

Election in review

NEWS

Libertarian Party of California

Official Publication of the Libertarian Party of California — Vol. 3, No. 9, December 1996

To Libertarians everywhere A message from Harry Browne

I want to express my deep gratitude to Libertarians all over America . . .

◆ For your hard work and dedication in taking our message as far and wide as possible.

◆ For the many kindnesses you have shown Pamela and me over the past two years.

◆ For the confidence you placed in me to carry the Libertarian message to the public.

...We achieved a great deal. But it's obvious that we will never break into the big leagues with a \$3 million campaign.

So let's get started now building the party to the magnitude necessary for every American to know what we can give them. Let's begin now.

I intend to speak out for the party wherever possible. I will counsel Americans not to despair — not to feel they're alone in their wishes for a government a fraction of today's size. I will invite them to join us.

Again, ...thank you for the honor you have given me. It has been a wonderful two years.

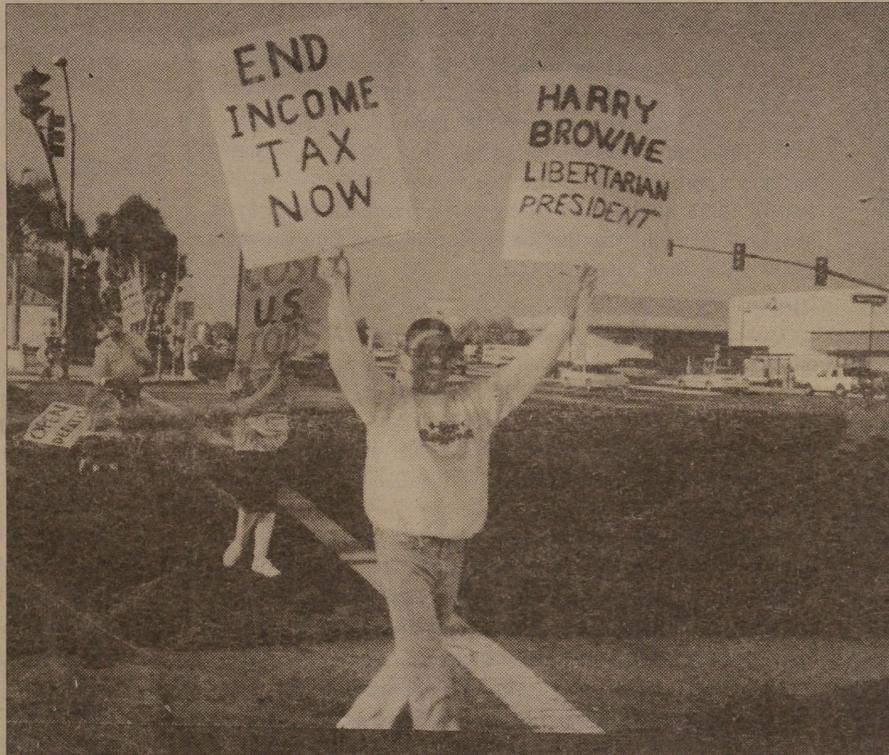
[Excerpted dueto space limitations.]

The presidential and congressional races

by Bob Bickford

(All vote totals in this article are the latest available from ABC News and the California Secretary

of State's office; however, absentee and write-in ballots have not yet been counted and will change most of the numbers given.)



Lou Maraulis (in foreground, and Gary Gagnon (pushing baby carriage) among those who marched at South Coast Plaza, Costa Mesa, to protest Harry Browne exclusion from presidential debates.

Libertarians are probably feeling rather disappointed about the vote totals in the Presidential race. After all, a self-described "non-campaign" by Green Party candidate Ralph Nader, on the ballot in only 22 states, managed to outpoll Harry Browne nationwide. Nader's total as of Nov. 8th is 583,712 versus Browne's 471,765; in California the totals were 217,477 for Nader and 67,429 for Browne. However, these totals almost certainly reflect Nader's 36-year history of media adulation and exposure; even though he spent no money on campaign ads (or any-

See Races, p. 3

Election results

by Ted Brown

The propositions

The LPC took positions on 14 of the 15 propositions on the ballot. Of the 14, voters agreed with us on 9, a higher than usual ratio.

We had official arguments against Propositions 204, 205, and 206, the three bond issues. Voters overwhelmingly rejected Prop. 205, the county jail bond issue. (It only carried one county.) Unfortunately, they easily accepted the other two.

We were strongly in favor of Props. 209, 215 and 218. Voters easily passed all of them.

See Results, p. 3



Season's Greetings



Libertarian Party of California
655 Lewelling Blvd., #362
San Leandro, CA 94579

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Final issue — LPC News

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Getting It Done With Gail: Busy times

by Gail Lightfoot

The major portion of 10,000 Nov. 1996 Election brochures were distributed by activists and candidates. The 800# Response Team (Mark Valverde) is continuing to use these with the addition of a reply envelope. I saw to the payment and distribution of 500 Browne for President signs. I sold 300 to other state chairs and 100 to Santa Clara. The other 100 signs were given to activists in Butte, LA, Stanislaus, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Update on Orders! I have now filled orders for 2,038 postcards and 241 bumper stickers in behalf of the LPC. Gross revenue totals \$915.40 as of Nov. 15th. More importantly we provided these promotional materials to those who could use them during the election.

In addition, I have sold all the remaining (57) Lady Liberty pins, 150 copies of the *Insight* reprints, 4 LP flags and 21 T-shirts. I do not know about orders for flags sent directly to Al Swain or the other T-shirts sold by Pat Wright. I will be ordering more Lady Liberty pins and am considering one modeled on the flag designed by Al Swain of Shasta County Reg.

Re: The HUGH error in my column in *LPC News*. I did it all by myself without a bit of help from Dick Venable (he would have caught the mistake). I guess you could say I never make little mistakes. I ask your indulgence and forgiveness. I have been told that I am too forgiving and that leads me to assume that you all will be as forgiving as I am regarding my imperfections. I apologize for making myself look bad and hope that no one will say, "Off with her head." I will make the effort to start sooner, take longer and say, "No, too late for additions," instead of rushing to make some last minute change.

Here is another good idea for you that I will be following up on in the next few weeks. A way for us to promote "Why Government Doesn't Work" by Harry Browne is to have signage for our cars. Magnetic signs, decals or bumper stickers with the book jacket or a message on them telling the reader to ask at their local major bookstore. I will let you know what I find out about the cost of such items. How about a button?

LPC financial picture continues to improve

The fundraising letter sent to you in July has realized a grand total as of Oct. of \$9,383 (not deducting the costs). The two card-style fundraising mailings done in Oct. have brought in another \$ 2,785 to date.

We still have the 108 pledgers giving \$1,550 a month. (some give quarterly or semiannually, this figure extrapolates the yearly amount into a monthly figure). My next fundraiser



Gail Lightfoot

will focus on becoming a pledger. Expect to get a note from me several more times between now and the convention in Feb. 1997.

New LPC monthly periodical coming in Jan. 1997. The selection of Perry Martin's bid to provide the LPC with an 8.5 inch x 11 inch monthly periodical will require that the LPC's financial situation improve during 1997 (see ExCom meeting report on page 3). The Nov. issue of *LPC News* was sent to 5,858 households having one or more inquiries or members. I predict that our mailing will remain at or above 6,000 copies until March 1997.

Special event planned

Gala 25th Birthday celebrations are planned nationwide on Dec. 14, 1996 to celebrate the actual beginning of the Libertarian Party on Dec. 11, 1971. LP organizations, large or small across the state and across the nation, were asked and many responded to join in this post election celebration. We'll all raise our glasses to toast the LP's 25th birthday at the same time.

Look for photos and stories of events and activities in the premier issue of the new LPC monthly periodical in Jan. 1997.

It is time to begin making plans for 1997, 1998 and the year 2000. The sooner we start thinking ahead to 1998, the better we will do then and in the future.

There is much to look at with pride after our first 25 years as well as much more to be accomplished in the next 25 years.

Thank you for all your help, support and activism in this election year. I look forward to many more years of growth and increasing involvement by each and every one of you.

Mark your calendar
Saturday, Dec. 14, 1996

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary
of the LP's founding

For more details,
call your Regional Chair

Libertarian Party of California NEWS

The official newspaper of the
Libertarian Party of California.

Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

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Final Edition

Use this form to renew your membership, to increase your donation or to give a friend

LPC Membership Form

Libertarian Party of California,
655 Lewelling Blvd.,
San Leandro, CA 94579

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____

Please limit access to my:

- phone and/or address
 to party officers and/or candidates

I choose to set my yearly dues at:

- \$25 - Basic membership
(incl. state newspaper)
- \$20 - Newspaper subscription only
- \$50 - Sustaining
- \$_____ More (Must be above basic membership)
- \$35 Household Membership
List all names plainly. Each must sign pledge to vote.
- \$20 Add National Membership (save \$5)
- \$500 Life Membership
- \$_____ Pledge
 Monthly Bimonthly Quarterly
(Note: Renewal dues are waived for members who meet pledge of \$10 or more a month for one year)
- \$_____ Donation (thank you!)
- Total \$ _____

Payment by: Check VISA
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Signature _____

Please print name as it appears on your credit card

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.

To affirm publicly what we believe - and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles - we ask our members to sign this statement with pride.
I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

Please note: Non-signers are associate members and cannot vote on Party business.

ExCom selects new publisher

by Richard E. Venable

This is the last issue of *LPC News* that I will edit and publish. Next month, there will be a new publisher and a new publication with a new format.

At its Nov. 9 meeting, the Executive Committee selected Perry Martin of Hollywood, the only other bidder, to publish the state party's membership publication. His periodical will be a 12-page newsletter, 8.5 inches by 11 inches in size. Martin previously had produced the *Los Angeles Libertarian*, a monthly newsletter for Los Angeles County regions.

I have mixed emotions about no longer publishing *LPC News*. It has been a good part of my life for nearly three years: As publisher for part of this year, editor since early 1995, and as production manager and general handyman before that. It has enabled me to meet a lot of nice people — Libertarians and non-libertarians — and to be involved in many interesting activities. I believe I helped make *LPC News* into a worthy communications arm of the party, a valuable source of information for officers, activists and members. And I kept trying to improve it.

My sincere thanks to all of you whose contributions helped to make it successful.

On the other hand, I will no longer face the monthly deadlines and hours of editing and writing. Now I can devote more time to helping our Chair. There are several areas where the growth of the party is being hampered because of lack of time or of interest on the part of those who said they would undertake various projects.

Perry Martin has my best wishes for success. I know he will do a good job. He will need the same help you gave me in receiving articles about issues and regional activities. You can reach him at P. O. Box 2193, Hollywood, CA 90078. Tel. 213/957-2759. His fax and e-mail were not up and running at press time.

Perry Martin,
new publisher



Results — from p. 1

The CCRI and medical marijuana issues will be trendsetting. The requirement of Prop. 218 that local taxpayers vote on tax hikes should put plenty of issues on ballots for us to campaign against.

Voters also agreed with us by rejecting Prop. 211, securities fraud, Prop. 212, the more restrictive campaign finance measure, Props. 214 and 216, the HMO regulations, and Prop. 217, tax hike on the rich. Sadly, they approved Prop. 208, the first campaign finance measure, Prop. 210, minimum wage hike, and Prop. 213, uninsured motorists and drunk drivers.

The only proposition the LPC took no position on was Prop. 207, which involved frivolous lawsuits. Voters also rejected this, maintaining their record of disapproving most tort measures.

Partisan races

We ran 73 candidates, 42 for Congress, 6 for State Senate and 25 for State Assembly. A few vote totals were good, but many were very low, especially in the Congressional races. We were hurt in some areas by the proliferation of Natural Law and Reform candidates. This is also the first election in which we were not in any one-on-one races with one major party. This kept down some of our percentages.

LPC Chair reports on ExCom meeting of Nov. 9, 1996

Meeting at the Beverly Garland Inn in Sacramento, the LPC ExCom accepted a bid from **Perry Martin** of Los Angeles to provide the LPC with a monthly periodical at a cost of \$2,128.62 for 3,000 copies. The Nov. issue of *LPC News*, a monthly tabloid, was mailed to 5,858 members and inquiries. The vote on the POC recommendation to accept the bid from Richard E. Venable was 7 For, 3 Against with 2 Abstaining and 2 members absent. After much discussion, a vote for one bid and then the other was 7 for Martin and 5 for Venable. The final vote for Martin was then 9 For, 2 Against with 1 Abstaining and 1 Absent. **Al Swain**, POC.

A revised financial reporting plan was accepted and the proposed 1997 budget was approved with some minor changes (a \$8,600 increase in the line item of dues revenues, a \$25,600 increase in the newsletter expenses and the \$500 decrease in the newsletter postage expense line items.) The vote to accept the new financial reporting format was 13 to 0. The vote to accept the budget with the revisions to be added per today's decisions by the Treasurer was 10/2/1. **Jon Petersen**, Treas.

A discussion of the Strategic Plan for the LPC was deferred until the convention in Feb. 1997. **Terry Savage** of the LPNevada will lead the discussion at that time.

A decision to mail to the 10,000 most recent Reg. Libs. was upheld. **Mark Hinkle** and **Pat Wright** will see to this membership mailing. The latest tape from the Secretary of State's office will be obtained and merged with postal and phone listings to reduce the number of bad addresses. The

Races — from p. 1

thing else, for that matter), Nader managed to garner between five and ten times as much major media attention as Browne.

Richard Winger, of *Ballot Access News*, adds, "In many of the states where Nader wasn't on the ballot, he can be expected to get a substantial number of write-in votes. However, these probably won't be counted for a month or more." Browne, of course, was on all 51 ballots and thus cannot expect any write-in ballots.

Browne's best showings in percentages were in Nevada (4,451 votes, 1.0%) and Alaska (1,873 votes, 0.9%), while his best showings in counts were in California (67,429 votes, 0.7%) and Pennsylvania (29,061 votes, 0.6%). His worst percentage was in Iowa (2,177 votes, 0.2%) and his worst count was in the District of Columbia (565 votes, 0.3%).

Overall, 1.5% of voters nationwide voted for a third-party candidate in the Presidential race; if you include Ross Perot the number is almost exactly ten percent. Given the overwhelming attention paid to the Perot campaign by the media, it is actually rather surprising that this many people still chose to vote for real third-party candidates. The Libertarian total was almost twice the 1992 results, and exceeded the 1988 results by a comfortable margin as well. Browne has pointed out that we may have reached the limit of what is possible with a \$3 million presidential campaign; I am inclined to agree with him.

As for Nader's vote, it seems to this author that this is a clarion call for a long-overdue effort within the Libertarian Party to recruit from one of our most natural and most overlooked constituencies: the environmental movement. We've pretty much mined out the supply of conservatives with hearts; it's time now to go after liberals with brains. Obviously, Ralph

Congress — Average percentage: 2.85. Best: 6.9. Worst: 0.8 (tied for worst ever).

State Senate — Average: 3.87. Best: 5.5. Worst: 2.5.

State Assembly — Average: 4.16. Best: 8.0. Worst: 2.0.

We often are the balance of power in numerous races. This time I could only determine four: Tom Reimer, CD46 (maybe knocked out Bob Dornan!); Mark Hinkle, AD28; Willard Michlin, AD43; and the late Art Hays, AD56.

information will be made available to the counties and regions. **Gail Lightfoot**, Chair.

A motion to allow for the creation of a marketing plan and merchandise to promote the LPC, such merchandise to be used as F/R premiums only, passed with one Abstention. **Mark Hinkle**, At-Large Rep.

The Chair signed the new contract with **Withease** by **Thea McLean** immediately following the meeting. The Chair also met with the contractor on Monday, Nov. 11, 1996, to discuss ways to implement new financial reports and other matters.

A motion that the ExCom authorize the OpCom on a four-fifths vote to direct the WebMaster to alter the LPC WWW page passed on a vote of 9/1/1. **Mark Hinkle**, At-Large Rep.

Joseph W. Dehn III asked for authorization to perform a feasibility study on joint state and national dues. This could have been done under the direction of the Chair but the maker of the motion felt that the ExCom should endorse the study.

Mark Hinkle was formally seated as an At-Large Rep to replace the late Art Hays. **Laura McFadden** was elected to serve as an Alternate At-Large Rep.

The Bylaws Committee and Platform Committee chair were selected:

Bylaws: **Mark Hinkle, Bob Weber, Cullene Lang, Mary Gingell** and **José Casteñeda**.

Platform Committee Chair: **Ted Brown**.

The next scheduled ExCom meeting is Feb. 14, 1997 at the Beverly Garland Inn in Sacramento.

"I never met a government program I didn't like" Nader would never make a good Libertarian candidate, but if we work hard on appealing to left-leaning thinkers we will nevertheless get many of the votes that Nader got.

California's Congressional Races

In the 52 Congressional races in California, the best showings for third party votes were the 21st (7.5%, most to a Reform candidate), the 29th (7.7%, most to a Peace and Freedom candidate), the 30th (8.9%, split between a Libertarian at 3.4%, a Natural Law at 2.4%, and a Peace and Freedom at 3.1%), and the 41st (8.5%, split between a Libertarian at 5.0% and a Natural Law at 3.5%).

The best percentage showings for Libertarians in Congressional races were Emil Rossi at 6.9% (1st, 13,701 votes), Jack Dean at 5.3% (39th, 9,416 votes), and Richard Newhouse at 5.0% (41st, 6,736 votes). In vote count, Rossi and Dean are still the two best showings, followed by Patrick McHargue (4th, 8,516 votes).

The performance of the various third parties in California congressional races was spotty at best; the Libertarians had the best overall numbers and the highest "peak" numbers, but came in behind one or another of the other parties in various races around the state. Since there are now six(!) different third parties on the California ballot, this probably reflects a dividing up of the pure protest vote amongst the six.

I can draw no clear conclusions from the Congressional races, except perhaps for the familiar one that we may be at the limit of what is possible with limited budgets and "paper" campaigns. In a few more years, we will have a larger stable of experienced office holders from our various city council and other positions, and one of these might have a chance to make a serious challenge to a vulnerable older-party candidate if well-funded and highly motivated. Only time will tell if this can happen.

(Bickford maintains the *Ballot Access News* [non-partisan] official web site at <http://www.well.com/conf/liberty/ban/index.html> and continues to work on the National Libertarian Party's "Cyber Liberties Project", part of the coalition that fought the CDA throughout 1995. He can be reached via e-mail at rab@well.com.)

Libertarians:

Networking globally to win locally in the Information Age

by Robert A. Bakhaus

If presidential and congressional campaigns are the best venue for developing cutting edge techniques, strategic winning elements for libertarians have emerged from the campaigns of both Dr. Ron Paul and Harry Browne.

Ron Paul was the LP's 1988 presidential candidate, who has successfully been elected to Congress as a Republican from Texas' 14th Congressional District. Harry Browne is the LP's 1996 presidential candidate who just garnered about a half million votes nationwide.

Both campaigns have at least two uniquely libertarian strategic elements in common: They have successfully appealed to a worldwide libertarian network of small donors, and they have led with a tax abolition message. These factors seemed to draw electoral support from both the left and the right.

According to the June 1996 issue of *Campaigns & Elections* magazine, Dr. Paul's recent surprise victory over incumbent Congressman John Laughlin for the Republican Party's primary nomination was due to two things: broad-based small donations and emphatic anti-tax credentials.

Two quotes from the 4-page article make the point: "An even more important asset to Paul was his national libertarian network, which enabled him to raise well over \$600,000 in mail solicitations from 13,000 donors." And: "Every piece of material we put out hit on taxes," emphasizes Paul, and Laughlin's campaign manager Todd Smith grudgingly agrees that may have been the key. "Being linked to Clinton and higher taxes was the toughest thing we had to deal with."

Given Paul's Nov. 5 election victory over his Democrat opponent, it appears that libertarian investment money (small donations from everywhere) and an anti-tax message have even won over Democrat voters from Paul's congressional district. It also retained the loyalty of fiscally conservative Republicans despite organized opposition from the Christian Coalition to Paul's less than religiously-conservative social views.

Not bad for letting one's fingers do the talking.

An even more ambitious test of libertarian strategic advantages is the campaign of LP presidential candidate Harry Browne. Where Ron Paul's anti-tax stance was displayed by his remarkable congressional voting record, Browne's is laid out in his book "Why Government Doesn't Work", and his campaign's "Great Promise": If you give up your favorite government program by voting libertarian, we'll abolish the IRS and the income tax right now." While Ron Paul tapped the libertarian network by Snail Mail (spending half the proceeds in the process), Harry Browne did it much more efficiently and cheaply via e-mail and Internet Web Pages. One last minute e-mail fundraising appeal for newspaper ad money netted \$50,000! Not bad for letting one's fingers do the talking.

Browne and Paul have both been "gold bugs", book au-

thors and publishers of their own hard money financial advisory newsletters for decades. When they decry the needless destructiveness of taxation and tax policy on utilitarian economic grounds, they are very credible spokesmen. But, more to the point, they are proven professionals at *publishing* their ideas. It is safe to say that their globally-dispersed supporters view their small but repeated campaign donations as an investment in freedom. But, to produce small donations from far flung supporters, campaign mailers have to become a subscription in themselves, hitting monthly if not weekly. This makes campaigning a periodic publishing project, an educational exercise par excellence.

With such dynamics working for them, Libertarians have a lot to look forward to. Communications technology continues to rush ahead unabated in this "information age." Revolutions in the New Millennium will be dependent upon the multimedia Internet, a medium more accessible to and by libertarians than any other. A successful Libertarian campaign manager will have to master the arcania of narrowcasting cheap but exciting fund raising messages to a database of known supporters with a subscription sales style, while spending the dollars raised from such electronic publishing on broadcasting an entertaining anti-tax message to a localized electorate only just becoming aware that moral government can be funded with fees and fines instead of taxes.

Thankfully, as events are proving out, Libertarians seem to be increasingly capable of meeting the challenge! (Bakhaus an activist of Santa Barbara Reg. 42, can be reached at Liberty960@aol.com.)

High Desert mock debates mirror reality



John Phillips, Sultana H.S. junior, took role of Libertarian in mock presidential debates. Photo by Derek Simpson/Daily Press. Reprinted by permission of Daily Press, all rights reserved.

How often does pretend mirror real life? More often than we'd like to believe sometimes. In late October at Apple Valley's Vista Campana Middle School, 34 students from four Victorville area high schools put on *Choices '96*, a mock presidential debate that imitated the actual debates and made them better and made them worse.

It was better in that the debate included representatives of the Democrat, Libertarian, Reform and Republican parties. It was worse in that ballot box stuffing by Democratic and Reform supporters was captured on video tape.

Representing the Libertarian Party was John Phillips, a 16-year-old junior from Sultana High School in Hesperia. He has been a Dean's List award winner for the past two years and is an Honors member of the National Forensic League. His campaign manager, Edward Pilecki, and press secretary, Shircara Stewart, are also from Sultana High.

The other candidates represented Apple Valley H.S., Hesperia H.S., and Apple Valley Christian School.

A professed Republican, Phillips began preparing for his role as the Libertarian candidate six months earlier. He was convincing and persuasive as he called for less government and told the audience "It's yours! It's yours! It's yours!" in calling for elimination of the federal income tax. Phillips deftly fielded questions on such topics as how to handle anti-terrorism. He answered other questions in an incisive manner and wit in a style similar to that of Harry Browne.

The debate started with a reception at which the debaters and their campaign teams, attired in suits and ties and stylish dresses, entertained their parents, friends, school officials, the press and interested politicians.

Assemblyman R. Keith Olberg, the evening's master of ceremonies, was so impressed with Phillips' presentation he offered the young man a summer position as an aide.

(Sources: Linda Grau, ExCom member from Orange County Reg. 30, and Mary Lou Thomas, Victorville Daily Press.)

FIJA incorporated in Lone Star state

Newly incorporated Lone Star FIJA recently received permission to place two ex officio members on the Texas Supreme Court's Jury Reform Task Force, according to president Tom Glass. He called it a major accomplishment on the part of board of directors member Clay Conrad, and Austin co-ordinator Allen Bearden and himself. Conrad, who is an attorney, and FIJA National founder (and Dallas resident) Larry Dodge will be the two LSFIIA representatives on the committee.

Second, San Antonio Democrat John Longoria, a former Judge, and Houston Republican Gary Elkins are among a number of state representatives and state senators committed to introducing and backing a Lone Star FIJA bill during the next legislative session.

Third, Lone Star FIJA incorporated in January of this year. Although still getting on its organizational legs, Lone Star

FIJA has regional co-ordinators in every major city in Texas, and fax and E-mail capabilities to communicate to supporters rapidly. By the start of the legislative season, Glass expects to have a top-flight press list with e-mail and fax communications support.

Glass added, "Our growth curve and our ambitious activities have outpaced our funds. Simply put, we need your help in 1997 in order for our proposals to get the audience they deserve."

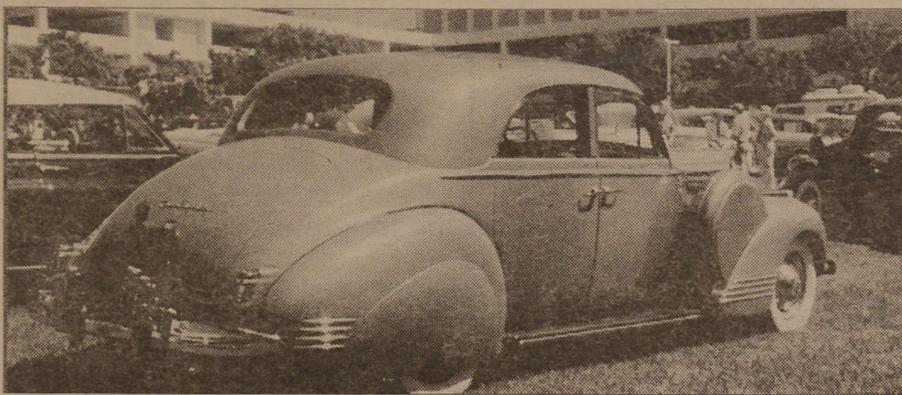
He went on to say, "Finally, FIJA is the best investment for the liberty dollar. Jury independence advocates can win by losing: we need not change a single law. Whenever FIJA proposals are discussed in the media, whenever people learn what jury nullification is about, we have won - and the chance that a non-informed or mis-informed jury can be seated decreases correspondingly."

Send contributions to: Lone Star FIJA, P.O. Box 2682, Bellaire, TX 77402.

Make all checks payable to Lone Star FIJA. Credit card contributors or pledgers are to call Tom Glass at 713-467-2989 to make arrangements.

Lone Star FIJA can also be reached at LSFIIA@aol.com.

Plan now to attend
1997 LPC State Convention
February 13 - 17, 1997
Beverly Garland Inn,
Sacramento



1941 Packard LeBaron Sports Brougham. Value: \$75,000

Photo by Don Hull



1953 Packard Caribbean convertible. Value: \$45,000

Photo by Don Hull

If the car-grabbers get their way, classic Packards like these would be relegated to museums only, in spite of the fact that these show cars are typically driven less than 2,000 miles a year.

BAR chief: "We're going to get your cars."

by Don Hull

Since 1968, when the first emissions laws for motor vehicles went into effect, tailpipe emissions have been reduced by 96% for hydrocarbons (HC) and carbon monoxide (CO), and by 76% for nitrogen oxides (NOx).

One would think this performance would be enough for the most rabid clean air fanatics. But no, legislation is already signed that forces additional reductions of 59% for HCs and CO, and 66% for NOx, by 2004.

What's driving this furious attempt to force a virtually emissions-free vehicle? Clean air? Or is "clean air" the cover for more government intervention and, ultimately, elimination of the private automobile.

At a Clean Air Conference in Denver, CO, September 1994, Jim Schoning, Chief of California's Bureau of Auto Repair (BAR) publicly made the aggressive boast "we're going to get your cars," to Ms. Stella Prytek-Blond, a NJ housewife turned activist in preserving private car ownership.

At the same conference, EPA regional Administrator William Yellowtail told the assembled crowd, "We need to get Americans out of their cars (into public transit)."

Was this preening by smart-aleck bureaucrats? Or is there an agenda by left-wing socialists to eliminate the private automobile? Look at some facts:

◆ Though the agenda is left-wing socialist, many of its proponents are not. NJ Governor Christie Whitman, a Republican who won election in 1994 on a platform of a 30% income tax cut, signed SCS-1700, one of the most draconian of car-grabbing laws in America. It even calls for the seizure of unregistered cars from an owner's own driveway.

◆ The Clean Air Act of 1990, the authority for today's power grabs, was signed by Republican president George Bush.

◆ In California, the BAR is working feverishly to implement the Smog Check II centralized emissions program, with

the support of Republican Governor Pete Wilson. The program consists of awarding a multi-hundred-million dollar monopoly contract to **one** company, that most motorists can be **forced** to use.

◆ The U.S. EPA's payroll is only 2% of its total budget. Ninety-eight percent is funneled to radical left-wing environmental and anti-capitalist groups such as the Environmental Defense Fund, the Natural Resources Defense Council, American Lung Assn. and others who create phony research studies that claim we need more environmental laws and higher taxes. The automobile is their favorite target.

◆ State and local governments nationwide, in violation of the Fourth Amendment, keep passing ever more stringent laws that govern our ownership. Police can now confiscate cars for minor paperwork violations such as expired driver's licenses, auto registrations and now, even the lack of evidence of insurance. In August of this year, the CHP, with prosecutors and judges in Municipal Court at Laguna Niguel, announced a "test" of accelerated seizures from motorists without valid licenses. Clearly, DMV's seizure of Social Security numbers and now, even thumb prints, has nothing to do with "air" control but everything to do with people control.

◆ The California BAR is deliberately driving private smog check stations out of business by decertifying them and their technicians. The number of privately owned smog check shops in the state has dropped 27% from 1990 to 1995. Technicians have plummeted by 55% and continue declining at 500 per month. If the goal is "cleaner air," shouldn't the BAR be certifying MORE shops and MORE technicians so they can do MORE tests? Why is government deliberately destroying the industry that maintains cars?

◆ Smog stations are being hooked, via bar code reader, directly to DMV computers in Sacramento. If your car fails, Big Brother will know. And you must go to the government's central station or the DMV can hijack your registration renewal. Your car will then be "unregistered," subject to immediate

impoundment and selling at auction. Joseph Stalin would have been proud.

◆ The car-grabbers keep pushing the crushing program. Officials have mentioned the "goal of crushing 50,000 cars per day" – that's 13 million a year. Yet since 1970, an average of 11 million vehicles a year* is being retired from use on America's highways without a crushing program. The national fleet is becoming newer by default as older vehicles wear out.

Why are the car-haters targeting 13 million cars a year when we're already losing 11 million to attrition?

Two reasons: **Power** – to remind you who really owns your property (they do). Incidentally, the car-haters only hate your car, not theirs. They want you in the subway off *their* roads.

And **Money** – government raises revenue without raising taxes. It buys your "gross polluter" for \$400, then sells it to an industrial "polluter" for an "emissions credit" of up to \$10,000. A profit of only \$1,000 on 13 million cars would pour \$13 **billion** into government coffers to buy more tools for its police state. (By the way, there are no specifications for a "gross polluter." It's whatever the government says.)

Government and car-haters win. Everybody else loses. You lose your car. The repair industry loses customers. The used car fleet declines thus driving up the cost of those that remain. All cars become vastly more expensive; that reduces the number of motorists.

Bottom line, they want our cars!

And our motorcycles, too! Smog Check II now includes motorcycles for the first time.

This issue is bigger than clean air or cars. It's about our constitutional rights to travel and to own property.

(Note: Statistics quoted are from the American Automobile Manufacturers Association Almanac of 1994.)

(Hull is a member of Orange Co. Reg. 30, writes regularly for the Orange County Register, and collects Packards.)

Liberty Council contributes to grassroots growth

The grassroots Libertarian political action committee, Liberty Council, founded by past Council of State Chairs leader Gene A. Cisewski was incredibly active during its first election cycle. California candidates and office holders received direct cash contributions and the LPC received several manuals for candidates and grassroots organizers.

The new group made pre-election contributions to Tom Tryon's successful reelection campaign and Steve Greene's campaign. It also made contributions just prior to the election to Bonnie Flickinger and Sandi Webb.

According to Cisewski, the contributions made to Webb and Flickinger were made early in anticipation of contribution restrictions that may have been imposed by initiative. "While I believe a court challenge will overturn restrictive contribution limits, who knows how long it will take to resolve the issue?" asked Cisewski. Earlier this year, Cisewski was party to a suit in the District of Columbia where the U.S.

District Court overturned \$100 campaign contribution limits enacted by initiative as restricting the freedom of association rights of donors and freedom of speech rights of candidates.

The Liberty Council was also active in test marketing grassroots radio commercials that were produced by an agency that won an Addy Award for the LP jingle. "In the markets where we had our commercials airing and local Libertarian candidates were active, Harry Browne and Jo Jorgensen received a reverse coattails effect," says Cisewski. In the Delaware Valley counties surrounding Philadelphia Browne's vote totals climbed to over 1% despite no campaign appearances. In the Dane County, Wisconsin test, voters there came only seven votes shy of matching the Browne vote totals in Milwaukee County despite having a much smaller population.

"While the results are preliminary, there's no doubt that everything is pointing to the importance of strong, local party organizations and campaigns as the way to build the Liber-

tarian Party," said Cisewski.

For more information or to contribute to the Liberty Council, write to them at P.O. Box 12075, Washington, DC 20005-0975 or send e-mail messages to LibertyDC@aol.com.

O'Brien named chair of Menlo Park Arts Commission

Kathleen O'Brien was appointed Chair of the Menlo Park Arts Commission on Oct. 9. She has served on the commission for the past two years.

Her focus, the San Mateo Reg. 41 chair said, (adding, "of course!") "will be on finding ways to lessen dependence on tax dollars. One of the new commissioners has done fundraising for other arts groups and foundations, and is also eager to explore fundraising."

Letters to the Editor

Days of liberty over?

Editor,

I'm becoming more convinced that even the most dim-witted among us are beginning to realize that the days of individual liberty and private ownership in America are almost over. In the name of the "Drug War," our government has granted itself the right to circumvent due process, confiscate our cars, steal from our bank accounts and seize our very homes. In a separate effort, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has begun to implement a scientifically-fraudulent anti-smog plan that will randomly and arbitrarily seize hundreds of thousands of private automobiles (hardly more than forced consumerism) from their owners.

In the "City of Angels," the LAPD – that bastion of liberty and human rights – has begun confiscating the clothes from suspected prostitutes and turning them loose into the streets dressed in paper uniforms, literally stealing the clothes off their backs!

It's no longer a question of – When will we lose all our rights? That moment has already arrived. The question is – When are we going to make a serious effort to fight it, and how much are we willing to sacrifice to do it?

Michael Wolff

Oklahoma City, OK

P.S. I'm a LPC member temporarily residing in OK.

Sunset rule

Editor:

I was very happy to see the (Nov. 1996) article regarding this concept. This has been a 'pet' idea of mine for awhile. It was great to see it in print and tells me that great (libertarian) minds think alike! I feel like this would be an excellent concept for Libertarians to champion and would have the desired results of reducing government. I would further propose that this be applied at all levels of government.

With the accelerating pace of modern society, we need to have a mechanism such as this in place to eliminate unconstitutional, obsolete, or ineffective legislation. This also has the advantage of being self-limiting; that is, the more legislation government bodies enact, the harder it will be to keep up with 'renewals'. The other comment I would make is that the timeframes mentioned in your article are too long for my tastes. I would prefer shorter timeframes to force legislatures to be more responsive and cut down on the amount of legislation generated in the first place. However, this is something that could be debated and arrived at by general consensus.

Anyway, this is a good idea and I hope it catches on!
Regards,

Greg King

San Jose

(King is a member of Santa Clara Region 43. He can be reached at Grgking@aol.com)

From a student

To LPC

Thank you for sending me the information I asked for. I really appreciate you taking the time to gather the information I needed for my term paper. It was very useful.

Before you sent me the information, I had no knowledge about your party. I find your party interesting and well organized. I see that your party has its priorities set real high like me.

Thank you once again for your information. I am very grateful and if you need any help from a student I'll be more than happy to help you. Just write or call me.
Sincerely yours,

Fabiola Ayala

Student, Compton Senior High School

San Joaquin reorganizing

Editor,

Kudos to the Party Chair for getting us the info. we needed. We will be contacting all LPC & LP members this week informing them of our organizing efforts (in San Joaquin Reg. 39) and intent to hold elections of officers.

Our current meetings are being held every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at El Dorado Brewing Co., 157 W. Adams, Stockton

This meeting place may change after the November elections as well as their frequency – probably the second Wednesday of every month.

Regional Contacts:

Eric Wagoner (209)952-0828

Kelly Rego (209)465-8335 Days

(209)467-7037 Eves

E-mail: forelle@cwws.met

I'll let you know of any developments.

Kelly Rego

Stockton

(Rego ran as candidate in the 11CD, and is working to re-activate San Joaquin Reg. 39.)

In for the long haul

LPC Chair:

O.K. folks!

This is my last check for this month – but believe me, I'm in for the long, lifelong haul! We are going to build a very great party in these coming years!

I've been recruiting scads of bonafide voting brand-new Libertarians (at least 6 or 7 per month every month)! And I ain't gonna quit!

Hail Harry! Hail Jo! Hail Gail!

Yours in Liberty,

Kemp Woods,

Paicines

(Woods is a member of San Benito Reg. 35)

A good board member fulfills the office by

giving time to meetings and projects;
being a donor;
attending Party functions.

Are you ready to serve?



Know your State Officers

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Love Ride nets \$1 million for MDA, members for LPC

by Paul D. Blumstein

About 20,000 motorcyclists raised over \$1 million for the Muscular Dystrophy Association at Lake Castaic on November 10 and the LP of Los Angeles County was on hand to greet them with an outreach booth.

The booth, manned by Joe Sokol, Brett Blumstein and me, was a tremendous success as many hundreds of copies of a specially-prepared pamphlet that discusses helmet laws and the Libertarian Party were handed out in addition to the standard literature. Other people who contributed to the success of this project include Kit Maira, Laura McFadden, Beth and

Erich Miller and Pam Probst.

Many people become bikers because they love the perceived freedom of riding. They are also very discouraged by governmental efforts to regulate their hobby. Thus, many end up libertarian and only need someone to point this out to them. We were very happy to oblige. We had lots of fun watching person after person take the Nolan quiz and say, "I never realized that I was libertarian."

We were amazed by the many people who stopped by just to tell us that they already vote Libertarian. They were encouraged by us to register as Libertarians and join the Party if they weren't already members. They were happy to see us there because our presence was a positive indication of Party growth. Given the success of this project, next Spring we will be looking for other bike rallies to set up a booth.

Blumstein is an activist from Orange County Reg. 30)

For Sale

Tabloid-page laser printer

\$1,500 or best offer

The 11" x 17" laser printer (HP Laserjet 4MV) used to produce *California Liberty* and *LPC NEWS* for the past two years is for sale. Unit has 20MB of memory, and is currently configured for use with a Macintosh. Easily reconfigured for PC. Less than 1,000 pages printed. Cost \$3,100; will sell for best offer (\$1,500 minimum) received by December 20. Buyer to pay shipping costs, or pick up in Orange County. Send bids to:

Atlas Communications, PO Box 1149, El Toro, CA 92630. Or call 714-582-8840. E-Mail: 73303.1612@Compuserve.com

Articles in *LPC News*

available for the asking on e-mail, disk or hard copy.

You can also find *LPC News* on the LPC Web page

<http://www.lp.org/lp/ca/lpc.html>

and on Libertarian Forum@aol.com

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Reg. 69, Mojave

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Help keep listings accurate. Report any changes to LPC News

ExCom member

Art Hays mourned

"We have lost a good Libertarian, a good leader, a good friend," said LPC Chair Gail Lightfoot, in announcing the death of Arthur M. Hays last month.

Known generally as "Art" and affectionately by some as "Santa," Hays died in his Long Beach home on Monday, Nov. 4. The next day, he garnered 3.1% of the votes as a candidate for the 56th Assembly District. In another 22 days, he would have been 69 years old. According to his sister Joann Griffin, the cause of death was heart failure. He was also diabetic.

Hays was elected to the Executive Committee at the state convention this past February in Long Beach. Members of the ExCom spoke of his ability to restate proposals clearly and to channel discussion to arrive at positive conclusions quickly and smoothly.

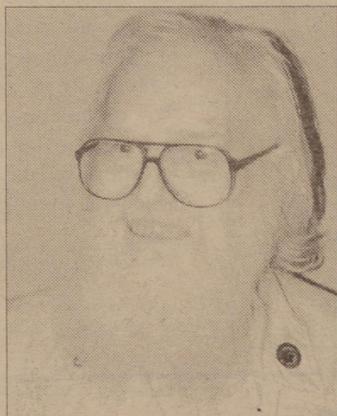
A Certified Parliamentarian, he served as parliamentarian at various Party functions in addition to his other Libertarian activities including running for political office.

He was also an active Toastmaster and Rotarian. As a Toastmaster, he was an active leader at the local and district levels. In Rotary since 1985, he served two terms as President (1989-1990) of the Bell-Maywood club. He was also a member of the Vernon club, which named him its 1993 Rotarian of the Year. He served both clubs on a number of their youth programs. Each year, he played "Santa" at the Bell-Maywood and Vernon elementary school Christmas programs. The youngsters delighted in pulling Santa's real beard.

Hays was born in Quinter, KS, and attended school in Missouri. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Nov. 8, with a private funeral held later. Several LPC members attended. LPC Chair Gail Lightfoot could not because of preparing for the ExCom meeting the following day. She opened that meeting with a moment of silence in Hays' memory.

Hays is survived by his sister Joann Griffin and son Bruce.



Art Hays

S.D. continues appeal

After carefully considering the ramifications of the loss on the stadium financing lawsuit, the three Libertarian plaintiffs on the convention center financing lawsuit (Richard Rider, Pat Wright and Chris Winkler) are proceeding with the case at the Appellate Court level.

Although the California Supreme Court for now apparently is not willing to review the right to vote under section 18 of the state Constitution, the central issue under the convention center lawsuit is the violation of the charter of the City of San Diego. This crucial issue was not litigated under the stadium expansion lawsuit for technical reasons.

A key aspect of the lawsuit is section 90(a) of the city charter

which clearly states that all bonds obligating the general fund must be subject to a two-thirds vote of the people.

Essentially the city is contending that a state law passed in 1985 effectively repeals this section of the city charter. This contention has never been litigated. The three feel it is time for the courts to decide if this repeal of the right to vote was the intent of the state legislature, or even the legislature's right to interfere with city charter protections of the taxpayer.

The full extent of the legal issues is, of course, complicated, and there are other arguments on both sides for the courts to consider. The bottom line is that we feel that there is no reason for dropping the case simply because the Supreme Court,

in a split decision, decided not to hear our stadium case appeal.

Considering that the city council has projects on the drawing board that could easily top one billion dollars in new debt, we think this fundamental right to vote must be pursued to its conclusion. Given that our attorneys don't make a dime if we lose, it is obvious that they believe as we do that we have a legally sound case to present to the courts.

Our Appellate Court opening brief is available on the following website: <http://members.aol.com/calactsd/convention.html>.

(Submitted by Richard Rider, a San Diego Reg. 37 activist on tax matters and former candidate for governor.)

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Cost: \$65.00 ea.



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Put your skills and time to work at the state and regional levels.