "But the facts tell a different story."

In fact, he noted, there were only 63 gun-related deaths in Vermont in 1998 — of which 57 were suicide, four were homicides, and two were unintentional. None of the dead were children under 14.

"Vermont has some of the least restrictive gun laws in the country, yet we have a very good record when it comes to gun-related deaths and injury," said Kinney. "Why doesn't the Brady Campaign conduct a study based on those facts?"

Dear Freethinker

You've probably heard people refer to you as "a loner" or "peculiar" just because you spend your free time as you choose—and because you choose to spend your free time with only the few persons you really like.

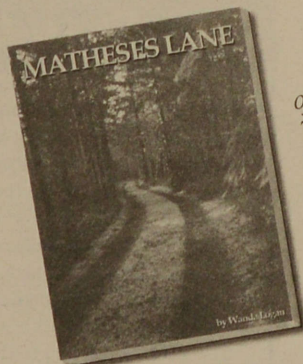
Maybe people have even called you "odd" or "weird" or "crazy" just because you find solitude and your own thoughts to be the best of all companions.

Possibly, during a mellow moment of concern for your fellow man, you have considered the unthinkable: making a public apology for your unique lifestyle.

Then, you'll undoubtedly welcome a unique book:

MATHESES LANE

penned by Wanda Logan



offered by
The Christopher
Publishing House
and bookstores
everywhere



by Wanda Logan

Matheses Lane is a fictional work of satire.

It is both controversial and revolutionary. It exposes all so-called mental illness as nothing more than a delusive state of consciousness.

It associates the laws of genuine metaphysics with the teachings of original Christianity — the Doctrine which clarified a crucial point: "God gave man a sound mind," as explained by an Apostle.

Matheses Lane will not leave you where it found you.

TALKING POINTS

Fight terror (grow your own pot!) and the real truth about fat kids

■ Vitamin junkie

A third-grader at Pauline O'Rourke Elementary School in Mobile, Alabama, was suspended for five days for violating the Mobile County system's zero-tolerance policy for substance abuse. The boy's crime? He took a multivitamin with his lunch.

— JAMES TARANTO
OpinionJournal.com
January 31, 2003

■ Why are kids fat?

Every weekday at lunch, courtesy of the federal government, 27 million schoolchildren sit down to the nation's largest mass feeding. If we took a giant snapshot of their trays on a typical day, here's what the continent-wide photo would look like:

In Lynnwood, Washington, we would see kids eating sausage with waffle sticks and syrup. In Clovis, California, bacon cheeseburgers. In Bryan, Texas, cheeseburgers, chicken-fried steak, and pizza. In Hot Springs, Arkansas, country steak with creamed potatoes.

In Lafayette, Indiana, beef ravioli with cheesy broccoli. In Kingstree, South Carolina, sloppy joes with onion rings. In Gatesville, North Carolina, three-meat subs with Fritos.

Public schools serve more than 4 billion meals every year — and officials say all those lunches are contributing to the growing health crisis among kids.

At a time when weight-related illnesses in children are escalating, schools are serving kids the very foods that lead to obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

— BARRY YEOMAN
Mother Jones
January/February 2003

■ Jesus hates SUVs

"What would Jesus drive?" asks the Rev. Bill Ball, director of something called the Evangelical Environmental Network. "Jesus wants his followers to drive the least-polluting, most efficient vehicle that truly meets their needs."

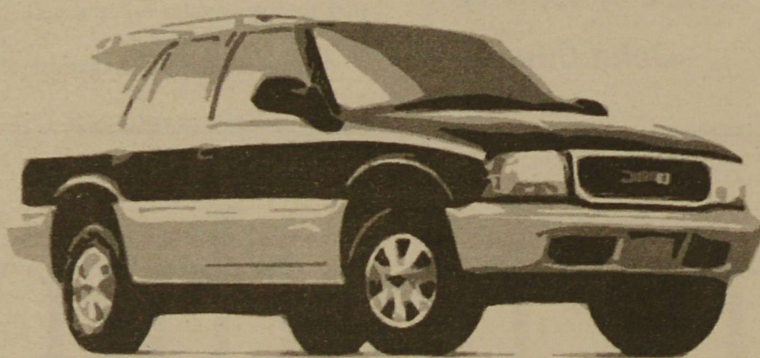
The media, which ate this guy up, report Ball plans to spend \$65,000 to convince Americans that the road to salvation lies in selling their SUVs.

Some rather obvious questions, of course, come to mind.

First, would Jesus rather have Ball spend \$65,000 to campaign against energy consumption or spend that money to feed the hungry or help the sick?

Second, how in the world does Ball know Jesus' opinion about automotive engineering? Is there a "Book of Ford" in the New Testament I somehow missed?

Third, because we know SUVs are



**How DOES THE
Reverend Bill Ball
know Jesus' opinion
about automotive
engineering? Is there
a 'Book of Ford' in
the New Testament
I somehow missed?**

safer to drive than the cars Ball would have us buy, would Jesus really want us to put our loved ones at risk to eke out a few more miles per gallon?

— JERRY TAYLOR
Environment & Climate News
February 2003

■ Grow your own!

Ludicrous commercials from the Office of National Drug Control Policy assert that anyone who uses drugs is helping support terrorism.

[However], Americans who get locked up for growing marijuana plants in their basements have not given any aid or comfort to international terrorists. Yet somehow, I doubt that we'll see an ad campaign with the slogan, "Fight terrorism — grow your own pot!"

— CATHY YOUNG
The Boston Globe
January 13, 2002

■ Pointless keg law

If you buy more than four kegs of beer at one time in [Columbus] Ohio, you must submit a notarized affidavit telling liquor control agents the time and place of your party and allowing police to enter without a warrant to check IDs.

The ACLU challenged the law as unconstitutional — and pointless, since police have never acted on the more than 300 affidavits filed since the statute went into effect.

A federal judge agreed, pointing

out that the law doesn't prevent anyone with half a brain from buying four kegs of beer multiple times.

— PLAYBOY, February 2003

■ To BB or not to BB

The Baltimore City Council has made it illegal to sell a BB gun to anyone under 18. Juvenile homicides were up 50% in 2002 from the previous year [but] none of those people was killed with a BB gun.

— BY CHARLES OLIVER, Reason.com

■ Who is hungry?

Liberal advocacy groups, stuck in a gruesome nostalgia for a bygone era of deprivation, still talk of hunger as if it stalks every poor household in the country. They maintain that there are 13.6 million children hungry or at risk of hunger in America — one of the great bogus statistics of our age.

As poverty expert Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation explains, malnutrition, understood as a significant dietary deficiency, essentially doesn't exist in America except in small pockets of the population with other problems, e.g. drug addicts or anorexics.

Hunger, defined as going without a meal at least once in the past month, is also extremely rare, according to the Department of Agriculture, affecting roughly one-half of 1 percent of American children.

— RICH LOWRY
TownHall.com
January 21, 2003

■ Draft folly

Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) wants to draft young people into the coming conflict [with Iraq] to ensure that Americans "shoulder the burden of the war equally." Alas, conscription wouldn't do that. It would, however, make a less effective military.

Restarting conscription is bizarre on its face. America currently deploys the most powerful and effective military on earth. The all-volunteer force combines extraordinary hi-tech weapons with extraordinary soldiers — professionals who are substantially brighter and better educated than their draft-era counterparts.

[With a draft], discipline, performance and readiness would all suffer if today's servicemen were just counting the days until their involuntary terms ended.

The most obvious reason to maintain the all-volunteer force is practical: It's the best way to raise the finest military. But the most important reason to reject a draft is principle.

What sets America apart from totalitarian hellholes like Iraq is its dedication to individual liberty. Conscription sacrifices the very value that we are supposed to be defending.

— DOUG BANDOW
The Bangkok Post
January 16, 2003

■ Sounds fair

Following news that the Pentagon had hired former Reagan administration official John Poindexter to oversee the creation of software that could track nearly all consumer transactions in the country, an *SF Weekly* (San Francisco) columnist released Poindexter's home phone number, and Internet activists set up a Website for tracking all of Poindexter's personal transactions.

— CHUCK SHEPARD
News of the Weird
January 5, 2003

■ Healthy honesty

[It's time for] an honest and open discussion of how existing state and federal regulations, price controls, entitlement programs, and benefit mandates are responsible for the crisis in our health care system.

Over the past 40 years, 1,500 unfunded insurance mandates zipped through state legislatures and Congress because politicians saw them as an easy way to garner constituents' votes without having to raise state taxes or spend more on public health issues. Now, we're paying the price.

Government mandates require health insurance benefits to include everything from pastoral counseling to sperm-bank deposits. When combined with procedural mandates like "community rating" (which prevents insurers from basing premiums on risk factors like lifestyle choices) and "guaranteed issue" (which allows and encourages people to wait until they get sick before they buy health insurance), the bureaucratic chefs have created a toxic soup of regulations that is not-so-slowly and surely in-

flating the cost of private health insurance.

The average annual health insurance premium for an individual policyholder in California, which mandates neither community rating nor guaranteed issue, is \$1,538.

The average premium in highly regulated New York, which imposes both, is more than twice as much at \$3,589.

Millions of Americans can't afford the cost of insurance because of the mandates imposed by their representatives in government.

— CONRAD F. MEIER
Health Care News
January 2003

■ Doping children

The number of young children hooked on powerful narcotics has skyrocketed over the past 15 years, but the Drug Enforcement Agency won't be doing anything about it — because the drugs in question are being peddled by pediatricians.

In the most comprehensive study of its kind, a new report details how legal drug use among youths has more than tripled since 1987.

As shocking as it is to see that more than 6% of children are popping pills on a daily basis, the study merely confirms what has been apparent for years now. Parents of difficult children are lured into drug-giving their kids with the seductive promise of a quick fix.

Doctors and teachers [persuade] parents to ditch discipline in favor of the "modern" approach. The child may not learn how to modify his behavior, but he is zonked out enough that he is no longer a "problem."

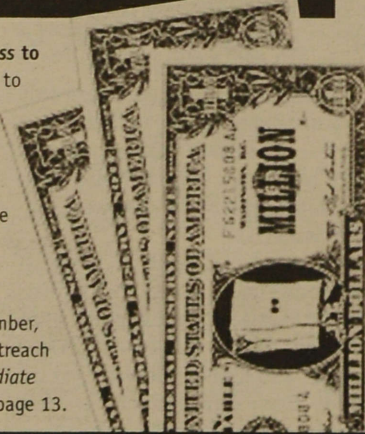
Children are being rammed through a one-size-fits-all pipeline by the educational establishment. Schools all over the country monitor drug use by students — not to keep it from getting out of hand, mind you, but to blow the whistle when the kids aren't doped up.

Teachers' unions continue to fight — sometimes successfully — to block children from attending school if they haven't taken their drugs. The trend has become so pervasive that lawmakers in Vermont last year introduced legislation to prevent schools from requiring kids to pop pills.

— JOEL MOWBRAY
TownHall.com
January 15, 2003

Have a Million-Dollar Tax Day Outreach!

Want to add some fun and success to your 2003 Tax Day rally? Want to generate more prospects? Want to make your rally more enjoyable? The "\$1 Million Bill" will do the trick! Printed in green ink, the front looks like a Federal Reserve \$1,000,000 note. The reverse explains that the federal government spends \$1 million every 3.5 seconds — and only the LP is trying to change that. There's a reply coupon, the LP phone number, and our website. It's an ideal Tax Day outreach tool! Million Bills are available for immediate shipment. **Cost: \$5 per 100.** See ad on page 13.



Oregon LP leads fight to kill \$725m tax boost

Continued from Page 1

The Libertarians made a simple — and apparently compelling — argument against the proposed tax increase.

"We've got a state government that is too big," said Tom Cox, the Oregon LP's 2002 gubernatorial candidate. "Voters [should] stand up and demand fiscal responsibility."

Joining the Oregon LP in the campaign against Measure 28 were the Taxpayer Association of Oregon and Citizens for a Sound Economy.

The Oregon Republican Party never took a formal stand on the measure.

A coalition of public-employee unions — including the Oregon School Employees Association and the Oregon AFL-CIO — campaigned for Measure 28, using radio ads, telephone calls, e-mails, fliers, and public meetings to build support for the tax hike.

Committed suicide

A number of newspapers editorialized in favor of the tax increase, and some even reported that two people had committed suicide when they received notice that their state-funded psychiatric and health benefits might be cut.

Measure 28 was also endorsed by outgoing Governor John Kitzhaber, who said it was "just common sense."

In all, the pro-Measure 28 groups spent \$490,000, while Libertarians and another anti-tax groups spent about \$30,000.

When Measure 28's defeat became clear, state and local government employees threatened "drastic" cuts in services.

For example, the Multnomah

"FOR THE FIRST time, the Oregon LP was recognized by the media as leading the campaign against a tax proposal."

—Richard Burke

County sheriff said he would release 114 prisoners because he couldn't afford to keep them locked up. Portland Public Schools said it would trim 24 days off its school year. The Oregon State Police said it would lay off 277 officers.

The state court system said it would go to a four-day work week, and stop processing misdemeanor crimes like shoplifting. And the state legislature said it would eliminate medical benefits for 8,000 elderly and disabled people.

But Burke said such threats were designed to chastise voters for rejecting the tax increase.

Punish people

"If they do this, it is only to punish the people for not voting for taxes," he said. "These people are using scare tactics to extort money. We don't think the cuts will happen the way [they've] been threatened."

During its "No on Measure 28" campaign, the state LP had said the state government could avert the so-called crisis by going on a "fiscal diet," and could cut the budget by

reforming the state workers' pension system, laying off 2,000 middle-level bureaucrats, and eliminating the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

The victory dramatically increased the political clout of Oregon Libertarians, said Burke.

"The Libertarian Party has now made a quantum leap in Oregon," he said. "For the first time, the Oregon LP was recognized by the statewide media as leading the opposition campaign against a statewide tax proposal."

"We are now consulted by legislators from both major parties, the media and the governor's office on state budgetary matters. We needed a win to establish the Libertarian Party as a politically relevant player and secure a seat at the table of public discourse."

Make decisions

The defeat of Measure 28 is also "an opportunity for the legislature to finally make the budget decisions they should have made years ago," said Burke.

The *Salem Statesman Journal* had said if Measure 28 passed, it would have sent "political ripples across the nation" — and possibly inspired politicians in other states to raise taxes, too.

The newspaper quoted initiative expert Dane Waters, who said, "I really think this will be a trendsetter. If the voters do adopt this in Oregon, I think that will embolden lawmakers in other states."

But now, with the defeat of Measure 28, the message has been sent that Oregon and other states "can reverse the course of government growth," said Burke.

How the Oregon LP did it

Editor's note: Below, Oregon LP Executive Director Richard P. Burke outlines the tactics used by state Libertarians to defeat a proposed \$725 million income tax increase. He says: "You might want to use these same tactics the next time voters in your state face a tax proposal."



1. FIND A "POLITICALLY RELEVANT" MESSAGE.

Philosophical campaign messages rarely move large blocks of voters. Campaigning on platforms like "Income Tax is Theft" may be emotionally satisfying, but are politically ineffective. Most people are concerned about how tax proposals will affect their day-to-day lives — that is where elections are won and lost. Answer the practical concerns of voters and you can win.

2. DEVELOP AN ALTERNATIVE TO TAXES.

Any tax opponent is obliged to provide alternatives which deal with the problems that would allegedly be "solved" by the tax proposal. Your alternatives should be aggressive, but politically plausible. In Oregon, we presented a series of alternate budgets and identified wasteful programs. Because the major parties are reluctant to offend campaign contributors who defend wasteful programs, Libertarians can stand out by identifying waste. And we can be specific about it.

3. DO YOUR HOMEWORK.

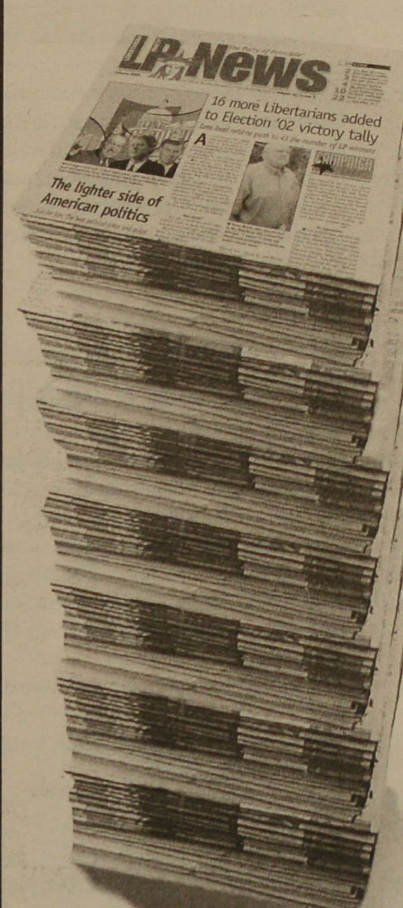
To make your anti-tax campaign credible, you must be able to defend your proposals and back up your claims. Get presentable and articulate people involved in your campaign who have a mastery of budget numbers. Such people must be accessible to the media and be prepared to answer questions (and deal with unexpected challenges) on the fly.

4. CHOOSE YOUR PLAYING FIELD.

Plan media campaign tours in areas you are likely to have a bigger impact. Initially, stay away from big cities where it is hard to get press. Small town newspapers, radio, and TV stations are often starved for news and will be more eager to meet with your people. Make appointments in advance, dress properly, and provide press kits. Creating a buzz in rural areas often attracts the attention of big city media outlets, letting you access big markets on the cheap. Launch your campaign with a press conference describing your campaign and its message.

5. CONCENTRATE YOUR RESOURCES.

Concentrate your resources on your strategy. Don't encourage people to "do their own thing." By concentrating your resources in support of a well-laid plan, you will project a clear and consistent message. You will also maximize your impact against the tax you are fighting. Cap your campaign with a victory party where you can recognize volunteers, solicit potential contributors, and be accessible to media covering the election. Good luck!



LP News

INBULK

Do you want extra copies of *LP News* to distribute at local coffeehouses, OPH booths, student centers, laundromats, or other locations? Or would you like to send *LP News* to local LP prospects or registered Libertarians? ★ After all, *LP News* is an ideal outreach tool: It's a one-stop source of "good news" about Libertarian activity and success around the USA. ★ If so, you can order future issues of *LP News* in bulk — in batches of 100 (\$25 per 100; price includes shipping). ★ To order, just call *LP News* Editor Bill Winter at (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. ★ You can put *LP News* to work for your state or local LP organization!

Libertarian anti-war rallies

Continued from Page 3

"Given the limited number of Libertarians we covered quite a lot of ground, passed out a huge amount of material, and raised people's awareness of us considerably," he said. "In those regards this was quite a success."

Lackey said he was "very pleasantly surprised" at the warm reception Libertarians received from the left-wing demonstrators.

"We still disagree on everything else of course, but we were able to come together on this issue and our presence was surprisingly well received," he said.

■ **California:** A "Libertarian contingent" participated in an anti-war march in Ventura on January 25, said California LP activist Joseph Miranda.

"A primary objective [was] to recruit people who would otherwise be recruited by the other movements which [were] present," he said. "We can show the LP is a real alternative."

■ **Illinois:** Libertarians were scheduled to join a rally in Chicago to protest the "looming war and to speak out against the Democrats' proposed draft," said LP activist John Duffy. [The protest, scheduled for February 15, took place after *LP News* went to press.]

AFFILIATE NEWS

LP affiliates knock tax-happy Republicans; blow whistle on 'phony' state budget crisis

■ COLORADO

Libertarians work to stop caucus legislation

A bill that would force minor parties to participate in caucuses and primaries would "steal people's choices" when it comes to candidates, the state LP has charged.

"This bill is aimed at the Libertarian Party," said State Chair **John K. Berntson**. "Republicans blame us for throwing the State Senate to the Democrats in 2000. Now they are in power, and want to stop any possibility that 2000 could happen again."

The bill, HB03-1142, filed by Bill Crane (R-Arveda, HD27), is before the Colorado Legislature. It would require minor parties to use the same caucus and primary system as the major parties to select candidates.

However, because minor parties have fewer registered voters, it would be difficult for them to turn out enough caucus participants to meet legal requirements. The result would be fewer third-party candidates on the ballot.

"This bill would force most minor party candidates off of the ballot," charged Berntson. "Republicans can't stand a little competition [so] they are trying to steal people's choices."

■ GEORGIA

LP hits GOP governor's proposed tax increases

The state LP has blasted Governor George "Sonny" Perdue for asking for almost \$500 million in higher taxes during his first week in office.

"It should surprise no one — but disappoint everyone — that Perdue has already started proposing tax increases instead of spending cuts," said LP State Chair **Helmut Forren**.

Perdue, the state's first Republican governor in 130 years, asked the General Assembly to raise the tax on cigarettes by 48¢ a pack, a six-pack of beer by 14¢, a bottle of wine by 15¢, and a bottle of liquor by 50¢. He also asked for a cut in property tax rebates by \$155 per homeowner.

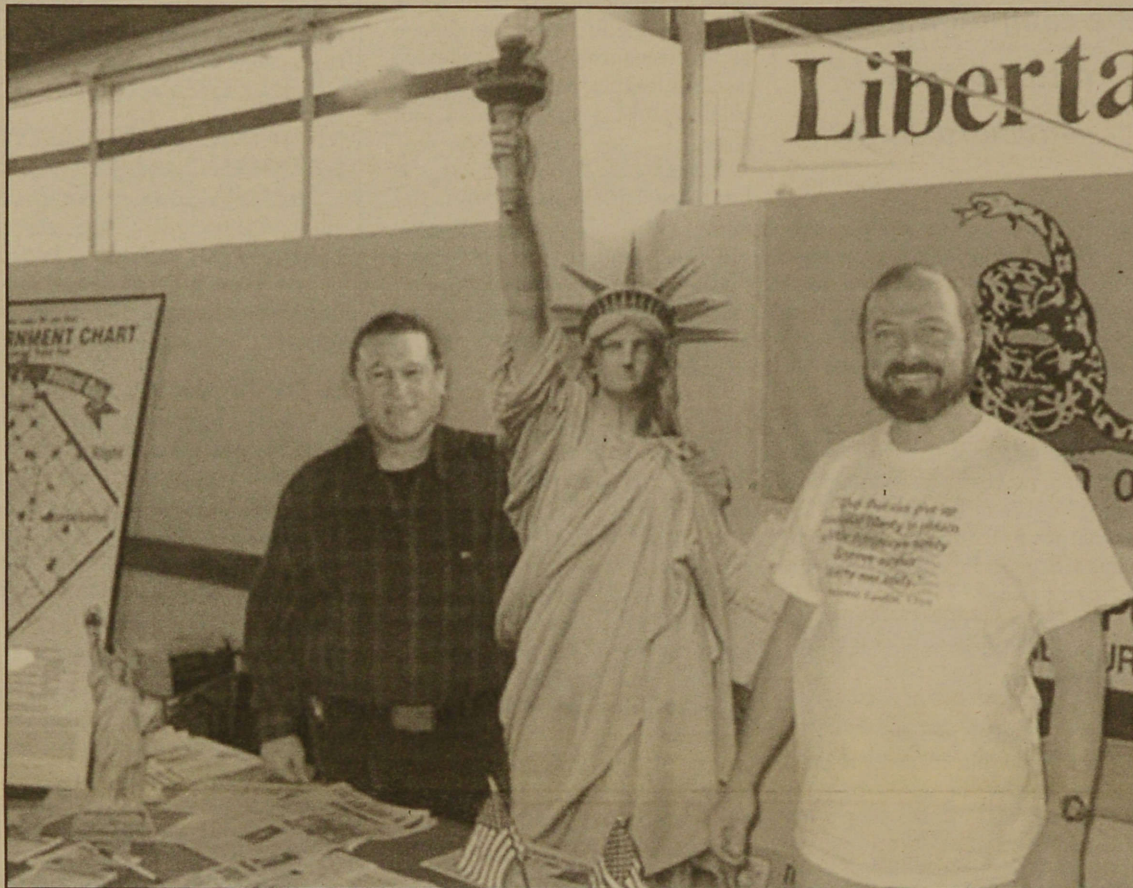
If approved, the tax increases will cost taxpayers about \$490 million over the next 18 months.

Noting that Perdue ran for office as a fiscal conservative, Forren said: "Voters know what they asked for: Smaller government. They should look now at what they got: A pitch for higher taxes."

■ IDAHO

State LP wins promises from secretary of state

State Libertarians have won a promise from the secretary of state's



Libertarians (and Lady Liberty) reach out at California gun show

■ California Libertarians John Ericson (left) and Terry Floyd flank the Statue of Liberty at an LP outreach booth at the T/S Gun Show on December 28 and 29, 2002.

The event, held at the Antioch Fairgrounds, was sponsored by the East Bay LP, and allowed "well over 100 people to meet a Libertarian for the very first time," said LPC Monthly editor Scott Wilson.

"Many of the people who stop have never heard of the Libertarians, let alone met one," he said.

"Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) puts a human face on the Libertarian Party. It graphically and simply explains how politics isn't just about Left and Right anymore. It's just a great way to build the party! And it's fun."

Ericson said the gun show was the second event at which he had volunteered for the Libertarian Party.

"At the Zucchini Festival, the crowd was all over the place [politically]," he said. "But at the gun show, the crowd seemed more like a bunch of Republicans who were really closet Libertarians."

office to oppose an effort to remove minor parties from the state's primary system.

Instead, the secretary of state will endorse retaining primaries for any party with a contested election for precinct committeeman, while eliminating primaries with only one candidate — regardless of party affiliation, said Idaho LP State Chair **Ted Dunlap**, who met with Secretary of State Ben Yursa and staff members on January 22.

"I was pleasantly surprised that they appreciated my opinions and suggestions, and that we got most of what we wanted," he said.

Dunlap had requested the meeting after hearing about proposed changes to Idaho election law.

During the wide-ranging discussion, the secretary of state's office also agreed to try to reform a law that regulates how parties can form county, legislative district, and state

central committees, said Dunlap.

"We came up with agreeable compromises that solved nearly all of the concerns," he said. "They seem very supportive of every party in this state."

■ ILLINOIS

State budget 'crisis' is a sham, says Jim Tobin

The so-called budget "crisis" in Illinois is actually a big sham — because state revenue is up by 11% over the past year.

So said **Jim Tobin**, the LP's 2002 candidate for lieutenant governor and president of the Illinois Taxpayer Education Foundation.

"The claim that tax revenues are down is ridiculous," said Tobin on January 23. "Revenue is not down, it's up and it's up significantly. As of December 31, 2002, total Illinois state revenue was up \$4.1 billion over what

it was the previous year."

That's on top of a 47% increase in spending over the past five years, he said.

However, state politicians say the state faces a \$1.4 billion to \$2.5 billion budget shortfall this year.

Nonsense, said Tobin: "There is no deficit right now. The only way there's going to be a deficit is if the governor and the legislature increase spending by five, six, \$7 billion. Lawmakers' addiction to taxpayer money is the real problem. We need fiscal restraint in the government."

■ ILLINOIS

Proposed tax will hurt seniors, says state LP

A proposed new statewide service tax will hurt senior citizens, the state Libertarian Party has charged.

"If this is how [Governor Rod Blagojevich] is starting out his ad-

ministration, Illinois taxpayers are in for a gloomy four years," said LP Executive Director **Jeff Trigg**. "[Blagojevich] needs to stick to his promise to cut the budget."

Under a new plan proposed in early January, the state may start taxing about 200 services — including health care, lawyer fees, CPA tax preparation work, and auto repairs.

But the new tax will "hurt the hardworking residents of Illinois, and will be especially hard on our fixed-income senior citizens," said Trigg. "This wasn't the type of change people were looking for when they voted for [Blagojevich]."

Instead of a new tax, "I'd like to see Springfield bureaucrats cut their pay by 20%, cut their staffs by 20%, and cut their pensions by 50% as a good start," said Trigg. "If [Blagojevich] wants to change business as usual, he should start with the legislators who spent us into this mess, not with families that are already scraping by."

■ ILLINOIS

It doesn't take millions to find state corruption

The Illinois government is corrupt — and it shouldn't take a new \$6 million agency to figure that out, say Libertarians.

Governor Rod Blagojevich "needs to use a little more common sense before wasting more money trying to reduce the 'corruption tax' Illinoisans are paying," said LP State Chair **Austin Hough**. "We'll be watching what the return is on this \$6 million investment."

In mid-January, the governor announced a new state agency that would provide ethics training for state employees, and root out corruption.

However, Libertarians say an agency isn't needed to find corruption, since the Chicago Tribune has already reported that state employees illegally worked to try to deny Libertarian candidates a place on the ballot in 1998 and 2002.

If the Illinois government has "employees who don't know the difference between working on campaigns and working for the taxpayers, maybe the best thing to do is to just get rid of those hapless employees," said Hough.

■ INDIANA

State LP helps squash new electioneering bill

The state LP has helped kill a bill that would have extended state law to prohibit electioneering within 100 feet of polling places.

On January 30, the Indiana House Committee on Elections and Apportionment voted, 7-3, to reject HB1550, sponsored by John Frenz (D-Vincennes).

Brad Klopfenstein, executive director of the Indiana LP, testified to the committee that the bill would hurt smaller parties.

"The ability of candidates to get before voters would be severely restricted, especially for smaller parties and candidates in smaller elections," he said. "Sometimes, the only

opportunity voters have to meet candidates is on Election Day."

In some locations, said Klopfenstein, LP candidates tripled their vote totals at polling places where they handed out literature and met voters. Klopfenstein was the only person to testify against the bill.

Currently, state law bans election activity — candidate signs, personal contact, and distributing campaign literature — within 50 feet of polling places.

■ INDIANA

LP targets newspapers with Writers' Bureau

The state LP has created an Indiana Writers' Bureau, which will produce regular op-ed columns designed to bring "Libertarian voices" to state residents.

"Each Monday, the Writers' Bureau will send newspapers a new column about issues affecting Hoosiers," said **Kenn Gividen**, who is coordinating the effort.

The program targets Indiana's 61 largest periodicals, including 47 daily newspapers, nine college papers, and five weeklies. Columns will also be posted on the Writers' Bureau website at: www.lpinwb.cjb.net.

The Bureau distributed its first column on January 6, and it was immediately picked up by the *Vincennes Sun-Commercial*, said Gividen.

The pool of Libertarian writers includes Andrew Horning (2002 candidate for Congress), Sheri Conover Sharlow (state LP communications coordinator), Kurt St. Angelo (Chair, Marion County LP), Kenn Gividen (Chair, Bartholomew County LP), and Mark Schreiber (state LP Vice Chair).

Columns will include such topics as the need for simpler laws and proposed reforms for the state's General Assembly.

■ NEW HAMPSHIRE

Libertarians work to improve ballot access

Granite State Libertarians have launched a campaign to reform New Hampshire's ballot access laws.

"This is our main legislative goal for the year," said **Rich Tomasso**, who is coordinating the effort.

Currently, to gain major party status, a party's gubernatorial or U.S. Senate candidate must win 4% of the vote.

A bill to ease that requirement is now being drafted by sympathetic legislators, said Tomasso, with a goal of making "it easier to get [major party status] back and to make it easier to get our candidates on the ballot," he said.

Once the bill is introduced, Libertarians "will testify at the hearings [and] talk to legislators," he said. "We've already had a meeting with the Secretary of State."

Tomasso said he gives the effort



Republican councilman from Costa Mesa joins Libertarian Party

■ **Costa Mesa City Councilman Allan Monsoor (left) signs an LP membership form while California State Chair Aaron Starr watches.**

Monsoor joined the Libertarian Party — while retaining his Republican registration — in San Juan Capistrano on December 29. He was attending a speech by 2002 LP Iowan gubernatorial candidate Clyde Cleveland, hosted by the Orange County LP at the Ciao Pasta Restaurant.

At the same event, California Natural Law Party gubernatorial candidate Iris Adam also signed up as a Libertarian. Starr said the two become LP members simply because he asked them to join.

"The way I sold these two was by telling each that they can start off as a supporter, not a member," he said. "When they're ready, they'll get a free upgrade to full member status by simply signing the [LP membership statement] and changing their voter registration."

"What's important is that they were asked to join. As a rule, people do not join unless you ask them to do so. And they are flattered that you think highly enough of them to ask them."

"even odds" to succeed.

"Several legislators support our effort," he said. "But a legislature can do all sorts of things to a bill."

■ NEW HAMPSHIRE

Exec. Board endorses the Free State Project

The New Hampshire LP has endorsed the Free State Project (FSP), and will now work to try to get 20,000 freedom-loving Americans to move to the Granite State.

On January 17, the New Hampshire LP's Executive Board voted unanimously to support the project. It also created a "Welcome to the Granite State" Committee to promote New Hampshire as the destination state for the FSP, said Executive Board member **Rich Tomasso**.

"[We're] convinced that New Hampshire is the best choice for success of the FSP's goals," he said. "The attraction of New Hampshire is the respect by our residents for the ideals of individual liberty and small, decentralized government."

The Free State Project (www.freestateproject.org) is a nationwide effort to convince 20,000 small-government supporters to move to a single state, where they will work to implement libertarian reforms.

About 2,400 people have signed on.

New Hampshire is among the 10 states being considered as the FSP target state.

■ NEW MEXICO

LP draws up 'wish list' of targeted legislation

The State Libertarian Party has created a legislative "wish list" that will focus on ballot access, gun and smoking rights, drug laws, and fiscal responsibility.

In January, the Central Committee of the New Mexico LP approved "its official legislative agenda for 2003," said State Chair **Joseph Knight**. "The party wants action in five areas."

■ **Elections and Democratic Process:** The party opposes any attempt to restrict ballot access, and endorsed Instant Runoff Voting.

■ **Concealed Carry:** The party supports legislation recognizing the right of citizens to carry concealed weapons for protection.

■ **Property Rights:** The LP supports the right of business owners to determine their own smoking policies.

■ **Drug Policy Reform:** The party opposes the War on Drugs as "immoral, unconstitutional, unworkable, and expensive."

■ **Fiscal Responsibility:** The party

opposes any "plunder" of the state's Permanent Fund.

During the 2003 legislative session, the New Mexico LP will track bills and lobby for and against legislation that impacts its agenda, said Knight.

■ SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson City Council nixes sign law reform

In a surprise turnabout, the Clemson City Council has rejected a change to the city's political sign law — squashing a reform championed by a deceased LP candidate.

On February 3, the city council, on a 3-3 vote, defeated a proposal to make it legal to post campaign signs more than 30 days before an election.

Pickens County LP Chair **Peter Newell** said he was "flabbergasted" by the vote, and said, "I guess I'll have to start talking very seriously with legal counsel on the issue."

The proposal had been pioneered by State House (District 3) candidate **Carl Lindenmeyer**, who had chided the city about the sign ordinance before suffering a fatal heart attack in September 2002.

Lindenmeyer said the ordinance, which prohibited campaign signs more than 30 days prior to Election Day, violated his free speech rights. As a result, the city council had voted to suspend enforcement of the provision until after the 2002 election.

In mid-December, the city planning commission approved a plan to permanently end the anti-sign regulation, and the city council's approval had been considered a formality.

■ TEXAS

3 LP candidates named in 'mudslinging' lawsuit

Three Libertarian candidates are getting muddy — thanks to Republican and Democratic "mudslinging."

In early January, **Michael Badnarik** and two other Libertarian candidates were named in a federal lawsuit by the Texas Association of Businesses (TAB).

The suit was apparently a countersuit to two lawsuits filed by Democratic candidates, who had charged the Republican-leaning organization with violating campaign ethics code. However, the Libertarians had no involvement in the lawsuits against the TAB.

"Michael is a victim of big-party politics," said Travis County LP Chair **Patrick Dixon**. "Merely having a candidate on the ballot has gotten us in the middle of never-ending Republican and Democratic mudslinging — and this time some of their mud got slung at the Libertarian Party."

The candidates are considering how to respond to the suit, said Dixon.

■ VIRGINIA

Jefferson Area LP hosts space shuttle memorial

Jefferson Area Libertarians (JAL) helped organize a rally to commemorate the seven astronauts lost in the Columbia space shuttle tragedy.

About 100 people turned out for the rally/memorial service, which was held in Charlottesville on February 1.

Jim Lark, the past national LP chair, spoke at the event, along with John Whitehead (Rutherford Institute) and the Rev. Peter Way (Conservative Coalition).

JAL had planned to hold a "Rally 'Round the Flag" demonstration that day to show support for a local businessman who faces a \$300 fine for violating county zoning laws by flying a flag promoting his restaurant.

"However, we did the right thing by choosing not to focus on issues that divide the community, and by choosing to reach out to those who suffered in the tragedy," said Lark.

Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair

Visit: www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: State Parties
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee

Visit: www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: National Committee
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership

Visit: www.LP.org
See: Special Features (left side)
Click on: LP Members

Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video

The definitive guide to Libertarian film. A great gift!

Laissez-Faire Books ~ Amazon.com ~ MissLiberty.com

NEWS BRIEFS

Harry Browne raps campaign finance laws

American campaign finance laws are not just hypocritical — they're "designed to assure the re-election of incumbents."

That was the message Harry Browne delivered at a conference entitled "Task Force on Financing Presidential Nominations," hosted by the Campaign Finance Institute (CFI) at the National Press Club in Washington, DC on January 31.

Browne, the LP's 1996 and 2000 presidential candidate, appeared on a "Third Party Perspectives" panel with Theresea Amato (Green Party) and Kingsley Brooks (Natural Law Party).

During his remarks, Browne said he complimented the CFI — a non-profit group dedicated to "reforming" campaign finance laws — for its "conscientious" work and goals.

However, he told them, "[You are] trying to make the campaign finance laws more equitable and more efficient; but the people who actually write the laws have no such motives. All they want is to assure that the laws help them get re-elected."

Meanwhile, said Browne, the Green and Natural Law representatives argued for "even bigger government — tighter controls, more paperwork, government funding of campaigns, and such."

Although Browne said the event did not appear to generate much publicity — and probably won't influence Congressional debate — "I think it's significant that the CFI invited us to have our views heard. I'm glad I had the opportunity to represent the LP."



■ **Harry Browne:**
More equitable?

LP member creates 'Drug War Carol'

An LP member has created *A Drug War Carol* — an online graphic novel about the War on Drugs modeled on Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

The 64-page story, which was funded through the DRCNet.org Foundation, was written by Libertarian Susan W. Wells, with artwork by Scott Bieser.

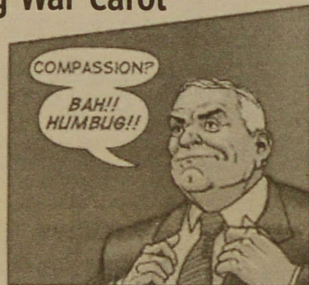
It is designed to tell people the truth about the human suffering caused by the War on Drugs, said Wells.

"If people were to learn the truth, I'm sure the drug war would be over in months," she said. "Can you imagine the impact this work could have if every drug warrior were to start to be confronted with dozens, or even hundreds of people holding signs with cartoons from *A Drug War Carol* every time he or she spoke in public?"

In *A Drug War Carol*, the Drug Czar attends a medical marijuana rally in Washington, DC and orders the arrest of a medical marijuana patient. Later that night, the Drug Czar is visited by the ghost of the first drug czar, who shows him the misery caused by the War on Drugs. The Drug Czar, who sees the error of his ways, publicly repents on Christmas Day and frees all medical marijuana patients.

In the future, *A Drug War Carol* may be published as a booklet in paper form, said Wells.

A Drug War Carol can be viewed at: www.adrugwarcarol.com.



Alaska Libertarians file lawsuit to get hemp measure on ballot

Alaska Libertarians and other anti-drug war activists have filed a lawsuit against the state's lieutenant governor for rejecting an initiative to decriminalize hemp.

On January 28, the Free Hemp in Alaska (FHA) organization filed a lawsuit in Superior Court in Anchorage to force the state to place the initiative on the August 2004 ballot.

In the lawsuit, FHA attorney Ken Jacobus argued that initiative backers filed enough signatures to qualify the measure, even though they failed to follow all of the state's record-keeping rules.

"Why disenfranchise thousands of voters?" asked FHA Chair Scot Dunnachie. "Maybe it's because the lieutenant governor is afraid of letting the democratic process work."

Regulate and tax

If passed by voters, the initiative would legalize hemp farming and end the prosecution of adults for marijuana offenses. It would also allow the state to regulate and tax marijuana like alcohol or tobacco.

FHA activists had turned in 51,000 signatures — compiled into 484 petition books — on November 14, 2002. According to state law, only 28,782 signatures are required to qualify an initiative.

However, Lt. Governor Loren Leman notified the FHA on January 14 that the initiative had been rejected, saying the state Division of Elections could not verify 194 of the 484 petition books. That left the FHA

"MAYBE THE lieutenant governor is afraid of letting the democratic process work" with the hemp initiative.
—Scot Dunnachie

7,045 signatures short of the legal requirement.

The Division of Elections said the FHA did not file so-called accountability reports with the 194 rejected petition booklets. The reports identify the person who circulated the petitions contained in that booklet.

But the FHA argued in its lawsuit that such accountability reports have been rendered moot by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Originally, sponsor accountability forms were important because they let initiative backers know if anyone circulating a petition was not a registered voter," said Alvin A. Anders, the FHA treasurer and past LP candidate for lieutenant governor.

"But in 1999, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Buckley v. American Constitutional Law Foundation* ruled that you did not have to be a registered voter to petition your government," he said. "This ruling makes sponsor accountability forms a waste of tax-

payer money, a waste of election officials' time, and a ridiculous reason to disenfranchise thousands of voters."

In addition, the Constitutional right to petition the government trumps the state's requirement for accountability reports, argued Jacobus.

"When you balance this Constitutional right against an administrative requirement, the Constitutional right wins," he said.

Had the Division of Elections checked the remaining 194 petition books, the initiative would have almost certainly qualified, since the other petitions had a validity rate of 78%, said Anders.

Chance to decide

That's why "voters should be given the chance to decide," said Tim Hinterberger, the primary sponsor of the initiative and an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Alaska (Anchorage).

Listed as plaintiffs in the lawsuit are Hinterberger, Anders, and Dunnachie.

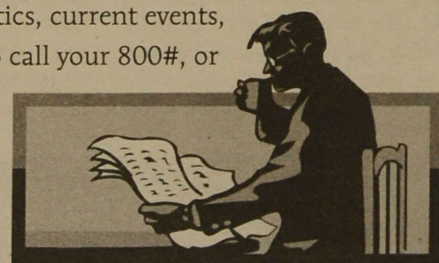
Is Abortion Aggression? Scientific & Philosophical Arguments Show Why It Is

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

27,000 Libertarians Could Be Reading Your Advertisement RIGHT NOW



But they're not. ■ Right now, those 27,000 Libertarians could be learning about the benefits of your book, political product, tee-shirts, or service. But they're not. ■ Those 27,000 Libertarians — who are passionate about liberty, politics, current events, and new technology — could be making a decision to call your 800#, or visit your website. But they're not...yet. ■ Want to reach those 27,000 Libertarians? Now is the time to do it, and *LP News* is the most cost-efficient way to make it happen. For a complete, no-obligation advertising package, call Editor Bill Winter at (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. ■ You could be calling right now. Are you?



ISIL takes over Free-Market.net website

The International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) has taken over the Free-Market.net website, and plans to continue to run the popular portal as a "resource base for libertarians."

ISIL purchased Free-Market.net in late January in an online liquidation auction conducted by the site's former owner, the Chicago-based Henry Hazlitt Foundation.

The website is now back online as a "new, streamlined operation," said ISIL Executive Director James R. Elwood.

"The result will be the continuation of a terrific online service and resource base for libertarians," he said.

Free-Market.net, which is widely considered to be the #1 libertarian portal on the Internet, features a "Who's Who" of major libertarian organizations; a database of libertarian news, events, periodicals, and books; discussion forums; and a daily libertarian news service.

Free-Market.net had been shut down in December 2002 after the Henry Hazlitt Foundation ran into financial difficulties.

"There was a serious danger that all the years of hard work in building the Free-Market.net would be lost," said Elwood.

But with ISIL's takeover, it will continue to be a resource to "the liberty movement in America and around the world," he said.

The non-profit, nonpartisan ISIL is based in Benicia, California, and works to build "a free and peaceful world through the ideals of free markets, social tolerance, and individual responsibility."

CAMPAIGN 2003 REPORT

R. Scott Bludorn's Buffalo Grove (IL) campaign focuses on property rights

First-time Libertarian candidate hopes to make it a 'lively election'

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

It's the private property rights, stupid.

That's not R. Scott Bludorn's campaign slogan — but it could be. In his race for Buffalo Grove Trustee in Illinois, the 39-year-old Libertarian candidate said he will be a "strong advocate of the property rights" of town residents.

"The current Village Board struggles with the concept of property rights," he noted dryly. "Buffalo Grove deserves an uncompromising advocate for the rights of all property owners."

His bold defense of property rights isn't the only way Bludorn promises to shake up the race: When he filed 529 signatures on January 13 to earn a place on the ballot, he ensured that Buffalo Grove would have its first contested race for Trustee in four years.

With Bludorn's entry, "it promises to be a lively election," said the local newspaper, the *Daily Herald*.

Bludorn, who also serves as the Chair of the Cook County LP, is one of four candidates for three trustee positions in the village, a northwest suburb of Chicago with a population of about 42,000.

The first-time candidate for public office will be facing two incumbents and the Village president in the April 1 election — which presents a challenge for the campaign, he acknowledged.

"High-visibility"

However, he hopes to overcome the advantages of incumbency with a "high-visibility campaign" that will include door-to-door campaigning and yard signs.

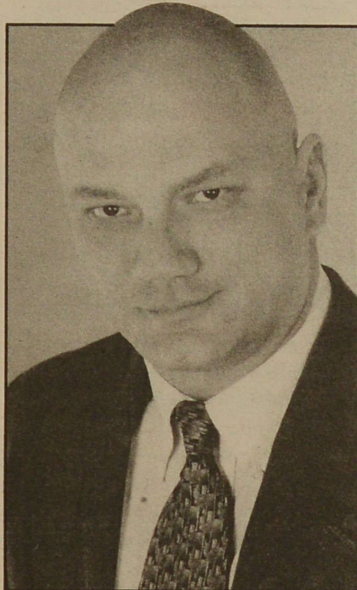
While the race is non-partisan, Bludorn said he will always proudly promote Libertarian ideas.

"My political philosophy would always defer to free market solutions rather than governmental," he said. "[If elected, I will work to] restore government to its proper role of protecting our persons and property, and allowing business and commerce to serve the needs of our communities."

In his campaign, Bludorn said he will focus on:

■ **The importance of private property rights.**

"If you want to improve the livability of your home and have the consent of your neighbors, the village [government] should only then address safety and engineering concerns, should they exist," he said.



■ **R. Scott Bludorn: "Buffalo Grove deserves an uncompromising advocate for all property owners."**

"The legitimate desires of homeowners to improve their property outweigh the personal fancies of a politically appointed zoning board."

Bludorn said he will also work to stop the Village Board from "obstructing" what businesses can do with their property — such as the time a Trustee objected to allowing a Dairy Queen to lease vacant space because the town "already had enough ice cream shops."

"If the residents of Buffalo Grove did not patronize the new Dairy Queen, it would close — and the market would provide the answer as to whether Buffalo Grove was saturated with ice cream shops," he said.

■ **The over-regulation of local businesses.**

"The Village Board should restrain itself from micromanaging the affairs of business and commerce, and allow the self-regulating workings of the market to serve the needs of the community," he said.

For example, Bludorn said he would work against zoning laws that allow the Village Board to impose its "personal taste" on businesses.

"Whether it is repositioning buildings, shrubbery, or addressing the dullness of stucco, developers must

[now] tolerate the additional expense of redesigning their projects multiple times," he said. "It is the free market that should be the final arbiter of whether the aesthetics of the project fit within the community."

■ **The privatization of municipal services.**

The Buffalo Grove operating and capital budget for fiscal year 2002-2003 is about \$50 million, noted Bludorn — "over \$1,100 for every man woman and child in the village. [This] imposes a huge tax burden on its residents. Privatization of municipal services presents the best opportunity to rein in expenses."

For example, noted Bludorn, Buffalo Grove owns the Buffalo Grove Golf Club and the Arboretum Golf Club — and just spent \$6 million to build a new clubhouse at the latter course.

"The village [government] should focus on providing municipal services — not the business of operating golf courses," he said.

A comprehensive program of privatization could trim the village's budget by 10%-16%, he estimated.

Bludorn said he will also oppose any new or increased taxes.

"The 'tax first, ask questions later' brand of municipal government creates an unfair tax burden on our village residents, and weakens our community," he said.

In addition, Bludorn said he will also try to make more abstract points in his campaign, like pointing out the power of the free market to build a thriving "civil society."

Caring community

"It's the neighborhoods that make a community," he said. "We have a unique ability to demonstrate how market-based reforms such as privatizing residential zoning laws can lead to a more close-knit, caring community. A less intrusive municipal government can strengthen our ties with each other."

If he wins election as a Buffalo Grove Trustee, Bludorn said he may try for a higher-level office — like the state legislature — in the future.

Bludorn works as a district manager for New Age Concepts, Inc., an industrial staffing company. He is a member of Buffalo Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and of the Staffing Services Association of Illinois.

He has been married to his wife Dana for 12 years; they moved to Buffalo Grove from Arlington Heights, Illinois about two years ago.

For information about the Bludorn for Trustee campaign, visit: www.bludorn2003.com.

POLITICS 2003

Snarkier websites, hipsters, and a pardon

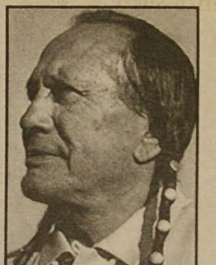
■ In Massachusetts, **Kamal Jain** has become the Acting State Chair. In Michigan, the Oakland County LP elected **Nathan Allen** as Chair. In North Dakota, **Keith Hanson** was elected State Chair. In California, **Saul Rackauskas** was re-elected Chair of the Ventura County LP. In Oregon, **T.J. Robertson** has been chosen as Chair of the Oregon State University Libertarians (in Carvallis), while **Jim Lindsay** was elected Chair of the reorganized Clackamas County LP. In Illinois, **David Hughes** was elected president of the Libertarian Club of DuPage, and **Scott Bludorn** was elected president of the new Cook County LP.

■ **Media notes:** Congratulations, you're hip! According to a February 4 *Chicago Tribune* review of the new *Hipster Handbook* by Robert Lanham, when it comes to politics, "Conservative-leaning Hipsters are Libertarians rather than Republicans." Wisdom from Hollywood Squares (broadcast on January 23, 2003). Q: "What is considered the dumbest idea of the 20th century?" A: "Prohibition." A 2002 Libertarian Party press release mocking "silly laws" around the USA was belatedly picked up down under. In early January, it generated articles in *The Australian* newspaper and the *Melbourne Herald Sun*.

■ In California, a quirk in the election law resulted in **Lynne Blattner** belatedly winning a position on the Pine Valley Community Planning Area board (Mount Laguna seat). This makes her the California LP's 29th winner from the November 2002 election, and the 44th around the USA. In Oregon, **Helen McDaniel** was appointed to the Astoria City Budget Committee. In Hawaii, **Jeff Mallan** won 58 votes (.08%) in a January 3 election to fill a vacant seat in the U.S. House (District 2). Mallan came in 19th out of 43 candidates in the multi-party election.

■ **Think tank news:** Traffic to the *Reason* magazine website (Reason.com) has doubled over the last year, to 565,000 visits a month. The reason? The "Suck-ification of *Reason*," theorizes a January 22 article in the *Village Voice*. In 2001, *Reason* editor **Nick Gillespie** hired **Tim Cavanaugh**, the former editor of the online pop-culture magazine *Suck.com*, to give *Reason.com* a "snarkier, punkier attitude." Cavanaugh has added more hip cultural coverage, punning headlines ("Axles of Evil"), and a daily *Reason* staff blog.

■ **Political tidbits:** New Jersey Assemblyman **Matt Ahearn** quit the Democrats and joined the Green Party. The January 24 defection gives the Greens their second State Rep. (They elected one in Maine in November 2002.) In South Dakota, Republican Governor **Bill Janklow** pardoned sometime-Libertarian **Russell Means** in January. The pardon wiped clean a felony conviction from a 1974 disturbance at the Minnehaha County Courthouse, and cleared Means to run for office. In 2002, Means had said he would run for New Mexico governor as a Libertarian, but changed his mind and tried to run as an independent. However, he was kept off the ballot because of his felony conviction. Some in the state theorized the pardon was political, since Means has "spoken out on behalf of the Republican Party."



■ **Russell Means: Gets GOP pardon.**

■ In Illinois, **Joseph Schreiner** filed petitions to run for Chicago Alderman (45th Ward). In South Carolina, the LP nominated candidates for two special elections: **Stephen Cain** (State Senate, District 18) and **Michael Gingrich** (Richland County Council, District 1).

■ In Illinois, **Jeff Trigg** has been hired as the state LP's executive director. In Tennessee, **Mike Croteau** was elected Chair of the Hamilton County LP, while **Bill Bolen** was appointed new Regional Coordinator for the Valley Region. Also in Tennessee, the Bradley County LP re-elected **Ray Ledford** as Chair. In New Hampshire, **John Babiarz** is the new State Chair. In California, **Catherine Harding** was appointed Chair pro tempore of the Yolo County LP. In Oklahoma, the Tulsa Area Libertarians elected **Angelia O'Dell** as Chair.

■ **Legal news:** The Oklahoma LP lost a lawsuit that would have opened up its primary to all registered voters. On January 24, a U.S. District judge upheld a state law that limited primary participation to one party's registered voters (*Beaver v. Ward*). In Georgia, the state LP appealed its *Cartwright v. Barnes* lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court on January 16. The suit seeks to overturn the state's ballot access laws, which have kept all third-party U.S. House candidates off the ballot since 1943. No word on whether the high court will hear the case.

■ Libertarians' favorite bookstore is moving. Effective February 1, **Laissez Faire Books** had relocated to Little Rock, Arkansas from San Francisco. New address: Center for Independent Thought, Laissez Faire Books, 7123 Interstate 30, Suite 42, Little Rock, AR 72209. Call: (800) 326-0996. Its website is the same: www.laissezfairebooks.com.

THE
**Concise Guide
to Economics**
The Advocates
Laissez Faire Books
Amazon.com

THE ISSUES

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several recent 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.

Bush calls for 'Clintonesque' spending

President Bush laid out an agenda in his January 28 State of the Union speech that will make most Americans worse off than before — by expanding government spending.

"Americans who were hoping for prosperity instead got a plan for global welfare," said Geoffrey Neale, Libertarian Party national chair. "Confiscating more money from struggling American workers is the worst prescription for a sputtering economy."

During his hour-long State of the Union address, Bush unveiled plans for approximately a half-trillion dollars in new or expanded social programs. But Neale said more government spending is the exact opposite of what America needs.

"The mind-boggling array of government programs laid out by President Bush has to be paid for by someone, and that someone is the ordinary Americans who can least afford it," he said.

The presidential wish list included \$400 billion for prescription drugs for seniors; \$600 million to remedy drug addiction; \$6 billion for vaccines against bioterror attacks; \$1.2 billion to fund government research into hydrogen-powered cars; \$450 million to mentor children; and millions to hire "volunteers" for the USA Freedom Corps.

"Bush's impulse to spend tax money didn't stop there," Neale noted. "He even made Clintonesque appeals for more money for homeless shelters; to 'provide companionship' for the elderly; and even to prevent forest fires. Apparently there's no aspect of American life that this self-described conservative doesn't want to federalize."

Why no charges against Cheney, McAuliffe?

Reports that federal investigators may file criminal charges against Martha Stewart raise a troubling question: Why aren't Dick Cheney and Terry McAuliffe facing similar criminal charges?

After all, both the vice president and the Democratic National Committee chairman were accused of selling millions of dollars in stock before its value plummeted.

"Is there one standard of justice for TV celebrities and another for political celebrities?" asked Geoffrey Neale.

On February 6, Justice Department sources said they have "a solid criminal case" against Stewart, who is accused of insider trading after dumping shares of ImClone stock one day before the FDA rejected the firm's cancer drug — which caused the company's stock to plummet.

But the Stewart investigation shows a double standard, said Neale, because Cheney and McAuliffe got rich doing the exact same thing.

■ Cheney, former CEO of Halliburton Co., made \$18.5 million in 2000 when he sold his shares of company stock for \$52 each. Shortly after, the stock plunged to \$13, and investors lost millions.

■ McAuliffe reaped \$18 million in 1999 on a \$100,000 investment in Global Crossing — just before the company went bankrupt.

"Why aren't federal prosecutors threatening to slap handcuffs on Cheney and McAuliffe, too?" asked Neale. "The answer is obvious: The Justice Department is engaging in selective prosecution: If you're a powerful federal official, you're probably not going to be selected."

New spending outnumbers tax cuts 10 to 1

If you think President Bush's tax cuts will save you money, guess again — because spending increases in his new budget outnumber tax cuts by a ratio of 10 to 1.

"Showing gratitude for Bush's tax cuts is like thanking a pickpocket for returning \$10 of the \$100 he stole," said Geoffrey Neale. "This budget proves that Republicans are nothing more than political pickpockets — and the American people are their unwitting victims."

On February 3, Bush presented Congress with a \$2.23 trillion budget for fiscal 2004 that boosts federal spending by 4.2% overall while setting a record deficit and providing targeted tax cuts.

But don't be distracted by Bush's tiny tax cuts — because they will be dwarfed by a massive increase in government spending.

According to the Cato Institute, Bush plans to increase federal outlays by \$89 billion in 2004, \$114 billion in 2005, and more than \$100 billion in succeeding years, Neale noted.

"The bottom line is that federal spending would be \$571 billion per year higher in 2008 than in 2003," he said. "By that point, Bush's tax cuts would be reducing federal revenue by just \$50 billion annually — meaning spending increases outnumber tax cuts 10 to 1."

"In plain English, a 'cut' is supposed to get smaller. But in Republicanese, 'tax cut' really means 'spending increase.'"



Richard Dooling, one of the nation's 'finest novelists,' says he's libertarian

A bestselling author has had a brainstorm — and publicly declared he is a libertarian.

Richard Dooling, whose novel *Brain Storm* was named a *New York Times* Notable Book in 1998, made the announcement in an interview with *Christianity Today* on January 6.

When asked about his political beliefs, the Nebraska-born author said, "I'm a libertarian. The only thing more offensive than a Trent Lott Republican is a Bill Clinton Democrat."

This wasn't the first time Dooling had declared his affinity for libertarianism. In 1999, he published what he called "a libertarian's take on the Clinton mess" in the *New York Times*.

In the op-ed, he argued that "the root of the [Bill Clinton/Monica Lewinsky] scandal lies in the surfeit of intrusive laws that would make criminals of almost anyone the government decides to investigate."

While not defending Clinton's personal behavior, Dooling noted that Clinton faced legal action only because of the nation's "expanded interpretations of the sexual harassment laws."

Unenforceable law

"If we are to be a nation of laws and not men, then perhaps we should pause before we attack yet another social malady or human weakness by passing yet another unenforceable law," he wrote.

In 1997, Dooling published *Blue Streak: Swearing, Free Speech, and*



■ Richard Dooling: "The only thing more offensive than a Trent Lott Republican is a Bill Clinton Democrat."

Sexual Harassment, a collection of essays about "the politics of offensive language," speech codes, and the First Amendment.

While not yet a household name, Dooling has quietly built a reputation as a thoughtful, entertaining, and provocative writer. In fact, Stephen King called him "one of the finest novelists now working in America."

His 1998 novel *Brain Storm* was an Amazon Hot 100 bestseller, while *White Man's Grave* was a 1994 Na-

tional Book Award Finalist and a *New York Times* Notable Book. In addition, Dooling wrote *Critical Care* (1996) and *Bet Your Life* (2002).

An attorney and developer of "web-based legal products" for a St. Louis law firm, he has also written for the *New Yorker*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *George* magazine, *National Review*, and *Esquire*.

Kingdom Hospital


Dooling is currently collaborating with Stephen King on *Kingdom Hospital*, a television series scheduled to air on ABC in 2003.

Dooling joins a number of other popular writers who have identified themselves as libertarians, including Nelson DeMille (*The General's Daughter*), David Brin (*Startide Rising*), John Rosemond (*Parent Power!*), Stuart M. Kaminsky (*The Dog Who Bit A Policeman*), and Joan Didion (*Slouching Towards Bethlehem*).

Libertarian Viewpoint

Because of a mail house error, a complimentary copy of the *Libertarian Viewpoint* was not enclosed in most copies (outside of California) of the February issue of *LP News*. So, it is enclosed in this issue.

To order additional copies of the 8-page *Libertarian Viewpoint*, see the full-page advertisement on page 13.

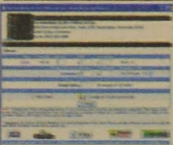


<http://www.ClickandPledge.com>

"Click & Pledge allows us to receive donations and membership dues over the Internet for a very low cost, and it easily integrated with our web site! Our favorite thing about Click & Pledge is that there are no monthly fees." *James Eisert, Manhattan Libertarian Party*

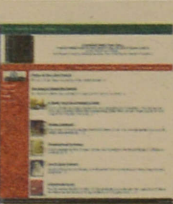
Call us Toll Free: 866-WWW-CLICK [866.999.2542] for a demo

Secure Online Donation



- ✓ Accept secured donations & dues online with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, AMEX.
- ✓ Pay no setup, monthly, or annual fees.
- ✓ Offer premiums, sell items, tickets, and accept donations/dues all in one package.
- ✓ Take 5 minutes to setup on your existing web site.

Web Content Management System




Special Free Offer to Libertarian Chapters & Candidates

- ✓ Web Content Management System for web site creation.
- ✓ eMail with virus & spam protection.
- ✓ Real-time donation and credit card acceptance system with discounted rates.
- ✓ Free use of You.4Libertarian.com or You.4Libertarian.com.org domain.

eNewsletters & Newspapers


Electronic



Electronic Newsletter

- ✓ Design & broadcast your eNewsletter to your mailing list.
- ✓ Provide links to documents and forms directly from the email.
- ✓ Accept donations via the eNewsletter directly from the email.

In Print



In Print Newspaper

- ✓ Lower your newsletter printing cost by moving to a newspaper format.
- ✓ Let us help you design, edit, print, and distribute your publication.
- ✓ Simply upload your content and let us do the rest.

Million-Dollar Tax Day Kit!



**IN STOCK
AVAILABLE
FOR INSTANT
SHIPMENT!**

Maximize the success of your Tax Day rally on April 15: Order the complete **"\$1 Million Tax Day" Kit!** It includes:

- 1** A 16-page booklet explaining how to use the \$1 Million Bill to maximize the membership-building potential of your Tax Day rally. (Also: How to organize a successful rally; how to get publicity; and so on.)
 - 2** 50 samples of the "\$1 Million Bill" literature.
 - 3** Two versions of camera-ready mechanicals to print the \$1 Million Bills: One with the National LP's return address and phone number, and one with a blank area to personalize them with your local LP's contact information.
 - 4** A sample press release for your Tax Day Rally.
- Price for the complete package: **\$10.** (The **\$1 Million Tax Day Kit** will be sent via Priority Mail.)

Also, order a generous supply of the popular **\$1 Million Bills!** They are available for immediate shipment. **Cost: \$5 per 100.** (Call for rush shipping details.)

OUTREACH TABLOID!

The Libertarian Viewpoint:
A brand-new, 8-page, full-color outreach newspaper!

Ideal for leaving at your local coffeehouse, supermarket, student union building, or community center. Contains the same text as the "New Vision" brochure—with articles on corporate welfare, crime, poverty, foreign policy, and more ... along with brief "Fact Files" that offer fascinating soundbites, factoids, and perspectives. Includes a membership response form.

Sample: \$1 each ★ 100 for \$25 ★ 1,000 for \$100 ★ Call for bulk qty prices (5,000+). Prices include shipping.



**IN STOCK
AVAILABLE
FOR INSTANT
SHIPMENT!**

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**

2-COLOR ★ LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES ★ 4-COLOR

2-COLOR

- Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again
- Ending the Welfare State
- What Happened to Your Family Budget?
- Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners

4-COLOR!

- Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?
- Working to Cut Your Taxes
- It's Time for a More Sensible Drug Policy

2-color brochures: Sample: 50¢ ★ **Or \$7 for 100** / 4-color brochures: Sample: 50¢ ★ **Or \$10 for 100**

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-2000) and a comprehensive two-page bibliography (featuring 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

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

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

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (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.)

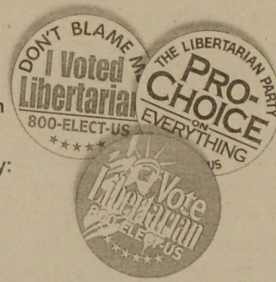
Buttons

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

■ **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



Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. Includes everything from creating a campaign timeline, deciding on issues, raising money, working with volunteers, dealing with the media, and organizing a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) effort. 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 Banners

■ **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 you want on the order form.) **Cost: \$40 each**

Yard Sign

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

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.

TAX DAY Materials

Q'NTY COST
_____ "Million Dollar Bill" Literature
_____ Complete "Tax Day Kit" (\$10)

Ready-to-Use Literature

_____ TABLOID (4-c): "Libertarian Viewpoint"
_____ BOOKLET (4-c): "A New Vision for America"
_____ Brochure (4-c): "Is This/New Political Party...?"
_____ Brochure (4-c): "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____ Brochure (4-c): "What Happened/ Family Budget?"
_____ Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____ Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____ Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____ Flyer: "Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____ America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____ Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
_____ World's Smallest Political Quiz

Banners

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

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

Yard Signs

_____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

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.

Books for Sale

_____ Why Government Doesn't Work (Browne)
_____ Libertarianism In One Lesson (Bergland)

Buttons

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

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 ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Acct. # _____

Expires _____ Signature _____

Name _____

Membership ID# (On label) _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Occupation _____

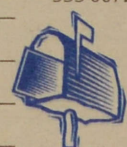
Employer _____

HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER



Phone:
(202) 333-0008
Ext. 221

By Fax:
(202) 333-0072



By Mail:
Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia
Avenue, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037

10 reasons why we should not attack Iraq

Continued from Page 1

ing to the Pentagon, 12 nations have nuclear weapons programs, 13 nations have biological weapons, 16 nations have chemical weapons, and 28 nations are armed with ballistic missiles.

"But no other of those nations is facing the threat of having its leadership overthrown [by armed invasion]," note Ivan Eland and Bernard Gourley in a briefing paper for the Cato Institute (December 17, 2002).

In a similar vein, most of the more colorful anti-war allegations of the Left are also irrelevant: That a war is a ploy to capture Iraq's oil fields for Bush's oil-tycoon friends, or to distract attention from a frail economy, or a son's effort to finish what Bush Senior started. Those allegations merely distract from the central question: *Is a war with Iraq necessary for the security of the United States?*

A clear answer

An examination from a Libertarian perspective of the arguments for war presents a clear answer: No.

The evidence makes it clear that Iraq does not pose an immediate, grave, and unequivocal threat to the security of the U.S.

Eland and Gourley sum up the view of most libertarian defense experts. "Hussein's threat to the United States has been overstated," they write. "Evidence that Hussein presents an imminent and uncontrollable threat is simply not there. Neither does evidence exist that having Hussein in power is any more threatening than the rule of other despotic tyrants around the world."

Writing in *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2003), John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt agree. "The campaign to wage war against Iraq rests on a flimsy foundation," they write. "Americans should understand that a compelling strategic rationale is absent."

Summarizing the research of these and other foreign policy experts, here are 10 reasons why the U.S. should not go to war with Iraq:

1 Even if he does have nuclear weapons (or other weapons of mass destruction) Saddam Hussein would not risk using them on the United States.

While there is clear evidence that Iraq possesses a variety of chemical and biological weapons (including mustard gas, nerve gas, and anthrax) — and while he may be working to build nuclear weapons — there is almost no chance that Hussein would use them to attack the United States.

Why? Because Hussein has no wish to die. The Iraqi dictator understands that if he attacks the United States, he faces devastating retaliation.

"Hussein had an opportunity to use chemical weapons against U.S. troops during the Persian Gulf War, and he did not," note Eland and Gourley. "The lesson to be drawn is that Hussein was deterred from using chemical weapons against an adversary capable of massive retaliation."



■ **Libertarians from the Multnomah County LP participate in an anti-war rally in downtown Portland, Oregon on January 18. Up to 20,000 people — including representatives from the Green, Socialist, Democratic, and Republican parties — attended the rally. "Libertarians were there opposing the pending war on Iraq because they said it was not declared by Congress," said Oregon LP Treasurer Mark Vetanen. "Some said they were there to protect the Bill of Rights. Others were just there because they protested the U.S. foreign policy that led to this entire Iraq mess."**

Even CIA director George Tenet, in a letter to Congress, admitted that Iraq would not risk an attack on the world's only superpower. He wrote: "[Iraq] for now appears to be drawing a line short of conducting ... attacks with conventional or chemical or biological weapons against the United States."

But might Hussein use WMD against the U.S. because he is insane, irrational, or reckless? No. Contrary to Bush Administration allegations, Hussein is not a madman.

"Hussein, while he may not act morally, is rational in the sense that economists and political scientists use the term," write Eland and Gourley. "Although he is prone to take risky actions, he always does so with one eye focused on maintaining power over Iraq. [Hussein] holds his physical and political survival as paramount among his preferences."

2 There is no evidence that Saddam Hussein helped the September 11 terrorists.

Is Hussein an ally of al Qaeda? No, say Mearsheimer and Walt.

"There is no credible evidence that Iraq had anything to do with the terrorist attacks against the World Trade Center and the Pentagon," they write. "Hawks inside and outside the Bush administration have gone to extraordinary lengths over the past months to find a link, but they have come up empty-handed."

This isn't surprising, note Mearsheimer and Walt, because "relations between Saddam and al Qaeda have always been quite poor."

"Osama bin Laden is a radical fundamentalist, and he detests secular leaders like Saddam," they write. "Similarly, Saddam has consistently repressed fundamentalist movements within Iraq."

Given the non-alliance between Hussein and al Qaeda, an invasion of Iraq would represent a setback in the U.S.'s efforts to seek justice for the September 11 attacks, argue Eland and Gourley.

"Instead of being part of the war on the terrorist network that remains viable and is still attacking the United States, an unprovoked invasion of Iraq would detract from it," they write. "Scarce intelligence resources, special operations forces, and the attention of policy makers would

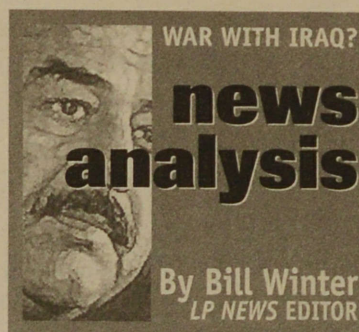
ALTHOUGH SADDAM Hussein "is prone to take risky actions, he always does so with one eye focused on maintaining power over Iraq."

need to be shifted [away from al Qaeda] to an attack on Iraq."

Hussein has given aid to Islamic terrorists — most recently, to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers — but "the terrorist groups that Iraq supports do not focus their attacks on the United States," writes the Cato Institute's Ivan Eland (August 19, 2002). "Such groups concentrate their attacks on targets in the Middle East."

3 Hussein is extremely unlikely to give WMD to al Qaeda for future attacks on the United States.

Hussein would not give al Qaeda



nuclear or chemical weapons because doing so would pose a danger to the Iraqi dictator's favorite cause: The longevity of Saddam Hussein, argue Mearsheimer and Walt.

"Saddam could never be sure the United States would not incinerate him if it merely suspected he had made it possible for anyone to strike the United States with nuclear weapons," they write. "The U.S. government [is] already deeply suspicious of Iraq, and a nuclear attack against the United States or its allies would raise that hostility to fever pitch."

"No one knows just how vengeful Americans might feel if WMD were ever used against the U.S. Indeed, nuclear terrorism is as dangerous for Saddam as it is for Americans, and he has no more incentive to give al Qaeda nuclear weapons than the United States does."

So, they conclude, even if "Saddam thought he could covertly smuggle nuclear weapons to bin Laden, he would be unlikely to do so."

There's another reason, too, write Eland and Gourley: Al-Qaeda is so "ideologically incompatible" with Hussein that the dictator fears the terrorist group "could ultimately turn on him and use [WMD] weapons against him."

4 The one thing that might convince Hussein to use WMD against the United States is a U.S. invasion of Iraq.

Given that he faces certain annihilation if he uses nuclear, chemical, or biological devices against the United States, what might convince Hussein to employ such ghastly weapons?

Only the belief that he has nothing left to lose. In other words, an invasion by the U.S. that Hussein knows will topple and kill him.

"In the face of a threat to his own survival, Hussein will have little incentive to do anything but lash out," write Eland and Gourley. "Under those circumstances, Hussein is very dangerous."

After all, they note, with an invasion looming, "the message to Hussein is, no matter what you do, the U.S. government is coming to eliminate you. That only gives Hussein more incentive to plan a counterattack — in the event of a U.S. invasion — using WMD against U.S. forces, Israel, or Saudi oil fields."

Even the CIA acknowledges this nightmare scenario, write Eland and Gourley.

The spy agency reports that Hus-

sein is "unlikely to use WMD against the United States unless he feels that the forcible halt of his political control over Iraq is going to be brought by a U.S. invasion," they write. "Then he could commission Islamist terrorist groups to use such weapons in the United States — the very threat the United States sought to avoid by attacking Iraq in the first place."

5 Invading Iraq will make Muslims hate us more — increasing the risk of future terrorist attacks on the United States.

President Bush has made the case that toppling Saddam Hussein is part of a far-reaching War on Terrorism. However, a war with Iraq is likely to increase the threat of terrorism, not decrease it.

"An invasion of Iraq would play right into al Qaeda's hands," writes Ivan Eland. "Occupation of an Islamic country by the United States could be a recruiting poster for Islamic terrorists. We should remember the worldwide mobilization of Islamic radicals to fight the Soviets in Afghanistan."

A U.S. attack, he bluntly warns, would "inflammate radical Islamists around the world" and "actually cause more retaliatory terrorism against U.S. targets."

Further, writes Eland, "A U.S. invasion of Iraq could destabilize or topple friendly governments in Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Enflamed Islamic populations could rise up against those regimes, which are closely aligned with the United States."

6 Iraq is a greatly diminished military power, and poses little threat even to its neighbors.

In the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq was able to field only a "Third World military" that quickly crumbled before the U.S.'s technology and power, notes Owen Cote, Jr., associate director of Security Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in the *Boston Globe* (January 12, 2003).

Since then, he says, "the Iraqi military has done nothing except decline in size and degrade in capability."

The numbers are stark. In 1990, Iraq had 1 million men in its armed forces, backed up by 5,500 tanks. By contrast, the Iraqi military today has only 400,000 men in arms and 2,200 tanks.

But even those numbers are deceiving, says Cote. The Iraqi tank forces, for example, are primarily comprised of Soviet T-54, T-55, and T-62 models — some of which date to the 1940s.

The Iraqi air force is equally weak, boasting only a handful of Soviet MiG-29s and French Mirage F-1s.

"Iraq's military has been devastated by the Gulf War and a decade of sanctions," writes Eland. "Americans should ask why the United States — half a world away — is more concerned about the Iraqi threat than

See **IRAQ** Page 15

War with Iraq?

Continued from Page 14

are Iraq's neighbors [who oppose a U.S. invasion]."

7 A war against Iraq is unconstitutional.

The U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 8) is clear: "The Congress shall have power ... to declare war."

"Congress, not the president, has the power to declare war," writes William Raspberry in the Washington Post (January 6, 2003). "Nor do I find anything to suggest that Congress may delegate its war-making authority to the president."

On October 11, President Bush did receive Congressional "authorization" for military action against Iraq, but not the declaration of war the Constitution requires.

The Bush administration has tried to sidestep this formality, invoking what Vice President Dick Cheney calls the "inherent presidential power" to defend "vital national interests."

"Bush's lawyers have assured him he may start dropping bombs on Baghdad anytime the urge strikes, without the bother of getting approval from ... the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue," writes Steve Chapman on TownHall.com (September 2, 2002). "If the founding fathers were to hear all this, they would wonder how their cherished republic fell back under the rule of the King of England. They took care not to give the executive a free hand to initiate armed hostilities."

Eland and Gourley warn bluntly: "An unprovoked attack on another sovereign state...undermines the principles of a constitutional republic."

8 A war against Iraq will be enormously expensive.

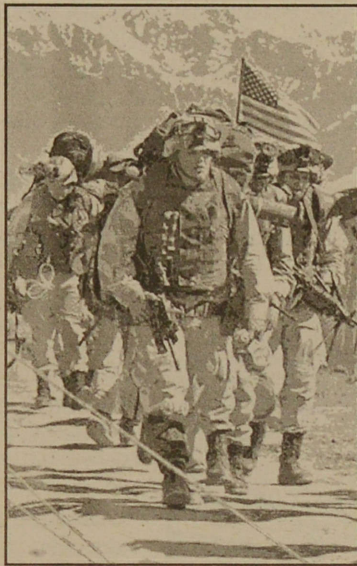
How much will a war with Iraq cost?

"Although it is difficult to predict how much Americans would pay for a new war with Iraq, one fact seems indisputable: It will be many times more than the cost of the last [Persian Gulf] war," writes Michael Dobbs in the Washington Post (December 1, 2002).

Given all the variables, even federal bureaucrats don't know how much Gulf War II could cost. "It is impossible to know what any military campaign would ultimately cost," acknowledges Trent Duffy, a spokesman for the White House Office of Management and Budget.

However, according to "best-guess" estimates by Congressional staff, it could cost as much as \$100 billion to \$200 billion to invade and occupy Iraq.

And, if "Iraqi President Saddam Hussein blows up his country's oil



fields, most economists believe the indirect costs of the war could be much greater, reverberating through the U.S. economy for many years," writes Dobbs.

Ivan Eland agrees that an expensive war poses a danger to the U.S. economy, given the growing federal budget deficits and sluggish economy. "An invasion and long-term occupation of Iraq could ... bust the budget and throw the U.S. economy into a tailspin," he writes.

9 A pre-emptive strike is un-American.

In September 2002, the Bush Administration released a document entitled "The National Military Strategy for the United States of America" which outlined a new "first-strike" policy for the United States.

Under this policy — which represented a sharp break from the past and serves as the strategic underpinning for the war with Iraq — the U.S. can attack another nation if there is evidence that it is building or trying to obtain WMD.

The policy does not require those "enemy" nations to possess working weapons, or to even explicitly threaten the U.S.'s security.

Indeed, the U.S. military is now authorized to "act against ... emerging threats before they are fully formed," writes President Bush.

The problem with such a shoot-first doctrine — besides the almost unlimited power it gives the U.S. government to wage war around the globe — is that it stands in stark contrast to American tradition.

While our nation has never fully lived up to its don't-strike-first ideal (the U.S. attacked first or fabricated a pretext for the Mexican War in 1846-47, the War of 1812, and the Vietnam War), the U.S. has never seen itself as an aggressor in war, notes Ken Ringle in the *Washington Post* (November 19, 2002).

"We have always told ourselves, Americans don't shoot first," he writes. "The no-preemptive-attack rule is as fundamental an American value as almost anything in our culture."

For example, the Declaration of Independence lists 27 accusations

against King George III "in an effort to prove that Americans weren't the ones who started the American Revolution," writes Ringle.

Moving forward almost two centuries, John F. Kennedy said in a speech: "Our arms will never be used to strike the first blow in any attack. It is our national tradition."

Ringle quotes David Hackett Fischer, a history professor at Brandeis University, who says, "It has been our judgment as a nation that something as immensely serious as war should only be embarked on for very clearly defensive reasons. And our culture tells us we depart from that judgment at our peril."

10 A war against Iraq is utterly arbitrary.

Iraq isn't the only nation with a nuclear weapons program, a bellicose foreign policy, and the potential to give WMD to terrorists: North Korea and Pakistan also fit those criteria.

Take North Korea. The reclusive communist nation, ruled by Kim Jong Il, has been covertly obtaining tools to produce weapons-grade uranium, according to the CIA. North Korea has been buying high-speed centrifuge machines, with which the communists can produce weapons-grade fissionable material from natural uranium — enough to manufacture two or three nuclear warheads a year.

While the CIA is unsure whether North Korea has actually built nuclear devices, its weapons program violates international law and agreements with the U.S.

Given the United States' doctrine of pre-emptive strike against nations with WMD, Seymour M. Hersh (in the *New Yorker*, January 27, 2003) notes: "Logically, the new strategy should have applied first to North Korea,

whose nuclear-weapons program remains far more advanced than Iraq's."

Where is North Korea getting its nuclear technology? From Pakistan. According to Hersh, "Pakistan has been sharing sophisticated technology, warhead design information, and weapons-testing data with the Pyongyang regime."

In exchange, Pakistan has purchased long-range missiles from North Korea, with which it could launch nuclear weapons at its rival, India. Indeed, the military brinkmanship between Pakistan and India almost triggered a nuclear war in 2002.

Pakistan's threats don't stop there. According to Hersh, there are "close ties between some scientists working for the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission and radical Islamic groups."

Hersh quotes one unnamed non-proliferation expert who says: "Right now, the most dangerous nation in the world is Pakistan. If we're incinerated next week, it'll be because of H.E.U. [highly enriched uranium] that was given to al Qaeda by Pakistan."

Given their similarities to Iraq, is the U.S. planning to invade North Korea and Pakistan? No.

President Bush is reportedly considering renewed aid to North Korea in exchange for a promise to end its nuclear program.

And Pakistan is our ally in the "War on Terrorism."

Conclusion

Reviewing the evidence, "the assumptions that underlie the administration's [plans to invade Iraq] range from cautiously pessimistic to outright fallacious," write Eland and Gourley. "His aggressive nature may be cause for concern, but it is

not a threat to the United States a half a world away. Iraq's pursuit of NBC [nuclear, biological, and chemical] weapons may be a cause for concern, but it is not a sufficient reason for going to war."

If there is, then, no solid rationale for an invasion, how should the U.S. deal with a rogue dictator like Saddam Hussein?

Eland and Gourley offer a straightforward prescription: "Hussein must be made to know that if he uses NBC weapons against America, or if he assists others in doing so, he and his regime will be destroyed."

Drums of war

Even the Bush administration took this sensible position — before it started beating the drums of war.

In January 2000, national security advisor Condoleezza Rice said that if Iraq did acquire WMD, "The first line of defense should be a clear and classical statement of deterrence. If they do acquire WMD, their weapons will be unusable because any attempt to use them will bring national obliteration."

Such a policy of deterrence worked successfully against the Soviet Union — a much more powerful adversary, note Eland and Gourley: "The United States deterred and contained a rival superpower, which had thousands of nuclear warheads, for 40 years; America can certainly continue to successfully deter and contain a relatively small, relatively poor nation until its leader dies or is deposed."

In other words, a military conflict with Iraq is not necessary, write Eland and Gourley: "Despite the furor over Hussein in the world media, there is no reason to believe that removing him from power is critical to American national security."

Guns for Tots draws media, jeers

Continued from Page 3

City to sell toy guns that are brightly colored or constructed entirely of transparent materials.

The bill's sponsors said the law is needed because criminals can spray paint toy guns black, or wrap them in black tape, to make them appear to be real guns.

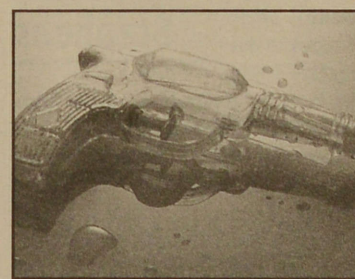
According to the Weekly Standard, Councilman Vann "botched" his January press conference to promote the bill.

Embarrassing

"He planned to threaten those in attendance with a water gun hidden in his pants, but the gun got stuck at the crucial moment," reported the website. "Vann was forced to conduct the rest of the press conference with an embarrassing water mark on the front of his trousers."

Lesczynski said the bill's sponsors are killjoys who want to take away the simple pleasures of childhood.

"We think Weprin and Vann are all wet for going after our kids' Super Soakers [water guns]," he said. "I have a toddler myself, and I was looking forward to watching her play



■ The Manhattan LP's Jim Lesczynski: "Playing with a water pistol is one of the most cherished rites of childhood."

with a squirt gun this summer, just like all of us did in our youths.

"I don't want the government telling my child what kind of toys she can play with."

Manhattan Libertarians collected toy guns and cash contributions from LP members and New York City residents for the giveaway.

However, at P.S. 72, Libertarians ran into some unexpected opposition: School administrators had instructed children not to accept toy guns, and a crowd of neighborhood parents staged its own counter-protest.

With members of the New York

City Police Department on hand to keep an eye on the proceedings, some parents chanted, "Get out of Harlem!"

An African-American city councilman charged that Libertarians were using children as "pawns in a political fight," and shouted, "If you want to give out toy guns, go and give it out in your neighborhood!"

But Lesczynski dismissed the criticism.

"We're doing this for the children," he said. "If we can bring a little joy into the lives of New York's youth — while such joy is still legal — then Guns for Tots will be a success."

If nothing else, the "Guns for Tots" drive did generate media attention for the Manhattan LP: Libertarians appeared twice on CNN and several times on talk radio shows, and were written about in the online version of *The Weekly Standard*. Stories about the toy gun giveaway even appeared in Canada and England.

"We're getting tons of coverage from the national media — but, strangely, no mention in any of our local outlets," said Lesczynski.

The city council did not say when it will vote on the toy-gun ban bill.

Beginner's Introduction

"It's the best for new libertarians!"

— KEN SCHOOLAND

Send \$6.95 (includes postage) to:
SIL, Box 10224, Rochester NY 14610

THE FORUM

Learning from LP candidates' failures in the 2002 election

The Libertarian Party once again failed to break into mainstream politics during the 2002 election. Many others have offered blanket suggestions for party reform, name changes, and other umbrella changes that would totally revamp the LP's identity. The changes suggested below are not going to overhaul the way we think of the party; they are changes to be put to use by those who run for office, and they are based on key examples of Libertarian failures in the 2002 season.

1. Be Mainstream: Unfortunately the Libertarian Party, as a fringe political party, is far from the mainstream. As a result, we tend to attract those who are unafraid to think outside the envelope of American political standards. These people, however well-intentioned, tend to be eccentric and ... different.

Being different is not a problem when you're one vote among thousands, but when you're opting to run for a legislative position where you need to convince the masses that you're the man or woman for the job, you cannot afford to let "difference"

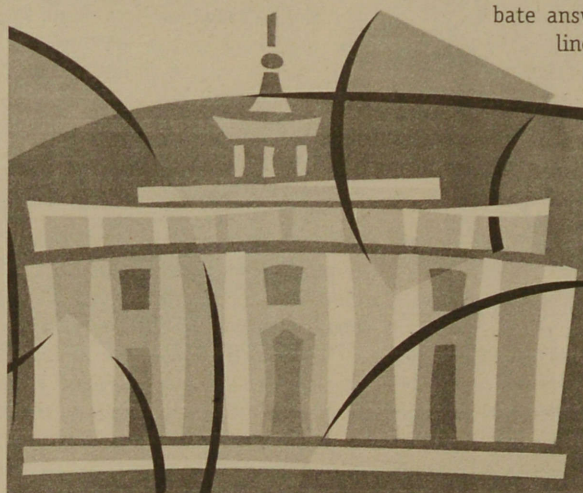
shine through. In other words, people don't want a candidate who shows up for interviews in a Druid's robes.

Before you, as a candidate, go on your first televised debate, have a few friends look you over to make sure that you fit the mold of an average citizen. If you're not going to make sure your hair is neat and your suit is pressed, then you should think twice about running for office.

2. Carry Yourself Well: Ed Thompson ran a great campaign for governor in Wisconsin and garnered over 10% of the vote. He did remarkably well, and used what he had going for him to the fullest extent. Sure, lack of exposure cost him many additional percentage points, but I think that Ed simply did not carry himself well during debates (and probably during other public sessions as well).

He's a good man with some great ideas, but he does not articulate them well on camera. There is an unmistakable slur in his speech that a can-

By Justin D. Somma



didate cannot have. And no candidate should ever slouch over the table during a round table discussion, especially when height is a factor.

If you can't stand at attention, speak without slurring, and answer questions with fluidity, regardless of their content, then you should think twice about running for office.

3. Don't come across as a party hack: When you're running under the banner of a third party, people need

to vote for you as an individual. When a candidate comes out and clearly brands him or herself as a spokesperson for the Libertarian Party, people turn a deaf ear to them.

A majority of Americans don't consider themselves politically Libertarian. The way to prove them wrong is not to alienate them with blanket Libertarian policies about "living your life, your way."

Pennsylvania gubernatorial candidate Ken Krawchuck and many others failed in this aspect. Their debate answers were party-line responses. More often than not, they answered questions with the preface, "As a Libertarian, I feel..."

Instead, they should have stated: "What's best for America is..."

Don't try to sell the public on your ideas; act as though they already agree with you, and are just in need of a quick summary related to local issues. If you can't sell Libertarianism without selling the party at the same time, then you should think twice about running for office.

4. Be Specific: As mentioned above, the Libertarian candidate is often forced to "sell" the platform to the people during debates, rather than selling his specific solutions to

the problems faced by the people.

When the Republican and the Democrat reply to debate questions with specific references to local programs, and then the Libertarian replies with a party platform blanket answer, who do you think the audience is going to listen to? They know that Libertarians want freedom — they just need to see how that freedom can be directly applied to their area.

If you can't delve into the specific programs related to your area, then you should think twice about running for office.

Shining example

Considering everything that I mention above, there is one shining example that we need to follow. Garrett Michael Hayes was the unfortunate third wheel in a competitive Georgia gubernatorial race.

Mr. Hayes was the apex of everything a Libertarian candidate should be. He carried himself as a politician, but spoke with an honesty that the other two candidates couldn't match; he was well-dressed and groomed, looking like every bit the political leader; he spoke clearly and concisely, addressing the people as if they were all Libertarians, and he did so by fusing platform statements with specific references to local issues.

Mr. Hayes was the ideal Libertarian politician, and anybody running for office under the Libertarian banner should study his debate tapes and learn just how it's done.

About the author: LP member and marketing specialist Justin D. Somma lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

How demographics will change the face of government

Take heart, Libertarians! What we have not been able to accomplish through our grassroots efforts, a forthcoming population shift in the United States may.

We have worked for limited government and reduced taxation since our party's inception, but, except for a few isolated exceptions such as California's Proposition 13 and Missouri's Hancock Amendment, the celebrations have been few and far between. However, those limits we've worked so hard for may be placed on our big federal government in a way that many have not considered nor foreseen.

Consider the Baby Boomers — that huge bulge of self-aware, self-indulgent individuals who were born in the aftermath of World War II and are now roughly between 50 and 62 years old.

Boomer domination

Never in the study of population has there been a group that so dominated our nation's demographic conversation as have the boomers. Professional marketers know the breadth of the Boomer numbers and have courted their buying power for decades. Estate planners know very well

the size and how the upcoming shift of personal wealth from the Boomer generation to the next will impact their businesses.

Unfortunately, during this time when the Boomer generation has been so dominant, we've seen our federal government itself grow to gargantuan proportions. Part of the reason is that we had an abundance of workers to fill those new millions of jobs as government more and more provided services — services that are better left to the private sector.

Now these Boomers are beginning to retire and die. (I don't say this frivolously, having been born in 1951 and claiming boomerhood myself.) Studies show that in the 1970s and 1980s, more individuals were entering the workforce than were leaving it through retirement or death. So, the economy and the number of government workers continued to grow. However, at the end of the 1990s, this trend began reversing itself.

For example, in 2002, for every person entering the workforce from high school, college, or by immigration, the U.S. had 1.4 persons leave

By Robert Stephens

the work force. It is estimated that, in 2006, as the Boomers begin to retire en masse, the ratio will be two individuals leaving the workforce for every one person coming into the workforce. The implications of this population shift is enormous.

First of all, our children's generation — unless we make drastic reductions in the size and function of government — will see their taxes double or even triple. There will simply not be enough people in the world of work to fund (through payroll taxes) all the services currently provided by the federal government.

Fill the jobs

Secondly, the generations behind the Boomers simply don't have the numbers to be able to fill all the jobs that exist today.

The Homeland Security department just announced that all Americans traveling outside the country will have to complete another government form itemizing their itinerary and the reason for their trip. Other than the obvious fact that Bush and Ashcroft have not figured out that we are not the enemy, who is going to read all these forms?

And once they read them, what

**IT IS ESTIMATED
that as Boomers
begin to retire, the
ratio will be two
people leaving the
workforce for every
one coming in.**

action will they take? (Do they really think someone will write, "Meeting with Hamas agents to plan attack?"). And, of course, in a few years, the boomer shift will kick in and there won't be enough people to fill all the positions to read these forms — much less be able to discern terrorist activity.

The demographics point to a massive contraction in the number of workers in both the public and the private sector. Now is when we Libertarians need to be planning for a transition to a more limited government. The Democrats can't possibly do it since their entire focus is on

letting the government do it. The Republicans now have too much vested in big government to strongly argue for a reduction in the size of the federal workforce. So it's up to us.

The Libertarian Party is the only political party that has been visualizing a smaller government. And it's the Libertarians who should be helping our neighbors begin to visualize a world where it isn't all done by a nanny government — where personal responsibility and personal freedom have a place in our society again.

Because many people are scared of freedom, it won't be easy. It hasn't been easy since the party was established. But this time, the numbers are on our side.

About the author: LP member Robert Stephens lives in Springfield, Missouri — John Ashcroft's hometown.



LP Flags, Banners
\$70 each
LPCA SLO Reg 40

LP Decals: \$3 • LP logo pin: \$10
P.O. Box 598, Pismo Beach, CA 93448
(877) 616-1776 • www.lpcsl.org/store

Why the Free State Project is the best strategy

Why moving 20,000 libertarians to one state will help accomplish 'liberty in our lifetime'

The Free State Project is the best libertarian strategy.

The Free State Project (FSP) proposes to identify the easiest state of the union to free, and then relocate 20,000 people to implement the liberation. The people interested in moving will sign up with FSP and vote on the state selected to be freed. Presently, 2,500 have signed up.

If half of one percent of the 3,912,814 people that voted for state Libertarian candidates in the 2002 election sign up, that would be 20,000 people. Sounds feasible to me. If you think one out of every 200 Libertarians you know would be willing to sign up, then you agree that it is feasible.

15% of the votes

If 20,000 people move to a low-population state, they would already have around 15% of the votes necessary to elect a U.S. Senator or governor. We would also have as much money to spend on campaigns in that state as the Demopublicans and we would have far more activists. With all these resources focused on one state, we should be able to persuade enough voters to win statewide elections. We would certainly gain some real political power.

If 5% of the people that voted for Libertarians in the 2002 Election relocate, that would be 200,000 people,

more than enough to elect a U.S. Senator and governor out right in at least five of the states.

We should not underestimate people's desire to be free. It is clear from our own history that millions of people have been willing to cross oceans in order to enjoy freedom. Therefore, it is not unreasonable to assume that a small percentage of present-day libertarians would be willing to cross a few state lines.

Why is the Free State strategy the best Libertarian strategy?

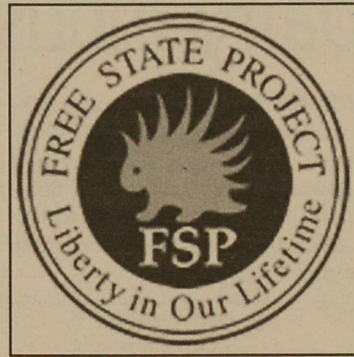
The Free State strategy is the most efficient use of our resources. If you invest a given amount of time and money in the Free State strategy, it will produce more political power than if the same amount of these resources is invested in any other nationwide strategy. Simply put, the Free State strategy gives us more bang for the buck.

The Free State strategy permits us to pool our resources, thereby dramatically increasing the resources that can be spent on the elections in one state.

Secondly, the Free State strategy takes advantage of the fact that in some states you need far fewer votes to elect a U.S. Senator than in others.

For instance, in California's 2000

By Jan Helfeld



elections, Senator Dianne Feinstein got 5.3 million votes to win, whereas Delaware Senator Thomas Carper only needed 180,000 votes to win. Thus, libertarians need 29 times more votes to elect a U.S. Senator in California than they need to elect a U.S. Senator in Delaware.

Squandering resources

The bottom line is, if we can't elect a U.S. Senator in Delaware why are we trying in California where it is 29 times harder? One reason is because we are overestimating our resources and underestimating the difficulty of winning elections. As a result we are not tailoring our resources to achievable political objectives. Consequently, we are squandering our limited resources and have gained hardly any political power.

It is as if Delaware U.S. Senators were on sale, selling at a 97% discount to California U.S. Senators, but state Libertarian parties are not interested, even though they could

easily afford to buy a Delaware U.S. Senator if they pooled their resources. Does this make sense?

We have been doing this for 31 years. It is time to wake up. We need a realistic appraisal of our resources and a strategy that is tailored to our resources. We need to pool our resources. We need to work as a team, i.e., as a political party. We need to make a concerted effort to smash the weak link in the chains of tyranny. We need freedom in our lifetime.

Many libertarians don't realize that the Free State strategy will free the people that don't relocate faster than they can free themselves directly and individually. Electing two

libertarian senators from a low-population state will protect all Americans.

How would the media's agenda be affected by freeing one state? No longer would our position be ignored. Our senators could keep freedom on the national agenda constantly.

The peace and prosperity within the Free State would be a concrete example for the whole country of the benefits of freedom.

■ **About the author:** LP member, attorney, and host of a public access television show Jan Helfeld is a resident of Falls Church, Virginia. For information about the Free State project, visit: www.freestateproject.com

Party wins minor BCRA concession from the FEC

The Federal Election Commission will allow national political party committees to rent their mailing lists — giving the Libertarian Party a small victory against the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (BCRA).

On January 17, a majority of the six-member Federal Election Commission (FEC) voted to allow political parties to rent contributor mailing lists to corporations such as businesses and think tanks.

The advisory opinion was a partial win for the Libertarian Party, which had petitioned the FEC to allow the party to continue to engage in some limited business activities.

Under the BCRA, political parties are prohibited from accepting so-called soft-money donations from corporations. However, the BCRA was so broadly written that normal business transactions — such as list rentals and advertising sales — could be interpreted as illegal "donations."

In its decision, the FEC said it would allow mailing list rentals because it is easy to determine their "fair market value." As such, it said, the FEC could determine if list rentals were really schemes to evade the BCRA's ban on soft money.

However, the FEC declined to allow the sale of advertising, saying it would be impossible to determine if such transactions were fraudulent.

Confusing decision

LP Chair Geoffrey Neale said the mixed decision was "confusing."

"We will be allowed to rent our mailing list because a determination can be made if we charge a 'fair market value,'" he said. "It seems to me that a similar value could be attributed to advertising [in LP News]."

Had the FEC allowed the sale of advertising, "I'd be much happier," said Neale.

In recent years, the LP received about 2% of its annual revenue from renting its member/contributor mailing list to non-profit libertarian organizations like the Cato Institute.

THE VOLUNTEER

A 10-point checklist for success

What does it take to make a state or local LP organization successful?

Based on my four years of experience as State Chair of the New Hampshire LP, and my interaction with all 50 state affiliates when I worked in the LP's national office, I have come to realize that no *one* strategy or activity can create lasting success.

Instead, success comes from continuously doing a number of nuts-and-bolts activities to maintain your organization; perpetually working to acquire the resources you need to grow; and constantly staying politically active and visible.

I have distilled these concepts down to a "10-point checklist for success" — activities that every LP organization must engage in to flourish and achieve political victories.

Here it is. A successful LP organization:

1. Maintains an accurate, up-to-date database of members and prospects.

2. Sends out a prompt, professional information package to interested prospects, and sends out timely

membership renewal notices to current members. (That is, if the state or national party doesn't handle this for you).

3. Engages in ongoing, *constant* prospecting to increase the size of the organization.

4. Publishes a regular, decent-quality newsletter (print or e-mail) to keep members and prospects informed. Uses that newsletter to publicize activities and success.

5. Has a bank account, a treasurer, and an ongoing, implemented plan to raise money.

6. Runs candidates for political office whenever possible. Monitors elections (or registration numbers) that could effect ballot status, as necessary.

7. Is active on a regular basis in the political system — whether through elections, referendums, coalitions, lobbying, or whatever.

8. Has an organized media outreach plan — which can include press releases, press conferences, and per-

By Bill Winter

sonal contacts to promote the party and earn publicity.

9. Has regular, publicized, productive, and interesting public meetings. Also has regular non-public meetings of party leadership to plan strategy and projects.

10. Has leadership dedicated to growth, success, and professionalism — and determined to avoid factionalism, arguments, and obstructionism. Party leadership has a solid, realistic vision for success.

Can succeed?

Can a Libertarian organization succeed if it ignores one or two of these items? Sure.

But, based on my experience with every state, county, or local LP organization that I have been in contact with, any Libertarian group that fails to engage in a majority (or all) of those 10 activities is doomed to stagnation or failure.

■ **About the author:** Bill Winter was State Chair of the New Hampshire LP from 1988-1992. He is currently editor of LP News.

POLITICAL TIPS

■ **Planning a large-budget Libertarian campaign?** Visit:

<http://PoliticalResources.com/>. The site offers links to almost every service a professional campaign might require, including opposition research, polling, direct-mail services, printing, public speaking training, campaign software, media buying, list rentals, yard signs, and buttons.

■ **Need background or facts for a letter-to-the-editor?**

Just visit <http://libertarian-resources.com/letters>. It has over 1,000 letters and articles for inspiration and information.

■ **Want to win your 2004 election?** The first step for any race, says the Project for California's Future, is to figure out how many votes you need to win.

To calculate this number, take the 2000 voter turnout percentage for your district and multiply it by the current number of registered voters. This produces the projected turnout of the 2004 election. In a two-person contest, the number of votes a candidate needs is 52%+ of that figure (50% + 1, plus a safety margin).

HANDWRITING ANALYSIS

\$10.00. Send S.A.S.E. to:
New Ways Enterprises,
1624 Aquarena Springs,
E137, San Marcos,
Texas 78666

THE EDITOR

Getting on the scale with state budget cuts

It's almost enough to restore your faith in the media.

On January 15, on the front page of *USA Today*, the headline proclaimed: "State, local spending up despite downturn." In just 589 words (and in a related article on page 3), *USA Today* matter-of-factly demolished the myth that state governments face dire budget deficits and are being forced to "cut" spending.

In fact, wrote reporter Dennis Cauchon: "State and local governments are spending more money and hiring more people than last year, even as governors warn of draconian cuts in public services."

Wait a second: *State spending is up?*

That's right, writes Cauchon: "A *USA Today* analysis shows that most of the budget cuts are not declines in spending from last year's. Instead, they are reductions in spending *increases*."

Oh, this is too good. A major newspaper has finally noticed that when politicians talk about "cutting" a budget, they really mean, "We can't increase spending as fast as we want to."

For example, in Minnesota, tax revenues are expected to rise 6.6% over the next two years. But politicians want to increase the budget by 13.4%. So, they lament that they must "cut" spending by \$4.6 billion. "But those cuts would be from *planned* spending; actual spending is still expected to rise," notes *USA Today*.

Or take California; Governor Grey Davis claims it has a \$35 billion budget deficit. But the legislature plans to increase general fund spending from \$78 billion this year to \$91 billion by 2005. Presto! A \$13 billion spending increase becomes a \$35 billion "deficit."

Minnesota and California aren't alone.

Around the USA, inflation-adjusted spending by state and local governments rose 3.3% in 2002. That's on top of the 62% spending increase over the past decade by the 50 state governments. By contrast, inflation was 30%.

"Spending by state and local governments has grown nationwide without interruption for decades, in good times and bad times alike," reports *USA Today*. "It has grown faster than the rate of inflation every year since 1982."

Amidst this spending spree, the governors of 31 states bemoan billion-dollar deficits — and warn about budget cuts. Hefty tax increases are necessary, they insist. But, notes *USA Today*, state tax revenue was up 1.4% nationwide during the third quarter of 2002.

But wait: It gets worse. Since 2001, state governments have actually hired 31,000 *more* workers — an increase of 0.6%. During the same time, private companies, reacting to the soft economy, laid off 467,000 workers — a decrease of 0.4%.

"Cuts" that are really increases. "Slashing" government while hiring new employees. Remind you of anything?

How about: "War is Peace"? "Freedom is Slavery"?

In his novel 1984, George Orwell wrote about Newspeak, a language that contained such mind-numbing contradictions that citizens were unable to articulate opposition to government policy.

"The whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought," wrote Orwell, and make dissent "literally impossible, because there will be no words in which to express it."

With the Great State Budget Crisis of 2003, you're hearing Newspeak. As in 1984, it's designed to make opposition to government growth impossible. It's designed to shut you up.

After all, when Libertarians argue that government spending should be cut, politicians react in a cascade of Newspeak: "Cut spending? We're already slashing the budget!"

Libertarian wordsmith Michael Cloud has a response. He calls it "Get On the Scale." The first time you go to Weight Watchers, he notes, you get on the scale. Your weight is recorded.

The following week, you're asked to get on the scale again, to see if your weight increased or decreased.

"Weight Watchers doesn't want explanations," says Cloud. "They don't want to hear, 'Well, I planned to gain 8 pounds, but only gained 5 pounds, so it's like I lost 3 pounds.' They just say: 'Get on the scale.' You gained weight or lost it. Let's find out. Get on the scale!"

So it is with government. Numbers don't lie (even if politicians do). Put your state's budget "on the scale." It's either larger or smaller than last year. Ultimately, only *facts* can beat government Newspeak.

Bravo to *USA Today*. Its exposé of state spending increases is a splendid "get on the scale" weapon for Libertarian activists.



By Bill Winter

LP NEWS EDITOR

What the government did to the dairy industry (and how to fix it)

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a more libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

Got milk?

If so, you've got higher prices, bureaucratic meddling, billions of pounds of surplus dairy products, and complicated mathematical formulas that define how much farmers can charge for the nutritious white beverage.

That's because the production and sale of milk has been regulated by the federal and state governments since the 1930s. And 70 years of regulation has created a bigger mess than 10 gallons of spilled milk on a shag carpet.

Take Massachusetts, for example. In October 2002, the Bay State's Department of Food and Agriculture launched an investigation of Midland Farms, a small chain of grocery stores.

Its alleged crime? Selling milk too cheaply.

According to regulators, the chain was selling milk for only \$1.79 a gallon. That was far below the statewide average of \$2.99 a gallon.

Raise its prices

The 70-year-old Massachusetts Milk Control Law bars retailers from selling milk below cost. So the Agriculture Department turned its lawyers loose, ordering them to force Midland Farms to raise its prices.

Midland Farms President Demetrios Haseotes was stunned. "We're saving people money," he noted.

However, facing the prospect of losing his license to sell milk, Haseotes capitulated. On January 8, Midland Farms agreed to raise milk prices.

So the Massachusetts milk crisis was solved? Not quite.

Six days later, Secretary of State William Galvin introduced legislation that would prohibit the sale of milk at "unconscionably excessive" prices.

Under the bill, it would be a crime to sell milk for any price in excess of 200% of what dairy farmers received for milk. In Massachusetts, that would work out to about \$2.34 per gallon.

If the law passes, then Midland Farms could be prosecuted (again) if it raises its milk prices too much — to, say, the statewide average \$2.99

Libertarian SOLUTIONS

a gallon.

Welcome to what *Boston Globe* columnist Charles Stein called "old Soviet Union"-style laws regulating milk.

Massachusetts isn't alone. New York already makes it a crime to sell milk at "excessive" prices. Vermont has created a Milk Commission to investigate inflated milk prices. Maine law sets minimum prices for milk (but

in a 1991 Briefing Paper for the Cato Institute, farmers who raise cattle for beef — rather than for milk — labor under a negligible number of state or federal laws.

"If the free market works for beef production, why should milk producers be treated differently?" he asked.

To answer that question, we have to go back to the Great Depression.

Price-support program

In the mid-1930s, Congress was concerned that falling milk prices would bankrupt small dairy farmers. So it passed a "temporary" dairy price-support program.

Under the program, which was eventually formalized as the Commodity Credit Corporation, the federal government bought surplus milk, butter, and cheese from farmers who couldn't otherwise sell them at sufficiently high prices.

Congress also passed the first "federal milk marketing orders," which required wholesalers and retailers "to pay a different price in each region of the country," wrote John McClaughry of the Vermont-based Ethan Allen Institute. The program was designed to keep lower-priced milk (from, say, Wisconsin) from being sold in states with higher milk costs (say, Florida), and thus driving out local dairy farmers. Eventually, the program grew to include 31 federal milk territories.

Finally, to complete its toxic trifecta, Congress passed "strict import controls to keep foreign products from coming in and driving down the price for cheese and butter," wrote McClaughry.

Not surprisingly (to anyone who understands economics), problems soon developed in the heavily regulated industry.

Inexorable surpluses

With prices guaranteed by Uncle Sam, dairy farmers produced more milk. Farms got bigger, more-productive cows were bred, and equipment became more efficient. And since the market could not respond to this overproduction with lower prices, milk, butter, and cheese surpluses grew inexorably.

In response, the federal government passed an increasingly desperate series of measures. It was, wrote Bovard, "a classic case of politicians' reacting to the failure of existing government controls by demanding far more intrusive controls."

■ In 1981, the federal government

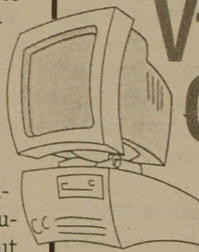
See **MILK** Page 22



not maximum prices). And in Connecticut and New Hampshire, legislators are considering bills to outlaw milk "price-gouging."

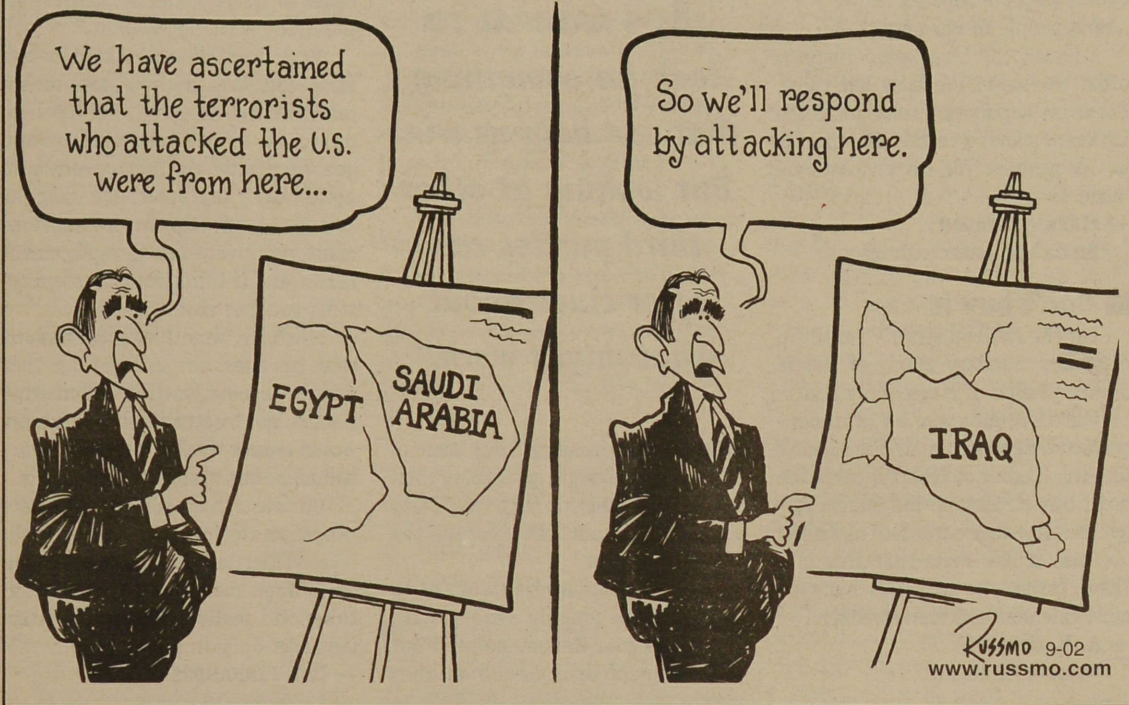
Why all the laws regulating milk? After all, as James Bovard noted

LP News
Visit us
Online



for a
daily dose
of news
& commentary from
the Libertarian Party
www.LP.org/lpnews

GEORGE-OGRAPHY



THE MAILBOX

Too much pettiness

Reading through the February issue of *LP News* something hit me that I now realize I've been denying for some time now. What set it off was this month's Pulse answers. People seem to get so upset over just a question, even to the point of leaving the Libertarian Party.

First of all, if your loyalty and belief in the freedom and liberty the LP stands for is so flaky that being asked general questions about a non-essential platform issue could drive you away, I say good riddance. You'd crack under the tougher questions anyway. Your support obviously means very little if you are driven away by mere "questions." So I ask you, is bio-food really the platform issue you want deciding your political views or rather topics like welfare, taxes, schools, etc.?

I always believed that things like this only happened in other parties. It's not supposed to be going on in ours, but it does. I figured that the 'higher goal' of true liberty of the LP would muffle the pettiness that the other parties are always getting caught up in.

Looking back I can see where I first started noticing this: 9/11. The split between those who wanted war and those who didn't seems to have drawn a massive line right down the center of the LP membership. The problem doesn't lie in that we think differently on a subject, it's that so many on each side refuse to listen and discuss the subject intelligently and reasonably.

Before revoking your membership,

THE PROBLEM
with the debate over
Iraq is that so many
on each side refuse to
listen and discuss the
subject intelligently
and reasonably.

take time to think: Are we all organized into parties to regulate our smallest thoughts because we want every single person in the party to be our precise clone?

Or is it to separate people by their larger, more general beliefs? If we divided ourselves down to every detail there would be thousands of parties instead of the comparatively few. Parties are meant to be a general, high-level overview of the most crucial ideals.

Don't get caught up comparing crumbs when you haven't even checked the loaves yet.

— KEVIN KURZAWA
Broomfield, Colorado

Moral high ground

I just read the article "Why Libertarians can't be afraid to discuss the 'm' word" [Libertarian Solutions, February 2003]. You made some outstanding points.

It's about time Libertarians took to the field and fought for the moral

high ground. Thank you for giving me a reference work for this fight.

— BRIAN IRVING
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Vouchers = subsidies

I couldn't resist responding to the comments of Lynn Harsh in "The Experts" section of *LP News* [February 2003]. It is absolutely breathtaking to see the Libertarian Party promoting the same statist schemes that Democrats and Republicans do, e.g., school "vouchers."

I hate the term voucher. Voucher is nothing except a euphemism for subsidy. Since when do Libertarians support increasing the size of government?

And how is that a step in the right direction? I know Mr. Milton Friedman has come out in favor of these subsidy schemes, but Friedman is also a monetarist. Friedman favors growth in the "money" stock, i.e., continually increasing levels of inflation (debasing our currency), which is the precise cause of our economic woes today. Lest we not forget, Mr. Friedman may be rhetorically in favor of free markets, but he is objectively a socialist.

Evidently, the LP is so focused on the right to smoke pot that it has forgotten about the broader libertarian philosophy. It is almost as though the LP has reduced libertarianism down to one particular issue, i.e., smoking pot. This sends a misleading signal to citizens, impels many to laugh at this party, dissuades them from joining, while attracting the

See **MAILBOX** Page 20

THE PULSE

When in doubt, poll

Survey says: Survey!

That's the solution when the LP grapples with the most divisive political issues, said a plurality of *LP News* readers.

In response to this month's unscientific Pulse question — "How should the Libertarian Party decide its official positions on tough, potentially controversial issues like a war on Iraq?" — 32% said the party should conduct a poll of members. Such a system, said one, would "promote true democracy."

In second place, with 24%, were readers who said the party should take no position on issues that are not "easily addressed by application of libertarian principles." Rather than risk splintering the party, the LP should "remain neutral," they said.

Nonsense, said 20% of the respondents — there's no issue so tough that the proper LP position can't be ascertained by rigorously applying "core libertarian values." Take any other approach, they warned, and the LP could "compromise its principles in response to every crisis."

In a distant fourth place (with 8% of the vote) was allowing the Libertarian National Committee to decide.

Here is a representative sample of the different responses:

■ Put issues to a ballot of all dues-paying LP members. What better way to promote democracy? I sure would like to have my voice heard.
— BARRY ROWE, Melbourne, Florida

■ Controversial issues should be judged by the gold standard: The libertarian non-aggression principle. The U.S. military bombing Iraq and taxing its own citizens to do so violates this principle.
— MICHAEL R. EDELSTEIN, San Francisco, California

■ We as a party cannot afford to risk our existence by taking a stand on divisive issues that can be argued either way without violating our principles. If significant minorities — say, one in four — of the membership take opposing stands, the party should remain neutral.
— MARK PHARISS, Denver, Colorado

■ The official position on tough issues should be determined by basic libertarian principles. If the party is going to compromise its principles in response to every crisis, then what differentiates it from the Democrats and Republicans? Since non-aggression is the most fundamental libertarian principle, the position on attacking Iraq should be clear. Sticking to this principle may result in the defection of members not fully committed to the libertarian philosophy, but failing to do so will imperil the party's long-term survival.
— DAVID PERRINE, Dallas, Texas

■ Poll the membership and publish the results showing the range of responses. That is, the party takes no "official position" per se.
— RICHARD KOFFLER, Pacific Palisades, California

■ As far as forming an official party position on the "intervention" in Iraq; the Libertarian Party did not create the problem and therefore does not need to maintain any official position on the subject.
— JAMES M. YOUNG, Reno, Nevada

■ The question about war in Iraq should be handled locally, or at most, at the state level. This is one of those controversial questions (read: abortion) that polarizes even the major parties. Let individuals within the party decide how they want to "vote" for this issue. There are plenty of liberal anti-war and conservative pro-war groups out there we can hold coalitions with.
— BRETT PORTER, Lexington, Ohio

■ On questions where the party membership is clearly divided (i.e. Iraq, abortion) the party should not take an official position. Some issues, such as these, are not easily addressed by application of libertarian principles.
— STU YOUNG, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

■ Allow a vote by all dues-paying members. The technology exists for us to use direct democracy, via the Internet. The best way to define a political party is to ask its members what it stands for. If we truly want to know what we stand for, we must ask every member, not just a few.
— FRANCIS KLINKNER, Mankato, Minnesota

■ The National Committee should make the decision. If there is serious division of opinion, state executive committees should vote. With e-mail, this should not be difficult. It would be unwise for the party to refuse to take a position on very important issues, such as the unnecessary war with Iraq. We will not be perceived as a serious party if we do not take a stand.
— DAVID MACKO, Solon, Ohio

See **THE PULSE** Page 20

THE PULSE

Continued from Page 19

■ Embrace the issue and publicize our internal debate. Debate the issue in full view of the media and public at large. Let the public see how Libertarians think and [see that] libertarians don't all agree on all issues. Let there be a press release about how the party is surprisingly divided on the issue with a war on Iraq, and that like the abortion and death penalty issues, the Libertarian Party survives.

— VIRGIL (RANDY) HALL II, San Diego, California

■ The Libertarian Party should generally refrain from taking official positions on divisive issues. Taking positions in this way only makes any problems worse. Instead, the LP should concentrate on what the vast majority of libertarians agree.

— NICHOLAS L. WOLFF, Urbana, Illinois

■ We should refrain from taking a stand on such a divisive issue. The Party of Principle must limit its stands to those that follow directly from our basic principles. In cases like this where we are so far from having a consensus, the connection between those principles and either stand is clearly on shaky ground.

— BRADLEY BOBBS, Calabasas, California

■ Allowing all dues-paying members to decide difficult issue positions would subject us to all the limitations of a democracy. Having the LNC decide these issues, via platform-defensible resolution, more closely resembles the wisdom embodied by a constitutional republic. Since all issues are potentially "difficult," it makes no sense to decide arbitrarily that some will have no official position.

— JEFF A. SMITH, Angola, Indiana

■ My preference is for polling of the paid members by e-mail. Polling members might encourage more members to pay their dues and remain members. It's another benefit of membership.

— VINCENT J MAY, Elgin, Texas

May Question: Favorite for Prez?

Syndicated radio talk show host Gary Nolan has already announced. Past Pennsylvania gubernatorial candidate Ken Krawchuk is reportedly thinking about running, as is 2002 Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate Carla Howell. And the word on the street is that a California judge may toss his hat into the ring. Of course, we're talking about the 2004 LP presidential nomination. But as a handful of candidates start the arduous trek towards the LP nomination, we have to ask: Who would you like to see as the party's 2004 presidential candidate? Who would represent the party best, or run the best campaign, or win the most votes, or attract the most attention? You can choose someone who is already running, or who has said they're thinking about running. Or, you can select someone who *ought* to run. (Clint Eastwood? Dave Barry? Walter Williams? Neal Boortz?) In other words, who is your *ideal* LP presidential candidate?

■ QUESTION: Who would you like to see seek (and win) the Libertarian Party's 2004 presidential nomination? And why? (Please keep answers to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: April 8, 2003

April Question: Target one race?

It's a suggestion that comes up after every election — especially when the LP didn't win any significant offices. The suggestion is simple: The LP should pour resources into one important race, and win it. Typically, the argument goes, the LP dissipates its resources in dozens of races around the USA, and loses most of them. A better strategy, say some folks, would be for Libertarians to decide which *one* race (or small handful of races) is winnable, and direct their contributions to just that race. It should be a major race: U.S. House or governor. With a coordinated national effort, they say, the LP could elect a Congressman or governor. Others disagree, saying that cantankerous Libertarians wouldn't be able to select just one race, or that LP members prefer to support mostly local elections. And, they say, even contributions from around the USA wouldn't be enough to guarantee a win for Congress or for governor in a typical state. Who's right?

■ QUESTION: Should the Libertarian Party put all its resources into winning *one* important race in 2004? If so, what kind of race? And why? (Please keep answers to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: March 8, 2003

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.
■ E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)
■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).
■ Mail: Bill Winter, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 1640 Worcester Road, #330-D, Framingham, MA 01702

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 19

wrong people to our party.

I joined the Libertarian Party in order to escape the false left-right, Democrat-Republican paradigm. If the LP keeps moving in the direction it is, its purpose for existing will be made nugatory.

— MARK ANDERSON

Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

■ Don't buy it

Per the Mailbox letter ["Insulting calendar," January 2003] of Marcia Slentz-Whalen of Mayo, Maryland:

Marcia sounds like an ultra-conservative Republican! If she doesn't like the [Ladies of Liberty] calendar, don't buy it. Simple! Did Marcia forget that freedom is freedom of *choice*?

And, if she feels that this is a "bad" thing, she can start her own male calendar and market that!

— A. R. MIKLOS

Warren, Michigan

■ Libertarian magic

Take 21 cards and deal them out into three columns by seven rows. Deal three cards across for the first row left to right. Next, deal the second row of three cards on top of the first row in the same manner, making sure that the first row of cards remain visible. Finally deal all remaining rows in similar fashion on top of each previous row.

Now ask someone to think of one of the 21 cards and tell you what column the card is in. Pick up one of the other columns, then the column that the person chose, followed by the third column so that the column the person chose lies between the other two.

Deal the cards out like before, and again ask the person what column the card is in. As before, pick up the columns so that the column the person chose lies between the other two. Finally, deal the cards out again for a third and last time and repeat the entire process.

Now hold the cards face down in your hand and ask the person to spell the magic word "LIBERTARIAN." For every letter spoken, place one card face down on the table. After the final "N" card, pick up that card and turn it over. It is the chosen card!

I have researched this amazing card trick in great detail and can assure you that neither "DEMOCRAT" nor "REPUBLICAN" works, only the magic word "LIBERTARIAN."

— DR. JERRY ZIEMKE

Greenbelt, Maryland

■ Milsted: No dogma

Kudos to Carl Milsted for this Forum column ["Three Kinds of Freedom that Libertarians Shouldn't Ig-

**"IT'S NATURAL TO
look for something
that can help us win.
But looking at other
third parties can
offer clues about
what might work."**

nore"] in the January, 2003 issue of *LP News*. His thought-provoking commentary reminds us that the "Party of Principle" should never become the "Party of Dogma."

Most Libertarians think of liberty and rights as roughly synonymous. But as Thomas Hobbes pointed out in his magnum opus, *Leviathan*, they are, in fact, opposites. My right to life means that you do not have the liberty to kill me. Complete liberty would mean anarchy.

Like everyone else, we are striving for the best civil society. In our noble quest, with our principles to guide us, we must never stop contemplating and debating what this means, and by what means it may be achieved.

To this end, I offer one improvement to Mr. Milsted's agenda. Rather than both a wealth tax and pollution taxes, combine them into an environmental consumption tax.

The danger of a simple wealth tax is that it provides a strong disincentive to savings and investment. We would have to be on guard, however, of one of the logical consequences of such a tax: the combination the IRS and EPA into a single government agency!

— MARK W. ZACHARIAS

Langhorne, Pennsylvania

■ Milsted: Disturbed

I was disturbed by Carl Milsted's Forum article where he advocates moving the Libertarian Party farther to the left to attract leftist support.

To summarize if I can, he wants

us to embrace an egalitarian agenda, bash big business, and promote new wealth taxes and pollution taxes. He equates employer-imposed dress codes to tyranny, and he accuses corporations of being "violent."

As a libertarian I defend laissez faire capitalism. Without government interference, corporations have no power. So to limit corporate power, you have only to limit government power. To do that, you must limit the amount of taxes flowing into government, not invent new or replacement taxes. And if think your boss is a tyrant, you can quit.

Milsted's "wealth tax" idea shows that he does not understand that people become wealthy by creating wealth, not by stealing it. Such a tax would reduce wealth creation, a very bad idea, but typical from the left.

Our mission should be to educate people on the left, not stoop to their level. Libertarians like Mr. Milsted discourage me from believing anything will really change if Libertarians ever do gain power.

— DAN FERNANDES

La Verne, California

■ Milsted: Big concern

Regarding "Three kinds of freedom that Libertarians shouldn't ignore," by Carl Milsted, Jr.:

An excellent article with lots of food for thought. I do, however, have a big concern with his suggestion to, "Replace the income taxes with wealth taxes. Income taxes hit those who are getting wealthy. Wealth taxes hit only those who are already wealthy."

In my mind, this translates as, "while I am paying for my house, you cannot tax me but once it is paid for, it is up for grabs."

Just how would "wealth" be defined? I have a right to what very little wealth I have because these "things" (house, car, etc.) are unique in that I have mixed my labor into them in order to acquire them.

Thus, I don't understand what the difference is between "getting wealthy" (whatever that is?) and being wealthy, (whatever that is?). In one case, I am in the act of mixing my labor into the "thing" I am acquiring and in the other instance, I have finished mixing my labor into the "thing" I have acquired. In either case, they are unique due to mixing of my labor into the "thing."

— LARRY STONE

North Bend, Oregon

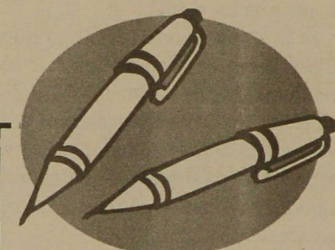
■ What works?

In the January 2003 Mailbox, a writer makes some suggestions to improve the Libertarian Party's performance: Change the party's name, run better candidates, and find a well-known or well-funded candidate for President.

None of these ideas is new. Being a Libertarian can be frustrating, and when our candidates lose, it's natural for us to look for something that can help us win. But looking at other third parties can offer clues about what might work, and what might not.

The U.S. Taxpayers' Party had a great name. Everyone could under-

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 21



Make Your Voice Heard!

LP News welcomes letters.
Send correspondence to:

E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org.
Fax: (202) 333-0072
(Attn: LP News).

Mail: Bill Winter, Attn: LP News,
1640 Worcester Road, #330-D,
Framingham, MA 01702

The New Internet

Free, Fast & Easy
Profit Share Earnings
Your Own Free Web Page

John: 775 747 7379
jrboyd3@cwnet.com

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 20

stand what the words meant. And yet, the party was not particularly successful. It ended up changing its name to the Constitution Party. The name change did not have a noticeable effect on the party's success.

More importantly, the Constitution Party does what many Libertarians think the Libertarian Party should do: tout smaller government while avoiding issues like drug legalization. One would think that their platform would appeal to a large number of Americans. Even so, the Constitution Party gets far fewer votes than the Libertarian Party.

The fate of the Reform Party is also interesting. Ross Perot's money gave it its day in the sun, but it could not take advantage of that. If we were to find a Presidential candidate with money, it's not certain that the party would benefit in the long term.

How about a famous candidate? Pat Buchanan had excellent name recognition and a large following in Republican primaries, but he did little more than put another nail in the Reform Party's coffin.

But on the bright side, the New Alliance Party, the Reform Party, Lyndon LaRouche, and others have come and gone during the 30-year history of the LP. So far, we seem to have staying power.

The simple fact is, building a major political party is hard. No one has been able to do it for several decades, if not 130 years. I sometimes feel like giving up. But when I see the Republican or Democratic politicians on TV, I realize I simply have no choice. Win or lose, I will continue to support the Libertarian Party.

— **BOB ALEXANDER**
Bedford, Massachusetts

Staffers' fault

Why did 45% of respondents to The Pulse question [January 2003] on attacking Iraq say they support an attack on Iraq — even though the

Libertarian philosophy and platform are clearly against such an attack?

Could it be because for the last 10 years the party leadership and staff have failed miserably to educate members, especially through *LP News*, as to the libertarian position on non-intervention?

Obviously, this is a difficult issue for many new Libertarians and therefore it is one that should be emphasized in order to educate them — not ignored in fear of driving new Libertarians away and perhaps losing their membership and other financial contributions?

Hopefully, future LP staffers will be more diligent in informing members about the libertarian non-interventionist stance.

— **CAROL MOORE**
Washington, DC

Questionable

I couldn't help noticing there were a number of questionable assertions made by readers in January's The Pulse that exhibited a very high degree of biased thinking.

For example, Robert Joseph Underwood tells us that: "Libertarians are living in a fantasy land where the Moslems are concerned. The Koran is rife with clauses against Christians and Jews. There are also clauses

that instruct the believer to kill non-Moslems."

Now while I think Mr. Underwood paints a somewhat distorted picture of what it actually says, I won't deny that the Koran contains some troubling passages.

However, I would like to ask him to spend more time reading the Bible with that same eye for detail. It contains a great deal of violence and intolerance, but we never seem to hear about that. I would also point out that it is only because we have become more secular in the West that we have been able to purge our culture of much of the intolerance, violence, and fanaticism that many now like to point to in the Muslim world.

I can't say that Mr. Underwood and his like-minded friends have convinced me to support attacking Iraq, but they have done a good job of reminding me why it is important to keep Church and State separate, and why we do not want religious dogma of any kind to creep into our foreign policy making process.

— **ROBERT FISHER**
Kansas City, Missouri

Discouraging

Reading the January issue of the *LP News* was discouraging. If some of the answers for The Pulse question and letters you published were "typical" of Libertarians, I would be ashamed to call myself a Libertarian.

We must insist that Congress de-

clare war on Iraq before allowing any military action. Otherwise our military is nothing more than a band of terrorists, and our president is nothing more than an Osama bin Laden.

Some call for a preemptive strike, even if no weapons of mass destruction are found. They forget that the most successful preemptive strike in history at Pearl Harbor led to the defeat of the nation that made it.

They also do not realize that countries of the Arab world don't need weapons of mass destruction. With our addiction to petroleum, all that they need to do is withhold oil ex-

ports to the western world for a short time. The result would ruin our economy quicker than a major nuclear attack. As things are, if American troops invade Iraq we can probably look forward to \$5 a gallon gasoline.

Those who call themselves "Libertarian," but support a war with Iraq do not realize that they are only supporting policies that will create many more future terrorists and greater government power. I hope that they learn the error of what they support before it is too late!

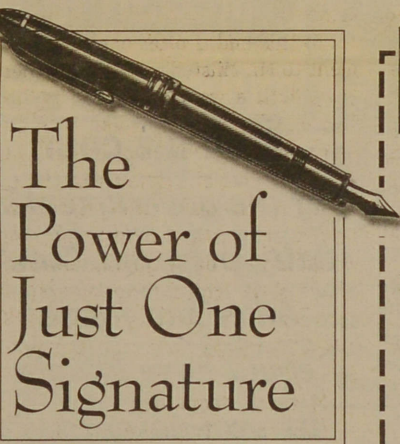
— **DUANE GRINDSTAFF**
Kent, Washington

LP News Corrections

■ In the January issue, the person in the page 2 photograph identified as William Cole was actually William Mark Clifford, who was elected to the Seminole County Soil and Water Conservation District board.

■ In the February issue, the Bill of Rights rally shown in two photographs on page 9 was mistakenly identified as having taken place in Nevada County, Nevada. In fact, it was Nevada County, California.

■ In the February issue, in the page 1 article, "National Committee passes frugal \$1.4 million budget," several budget line items were incorrectly listed. Two items — \$213,050 for ballot access and \$80,000 for candidate support — are conditional upon money being raised to fund those activities. Two items had incorrect amounts: \$191,400 for direct-mail, pledge, and major donor fundraising costs (should have been \$97,500), and \$108,574 for printing/distribution of outreach materials (should have been \$54,038). And one item was imprecisely identified: \$64,000 for National Committee expenses. In fact, this is the broader category of "governance," and will fund the LNC, a State Chair's conference, volunteer expenses, etc.



Libertarian Party Membership!

☐ **YES! Sign me up today as a proud, dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party!**

I'll receive 12 monthly issues of *LP News*, and a membership card. I'd like to be a Libertarian Party member in the following category:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | Sustaining Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | Basic Member |

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:
> I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

Subscription

☐ Enclosed is \$25. I'd rather not join just yet. Instead, please sign me up for a one-year subscription to *LP News* (12 monthly issues).

Name & Address

SOURCE CODE: 2003-000922

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____
 EMPLOYER _____ OCCUPATION _____

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Payment

☐ To help you in your important work for liberty, I have enclosed an additional donation of:

\$ _____

Total payment enclosed

\$ _____

☐ Check/money order enclosed. (No corporate checks, please.)
 Or: Bill my ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX
☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

ACCT. # _____

EXPIRES _____

SIGNATURE FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

☐ I'd like to support the Libertarian Party on a more regular basis. Please send me information about your monthly Pledge Program — and the benefits for joining.

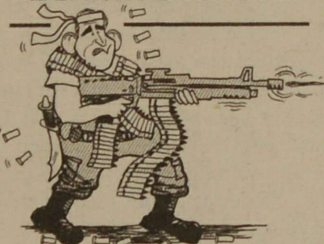
Make checks payable to:

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100
 Washington DC 20037
 Phone: (202) 333-0008
 Fax: (202) 333-0072 • www.LP.org

Where Does it End?

THE WAR ON TERRORISM



A Political Cartoon Booklet by **RUSSMO**

For order info please visit
WWW.RUSSMO.COM

Do you think 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?

If so, you can help change that by joining the 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.

But we need your help to do it. Join us today!

UPCOMING

■ April 12, 2003

Alaska LP Convention, Prospector Hotel, Juneau. Speakers include Rob Kampia (Marijuana Policy Project). For information, call Alvin Anders: (907) 790-4367. Or e-mail: aanders@ak.net.

■ April 12, 2003

Tennessee LP Convention, Realty Association Building, Nashville. Speakers include Geoffrey Neale (LP National Chair). For information, visit: www.lptn.net/.

■ April 25-27, 2003

Indiana LP Convention, Michigan City. Exact location and speakers TBA. For more information, visit: www.lpin.org.

■ April 25-27, 2003

North Carolina LP Convention, University Place Hilton, Charlotte. Speakers include Dr. Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*). For information, call Elizabeth Vance: (336) 854-1950. E-mail: elizabethvance@inf.net.



■ April 26, 2003

Washington state LP Convention, University Plaza Hotel, Seattle. Speakers TBA. For information, call Brien Bartels at: (206) 329-5669. Or e-mail: director@LPWS.org.

■ April 26, 2003

Maryland LP Convention, Old Station 8 Firehouse, Gaithersburg. Speakers TBA. For information, call Chip Spangler: (301) 346-2361.

■ April 26-27, 2003



New York LP Convention, Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz. Speakers include Ed Thompson (2002 Wisconsin gubernatorial candidate). For information, call Werner Hetzner: (518) 235-8331 (h) or (518) 474-9799 (w). Or e-mail: whetzner@mac.com. Or visit: www.1MarketSquare.com/CapLP/Convention.html.

■ May 3, 2003

Nevada LP Convention, Delta Saloon, Virginia City. Speakers include Judge James Gray (California Superior Court, Orange County). For information, visit: www.lpnevada.org. Or e-mail: erah8@yahoo.com.

■ May 9-11, 2003



Ohio LP Convention, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dayton. Speakers include Neal Boortz (radio talk show host), Doug Bandow (syndicated columnist), Vin Suprynowicz (author, *The Ballad of Carl Draga*), and Robert Poole (Reason Foundation). For information, call Mary Pacinda: (937) 845-9980. Or e-mail: pacimj@aol.com. Or visit: www.lpo.org/LPO2003Convention.htm.

■ May 10, 2003

Hawaii LP Convention, 2500 Pali Highway, Honolulu. Speakers TBA. For information, call Roger Taylor: (808) 352-5683. Or e-mail: roger-taylor@hawaii.rr.com

■ May 24, 2003

Arkansas LP Convention, Doubletree Hotel, Little Rock. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: gerhard@langguth-us.net. Or: rreed@hypertech.net.

■ June 19-21, 2003

National Taxpayers Conference '03, Washington Court Hotel, Washington, DC. Sponsored by the National Taxpayer's Union Foundation. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (703) 683-5700. Or write: NTUF, Attn: Conference, 108 N. Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

■ June 13-15, 2003

New Mexico LP Convention, La Posada de Hotel, Albuquerque. Speakers include Richard Winger (publisher, *Ballot Access News*), and Dr. Harold Messenheimer (executive director, Rio Grande Foundation). For information, contact Joseph Knight at: nm_libertarian@yahoo.com.

■ July 7-11, 2003

International Society for Individual Liberty World Conference, Vilnius, Lithuania. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: www.isil.org.

■ August 3-9, 2003

Mises University, Mises Institute, Auburn, Alabama. Seminars on the Austrian School of economics. Speakers include: Walter Block (author, *Defending the Undefendable*), David Gordon (*Mises Review*), and Richard Vedder (Ohio Univ.). For information, e-mail: pat@mises.org.



Understanding federal milk regulations: The Mafia meets the Soviet government

Continued from Page 18

ment began distributing billions of dollars of surplus cheese, butter, and nonfat dry milk to the poor. (Despite the giveaways, the feds still had 577 million pounds of butter, 280 million pounds of dry milk, and 38 million pounds of cheese stockpiled in warehouses a decade later.)

■ In 1983, Congress launched a dairy buyout, paying farmers to retire cows from production. By 1985, it had paid \$995 million to retire 10,000 dairy cows — at an average cost of \$100,000 per cow. Meanwhile, other dairymen simply increased their production levels.

■ In 1986-87, Congress paid dairy farmers \$1.3 billion to slaughter cows. Again, other dairy farmers simply increased their production, leaving total milk production exactly where it was before. Even worse, the 1.6 million dairy cows sent to slaughter caused beef prices to plummet, "bankrupting some cattlemen," wrote Bovard.

■ In 1991, the USDA started paying U.S. farmers \$1 a pound for butter so it could sell that butter in foreign countries for 60¢ a pound. At a time when some Americans couldn't afford to buy milk, "the USDA [spent] over \$50 million to dump 140,000 tons of U.S. dry milk on world markets," wrote Bovard.

■ In 1996, Congress approved the New England Interstate Dairy Compact (a new spin on the old milk territories), which mandated a 21% price hike for milk in the six-state New England region — creating a "price-fixing cartel that artificially protected farmers in compact states while lowering prices in non-compact states," wrote Kenneth W. Bailey in *Regulation* (Winter 2001).

■ In 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture announced "reforms" to the federal programs. He reduced the number of federal milk territories from 31 to 11, and announced a new method to compute the "basic formula price" for milk.

And what a formula it was!

Get out your calculator. It went as follows: "Basic Formula Price (BFP) = [last month's average price paid for manufacturing grade milk in Minnesota and Wisconsin + [current grade AA butter price X 4.27 + current non-dry milk price X 8.07 - current dry-buttermilk price X 0.42] + [current cheddar cheese price X 9.87 + current grade A butter price X 0.238] - [last month's grade A butter price X 4.27 + last month's nondry-milk price X 8.07 + last month's dry-buttermilk price X 0.42] - [last month's cheddar cheese price X 9.87 + last month's grade A butter price X 0.238] + (present butter fat - 3.5) X [current month's butter price X 1.38] - [last month's price of manufacturing grade milk in Minnesota-Wisconsin X 0.028]]."

Whew. It was, opined Ed Hudgins of the Cato Institute, "a cross between something invented by the Mafia and the Soviet government."

Meanwhile, no matter what "reform" Congress passed, federal oversight of the dairy industry grew more intrusive. By 1991, milk-marketing rules took up three volumes of the Code of Federal Regulations and required 600 federal employees to administer.

The results of decades of federal

■ It encouraged inefficiency in the dairy business. For example, farmers in Australia and New Zealand "can produce milk at less than half the cost that the average American farmer can," noted Bovard. However, Americans can't benefit from foreign efficiency because import restrictions "allow the import of the equivalent of only one teaspoon of foreign ice cream and one pound of cheese per person per year," he wrote.

Ironically, the labyrinth of laws and surfeit of subsidies hasn't even accomplished its original Depression-era goal of protecting small dairy farmers.

Since 1930, the number of American dairy farmers has decreased by 95%, noted Bovard. As larger farms became more efficient, smaller dairy farms couldn't compete (even with federal subsidies.) And as suburbs expanded, vast tracts of farmland became more valuable to developers and homeowners than they were to farmers.

Higher prices. Massive surpluses. Fewer farmers. Seventy years of federal intervention has demonstrated the federal government's "total incompetence at managing the dairy industry," wrote Bovard.

Simple solution

That's why the solution to the milk morass is quite simple, he wrote: "Congress should abolish dairy price supports and milk-marketing regulations at once. The federal government should allow the free market to determine milk prices."

At the same time, state governments should get out of the business of setting prices, and stop prosecuting stores that commit the "crime" of selling milk for too much (or too little) money.

Can the free market provide perishable dairy products to consumers at reasonable prices?

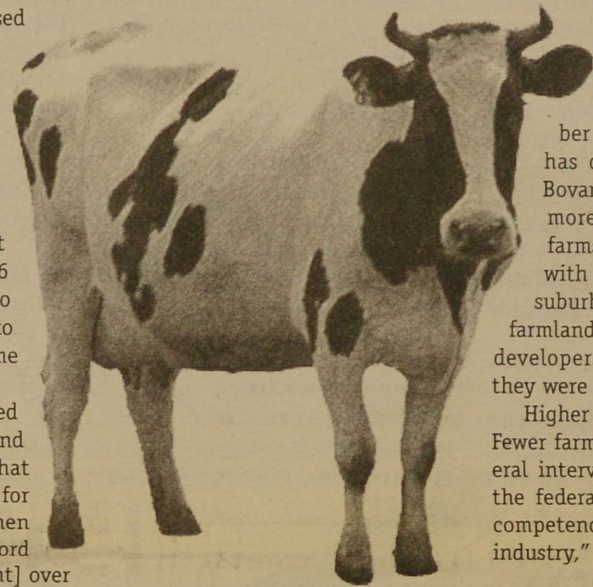
Absolutely, said Bovard: There are no federal laws governing the production and sale of eggs, which "share many of the market characteristics of dairy products, including perishability." Yet, over the past three decades, the "real price of eggs has fallen 50%, while the real price of milk has changed little."

Dairy farmers would have to adjust to the new free-market system. The most efficient ones would flourish, while the least efficient would go out of business. But that isn't necessarily bad, wrote Bovard, "in the same way that there is nothing inherently wrong with the decrease in the number of corner grocery stores or village blacksmiths."

That's why, wrote McNew, "Congress could help consumers and efficient farmers by eliminating the federal dairy program."

Got milk?

Sure, but you'd get it cheaper with a free-market system.



**FOR THE COST
of the government's
dairy program, "each
American family
could have bought
its own dairy cow."
—James Bovard**

meddling in the milk market have been devastating:

■ It cost American consumers billions of dollars in higher prices. By the early 1990s, Bovard estimated that "import quotas, price supports, and marketing restrictions cost consumers between \$5 billion and \$7 billion per year." In fact, he noted wryly, "For the cost of the dairy program, each American family could have bought its own dairy cow."

■ It costs Americans even more in taxes. In 1995 alone, wrote Kevin McNew in a Policy Analysis for the Cato Institute (December 1, 1999), taxpayers shelled out \$8 billion to dairy farmers through various federal price-support programs.

■ It harms the poor and elderly. Because of artificially high dairy prices, "calcium has long been the nutrient that poor people lack most," wrote Bovard. "Higher milk prices have also contributed to osteoporosis [an illness caused by a lack of calcium] in the elderly."

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

For information about advertising in the LP News "Business Card Directory," call (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org. PLEASE NOTE: Any literature sold on this page reflects the personal political and/or social beliefs of the authors. It does not represent the "official" Platform positions — or political strategies — of the Libertarian Party. In addition, the Libertarian Party makes no guarantees about, or endorsement of, the effectiveness, degree of risk, or legality of any financial advice, legal services, or investment opportunities advertised in LP News.

Medical Savings Accounts

Cut your health insurance premiums in half...

Additional tax deductions of 65% for individuals and 75% for families.

For a free quote, call: Bernard Jaffe M.B.A.

1-800-916-5525

LIC. # 0239474 • FOR CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ONLY



Safe Legal Plans

- Unlimited phone consultations
- Letters and phone calls on your behalf
- Traffic ticket representation
- 60 hours of trial and pretrial attorney time if you face civil or criminal charges
- 50 hours of attorney time for IRS audit
- Spouse and children are covered

Only \$16.00 per month!

Corporate and small business plans also available.

www.safelegalplan.com or call 1-888-213-4462

Learn the Truth About the Income Tax!

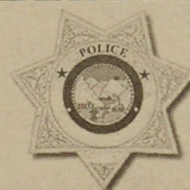
and Reclaim your Rights with a little light reading at losthorizons.com

(OK, it's not so light... but it's not Rocket Science, either, and it's worth it)

NOTHING TO BUY
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
The Power that you will gain on our site is provided as a Public Service

www.losthorizons.com

POLICE OFFICER WANTED. UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY!



Work with Libertarian administration of Big Water, Utah (pop. 400) by scenic Lake Powell and red rock country. Low crime, low stress, small town environment. Rookies or retired officers welcome. Please tell your libertarian-leaning police friends. Call 435-675-3760 or email willystarman@hotmail.com

Want to show your support, or warn the other drivers? Try the Libertarian window sign!

Mounts on the inside of any car window.

LIBERTARIAN ON BOARD

\$6.50 each

2 for \$11.00

Quantity discounts are available!

Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party of Illinois
316 1/2 River Street • E. Dundee, IL 60018

Information call 847 844 3410

www.libertypenguin.com



"LP" Bumper Stickers

\$1.25 each, 5 for \$5

Liberty is Cool! VOTE Libertarian



"LP" Sweatshirts

"Libertarians are Cool!" (L, XL) \$25 each

Other products & quantity discounts available

Order online or call 1-888-453-4332 today

The Creative Factory
P.O. Box 368, Bean Station, TN 37708
E-Mail: info@libertypenguin.com



Legalize Freedom

LEGALIZE FREEDOM TEE-SHIRTS AND BUMPER STICKERS!

When it comes to Freedom, silence is neither golden nor wise. Express Yourself. Legalize Freedom Bumper Stickers: \$2.00 each. Legalize Freedom Tee-Shirts: \$10.00 each. Sticker: Black lettering on white vinyl. Tee-Shirt: Black lettering silk-screened onto Hanes 100% Cotton Beefy Tee, M/Lg/XL. Shipped P.O. Priority Mail: \$2.00 postage each package. Expect 4-6 weeks delivery. Make checks payable to: Martin Belkin, P.O. Box 350357, Brooklyn, New York 11235

Politicians Should Sell Contract Insurance To Us — Not Tax Us.

Please contact me for a free prospectus, or my booklet is \$2. Thanks,

Dave Hollist

(909) 980-4198 • constitution@compuserve.com

Libertarian Candidate for President

P.O. Box 1414, Alta Loma, CA 91701-8414

<http://i.am/trading>

FEDERAL RESERVE NEWSLETTER www.federalnewsletter.com

Constitutional? Banking cartel? Government agency? Serious journalism starts right here. Join the discussion. A monthly newsletter covering all aspects of the FED. \$20/12 issues. Checks/Money

Orders payable to: Christopher Dardzinski.

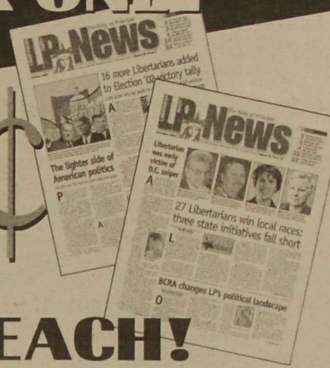
Mail to: F.R.N. Subscription Dept.

1359 Chandler Ave.

Lincoln Park, MI. 48146-2009

REACH 27,000 LIBERTARIANS FOR ONLY

1/4¢ EACH!



THAT'S RIGHT. When you purchase a business-card ad in LP News for only \$75, you will reach 27,000 readers with information about your product, campaign, or service for just over a quarter-cent per person. That's a fraction of what you would pay to send information through the mail. Even better: Purchase multiple ads, you can qualify for up to a 35% discount. There's no cheaper way to reach Libertarians! For a free, no-obligation advertising package, just call Editor Bill Winter: (508) 820-7340. Or e-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org.

A New Vision for America

A NEW VISION FOR AMERICA BOOKLET!

Gorgeous 24-page booklet with vivid color photographs. Presents the LP's positive vision for a better America. Only 25¢ each in bulk. See order form on Page 13.



BILL OF RIGHTS SHIRT

Make a statement wearing this quality grey t-shirt with red "VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW"

Over the Bill of Rights in black.

HeavyWeight Pre-Shrunk 100% Cotton t-shirt Sizes M,L,XL,2X

Order by Mail Send 16.95 To:

Libertarian Party
PO Box 20815
Greenfield, WI 53220

Order over the Web at www.lpwi.org

or by Phone at (800) 236-9236



LP INFO

LP NATIONAL CHAIR

Geoffrey Neale

POLITICAL DIRECTOR

Ron Crickenberger

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Nick Dunbar

MARKETING DIRECTOR

Mark Schreiber

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

George Getz

HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Dollie Parker, M'ship Services

Dianne Pilcher, Affiliate Services

Ananda Creager, Admin. Assistant

LIBERTARIAN PARTY®

Suite 100

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20037

(202) 333-0008

Fax: (202) 333-0072

Website: www.LP.org

Office hours: 9 am-5 pm ET, M-F

New Member Info: (800) ELECT-US

LP NEWS EDITOR

Bill Winter

CONTACT LP NEWS

1640 Worcester Road, #330-D

Framingham, MA 01702

Phone: (508) 820-7340

Fax: Call for fax

E-mail: Editor@hq.LP.org

Website: www.LP.org/lpnews

UPCOMING

February 28-March 2, 2003

Illinois LP Convention, Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Oak Brook.

Speakers include Justin Raimondo (www.antiwar.com), Ed Thompson (2002 Wisconsin gubernatorial candidate), Dr. Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), and Bill Masters (sheriff and author, *Drug War Addiction*). For information, visit: www.il.lp.org/2003convention/.

March 1, 2003

New Jersey LP Convention, Trenton Marriott Hotel, Trenton. Speakers

include Jack A. Cole (executive director, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition). For information, e-mail Robert Jacobs at: robertlj@yahoo.com.

March 1, 2003

Iowa LP Convention, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines.

Speakers include Bill Masters (sheriff, San Miguel County, Colorado). For information, visit: www.lpia.org.

March 4, 2003

Patrick Henry Supper Club, China Buffet Restaurant, Richmond, Virginia.

Speaker is John Berthoud (president, National Taxpayers Union). For information, e-mail L.T. Harris at: leonard@richmondliberty.org.

March 13-16, 2003

Reason Weekend 2003, Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego, California.

Reason's annual event for major supporters. Speakers include Virginia Postrel (author, *The Future and Its Enemies*) and Penn Jillette (magician). For information, call Donald Heath: (310) 391-2245.

March 22, 2003

Wisconsin LP Convention, Mr. Ed's Tee Pee Supper Club, Tomah. Speakers

TBA. For information, e-mail: director@lpwi.org. Or visit: www.lpwi.org/.

March 29, 2003

Minnesota LP Convention, FSC & Community Center, New Brighton.

Speakers include Jack Tomczak (Let Minnesota Vote), Linda Runbeck



(Taxpayers League), Dan McElroy (Minnesota Commissioner of Finance), and Ed Thompson (2002 Wisconsin LP gubernatorial candidate). For information, e-mail Colin Wilkinson: CWilkinson@RiverWarren.com. Or call: (612) 825-5100.

April 4-6, 2003

Colorado LP Convention, Ramada Inn, Colorado Springs. Speakers include Ed Thompson (2002 Wisconsin LP gubernatorial candidate), Gary Nolan (candidate, LP's 2004 presidential nomination), Vin Suprynowicz (columnist, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*), Dr. Robert Zubrin, (author, *The Case for Mars*), and Suzanne Shell (founder, American Family Advocacy Center). For information, e-mail: lpco2003@psisys.net. Or call: (719) 310-9444. Or visit: www.lpcolorado.org/.

April 4-7, 2003

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Ramada Plaza Hotel, Wilkes Barre. Speakers include Marty Thomas-Brumme (Rose Center on Conflict Resolution and Restorative Justice) and Dr. Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad (Minaret of Freedom Institute). For information, call Betsy Summers: (570) 822-9194. Or e-mail: summers@usnetway.com.

April 5, 2003

Michigan LP Convention, Eagle Crest Conference Center & Resort, Ypsilanti. Speakers include Ron Crickenberger (LP Political Director) and Rob Kampia (executive director, Marijuana Policy Project). For information, e-mail Emily Salvette at: salvette@ameritech.net. Or call: (734) 668-2607. Or visit: www.mi.lp.org.



April 12, 2003

Massachusetts LP Convention, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Framingham. Speakers include Bill Masters (sheriff and author, *Drug War Addiction*), David Rostcheck (organizer, CounterAttack 2003), Sue Blevins (president, Institute for Health Freedom), and Bill Winter (editor, *LP News*). For information, e-mail: conv03@lpma.org. Or visit: www.lpma.org.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 22

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Watergate Office Building

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100

Washington DC 20037

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Atlanta, GA
Permit #3592

INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** Oregon Libertarians defeat \$725 million tax

■ **PAGE 1** Ten reasons why the U.S. shouldn't go to war with Iraq

■ **PAGE 3** California LP officeholder beats recall effort

■ **PAGE 4** Airline ID case gets court hearing



FIRST WORD

"The Libertarian Party has spokespersons who can defend a philosophy of being a free nation... As a Christian, there are some things about the Libertarian Party with which I disagree, but not as much or as deeply as I disagree with the hypocrisy of both Republicans and Democrats — the two faces of American politics on one coin. Both parties have over-ridden the Constitution and Bill of Rights, but for different reasons." — DOROTHY ANNE SEESE, *SierraTimes.com*, January 12, 2003

"The Libertarians believe in liberty [and] believe drugs should be re-legalized. Though Libertarians may not have the perfect solution to [the problem of] drugs, at least they have a reasonable approach, and one thing is for certain. The Libertarians offer a solution when all the major parties do is follow failure with more failure."

— MICHAEL HOLZMEISTER, *Lamar Daily News* (Colorado), Nov. 5, 2002

"Libertarians add [a] welcome dimension to the election. [They have] got ideas, and that should be worth something to voters." — ANDREA NEAL, *Indianapolis Star* (Indiana), October 30, 2002