# Santa Clara Libertarian

**Volume 30, Issue 8, August 2002** *News Of Local Libertarians' Struggle To Save Freedom*

# FOUR LP ARGUMENTS AGAINST TAXES ON NOV. 5TH BALLOTS

## *All Signed By Members With LP Titles To Gain Valuable Publicity For Party*

Reported by Marv Rudin

**Ballot arguments have always been a very time-and-cost effective means of getting public exposure for the Libertarian Party name. This year Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress has taken it to new heights in participation by leading a committee of twelve in submitting and getting accepted for publication on the November 5, 2002 ballot pamphlets and ballots, arguments against and rebuttals versus the "for" arguments on four of eight tax-and-spend measures, namely G (Cambrian Elementary School District $21 M bond), H (additional Los Altos School District $333 per parcel property tax), I ($69M Gilroy Unified School District bond), and J ($37M East Side Union High School District parcel tax). Arguments on Measures C, D, E, and F in Morgan Hill, Palo Alto, and San Jose (E & F) respectively were either not submitted or were not submitted at the required time or place.**

Dennis Umphress leads ballot args team

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# GOOD TIME FOR ALL AT LPSCC ANNUAL PICNIC

## Resourceful Collier Overcomes Surprise Problem To Make Event A Success

Reported by Marv Rudin

**The Doerr Park picnic venue for the LPSCC annual picnic turned into Zander Collier's back yard when it was discovered that others had staked their claim to all the park's picnic tables before our picnic's noon starting time. Discovering this, Zander unflappably came up with a plan to move the picnic to his back yard patio, and leave a couple of people - myself, Mike Laursen, and Mark Hinkle at the park to direct arriving attendees to his home, which fortunately was just a couple of blocks away.**

**For convenience of Excom members attending the picnic, the August Excom meeting was held at the park during the 2 hours just before the picnic's noon start time. So many of the 11 Excom members attended the picnic, joined by about 20 to 25 other Libertarians, several of whom your reporter has never seen at past meetings. The latter attendees included Jerry Brown (Vice Chair Cathi Brown's husband), Piet Delaney, Carl Beswick, Barbara Talbert and Dean Hopkins, Beau Cain, and member Curtis Behle and his friend Fran (a Democrat), Delaney and Beswick are registered**

Event ended up in Zander's patio and yard

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# FOUR LIBERTARIANS ASK S.J. COUNCIL TO NOT TAKE TROPICANA PROPERTY FOR DEVELOPER

Note: San Jose and most other council meetings are televised. Speakers who identify as LP members and are impressive, garner valuable publicity for the party as well as for the freedom issue

## Umphress, Collier, Rice, and Briely Speak in Support Of Merchants And Owners

**Reported by Mike Laursen**

**Four Libertarians, two mentioning their LP affiliation, spoke before the San Jose City Council on August 27th. At stake was the future of the Tropicana, a predominantly-Hispanic shopping center in East San Jose. The council, without admitting that it had violated the Brown Act, which prohibits the majority of members of a public agency from meeting privately, agreed to vote again on a resolution authorizing the Redevelopment Agency to take the Tropicana from its current owners and give it to Walnut Creek developer, Blake Hunt Ventures. The scant hope was that 4 councilmembers could be persuaded to vote against the resolution, which required a supermajority to be pass.**

**There were dozens of speakers at the controversial and emotional meeting. To many of the Hispanic speakers, both for and against the resolution, the issue of the Tropicana's redevelopment seemed to be tied to a perception of a long history of neglect of East San Jose infrastructure and schools.**

**A couple of our Libertarian speakers, who coordinated their presentations with the Tropicana's current owners, supplemented their speeches with images projected on the room's overhead screen. Dennis Umphress showed pictures of ongoing remodeling work and read both LPSCC and Republican Party resolutions supporting property rights. Zander Collier gave a well-researched presentation showing several Blake Hunt projects that are stalled, have not been started, or resulted in buildings at least as ugly as the current Tropicana shopping center.**

Allen Rice gave passionate speech

**Allen Rice gave an impassioned speech about the Redevelopment Agency's poor record in developing the downtown area. He pointed out that the Project Area Committee, which governs the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, was elected by only 4.2% of the residents in the affected neighborhoods. And he got in a parting shot about the $50 million subsidy the City Council plans to give to Blake Hunt Ventures.**

Elizabeth Brierly spoke as LP Bd of Eq candidate

**Elizabeth Brierly, who identified herself as Libertarian candidate for CA Board of Equalization, pointed out that taking someone's private property is equivalent to stealing their life's time and energy.**

**Speakers from the Republican Party and the Santa Clara County Taxpayers' Association argued that eminent domain was never intended to be used to take property in order to give it to a private party.**

**The most common complaints against the current center were that the owners have a history of at least 20 years of not making any significant repairs or improvements and that the center is crime-ridden. Opponents of the resolution pointed out that the current owners have been around for less than 10 of those years and that there is a police substation in the center.**

**Several of those who spoke in favor of the redevelopment plan were East San Jose residents who had been organized by local unions. They could be identified by the stickers they wore on their shirts.**

**One of the Tropicana merchants, Jose Mendoza, staged a walkout, followed by lighting of candles and prayer in front of the building. After the vote, one of the Tropicana's owners, Dennis Fong, claimed that he would be taking the matter to court.**

**Daniel Chavez, a Project Area Committee member from the Burbank neighborhood, said that it might be time for the public to put an end to the Redevelopment Agency. According to newspaper reports, Mr. Chavez has petitioned to have the Burbank neighborhood removed from the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative project area because of misgivings about the use of eminent domain and the possibility of the unincorporated area being annexed by San Jose. Your reporter asked Mr. Chavez to contact him about the possibility of working with the Libertarian Party on**

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### Santa Clara Libertarian -- Schedule of Publication to Year End

| COVERAGE PERIOD | FINAL EDIT | PUBLICATION |
|---|---|---|
| September Issue: | October 11th, | on web site October 14th |
| October Issue: | November 15th, | on web site November18th |
| November Issue: | December13th, | printed & bulk mailed December 20th |
| December Issue | January 10th | on web site January13th |

# EXCOM OUTDOOR PRE-PICNIC MEETING AT DOERR PARK

## Authorizes $2500 For Law Suits; Treasurer Reports Dues Unpaid By LPC; Laursen Appointed Fund Raising Chair

**Reported by Marv Rudin**

**For the time-conservation of its members, the LPSCC Excom August meeting was held from 10 am to 12 pm on August 17th just prior to when, and at the same location where, the local party's annual picnic was to be held - Doerr Park in the Cambrian area of San Jose.**

**Attendance: All eleven members excepting the Publicity and Membership Chairs, plus *guest member Mike Laursen***

***REPORTS***

**Campaigns: Chair Dennis Umphress noted that there are seven candidates for local offices. He reported that arguments had been submitted against four local ballot measures. There was discussion of submitting rebuttal arguments for these, and of contacting the opponents of two others (Palo Alto, Morgan Hill) about cooperating on rebuttals. Mark Hinkle outlined some legal issues relating to Measure J (ESUDSD).**

**Outreach: Local Organizing Chair Laura Stewart outlined her work in recruiting volunteers for OPH booths.**

**Financial: Treasurer Jon Hugdahl noted that we have not received UMP member dues payments**

# *PARTY MEETINGS*

***Stories about local Libertarians getting together to discuss and, debate issues, and/or vote on official party***

**Site of meeting - reoccupied by early-bird claimers**

Note: continue on l page

# SPEAKERS MEETING - MJ MAN DOMINATES; BROWN GETS LPSCC SIGN IN COCO'S FOYER!

Reported by Marv Rudin

**Andrew Garrett**

Andrew Garrett became the de facto speaker at the LPSCC's August Speakers Meeting on the evening of August 8th at Cocos in Sunnyvale. There was no formal speaker, but he completely dominated the discussion with his descriptions of, and requests for help in preparing, a book he said he has been writing on marijuana's history and utensils and information for it's usage ranging back to the beginning of history.

**Newcomer Clifford Blair (l) & 5 others plus photographer at meeting**

The meeting was attended by four local Libertarians besides Garrett - Alan Furman, Jon Hugdahl, Cathi Brown, and myself. Also attending was a Republican, Bob Smith, who's been attending most of the meetings at Cocos for several years, and a very quiet newcomer, Clifford Blair. Garrett was looking for help from party members in the proofing of text, layout, graphics, and printing and publication of his book. He said the book is intended to be a price guide on historical collectors items related to marijuana, as well as a history of marijuana usage. When this reporter asked Garrett what the book has to do with the LP, he admitted that it is in no way a book about Libertarianism in relation to marijuana. When asked to drop discussion of his book to allow other topics, such as how to grow the party, he refused and a shouting match ensued; so this reporter left.

In a followup interview to learn what happened after my departure, LPSCC Vice Chair Cathi Brown, said she used the opportunity to talk to the manager. It was a heads up action par excellence. Before leaving Cocos she arranged with the manager for a sign to be posted at the entrance announcing the LPSCC's monthly meeting. And as it turns out it's presently the only sign there. Hopefully some libertarian leaning folks visiting Cocos will notice the sign (it's up on the wall 7/24) and either decide to attend, get curious about the Libertarian Party and look it up on the web, or both...

# PUBLICITY

*Stories about local Libertarians getting recognition for LP*

# "L WORD" IS FEATURED IN PA NEWS' EDITORIAL

## *Results From San Mateo LP's Campaign To Replace Sequoia Healthcare Board*

**Reported by Marv Rudin**

Jack Hickey, LPSM Chair, gets us good coverage in Palo Alto

**On 8/30/02 Libertarian Joe Dehn, who lives in Palo Alto reported "This editorial ran in the Palo Alto Daily News . The district in question is not in Palo Alto or even Santa Clara County, but the same company publishes papers in San Mateo County as well, so it is possible that this actually ran in all of their papers."**

**San Mateo Chair Jack Hickey confirmed this saying "Joe, not only is it possible, it happened with the Redwood City Daily News. And, in their Wednesday issue, their front page had 'Libertarian candidates in squabble'.**

**More front page coverage appeared in The Independent on Tuesday with bold headlines proclaiming 'Libertarians push for health board takeover'.**

**Originally, Dave Price of the Daily News gave me a heads-up on an editorial titled 'County taxpayers deserve a refund' (which was later published on Friday, July 19) in which he suggested that 'This would be a perfect opportunity for county Libertarian Party leader Jack Hickey to get some of his people elected to office'.**

**Warren Gibson read that, contacted me, and a three candidate slate evolved. Warren paid the $1,000+ for the candidate statement (which includes an endorsement of the other slate candidates, Harland Harrison and Jack Hickey).**

**I have spoken with the other three candidates recruited by 'Operation Breakthrough', with a meeting scheduled for tomorrow, and am working on a press release entitled 'Libertarians unite to oust incumbents'.**

**Stay tuned! And, check out: http://www.smartvoter.org/2002/11/05/ca/sm/special_district.html "**

## "Libertarians Stumble In Hospital Tax Battle (PA Daily News, 8/30/02)

**Libertarian Party members have stumbled as they try to reform the Sequoia Healthcare District board. The board is under fire because it sold the hospital to Catholic Healthcare West in 1996, but quietly continued to collect a property tax that was intended to be used to operate the hospital.**

**After the hospital was sold, residents didn't know part of their property taxes were still going to the hospital district because the county doesn't provide taxpayers with a breakdown showing which districts get their dollars. But when the county grand jury discovered the situation, it demanded that the board stop collecting the tax and return the funds it had collected.**

**The board ignored the grand jury, and so it appears the only way the public has of correcting the situation is to replace board members when they run for re-election.**

**This November, three seats are up for grabs and only two of the incumbents (Arthur Faro and Dr. Gerald Shefren) are running.**

**The Libertarians, who believe in less government, jumped at the chance of electing some of their members to this board in what was thought to be an easy race.**

**The state Libertarian chairman Aaron Starr put three candidates on the ballot while county Libertarian leader Jack Hickey recruited three more candidates to run.**

**But there's more: Grand jury member David Rosner was so outraged by the board's decision to collect taxes for a hospital it doesn't own that he jumped into the race. He's not a Libertarian. With seven reformers seeking three seats, they've divided the reform vote, making it more likely the incumbents will win.**

**The Libertarians would be wise to quickly decide which of their candidates will stay in the race. While names can't be removed from the ballot at this point, candidates can still announce that they wish to no longer be considered.**

**If the reformers want to end this tax, they've got to be pragmatic."**

# LAURSEN'S LTE RE LAND USE POLICE IN VOICE

Reported by Marv Rudin

Mike Laursen got this LTE published in the Mt. View Village Voice in August opposing the city government's too-tight control of land use:

"It is disappointing that the city council wants to "shut the door" on the Palo Alto Medical Foundation. A facility that provides health care for 2000 people a day would be a great addition to the city. And those 800 employees would spend money here, wouldn't they?

Why is the city council reviewing potential occupants, anyway? In Mountain View, are commercial real estate owners allowed to make any decisions about their own property?"

Laursen explained the basis for his LTE as follows: "The city council held a "study" (whatever legal status a "study" has) of potential subleases of Home Depot's lease on the old Emporium site. One council member, Ralph Faravelli, wants to "shut the door" (Voice reporter's wording) on consideration of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation because they won't bring in any sales tax revenue. The council in general was reported as being disinterested in them for the same reason. Council member Mary Lou Zoglin was quoted as saying, 'This is OUR [emphasis mine] last prime site.'"

Mike Laursen gets LTE published in Mt. View Voice

[Editor's Note: If Mike could have put "Libertarian" in his letter somewhere, it would have been much more valuable to the LP. People who side with your position in an LTE need to know you're a Libertarian to get a benefit for the LP as well as advance the issue. For those planning to write LTE's, if you haven't an LP tile you could sign as a "member LPSCC" (spelled out), or contact me and we can concoct an LPSCC Newsletter Committee title such as "Reporter" or "photographer".. Of course, Mike is now LPSCC Fund Raising Chair and can sign with that title for future LTE's.]

# WHAT PARTY IS GUILTY OF LAND GRABBING IN S.J.?

Reported by Marv Rudin

On July 20, hoping to sew the seeds of discontent among San Jose residents adversely affected by the RDA's SNI program (see July issue of SCL) I wrote SJ Mercury columnist Leigh Weimers regarding his comment about no Libertarian on the S.J. Council in the following excerpt on the Tropicana issue from his July 19th column :

"A City Hall contest with no real winner By Leigh Weimers Mercury News
What a great time of year this is. A lot of people are on vacation. The weather is great, unless you live in fog-bound San Francisco. And the San Jose City Council is on hiatus so it can't get into more mischief, such as approving an architecturally average new City Hall or offering yet another hunk of the city — an Eastside shopping center — to an out-of-town developer. Let us be thankful for brief blessings.
The Tropicana Shopping Center mess did catch the eye of the Libertarian Party. At its July central committee meeting, it passed this resolution: "Be it resolved that the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County supports property rights and opposes the use of eminent domain by the San Jose Redevelopment Agency to seize land for the purpose of turning over that land to a private developer."
Notices were sent to all city council members. Of course, it would mean more if the Libertarians had managed to elect anyone to the council."

Leigh Weimers

Subject: What party are the S.J. land grabbers? Leigh: How do you know there are no Libertarian council members? Aren't these nonpartisan offices? But assuming you're right - that none of them are Libertarians, the members of the city council who are doing the foul deed of forcing owners off their land in San Jose are of what party? I think it would be a valuable public service for you to let us all know, as elections are coming up... from: Marvin B. Rudin Chair Emeritus Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County

On August 05th he returned from vacation and answered: Subject: RE: What party are the S.J. land grabbers?

"Thanks for writing. The majority of the council members are Democrats. The only exceptions, I think, are Chuck Reed and Pat Dando, but I'd want to double-check that."
Leigh Weimers

Hopefully he'll check and in a future column he'll reveal it's both Democrats and Republicans who're doing this to the property owners out there in the SNI territories.

# OUTREACH

*Stories about local Libertarians reaching out to non-Libertarians*

# OPH PROGRAM BEGINS!

## *First Session Is At Santa Clara Farmers Market*

Reported by Marv Rudin


**The first OPH boothing event attracting sufficient volunteers to go ahead with it, occurred Sunday August 25th at the Santa Clara Farmers Market. Two members volunteered, and an added one showed up toward the end to see about training. Local Organizing Chair Laura Stewart, manager of the program has arranged a series of OPH sites and dates which will be manned only if there are volunteers.. She reports "Randy Overbeck and Robert Gomes worked the OPH at the farmer's market. Both of them and Cathi Brown came to the class afterwards and made a lot of good suggestions.**

**Laura Stewart**

**It was funny: I didn't know Robert and he hadn't told me he was coming, he just came up and took the quiz like anyone else (and scored 100-100). After he'd hung around a while I did what the Advocates suggest and asked if he'd like to help. He jumped right into giving the quiz and it was only later that I learned that he wasn't a passerby, but had actually come because of my mailing to LPSC-MISC."**

**Randy Overbeck**

**Overbeck said the traffic was fairly good and that over 50 took the OPH quiz in the about 3 to 4 hrs - about 9am - 1 pm the event was open., But, he said, some wrinkles to be ironed out for future OPH boothing were to have voting registration forms and to have a way to make it easier to get the names and contact information from people scoring Libertarian on the quiz (He said they got practically none).**

**Many future OPH boothing events are planned and volunteers are needed. Readers who may want to participate can learn more and can volunteer by visiting this web site established by program manager Stewart:** http://www.sc.ca.lp.org/lpsc-volunteer-oph.html

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**Umphress made sure that the party name appeared in at least one author's title as an officer, committee chair, or election candidate for all submittals by inviting only members with such credentials to be authors. He was assisted by four other Libertarians in writing the arguments. He said "All arguments were signed by at least one person identified as a Libertarian candidate and/or LPSCC officer. I wrote the arguments on C,D,G,H,I&J. We missed submitting C&D to the respective cities I should have realized that our arguments on C, the City of Morgan Hill, and D, the City of Palo Alto, needed to be submitted to the Clerks of each city . Ray Strong (LPSCC Chair) wrote the argument on F. No rebuttal argument was allowed on F. I wrote the rebuttal argument on J."**

**On the rebuttals, which are open only to those submitting the initial arguments, he said "Zander Collier (Activity Chair of LPSCC) wrote the rebuttal argument on G. Mark Hinkle (LPC rep for the LPSCC) wrote the rebuttal argument on I. Elizabeth Brierly (LP candidate for CA State Board of Equalization) wrote the rebuttal argument on H."**

**He then credited all who helped, saying "The Campaigns Committee, consisting of: me, Ray Strong, Beau Cain, Scott Lieberman, Kevin Bastian, Randy Overbeck, Cathi Brown, Mark Hinkle, Zander Collier, Joe Dehn, Robert Arne, Laura Stewart, and Elizabeth Brierly helped out in the roles of editors, proof readers, and devil's advocates. Special thanks to Mark and Cathi for driving the arguments around for signatures and for submitting the arguments to the Registrar of Voters."**

**There isn't space to print all eight of the submitted Libertarian authored arguments and rebuttals scheduled for the Nov. 5th ballot. They may be read on the LPSCC's series of "VoteNoOn❖" web sites (where "❖" represents the measure's identifying letter, thus providing a different web address for each measure ) . As an example, the full address of the Measure G arguments site is http://www.VoteNoOnG.org/ (caps are for message clarification but unnecessary to link to site). For readers without web service and for the casual reader's convenience, one argument and one rebuttal - those for Measure G follow. Although some common elements were employed for all the arguments and rebuttals, none are completely identical. So only a visit to the web sites will suffice for thorough readers.**



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Activities Chair
Zander Collier

# Oktoberfest at Der Fischmarkt

by Zander Collier


The Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County (LPSCC) will be meeting at the Fish Market 1007 Blossom Hill Road on Thursday, October 10th at 6:30 pm. Phone # is (408) 269-3474.

If you are a current dues-paying member, then you are a member of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County. It's that simple. In other words, if you are current with your dues, you are eligible to vote on party business! Come make your voice heard! If you're not a current dues paying member, show up and become one!

Oktoberfest will be an evening to remember as we have many many things to cover. Here is a quick agenda:

6:30 pm: no-host cocktails and greeting reception
7:00 pm: Dinner starts
7:30 pm: LPSCC Central Committee / Business Meeting Commences
9:30 pm: Meeting Concluded

We're not allowed, by state law, to announce the availability of free (as in price) beer, so we'll mention that there will be free (as in freedom, not price) beer to celebrate Oktoberfest. There will also be a pleasant surprise to go along with the freedom beer - but the only way you can find out is to come!

Another reason that this particular Central Committee/Business meeting is important is that the party (you!) will be voting on endorsements for the Libertarian candidates running for office: Local, State, and National. This is your opportunity to hear our candidates speak and to place your stamp of approval, or disapproval, on these candidates. They're making the effort to be your elected representative in government. Show them you support them, their efforts, and the stand they're taking for Freedom. October is our endorsements meeting. This is the culmination of our last two years of work. November is the general election!

See you Thursday, October 10th at 6:30 pm!

## Continued from page 1 - picnic

Libertarians who had been recruited to run for nonpartisan office under Operation Breakthrough were invited to the picnic by Dennis Umphress in the process.

Zander had some good food out - grilled hamburgers and sandwich items, and a variety of cold drinks including sodas, water, juices, and beer, So hunger was not a distraction as numerous Libertarian conversations went on all over the yard. No doubt the country's, the world's, and the party's problems were reviewed and solved many times over in those discussions, in addition to the refinement of various Libertarian principles.

I got one imaginative proposal from Piet Delaney. He advocates gambling exchanges that allow putting money on a position rather than court settlements as a way to settle disputes on all sorts of matters, much like the stock market provides gambling on the future of companies. I guess it's not surprising that a Libertarian would come up with such an unusual solution. Piet is a software engineer who's been a Libertarian since his college days.

Carl Beswick is running for SC County Board of Education. He registered Libertarian last year after seeing the tax protest at the Meridian post office, and picking up literature there. He works for the post office as a mail delivery performance tester. Cathi's spouse Jerry Brown is not a Libertarian - at least not yet. He is a musician with the Gramma's Chilli band, a blue-grass oriented rock group that at one time did cover performances in conjunction with the Grateful Dead. Beau Cain is a publication writer who has recently become active in the party, including creation of Spanish versions of Libertarian outreach literature.

# DENNIS UMPHRESS SAVES PARTY SEVEN MONTHS WORTH OF DUES!

## Last Minute Input From Howard Jarvis Tax Association Attorney Overcomes Bad Legal Advice To Prevent A Losing Measure J Suit

**Reported by Marv Rudin**

Dennis Umphress saves party $2500

**Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress has done much for the LPSCC and for the local fight for freedom on various fronts. Now he's added to his exemplary party resume the saving of 7 months worth of member dues by timely obtaining critical legal information from a tax org that turned off a pending law suit law suit to keep Measure J off the ballot. It was a suit he initially instigated based on what later turned out to be faulty legal advice he had heard the school board's attorney give the board at one of its meetings.**

**The saga of the Measure J suit was an intense, fast moving affair by LPSCC standards that began on the 16th of August and ended a week later. Umphress set the process in motion when he reported what turned out to be erroneous legal advice from the East Side Union High School District's attorney, namely that a 2/3 vote by the ESUHSD board would be needed to put Measure J on the ballot had not been achieved yet the board had submitted it to the Registrar of Voters anyway. In addition to this erroneous input, there was a valid matter of a technical forms violation that caused the Registrar to reject the ESUHSD's filing and force it to go to court for a writ of mandamus. Informing the LPSCC Excom of these two potential ways to object legally to Measure J being on the ballot, Umphress asked the members if the party wanted to sue to keep Measure J off the ballot. As it turns out, the 2/3rds board vote advice would have been correct if it were a bond, but it was incorrect for a parcel tax raising money for school use - legally considered a "special tax", which is what Measure J proposes. To compound the error, belief in the erroneous 2/3rds vote requirement was further reinforced when Excom member Mark Hinkle responded to Umphress's question by contacting civic activist attorney Gary Wesley and got the same advice - that 2/3rds was needed - along with an offer to help by immediately filing a request letter with the ROV to enforce the forms violation, and also to make a submittal to the court objecting to nonnotification of the opposing argument writer - Umphress - about the ESUHSD's writ of mandamus. And, said Hinkle, Wesley quoted $2500 for filing a suit to stop Measure J from being placed on the ballot.**

Mark Hinkle Took initiative on Measure J

**The following morning, at the August 17th Excom meeting in the park, being confident that a suit would be won based on the 2/3rds vote failure, Hinkle proposed that the LPSCC put up $2500 for a suit to block measure J from appearing on the Nov. 5th ballot.. There was a debate. Opponents said legal fees are often large and uncontrollable to see a case to its conclusion, and it's difficult to get positive publicity from a negative suit. Hinkle argued that someone needs to insist that the law be enforced. The final outcome was to entrust $2500 to Chair Ray Strong's discretion as a "Legal Fund" (see Excom meeting article on page 3). On the 21st, Hinkle said he'd received Strong's permission to hire Wesley and asked the Treasurer to draw checks for payment of $2451 Fortunately for the LPSCC, before any checks were paid out, Umphress had wisely consulted and received a response from an organization with thorough knowledge of such matters - the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, to ask them if they wanted to participate in the suit (which was tantamount to asking for confirmation that the case for 2/3rds was valid). Their attorney said definitely not - a school parcel tax is a "special tax" and therefore requires just a simple majority vote of the board to put it on the ballot. Ray Strong reported to the Excom that confronted with this advice, Attorney Wesley "recommended" not going ahead with the suit.**

Ray Strong, Chair Called suit on, then off

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**Cambrian School District**
**Election to be held November 5, 2002**

**Ballot argument against Measure G**

**The $20,975,000 the school district wants to borrow would have to be paid back with interest. The money to pay off this debt comes from the taxpayers. Let's get our priorities straight: helping the economy recover by reducing taxes will serve our children better in the long run than raising taxes to pay for constructing libraries. Jobs are more important than fence upgrades.**

**Why hasn't Cambrian Elementary School District made the these important repairs from their ongoing budgets? If all budget expenditures during the last few years have been more important than the repairs and replacements they want to make now, what makes them suddenly more important? If families must move away because high taxes have put them out of work, won't enrollments decline, making repairs and upgrades wasteful?**

**We should use the current budget to pay for teachers and make important repairs as needed. With whatever money is left, we should pay for whatever administration Cambrian Elementary School District can afford.**

**Make your vote count. Remember, we don't have the safeguard of requiring a two-thirds vote to pass a school bond measure. It only takes 55%. Keep the Cambrian Elementary School District accountable. While businesses are intent on cutting costs, don't let the school budget balloon out of control.**

**You can be FOR schools, FOR students, and AGAINST Measure G.**

**VOTE NO ON MEASURE G!**

**For more information please visit our website at http://www.VoteNoOnG.org/**

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**Ballot Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Measure G**

**Education should always be a top priority. Apparently our leaders and school district have thought otherwise for forty years. Why have all Cambrian School District buildings received only "minor repairs" over the past 40 years?**

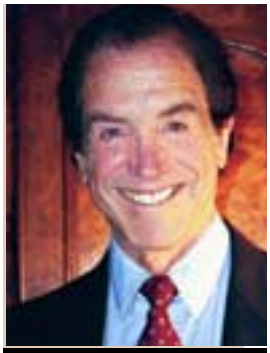
**If repairs were so pressing, why was a new community center built right smack between Price Middle School and Fammatre Elementary? New basketball courts with fresh blacktop? Fields re-graded? Go look at the new buildings. Where were the school district and our "prudent" officials when all of this new construction was going on? Why weren't our schools being fixed?**

**Having the best facilities and personnel doesn't mean we should pay twice what it costs to obtain such. $21 million in bonds equals $42 million for institutional investors. That's $21 million NOT going to our children. Institutional investors shouldn't make money off our children's educational needs. Nor should we reward elected officials who act as spendthrifts, then complain there's no money.**

**The assertion that the Cambrian community hasn't passed a bond measure since 1959 might be true, but it's certainly not for the District's lack of trying. Remember last summer how the District tried to sneak through another bond issue in a special election? The supporters of Measure G hint that the residents of the Cambrian community should be ashamed that we haven't passed a measure to issue bonds since 1959. This, however, is something we should be proud of, not ashamed of.**

**Vote No on Measure G.**

**http://www.VoteNoOnG.org/**



Marvin B. Rudin

## IS ASKING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON NONPARTISAN BOARDS & COMMISSIONS A GOOD POLICY?

**OPINIONS**

*Share your thoughts on making our party more successful and advancing the individual freedom with responsibility*

It seems to me that our members being a part of the government organizations that we'd like to eliminate can occupy our willing members' precious time with playing the other guys' game - the socialist big government game - without accomplishing much in the way of outreach to attract new Libertarians. It may even mean participating in doing government harm to others. Yes I know the argument that Libertarians need to understand how the government works in order to fight it, and that by participating we can influence members of the commissions and boards. But we are presently so few in number that the government could easily swallow up and absorb the time of all members willing to do anything. It's not that I think getting Libertarians into government is entirely wrong and a bad idea under any circumstance. When and if we grow by 10 to 1, the number of future government positions probably being not much greater at that time (let us hope!), we probably could have enough active members to carry on growth activities and enough other members to infiltrate these unpaid part time government positions. But at the party's present size, I don't see it being very beneficial to the party's future. Anyone know how serving on the S. J. Mobile Home Advisory Commission would get much publicity or growth for the LPSCC? ■

Hiram Pierce

On Sunday mornings I often attend the lecture series given at The Humanist Community which meets from 11 am to 12 . In the September edition of Humanist Community newsletter I noted with interest the following announcement:

Sep. 22, 11am., Mitchell Park Community Center

IS THERE A THIRD PARTY IN YOUR FUTURE?

Andrea Dorey, political activist with a progressive orientation, discusses the wide assortment of third parties now extant. When people are frustrated by the two major parties, they look for other options. Bring you challenging questions.

I know that among Humanists the Green Party is well represented. This is a chance to raise Libertarian questions and promote our ideas. Maybe we should bring printed material as well.

Directions, From 101 from the south: exit San Antonio, turning left to cross 101. Turn right on Charleston and right again on Middlefield; at the next signal, turn left into the parking lot.

If you have any questions call me, Hiram Pierce, at 650 494-1631 or send an e-mail. ■

Continued from page 2

any effort to get rid of the Redevelopment Agency.

After all of the public speakers had finished, councilmember, Nora Campos, who sponsored the resolution, defended her commitment to the East San Jose community. [Several of the Libertarians in the audience cringed or looked puzzled when she went on to explain her vision of the American Dream, which she summed up as having a convenient shopping center in one's neighborhood. (Marv, I wish I had a transcript so I could report her exact words.)]

Repeating the June 25th outcome, Chuck Reed and Pat Dando were the only councilmembers to vote against the resolution. Chuck Reed stated that he was voting against the plan because of the eminent domain issue. Besides having concerns about eminent domain, Pat Dando made several astute observations. She checked crime reports for the Tropicana against a comparable center in her district and found that the number of crimes reported were almost identical. She admitted that the city was at least partially responsible for construction delays. She stated that the Redevelopment Agency has a poor record of choosing successful business ventures to partner with.

Councilmember Forrest Williams public decision making process was based on asking assurances from other city officials. He asked for the city attorney's assurance that the council has the right to use eminent domain in this case. He asked the other councilmembers for assurance that there will be a separate vote before actually exercising eminent domain. He asked redevelopment director Susan Shick for her assurance that the tenants of the redeveloped Tropicana would be successful. [Since Mr. Williams already knew the answer to most of the questions he asked and did not wait for anyone to answer some of the questions, he seemed to be making a public display of asking for the assurances to deflect any future criticism.]

The meeting was covered by NBC3, Univision, and The Mercury News. Our Libertarian speakers were visible in some of the television coverage, but were not featured in any of the coverage. ■

## Officers:

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This is the publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit political organization.

**Editor's Note:**
Had a Libertarian outreach experience? Converted someone to LP?

Write about it to me at rudin@lpty.org

US mail:
651 Princeton Dr.
Sunnyvale 94087

# THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

**of Santa Clara County**

P.O. Box 60171 Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

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Name: _____

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**The Libertarian Party** is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business).

*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:** _____

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# *Reserve Thursday Oct. 10th For A Fun Oktoberfest Meeting & Dinner at The Fish Market on Blossom Hill Road*

No-host Cocktails; 6:30pm Dinner 7:00 pm

**Cuisine: Fresh seafood -- Entrees: $11-$20 - Extras: Sushi bar, wine bar, liquor bar, oyster bar, you name it!**

Convention Business 7:15 pm - 9:30 pm

Located at 1007 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose (near Almaden Expressway & 85 Freeway)

**Come enjoy a fresh seafood dinner, hear candidate speeches & vote on endorsements, and swap ideas with your fellow Libertarians**

**Volume 30, Issue 8**