



# ALABAMA LIBERTY

December 1991 Vol. 4 No. 3

Published by the Alabama Libertarian Party

"The Party Of Our Constitution"

## WE'RE ON THE BALLOT

November 18, 1991 was a great day for the Alabama Libertarian Party. On this date the Office of the Secretary of State, "granted the Alabama Libertarian Party ballot access for the November, 1992 General Election." So we're on the ticket for '92 and a huge thanks is in order for all those who participated in the petition drive. It was hard, and at times, dangerous work obtaining the verifiable signatures of registered voters which brings us to the next step.

### \*\*\*Candidates\*\*\*

Everyone needs to be thinking about Libertarian Candidates. We need to fill the Libertarian Ballot from top to bottom for all state offices, in each district and every county. The Alabama Libertarian Party has a message that the average voter in this state can endorse with confidence and conviction. We must have candidates that will carry the good news of Libertarianism to the people of Alabama. Tell them

that we don't have to see the Tax and Spend...Spend and Tax crowd at the Capitol any more. Tell them they can cast their vote for candidates that represent their political expectations. Tell them it is now time to stop throwing their vote away on the Democrats and Republicans who only go to office to feather their own nest.

The bottom line is not letting all the hard work of getting on the ballot go to waste by not having a full compliment of vocal Libertarian candidates.

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**GET ACTIVE**



# ADVERTISING? YES!

As you can see, *Alabama Liberty* is accepting advertising. We print thousands of *Alabama Liberty* and distribute them across the state. We believe this publication will provide a creditable avenue for your advertising dollars. Since Libertarians love to see free and fair trade, a natural network of clients exists among our supporters. It is hopeful that you, the reader, will shop at these businesses and give them your support. By all means, tell them that you are a Libertarian and you saw their ad in *Alabama Liberty*.

We are shooting for a monthly magazine rather than just a simple

newsletter. We believe that a quality magazine can be a strong voice in recruiting new Libertarians. In addition to the current state news, we will try to put articles that explain some aspect of Libertarianism each month.

The key to this new program will be the response of the readers. If they support the advertisers, if they will help distribute additional copies of *Alabama Liberty* to their friends, if they will contribute interesting articles for publication, then we will be able to meet our objective.

# ALABAMA LIBERTY

## Published by the Alabama Libertarian Party

P.O. Box 11514  
Birmingham, AL 35202

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# Meetings Around The State

## North Alabama Libertarian Supper Club

(meets the last Tuesday each month)

Tim Yarbrough spoke at the October meeting of the North Alabama Libertarian Supper Club. Tim is the Alabama State Coordinator for the FIJA (Fully Informed Jury Association), and he spoke of the importance of the jury's power to nullify unjust laws through its refusal to convict. This right of the jury was clearly established in the early history of our country and upheld in various Supreme Court cases, but has been ignored in recent years of judicial practice.

Alan Barksdale should be contacted for information concerning future meetings of the supper club. His phone number is (205) 830-6601.

## Montgomery Supper Club

(meets on the 2nd. Tuesday of each month)

The Montgomery Supper Club met at 6:00PM at the Radisson Inn located on the Eastern By-Pass. A good turn out saw two interesting films. One on the creation of the U.S. Constitution and the other on Andre Marrou's campaign progress.

## Randolph County

Three members of the Libertarian Party, Joe Trollinger, Jerome Shockley, and Rod Templeton, pre-

sented to a group of local Randolph County citizens a discussion of "What is the Libertarian Party?" A long and "in depth" dialogue ensued as the Randolph residents fired questions ranging from education to invasions. Shockley says that he feels the nucleus of a Randolph County Libertarian Organization will result.

## ALP Executive Committee Meeting, November

The ALP Executive Committee met on Sunday, November 10th at Jimmy Blake's home and had a lively discussion of issues facing our Party. In attendance were Jeff Allen, Teresa Bales, Jimmy Blake, Bob Burns, Bill Crew, Steve Dow, Ross Lowe, John Martin, Dave McDaniel, Glynn Reeves, and Jerome Shockley.

Without making a definite commitment it was generally agreed to hold the 1992 ALP Convention in Montgomery, at the earliest date past Mid-February for which logistics can be worked out. Tentatively it is planned to hold the business meeting on a Friday evening, with the main speakers on Saturday, and to hold down the attendance fee this time by not including meals at the Convention. John Hix, Glynn Reeves, and John Martin will be working further on the arrangements in Montgomery.

Jimmy Blake was as fired up as ever after his recent mayoral campaign. His campaign excited a lot of people, and with their help he will be

setting up new computer databases, continuing to promote libertarian ideas, and laying the groundwork for future political battles in Birmingham. The morning of the meeting he was heard in the Huntsville area discussing libertarian ideas on a live radio show dealing with the issue of term limitation.

Bob Burns reported on the activities of the Advocates for Better Government in Montgomery. He handed out some flyers that group was distributing which listed a very libertarian set of positions. There was quite a bit of discussion about how the ALP should interact with this group which professes non-

*(continued on page 8)*

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# WORDS ARE WEAPONS

by Michael Emerling

Editor's Note: You may or may not agree with Mr. Emerlings' phrases. His point, however, is right on target. During the election year, Libertarians are bound to get involved in more political conversations and debates than usual. Keeping Mr. Emerlings' warnings to clarify typical "buzz words" is good advice.

Paraphrasing Szasz, "In the jungle, kill or be killed. In politics, define or be defined." Because words are weapons; words are tools.

Libertarians are for freedom. So what? Saul Alinsky used to say, "If there's no opposition, it's not an issue." Try to find someone who says he's against freedom. The Communists freed Russia from the Czar. Mao Tse-tung freed China from Chiang Kai-shek. The Ayatollah Khomeini freed Iran from the Shah. Every terrorist group in the world is trying to free their people from oppressors. Ask them? Every elected official in America will say he's for freedom...properly understood. Saying we're for freedom doesn't distinguish us from other political viewpoints.

"When we say we're for freedom, we mean it."

"We're the only people for true freedom."

"We're the only people who take freedom seriously."

I've said these things many, many times. Haven't you? These comments change nothing.

Every valid definition has a genus and a differentia. What differentiates the libertarian concept of freedom from all others? Individual-

ism!

Libertarians are for individual liberty, individual rights. We don't just want our group to be free from another group's domination. We want each individual to be free from coercion, collective or individual.

The Society for Individual Liberty figured this out years ago. Always use the qualifier "individual." We are for individual freedom, individual choice and individual responsibility. Let the collectivists say the individual doesn't matter. We know better. On both political and linguistic levels.

The economics of individual freedom has many names: Laissez-Faire Capitalism, Capitalism, Free Enterprise and Free Market. While these phrases may be denotatively interchangeable, they are not connotatively the same.

If you want to persuade, these terms are not interchangeable. The next time you have an urge to say you're for Laissez-Faire Capitalism, skip the phrase and get right to the prejudice. Say, "I'm for sweatshops and robber barons. I want to exploit workers, or at least watch while someone else does."

Do the same thing with "Free Enterprise." Eliminate the mental middleman. Embrace the bias. Say, "I'm a radical advocate of the Status Quo, willing to fight to the death to achieve what we've already got!"

To present the economics of individual liberty, attractively, we must use "Free Market" or "Free Economy."

Some libertarians describe the free market as an unregulated economy. "Unregulated" implies some-

thing unbalanced or out of control. That's negative. Describe the free market as a self-regulating system. A dynamic self-correcting economy. The free market is a responsive self-regulating economy. This is more accurate and more useful in persuasion.

Aren't libertarians radical advocates of liberty? After all, "radical" really means to get at the root of. When "radical" is used in newspapers and magazines, on television and radio, which groups is the word applied to? Bomb throwers, fanatics, and other violent men and women. Do we want to be placed in this category?

Isn't libertarianism a revolutionary political viewpoint? "Revolutionary" is used in many libertarian publications to describe our viewpoint. It's self-destructive. Back to newspapers and magazines, radio and television news. Who are the "revolutionaries"? Terrorists, hijackers, hostage grabbers and thugs. Do we belong with these criminals?

But libertarianism is an extreme political position. In popular usage, "extremist" usually refers to people who are willing to resort to violence, to racial or religious bigots, or the borderline political psychotic.

Want to join this club?

It doesn't matter whether others refer to us as radical, revolutionary, or extremist, or whether we use those terms to describe ourselves. These terms slander and damage the libertarian position. Discard them.

Suppose some one goes into the etymology of the term, saying, for example, "Well, the word 'extreme'

*(continued on page 6)*



# "Come on Rush, Get with the Program"

by Rod Templeton

Rush Limbaugh is a relatively new phenomenon on national radio. He is in first place in the "talk show" category and he has done it while embracing the Conservative/Republican ideology. He has a reported eight million listeners each week with at least two million tuning in at any one time.

His dynamic growth continues to be exceptional. His growth? I mean that in a hefty sense. He says his business (the EIB network, Excellence In Broadcasting) is very profitable and expanding almost every day, also, he is a very big man physically, weighing in at 315 plus.

Rush is on the air, live, from 11:00AM - 2:00PM (central time) Monday through Friday, taking listeners calls, and giving his conservative ideas to their comments and questions. Having fun and humor are major allies of his.

Rush's conservatism is of the traditional flavor. His economic views lean toward less government control over business while allowing for some restriction over individual liberty for the "sake of society".

Rush has said that Libertarianism looks good on paper but doesn't think its functional, since for Libertarianism to work, would require that most people to live in a vacuum. He has indicated his agreement with certain laws and legal decisions which promote restrictive behavior on moral grounds.

There is one main point to cover in Rush's position. Rush says that without personal behavior controls, the people would turn to lawlessness

in a free-for-all of moral deterioration. This lack of confidence in the spirit of man is the difference between Rush Limbaugh and a Libertarian.

There are two points that I want to focus on:

(1) Can man self-generate ethics or morals that lie within the common boundary of good? Rush believes they can't and I believe they can.

(2) What effect does government regulation of morality have on its citizens? Rush believes government control is essential while I believe it is counter productive. Let me explain.

A Libertarian Society would have a government which concentrates on the protection of individual rights. A criminal justice system would be in place and would react to criminals harming or defrauding others. But the police wouldn't be spending their time and money making a bust on "Ole Aunt Martha's Saturday night poker game." Apparently Rush would approve of this activity.

In a Libertarian Society there would be laws restricting individual behavior only for the use of force or fraud against others. Why have a law when nobody is hurt or violated? Does this mean everyone is going to begin doing their shopping in the nude? Of course not. The social mores of a culture will deflect this type of conduct.

The other question is the effect of government regulation of personal moral behavior. Do they help or

hinder the conduct of the governed? I believe they hinder.

Look at what government does when it goes beyond its mandate of protection. In just about every case, whatever government gets involved in, the results are less than what the private sector could achieve. In other words, to screw something up, let the government take control of it.

Ironically, Rush is well aware of this when he discusses the economic woes of our country, but for some unknown reason, he encourages the same government which pays \$500 for an ordinary hammer, to write and enforce laws to control our morality. I don't get it. Morality is far more difficult to legislate and administer than to oversee our economic system. Yet Rush says get rid of those economic regulations and pass laws that tell us how to act morally. I find this contradictory.

In fact, the more restrictive the morality laws become, the worse the behavior of society. For example, there was greater consumption of alcohol during prohibition than after it became legal again.

In Rush's defense I must recognize his great use of humor and his light-hearted style. It is something that the Libertarian spokesman should learn. Humor is an ally, especially, when used to persuade new minds to Libertarianism.

Someday I think Rush Limbaugh will embrace the Libertarian Cause and until that day comes, I'll be cheering on Rush's economic opinions.



## OUR CONVENTION?.....29th. of FEBRUARY

It's an election year and that makes this '92 state convention the most important one since '88. This year it is being held at the State House Inn at Montgomery, AL on February 29, 1992. This date falls on a Saturday and a full schedule of events are being planned for that day.

Montgomery was chosen not only for its centralized location, but because the media seems to be more receptive. The great people in the Montgomery area who put in the time and effort are to be applauded this year's convention. All the details are not completed at this time, however, *Alabama Liberty*, will

keep you abreast of the agenda and any changes.

The underlying target of this year's convention is EXPENSE. Your executive committee has put the cost of attending the convention at the top of the list, while not sacrificing the quality of speakers and arrangements. We think we've accomplished this by keeping the admission cost between ten and twelve dollars.

In true Libertarian tradition, you get what you pay for. If you wish to attend several additional functions, they're "a la carte". There are two banquets, lunch and dinner. One will have our Vice Presidential

Canidate, Nancy Lord, as the main guest and the other is to be determined shortly.

We are very hopeful that everyone will make an effort to attend the '92 convention. The time is right and so is the price. Let's show the people of this state that Libertarianism is the fastest growing political philosophy of the time. We can only do it if you plan to attend with your spouse and friends. We need everyone's help to have a large crowd that the media will respond to.

Two and half months is plenty of time to make plans. Come and meet the rest of the fine Libertarians around Alabama.

### (WORD from page 4)

means 'to a great degree,' as in extremely honest or healthy or fair. In that sense of the word would you call yourself a political extremist?" Don't take the bait! You'll find yourself quoted as being a "political extremist," or "admitted extremist," and the phrase will dog you forever. The explanation will be lost and forgotten.

Instead of "radical," use "fundamental" or "basic."

Instead of "revolutionary," use "bold," "new," "innovative" or "challenging."

Instead of "extreme," use "principled" or "consistent."

Remember I said define or be defined. If we are principled advocates of individual liberty, that makes the opposition unprincipled. If we are consistent supporters of individual freedom, then the opposition is inconsistent. Why would

anyone take unprincipled or inconsistent people seriously?

I have developed a simple but powerful format that gives libertarians a lot of intellectual leverage. Whenever you find our position described with a biased phrase, take the following steps:

1. Unpack and list the connotations of the term.
2. Judge them.
3. Define our position with a more accurate phrase.
4. Identify two or three positive outcomes of our position.

For example, someone might ask, "Wouldn't you say that your libertarian viewpoint is pretty radical in terms of contemporary politics?"

Using the format, we get this response: "Usually the word 'radical' is used to describe fanatics, political terrorist, bomb throwers, and hijackers. I'm totally opposed to that.

Libertarians advocate individual freedom and self-responsibility. We believe that all human relation should be voluntary and peaceful."

Someone might say, "I like a lot of your ideas, but I can't support your isolationist foreign policy."

Using my format, you'd answer: "Usually the word 'isolationist' means insulated, cut off from the rest of the world, like medieval Japan or China. And we're opposed to that. Libertarians support free trade and free travel. We call for a non-interventionist foreign policy. We don't want the U.S. Government interfering in the affairs of other countries, meddling in foreign conflicts."

Re-defining the issue and enhancing linguistic precision is not the last step in political persuasion. But it is a vital first step on the road to individual freedom in our lifetime.



ALABAMA LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
P.O. BOX 11514  
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Please send me more information explaining what Libertarianism is all about. It sounds very interesting, however, I would like to know more.

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\*\*\*MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT (MEMBERS ONLY)\*\*\*

Through my membership in the Libertarian Party, I hereby certify I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieveing political or social goals.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## GLYNN REEVES TO RUN FOR CONGRESS

Libertarian Glynn Reeves has announced his candidacy for the second congressional district of Alabama. This seat is currently held by Republican Bill Dickinson who has been in office for the last 100 years or at least it seems to be that long. The Republicans have held this congressional seat since the Goldwater sweep of '64.

Glynn made his announcement standing on the steps of our state Capitol on December 9th. The local press corp from television, radio and the newspapers were present and gave Mr. Reeves excellent media coverage.

Glynn spoke for about ten minutes and then answered questions from

the press for another ten minutes or so. Reeves pointed out the heavy spending recorded of the incumbent and how that has impacted upon the average working man. Glynn Reeves says he is the person to vote for if you feel that the direction our government is heading needs a change.

Glynn lives in the Highland area of north Montgomery. He is self-employed in the advertising field specializing in commercial retail signs. Glynn Reeves has served in the U.S. Air Force for four years. While in the Air Force he was an electronic technician working on radar repair.

Glynn is looking for all the sup-

port he can muster. He needs campaign workers who will help stuff envelopes, knock on doors, answer and make phone calls. Anyone wishing to help can contact Glynn at (205) 265-1104 or if you are planning to help with a check, Glynn's address is P.O. Box 4357; Montgomery, AL 36103.

**Good Luck, Glynn**

*(MEETINGS from page 3)*

partisanship. Bob also spoke about ties being forged with a broader national movement involving a number of groups interested in throwing out entrenched incumbents.

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