



Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 34, Issue 3 March 2006

News of Local Libertarians' Efforts and Feats

LPSCC Aboard California Convention Cruise 2006

At the LPC's annual convention, held in Feb. on a cruise to Ensenada, the LP of Santa Clara County had one of the most enthusiastic delegations of the convention, with several members stepping up to activism at the state level.

Winning two-year terms as At-Large Rep-

resentatives to the LPC Executive Committee were LPSCC's **M Carling** and **Mark Johnson**, with first-time delegate **Lois Garcia** being appointed as the first of two Alternate Reps.

Elected to the Judicial Committee were **Allen Hacker** (immediate past LPSCC Chair)

and **Mark Hinkle** (a former LPC Chair), who was appointed Chair of the Judicial Committee.

M Carling was re-elected as one of two regional reps to the LP National Committee, and **Scott Lieberman** was elected as 2nd of two Alternate Reps to the National Committee. ■



Photo courtesy of: Elizabeth C. Brierly

Pictured L-R (with their LPSCC positions): **Kevin Takenaga** (Chair), **Allen Hacker** (Vice Chair), first-time delegate **Ann Sheehan**, **Scott Lieberman** (Campaigns Chair), **Mark Hinkle** (Newsletter Chair), **Elizabeth Brierly** (editor of Santa Clara Libertarian), **Lois Garcia** (Activities Chair), and **Mark Johnson** (Secretary). Delegate not pictured: **Alberta Brierly**, **Laura Ferrer**, **Linda** and **Logan Hinkle**, and **M Carling**.



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

Alberta Brierly, first-time delegate, being welcomed to the state LP convention by LPSCC Chair **Kevin Takenaga**.



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

Dave Ruprecht, LPC's Executive Director, and **Lois Garcia**, LPSCC's Activities Chair, enjoying the midnight buffet aboard the ship.



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

M Carling, At-Large Rep to LPC Executive Committee, and LPC's Bylaws Committee Chair, presenting the Bylaws Committee report.



Santa Clara Libertarian
News of Local Libertarians'
Efforts and Feats

Volume 34 ■ Issue 3 ■ March 2006

Santa Clara Libertarian is the monthly newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County.

PUBLISHER

Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
P.O. Box 60171 Sunnyvale 94088-0171
Web site: www.SC.CA.LP.org
Telephone: 1 (877) 872-3007

EDITOR

Elizabeth C. Briery
E-Mail: BrieryServices@Netgate.net

Briery Services Company
P.O. Box 611021 San Jose, CA 95161-1021

COUNTY CHAIR

Kevin Takenaga
Telephone: (408) 243-2711
E-Mail: Chair@SC.CA.LP.org

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Mark Hinkle, Committee Chair
E-Mail: Mark@Garlic.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Arne
Arden Pierce
Hiram Pierce
Lawrence Samuels
Kevin Takenaga
Bill White

PAST ISSUES

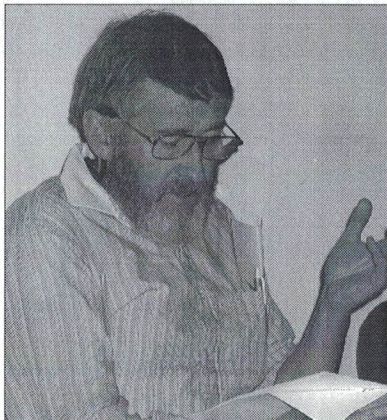
Posted on the Web at:
SC.CA.LP.org/page_reference_scl.php

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Articles, photographs, artwork, copyright 2006 by their author(s) and/or Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, except where stated as a reprint. All rights reserved.

Officer Update

M Carling has resigned his position as Treasurer of LP of Santa Clara County. **Al Newman**, our immediate past Treasurer, has agreed to resume these duties, which he performed throughout 2005. Thank you, Al! ■



Al Newman, Treasurer

■ Message from the Chair

Three Goals for LPSCC Success in 2006

I am excited about the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County in 2006. Not only is 2006 an election year, but the LPSCC is poised to achieve some major milestones this year.

Already, since our annual convention in January, the LPSCC Executive Committee has been hard at work building the party infrastructure for a successful 2006.

For example, the web site (www.SC.CA.LP.org) has been revamped, and a new blog has been added. On the home page, you will see a call for donations, and a call for volunteers to help coordinate action on the many issues to which the LPSCC is responding this year.

I'd like to remind you of the goals that the Executive Committee has set for 2006. We need volunteers and donations to make them happen:

- Form 3 city or campus clubs
- Raise \$3,000
- Register 300 new Libertarians

Form 3 City or Campus Clubs

If you are a resident of Sunnyvale, you have the opportunity to join a Libertarian organization that will focus specifically on local issues and candidates. Brian Darby, a five-year LP member and Information Security Analyst, is my Assistant Organizer for Sunnyvale Libertarians. You may join the meet-up group via the Web, at <http://Libertarian.MeetUp.com/269/>.

If you're in another city and are interested in creating a City Club of your own, please contact us. Also, if you know a student—or are one yourself—at one of the major universities in the county (SJSU, Stanford, Santa Clara University), let us know.

Raise \$3,000

This money will be used to support issue campaigns and to pay for outreach materials and booths, as well as to support our ongoing operational budget. We can reach this goal very easily through members making monthly pledges of \$5, \$10, or \$25 or more.

■ In Memoriam

Suzanne Arne: Wonderful Teacher, Loving Wife

My dear wife, Suzanne Arne, has left us. She passed away peacefully at our home on Saturday, March 11. This is an incredible shock to me, and it also has affected, and will continue to affect, the hundreds of children she taught, for they have loved her.

Suzanne had been experiencing problems with memory, reading, and sickness, which lessened her effectiveness this year. The coroner has speculated that she probably died of a lesion in the parietal lobe abscess in her brain, which might have entailed a stroke, infection of the brain (cerebritis) or a brain tumor. We will not know the results for certain for several weeks, until further tests are completed.

Why must good people die young? Suzanne, age 49, gave the ultimate sacrifice for her dreams, beyond every other sacrifice of her time and treasure.

You can start your pledge on line at www.SC.CA.LP.org/page_donate.php. Only 10 pledgers of \$25 a month will earn \$3,000 per year!

Register 300 New Libertarians

Registering Libertarians is important because it increases our size and presence in Santa Clara County. If you'd like to get involved in this effort, consider attending New Citizen Swear-In ceremonies, and the many other opportunities we'll have for registering voters later this year.



Kevin Takenaga

For more activities opportunities, fill out our volunteer form, on the Web at www.SC.CA.LP.org/page_volunteer.php, and let us know how you would like to help.

Central Committee Meeting

I hope all dues-paying members will attend the upcoming Central Committee meeting. It'll be held on April 4, starting at 7:00 P.M. Our Activities Chair, **Lois Garcia**, has found us a new, interesting venue in downtown San Jose, with good food: Lan's Pho House (225 E. Santa Clara St. San Jose, 95113). (See the announcement on page 4, or on the Web at www.SC.CA.LP.org/blog/?p=13.)

The meeting will be a good opportunity to bring friends and family who may be interested in the Libertarian Party and would like to become more involved.

Finally, keep watching our web site for more news and updates! www.SC.CA.LP.org

—Kevin Takenaga

Chair, Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County

We spoke the night before, and she again affirmed that running a school was what she wanted to do. Her last words in life were, "I love the kids. Make sure they get their homework." She taught me compassion and faith, and her death will reestablish those for me.

On March 18, we held a memorial service for Suzanne at the school where she gave her life: the School of Choice, in Sunnyvale. It was comforting to see nearly 120 well-wishers show up—testimony to the power of good that one person can have in life, even if she is not famous. Many Libertarians attended, and I shared with the gathering that she died a lifelong libertarian.

The school will continue its mission, because it

■ See **Arne**, page 3

■ In Memoriam

Harry Browne's Profound Influence

by Elizabeth C. Brierly
 Editor, Santa Clara Libertarian

I was a sponge-like 12 years of age when my parents introduced me to *The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand, and *How I Found Freedom in an Un-free World*, by Harry Browne. In tandem, these books influenced my formative sensibilities enormously—more than I can put into words. They led me to be an active libertarian and make some of my closest friends, and even shaped my career today. I never got the chance to meet Ayn Rand, but I did have the enormous privilege of meeting Harry Browne.

Old-timer Santa Clara Libertarians will remember from 1994 how pleasantly surprised I was, as a new member of the Party, when candidate Terry Savage mentioned that that same Harry Browne was running for the LP's 1996 nomination for President, and that he'd agreed to speak at a fund-raiser for Savage for Assembly, of which I was campaign manager.

It was such a delight to meet Harry that fall at libertarian Bill Smyth's Westover Vineyards in Castro Valley, and on many occasions since, always relishing his bemused and serene, yet strong and resolute eloquence on libertarian principles. He was one of those positive, unresentful types who looks forward, thinks big, and gets things done. Harry carried those qualities into his two tireless runs for President (1996 and 2000); through over 1000 media appearances, he



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly
 Browne autographs a book for a fan at Advocates' 20th anniversary. Atlanta, 10/05.

grew to be an even more polished spokesman for our principles. He even collected meticulously his impromptu soundbites and increasingly deft ways of addressing controversial policy issues into a very handy book, *Liberty: A to Z*.

After the Presidential campaigns, Browne didn't rest on his laurels. He teamed with Jim Babka, Steve Dasbach, and Perry Willis to create DownsizeDC Foundation (www.DownsizeDC.org), whose goal is "to reduce the federal government to a tiny fraction of its current size, decentralize power, end deficits, federal borrowing, and monetary inflation, and eliminate most federal taxation and the IRS....by petitioning Congress and the President to vote against or veto bad laws and programs, and to repeal old bad laws and programs."

I learned mid- to late last year that Harry was ill—ALS had struck our friend. In October, I heard him speak at the 20th anniversary of the Advocates for Self-Government in Atlanta. He did his usual fabulous job inspiring libertarians, and setting a strong example of how to communicate libertarian principles to not-yet-libertarians, even while relegated to his wheelchair. His attitude shone to the point that, if not for the evidence of the chair, one might've remained blissfully ignorant of his disease.

In opening that talk, Harry mentioned a diagnosis he'd been given recently. I'm sure I wasn't the only audience member who assumed he'd be saying a few words about his illness. He explained that his doctor had pronounced him to

Eminent Domain Update

Now only two anti-eminent domain abuse initiatives are collecting signatures. The main one is the "People's Initiative," and is sponsored enthusiastically by various grass-roots, anti-tax and anti-redevelopment agency groups, including Coalition for Redevelopment Reform, & the President of Silicon Valley Taxpayers' Association. (Download at www.LimitEminentDomain.org.)

Referred to as the "Anderson" initiative, the second has significant financial backing, and is supported by Americans for Limited Government, and State Senator Tom McClintock, who withdrew his own ballot initiative due to lack of funding, but has introduced a legislative constitutional amendment (SCA 20) to fight the Supreme Court's decision last year in *Kelo*, jeopardizing Californians. This initiative cannot be downloaded, but they are accepting donations at www.ProtectOurHomes2006.com.



For more information, please contact Jay Smith, LPC Eminent Domain Committee Chair (559/225-5443 or Jae4Free@AOL.com). Every signature is vital! ■

be suffering from (I'm paraphrasing) acute optimism and terminal happiness. Ha! It was the same old quip he'd used in many speeches, but somehow had a far greater impact this time.

Harry Browne passed away on March 1 at the age of 72. We are blessed to have his many books (including *Why Government Doesn't Work* and *The Great Libertarian Offer*) to consult when we need a libertarian lift or a "nice" way to talk to a friend about a particular contentious issue, since we will no longer get to see him at libertarian conventions.

Harry, you will be missed. We thank you for your enthusiastic service toward increasing individual liberty, and for the timeless legacy you have left us. ■

Arne

from Page 2

is my dream, too, and because we owe the kids the best. It is my hope that everyone will honor Suzanne's memory with their own success.

Suzanne valued educational excellence, educational choice, political liberty, and inclusive religion. Besides our school or a worthy religious institution, Suzanne would probably have wanted money for education given directly to worthy parents. I suggest giving tax-deductible donations in her name either to the Independent Institute (100 Swan Way, Suite 200 Oakland, CA 94621), or to California Parents for Educational Choice (294 Cecelia Way, Tiburon, CA 94920).

Suzanne, we will miss you.

—Robert Arne

Headmaster, The School of Choice

You may reach Robert Arne via e-mail at Robert@SchoolOfChoice.com, or by telephone at (408) 887-5108.

Camaraderie at LPC Convention



LPSCC Secretary Mark Johnson (right) celebrates the end of a successful convention, with LPC Chair Aaron Starr (left) & fellow LPC'er Sandor Woren.

Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

National Convention!

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

UNITING VOTERS
 Portland, July 1 & 2
2006

Register now!
 Early bird rates
 expire April 30.

LPconvention.org



Santa Clara Libertarian

Libertarian Party of California State Central Committee
Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
P.O. Box 60171
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

Election Material. Postmaster: please expedite.



**Election
June 6**
Protect small
businesses:
**No New
Sales Tax!**
VOTE!
**No on
Measure A**

www.VoteNoOnA.us

Pro-Tax Lawsuit Fails to Silence Argument

On Thursday, March 23 at 6:10 P.M., proponents of an additional Santa Clara County sales tax filed a lawsuit to strike several sections from the ballot argument against Measure A, which was co-signed by LPSCC Chair **Kevin Takenaga**. The most important of these was an attempt to remove all mention of a tax exemption for the tax proponents.

The findings and proposed deletions were not approved by the court, which did allow some technical revisions, such as updating of a bill number.

The authors agree that the correct bill number is SB1291. SB552 was a bill in last year's session with largely identical wording. Both grant a giant sales tax exemption to manufacturers, and whole pages are word-for-word the same between the two bills.

The important argument still stands: Silicon Valley Leadership Group is pushing a bill through the legislature to exempt its members from state sales tax, at the same time they are promoting a sales tax increase via Measure A. The net effect is that average citizens would pay 8.75% sales tax, while manufacturers and big business would pay only 2.75%.

These bills, sponsored by Elaine Alquist, contain numerous special interest provisions,

Upcoming Events

LPSCC Central Committee Meeting
When: Tuesday, April 4, 2006 7:00 P.M.
Where: Lan's Noodle House
225 East Santa Clara St., San Jose
For info: www.SC.CA.LP.org; click "events"
Lois Garcia, LPSCC Activities Chair
L.Party@Yahoo.com
(650) 814-3245

Saurman Provocative Lecture, SJSU
Jeff Ray Clark
"Are We Too Safe to be Safe?"
Government Safety Regulations that Kill"
When: Thurs., April 6, 2006, 5:15-6:45 P.M.
Where: San Jose State University
MLK Jr. Library, Room 225
For info: www2.SJSU.edu/depts/economics/Provocative-lectures.html

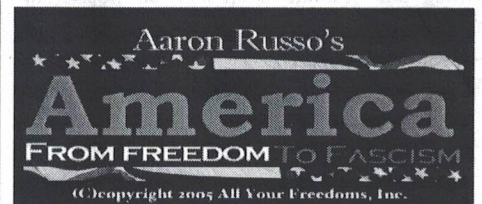
Times and venues of LPSCC events are subject to change. Check our web site for confirmation: www.SC.CA.LP.org; click on "events."

such as whole paragraphs that provide a million-dollar tax cut for Calpine's new power plant.

-From Citizens for Sensible Transportation, the grass-roots campaign against Measure A

You can read more about the campaign against the additional sales tax on the Web, at www.VoteNoOnA.us.

Sneak Preview! April 7, San Jose



It's here! **Aaron Russo's** provocative new documentary, "America: From Freedom to Fascism," will have pre-screenings in San Jose on April 7. For information or to volunteer, send e-mail to **Elizabeth Brierly** at ElizabethB@Netgate.net. Seating will be free of charge, but will be on a first-come, first-served basis, so plan to arrive early!

When: Friday, April 7, 6 P.M. and 8 P.M.
Where: San Jose City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara St. (at 4th & 6th)
West wing, rooms 119-120

The movie features such heroes of Libertarians as former IRS agent **Joe Banister**; LP Presidential candidate **Dr. Ron Paul**; and tax fighters **Irwin Schiff** and **Vernice Kuglin**.

Pre-screenings in S.F. on April 8 are being sponsored by the *We the People* organization (see www.GiveMeLiberty.org). ■