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# Historical Preservation Committee Report

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**Report Date: 10 December 2021** (for EC meeting of 11 December 2021)

**Appointed by: LPC Chair**

**Chair: Joe Dehn**

**Other Members: (to be appointed)**

## **Executive Overview**

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Information about HPC projects is recorded and made available to all LPC members and the general public via our article (page) on LPedia:

[https://lpedia.org/wiki/Libertarian\\_Party\\_of\\_California\\_Historical\\_Preservation\\_Committee](https://lpedia.org/wiki/Libertarian_Party_of_California_Historical_Preservation_Committee)

In addition, committee members have in the past communicated via e-mail. We have not had any in-person or phone meetings since our last report.

This committee could use some more members.

## ***Early History Timeline***

Mostly based on those early state newsletters that I mentioned in my last report, and in response to frequent questions about the very early days of the LP in California, I constructed a "timeline" article for LPedia – basically an outline of some of the most significant events of approximately the first 10 years (through 1980, when we became a recognized party):

[https://lpedia.org/wiki/Libertarian\\_Party\\_of\\_California\\_Historical\\_Timeline](https://lpedia.org/wiki/Libertarian_Party_of_California_Historical_Timeline)

This isn't intended to replace the other articles about activities during that era, but rather to serve as an overview. For the very earliest events there are references to the newsletters in which the information was reported, and for many of the later major events like conventions there are links to the individual articles on those specific topics, where more details are available.

## ***Seeking Local Newsletters***

At this point, as a result of various people donating their collections, I have scattered samples of newsletters that were published by region/county organizations in many parts of the state. However, the only area for which I have anywhere close to a full set is my own county, Santa Clara. I have found both the state and Santa Clara County newsletters to be invaluable sources for reconstructing the history of the respective organizations – there is much information in them that just is not available in any other form.

So in my view acquiring copies of more issues of local newsletters is a pretty high priority for two of the HPC's purposes: (1) to document in an organized way the basic facts about what was happening in the LP over the past 50 years all across the state of California (facts about activists, committees, conventions, Libertarians running for public office, Libertarians serving in public office, issue-oriented projects, outreach projects, etc.) and (2) to preserve and make available the

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newsletters themselves (which in most cases contain many other kinds of information, including commentary on both organizational issues and topics relating to libertarian philosophy and public policy).

There are several regions/counties that I know published a newsletter regularly for years – in some cases multiple decades – but for which I have only a few issues. Obviously the most likely place that more complete sets of these publications could be found would be in the files of some long-time activist in that particular area. If anybody knows of somebody in their own county who might have kept all or most of the issues of whatever newsletter may have been published in the past (whether or not it is still being published), please put them in touch with me so I can make arrangements to get access to them. (For both of the purposes mentioned, either originals or good-quality scans would serve equally well.)

I am continuing to scan some of the material I already have – and I have enough of that to keep me busy for a while. But we can't wait until that work is done to worry about finding more, because as time goes on I expect there to be fewer and fewer people who still have copies.

### ***LP 50th Birthday Party***

Much of my attention recently has been on trying to encourage state and local groups to hold 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party celebrations – this Saturday!

I was disappointed at the very limited response from within California. So far, I am only aware of two events scheduled for the big day, plus one other scheduled for a few days earlier:

- ◆ Libertarian Party of California (Fresno)
- ◆ Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County (Los Altos Hills)
- ◆ Libertarian Party of Los Angeles County (8 December, Arcadia)

The latter event was a couple of days ago, and was billed as a combination Holiday and Anniversary Party – I have not yet heard how it went or what birthday party features it may have included.

It's possible that there are other events happening elsewhere in the state about which I just haven't heard – if so, I hope the people running or attending them will provide some information about them after the fact, so they can be included in the list of locations in the LPedia article:

[https://lpedia.org/wiki/50th\\_Birthday\\_Party](https://lpedia.org/wiki/50th_Birthday_Party)

Photos or links to albums or online articles describing the activities at each of these events would also be very much welcome.