



Libertarian Party

NEWS

Volume 1, Number 5

Liberty Enlightening the World

September/October 1986

LP "Financial Crisis" Addressed by NatCom

By Randy Langhenry

Members of the Libertarian Party's National Committee spent the major portion of their two-day meeting, August 2 and 3, in Baltimore, Maryland, addressing a "financial crisis."

The most important outcome, according to national chair Jim Turney and others, was the 18-4 approval vote on exploring methods of decentralizing, or privatizing, the national office. (See box below.)

According to a report of a joint Budget/Management Committee of NatCom, the Party needed "\$30,000 in cash, not debt forgiveness, beginning August 1, in order to avoid budget cuts."

The financial situation was so severe that headquarters staff members had not been paid recent salaries, and Lysander, Inc., publishers of the Libertarian Party NEWS, had received only about half their payment for July, according to Turney.

The financial crisis developed for several reasons, Turney said. The primary problem was the illness of the national director, Perry Willis, and the inability of the headquarters staff to cope with the workload, including fundraising, in the past few months, according to reports.

Willis, national director since July 1985, resigned because of those health reasons during the NatCom meeting. Turney announced that Terry Von Mitchell, financial director and assistant national director, would take over the role of acting national director until a permanent replacement could be found. (An advertisement appears in this issue seeking applications for the position.)

At the NatCom meeting, two separate and distinct options were offered to deal with the financial crisis.

The Budget/Management Committee, con-

sisting of Turney, Randy Ver Hagen, treasurer Sam Treynor, Dave Walter, and Perry Willis, offered to the full committee a proposal to eliminate "the August issue of LP NEWS, unless the Torch Club raises \$10,000 in cash or pledges due in August by August 15."

According to the report, the elimination of a NEWS issue would save approximately \$2,400. "We need the immediate cash to pay for the previous issue of LP NEWS, plus accrued payroll, etc. We also need it to avoid budget cutting until the results of recent fund-raising efforts are known," the report stated.

The same report also stated that if "greater cuts are needed, they should be made in the areas of either LP NEWS or office payroll." The report encouraged "eliminating half of the LP NEWS expense between now and the end of the year," and/or "a 40 percent staff cut."

Turney urged the NatCom to give him two weeks to raise the needed funds before making those deep cuts.

The joint committee report also recommended cutting expenses in the following areas: insurance, fund-raising premiums, purchases of materials for resale, stationery, and combining the salary expense of the national director and the finance director, in effect asking Mitchell to handle two jobs and not replace Willis.

This report was made known to the entire NatCom during the first day of the meeting, and that night a group of NatCom members and rank-and-file Party members gathered to discuss alternate plans.

This second group, consisting of Peter Breggin, Chad Calopy, Steve Fielder, Ruth Bennett, Robert Murphy, Paul Kunberger, Marc Montoni, Hugh Butler, Paul Jacob, and Jim Turney, as well as other Party members, offered a second option to the entire NatCom

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WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY



Norma Jean Almodovar

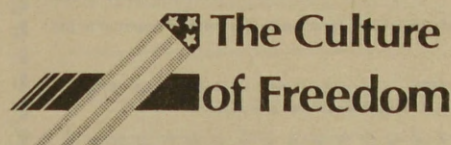


Norma Jean Almodovar, LP's candidate for lieutenant governor in California, unveils her latest campaign poster. For the story, see page 12.

Convention Logo Makes Debut

By Tom Tanaka

The 1987 Libertarian Presidential Nominating Convention is to be held in Seattle, Washington at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers. It is scheduled to begin the first week of September and will finish over the Labor Day weekend.



Shown above is the logo and title chosen for this event by the planning committee of the Libertarian Party of Washington State. The design is derived from the "libersign" which was created by David Nolan. Nolan was one of the founders of the now 15-year-old Libertarian Party. His sign symbolizes a break with the status quo, left vs. right political thinking.

The libersign was chosen as the design basis for its graphic simplicity and elegance. Symbolically distilled in the horizontal line and intersecting arrow is the essence of the liber-

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Privatizing the Party

In keeping with the spirit of libertarianism and the spirit of the recent LP National Committee meeting, here are functions of the LP national office which are susceptible to decentralization by being farmed out to independent, entrepreneurial contractors.

Suggestions about or concrete bids on these services are hereby solicited and should be sent directly to the national chairman, Jim Turney, at 824 W. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23220.

- List maintenance. Includes data base management, data entry, and list production of all names of Libertarian Party members, supporters, contributors, and others as specified by the national committee or chair.

- Fund raising. Direct mail and phone soliciting. Commission basis.

- National 800 phone number: phone answering service, taking names and ad-

resses for follow-up. Could be appropriate to a state party that has an executive office, for instance.

- LP NEWS. Already decentralized. Current budget is \$54,000 annually, including all costs of editorial staff, printing, typesetting, layout, and mailing. Currently under contract to Lysander, Inc.

- Broadcast (political commercials) Committee. Already decentralized as a self-funding committee.

- Ballot Access Committee. Already decentralized as a self-funding action committee.

- National office. Collection and distribution of mail, depositing of contributor checks, payment of authorized charges.

- Distribution of LP materials. Currently handled at national office, this function could be decentralized to an independent contractor.

Big Water Update

It's official! The all-LP City Council of Big Water, UT, has abolished the city's property tax. The all-LP vote was 4-0.

"We didn't have any complaints," His Honor Mayor Alex Joseph said, "we just got out of the business of legalized robbery."

Next, if Big Water Mayor Joseph can get elected to the Kane County commission: end the county's 16-mill property tax. "How can you go wrong," Joseph asks, "putting half a million dollars back in the people's pockets to spend like they want to?"

LP - SIL Link Urged

The Society for Individual Liberty was founded in 1969 as a national educational and activist organization dedicated to the principles of libertarianism. Perhaps the oldest ongoing libertarian organization, it promotes the goal of a free society through the development of libertarian clubs, dissemination of ideas, and encouragement of activist projects. Murray Rothbard, writing from the CATO Institute, has said that "The birth of SIL marked the beginning of the modern libertarian movement."

By John C. Sproul

There are several strategic advantages to having a Society for Individual Liberty (SIL) chapter, in addition to an LP chapter, for a given set of activists. This doesn't change what the activists are presently doing, but just allows them to "wear different hats" for various

activities.

- It provides a "home for new prospects who are attracted to libertarian philosophy, but who are leery of having anything to do with politics.
- It provides access to meeting places and groups where a political party is barred.
- It makes it easier to schedule speakers who are not libertarians but who can speak about some topic of interest to libertarians.
- It may give access to private funding that is not available to a political party.
- Membership dues of the local SIL chapter provide another source of funding.
- Some events should more logically be sponsored by an educational society rather than a political party.

The requirements for establishing an SIL chapter are quite simple (just five national

memberships at \$8 each). There are, however, some practical considerations:

- It is desirable to have different officers of the two groups, so as to not confuse the media. This may be a good opportunity to develop new activists since the positions may galvanize previously inactive people. For very small groups, the same officers may be a necessary compromise since an active officer is more beneficial than a different name.
- It would be desirable to have different stationery and different bank accounts for

each group.

- The two groups could share one address (although in Rochester we have found it advantageous to have different P.O. boxes convenient to different activists.
 - The two groups could share just one mailing list. Although some people may occasionally get some mail they are not interested in, we have never had a complaint.
- To contact SIL, write to Box 338, Warminster, PA 18974.
Sproul is associated with the Genesee Valley chapter of SIL in Rochester, NY.

NatCom

Continued from Page 1

on the morning of the second meeting day. Titled "The Resolution to Revitalize the National Office," this ad hoc group's proposal stated: "In the interest of revitalizing the National Office and in coordinating it more closely with the National Committee and the membership, we empower the National Chairman to take the following steps: 1) To explore avenues for decentralizing the National Office activities through self-funding action committees, independent contractors, and related means; 2) To move the National Office as expeditiously as possible to a location accessible to the National Chairman; 3) To leave the position of National Director temporarily vacant; 4) To assure the timely publication of the LP NEWS."

On the second day of the meeting, then, the

National Committee, as a whole, had two options to consider. The NatCom decided to vote on each point within each option separately.

In the joint Budget/Management report, the point to eliminate the August issue of the Libertarian Party NEWS (actually the September/October issue) was obviously defeated. Also defeated were points to cut half the NEWS budget for the rest of the year and cut staff 40 percent. However, the NatCom agreed to cuts in insurance, fund-raising premiums, etc.

In the ad hoc committee's resolution, the point to move the national office was voted down, but all other points were accepted.

Since the meeting in Baltimore, fund-raising has improved, according to Mitchell, acting national director.

The "financial crisis" is a short-term one, Mitchell said, predicting that in less than a month the Party would have a strong, effective, "kick-ass" operation in place.



The Culture of Freedom

Libertarian Party
Presidential Nominating Convention

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tarian political theory. On the new two-dimensional political graph created by Nolan and refined by others (see LP NEWS Vol. 1, No. 2, 1986, *A True Political Spectrum* by Marshall Fritz), four quadrants representing four basic political positions are drawn with respect to two axes signifying the degree of advocacy of social freedom (vertical) and economic freedom (horizontal). The libertarian section is in the upper right corner of the maximum social and economic freedom. The horizontal line of the libersign represents the familiar liberal vs. conservative dichotomy. The arrow is the new direction in political thinking pointing toward a radical application of liberty.

In full color, the logo will appear in red, white, and blue. The areas shown here in black will print blue and the gray stripes will print red.

The stars and stripes motif of the arrow represents an America in accord with its original spirit of independence. The stars represent Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. The three red stripes symbolize the lives and energies of freedom lovers in the past, present, and future which are crucial to propelling American values toward a perfect expression.

The horizontal band represents the established one-dimensional frame of mind which libertarian ideas are cutting through. The wave pattern suggests the wake of libertarian progress and indicates the influence exerted on the status quo to lean towards and eventually be seized in the current of the new way of thinking.

The title of the event, *The Culture of Freedom*, was chosen to provide a wide variety of possibilities in programming. Libertarianism is already a well established intellectual movement and it is beginning to emerge as a cultural phenomenon as well. To showcase and encourage these efforts a cultural program will be included in the activities alongside the regular debates and discussions on theory and practical politics. Some proposed activities are drama and music presentations, comedy, an art exhibit, and a computer networking seminar, etc.

The overall theme of the convention will stress the acculturation of America to a new philosophy of liberty and living or, in other words, the Americanization of liberty. The American flag design of the libersign is a step in that direction. It provides a familiar point of historic and cultural reference for a unique reinterpretation of the universal ideal of freedom.

By demonstrating that libertarianism is multi-dimensional it can be shown how institutions of liberty might replace institutions of government. This is also intended to give a sense of cultural solidarity to individual libertarians who often feel isolated and at odds with how the world seems to be drifting. The

Culture of Freedom hopes to demonstrate both the practicality and fun of our humanistic vision of capitalism.

The first step in this direction will be the sale of Liberty Bucks. Early purchases at the 20% discount rate will help convention attendees save. These attractive notes may be traded in later, at face value, for convention registration packages. Additionally, early convention registrants will receive extra benefits. The Convention packages are expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$300, hopefully less. Liberty Bucks may also be traded for all goods, services, and events provided by the Libertarian Party of Washington State, the sponsors of *The Culture of Freedom*. The first issue of *LB's* at the 20% discount is limited.

The design of the Liberty Bucks is based on early American private banknotes which were redeemable in gold and provided financial freedom and security for Americans. Liberty Bucks are printed in five serialized denominations. The sale of Liberty Bucks will help raise money for advance convention preparations. They are also intended to revive interest in an outlawed American enterprise as a source of inspiration for achieving a future of greater liberty. *LB's* that are not issued and those that are traded in will be destroyed.

The supervision of the Liberty Bucks project is being handled by Bill Bradford, editor of *Analysis & Outlook*, a newsletter for hard money investors. To contact him write to: Bill Bradford, P.O. Box 1167, Port Townsend, WA 98368.

If you have ideas about what should be included in the program contact our program director: Dave Jones, 221 SW 153rd St. #114, Seattle, WA 98166, 206-271-4236.

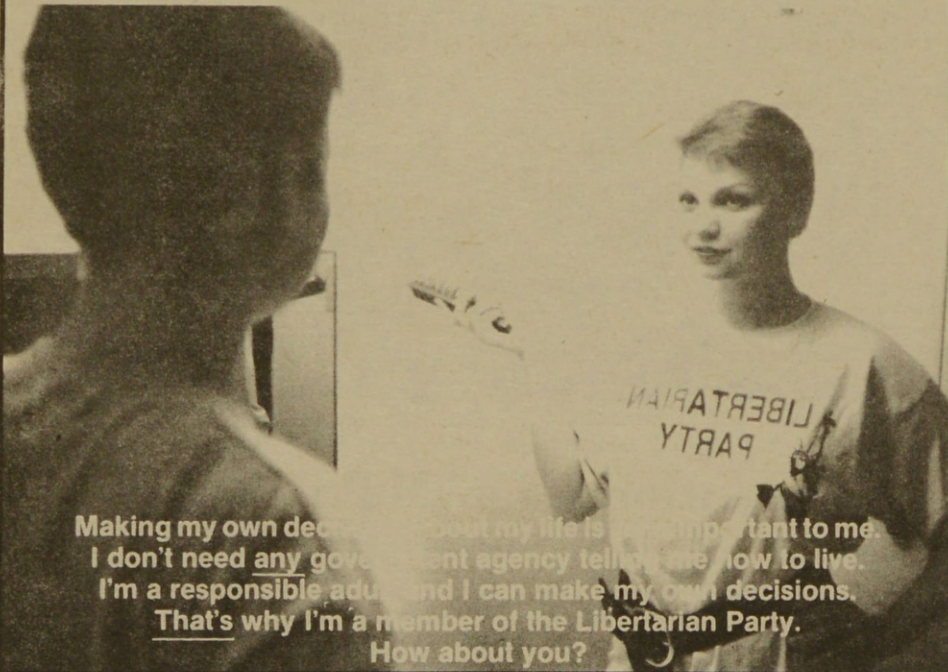
Those interested in an art exhibit at the convention should write to: Tom Tanaka, P.O. Box 23108, Seattle, WA 98102.

For convention information in general contact: H.W. "Skip" Barron, 7727 26th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117, 206-789-4812.


The members of the Libertarian Party of Washington are looking forward to seeing you in Seattle!

Tom Tanaka is a member of the convention staff and edits the "Washington Libertarian." Tanaka, an artist by profession, is the designer of the *Culture of Freedom* logo.

Freedom of choice — Isn't just picking tonight's lipstick



Making my own decisions about my life is so important to me. I don't need any government agency telling me how to live. I'm a responsible adult and I can make my own decisions. That's why I'm a member of the Libertarian Party. How about you?



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Libertarians all over the country are finding that *A Liberty Primer* is what they have been waiting for--an easy-to-read practical manual for building the Libertarian movement. For your copy, send \$7.95 + \$1.00 postage (NYers add sales tax) to: Genesee Valley Society for Individual Liberty, Box 10224, Drawer LPN, Rochester, NY 14610

The Agorist Institute

This is another in a continuing series of brief profiles of non-party, and even anti-party, groups which are working to further the cause of liberty, each in its own way.

The Agorist Institute is the sponsor of some of the most lively, ongoing debates about libertarian tactics and strategy. Steadfastly and vocally anti-party, and anti-politics generally, the Institute has, on the theoretical level, persisted in pressing such debates as that over the nature of natural rights while on the more material level it has concentrated on the operations of what it calls "the counter economy" (the economy of absolutely free market activities which the Institute sees as an effective and complete replacement for all traditional state and political functions).

Founded by long-time libertarian activist and gadfly, Samuel Konkin, the editor also of *New Libertarian* magazine, the Institute holds seminars on counter-economics, and organizes

scholars to discuss and research state power and its affect on "agorists in their daily business decisions."

In the long range plans of the Institute, as explained in one of its pamphlets, is the intention to "become a landlord of convenience for an agorist shopping center, business park, and condominia/apartments."

The Institute issues two newsletters, The Agorist Institute Report to Supporters (AIRS), and ScholarShip, which is mailed to the Institute's committee of scholars which, in turn, is chaired by Dr. Jared C. Lobdell of Washington & Jefferson College. Persons "academically engaged in areas related to counter-economics are invited to apply for membership" in the scholars group. The Institute's founding slogan was "to pay the price of freedom." It also has described itself as "The overground tip of the underground economy," "the Manhattan Project of freedom's biggest bomb," "not free-

dom's last stand—rather, its beachhead into statist society," and "the academic spokesperson of counter-economics."

For more information write to the Agorist Institute, 236 East Third Street, Suite 201, Long Beach, CA; 213-590-0486 or 590-0488.

Conversation with Mother

By Richard Sharvy

I: Since you're the president of your local senior citizens' organization, maybe you could tell me what the major problems are that older people are having there.

She: Why are you asking about that?

I: Well, I may run for the state legislature here as a Libertarian, so I need to know these things.

She: Oh, why don't you stop all that silly Libertarian stuff?

I: Uh, well, right now I just want to find out about what is worrying older people, ok?

She: The main problem is housing. A lot of older people can't find nice little apart-

ments to move into. Somebody wanted to build some apartments here, but the city wouldn't let him.

I: Uh-huh. Why can't these older people just stay where they have already been living? Why do they need to move?

She: Well, there are a lot of "empty nesters"—people with large houses whose children have grown up and who have lost a spouse.

I: Why can't they just take in one or two older people as housemates, and perhaps remodel the big house so that each of them would have his own space and privacy?

She: Oh, the zoning wouldn't allow that...

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO USE THE COUPONS BELOW:

You can really have fun with these coupons - it's an excellent way to spread the word without having to be there to argue the point. You can let the consummate skill of Karl Hess and LP News contributing writers do the work for you.

The coupon on the left is the one you can use to "enlighten" all those friends, teachers, cousins, neighbors and even your parents, brothers and sisters about the Libertarian Party. Or you can write "Send them all to me!" across the coupon, put your own address on it and spread them around yourself.

Also worth consideration are TV and Radio newscasters, program directors, newspaper editors and political

columnists.

The coupon on the right is the perfect method to "plant the seeds of change" in any politician/ bureaucrat you choose. Everyone on your city council, school board, the Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Sheriff, Governor, Lt. Governor, Congressmen and heads of agencies.

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Their name

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About Addresses: Don't waste your money; make sure you have the correct addresses. To be certain, call City Hall, the State Capitol, or D.C. information.

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YES! I want to give 10 people I haven't met copies of the Outreach Issue. Please have the computer select the names of 10 prospective members in my state and send each one a copy. Enclosed is my check for \$5.00

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Liberty Enlightening The World!

Baby Boomers: Yes

By John Majewski

Hula Hoops, Vietnam War protests, and more recently Volvos. These are symbols of the turbulent passage of the baby-boom generation, which has radically changed American society for over three decades. And it may not be finished restructuring our social institutions yet.

Seventy-five million strong and consisting of 60 percent of the electorate, baby boomers may be ready to complete their transformation of American culture by initiating revolutionary changes in our politics.

That is one of the many recent developments in American politics debated in a new book published by the Washington-based Cato Institute, entitled *Left, Right & Babyboom: America's New Politics*. Consisting of 15 speeches by experts in all aspects of politics, the book makes clear that both major parties

should be prepared for some vast changes in 1988 as the baby boomers reach political maturity.

Perhaps the key argument running through the book is that, instead of the traditional liberal/conservative dichotomy, baby boomers ought to be analyzed in terms of four ideological outlooks. Journalist Michael Barone, pollster Pat Caddell, and especially political scientists Stuart Lilie and William Maddox stress that the traditional conservative (less government economic intervention but more regulation of moral behavior) versus liberal (government regulation of the economy but little regulation of moral behavior) framework is inadequate in dealing with the baby boomers. The two new ideological outlooks to be added are libertarianism and populism.

Libertarianism combines the free market approach of the conservatives with the social tolerance of the liberals to form a coherent

position against government intervention. Populism takes the opposite approach, favoring government intervention both economically and socially.

This four-way matrix is important because the baby-boom generation is neither liberal nor conservative in its politics. Most of the contributors argue that it is libertarian in its basic outlook.

The reasons for the libertarian ideology of the baby boomers is the unique set of events and changes that occurred during their lifetime. Political consultant Lee Atwater and other contributors point to the Vietnam War, Watergate, and the sexual revolution as the prime reasons for the anti-establishment feelings of the baby boomers. In terms of economics, the stagflation of the '70s gave them a jaundiced view of government intervention in the marketplace.

The libertarian approach of the baby boomers means big headaches for both major parties. The Republicans were successful in 1980 and 1984 because the baby boomers, faced with a choice between their economic and social

views, opted to vote with their pocketbooks. However, any move by the Republicans to placate the increasingly restless religious right wing of the party on social issues might send the baby boomers packing.

For the Democrats, the free market orientation of the baby boomers means that the party must reform its big government, big union image. With the party establishment firmly controlled by unions and other antimarket liberals, it will be an up-hill struggle for the Democrats to woo the baby boomers away from the more pro-market positions of the Republicans.

Perhaps David Boaz, editor of the book, best summarizes the positions both parties will find themselves in during the remainder of this century. "The future of American politics," he concludes, "may be determined by whether the Democrats can liberate themselves from the grip of the AFL-CIO before the Republicans break free from the Moral Majority."

Majewski is a fellow of the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University.

Yuppies: Maybe

By Dave Kramer

NEWS BULLETIN: In a move which left political analysts stunned, thousands of young urban professionals (the so-called "yuppies") continue to swell the ranks of the Libertarian Party. "They're filling our coffers with good capitalist gold," quipped a leading LP activist. His comment reflected the euphoria of Party members nationwide over what has become the greatest shift in the political history of the U.S. Post Office officials stated yesterday that while the supply of voter registration forms has returned to normal, some branch offices are still experiencing shortages in the wake...

Ahhhhhhhh! In the dark of night, their heads nestled upon their clipboards, the outreach activists sleep and dream of such headlines.

One hates to hang black crepe on the visions of one's friends, but I personally do not believe this dream will ever come true. Moreover, I would be greatly surprised if any outreach program aimed specifically at yuppies met with unusual success. Why do I utter this blasphemy? Because the hopes of the LP rest on the notion that the philosophy of the average yuppie, however crudely he or she may state it, is essentially the philosophy of a libertarian. The yuppie is portrayed in Party literature as a sort of fetal libertarian. Though not yet fully formed, he is supposedly on the verge of becoming a consistent champion of freedom. All he needs is a bit of help from the activist

midwives.

This notion is totally false. The yuppie is nowhere near becoming a libertarian. To support this opinion I draw upon my extensive and intimate knowledge of this wondrous creature.

The most famous breeding ground of the yuppie is Santa Clara County, California. You may know it by its nickname: Silicon Valley. The headquarters of Lockheed, Apple Computer, and hundreds of other "high-tech" firms, its population is young, well-educated, and shamelessly, flagrantly affluent. This valley has been my home for more than 10 years.

Since I earn my living in the field of electronics, I have been blessed with the opportunity to meet and work with dozens of those who (whether they like it or not) wear the proud label of yuppie. Managers, software gurus, entrepreneurs—all have come under my scrutiny. But I place my hand on my heart and swear that I have never encountered a single one of these people who has shown the slightest tendency to think in libertarian terms. The plain and somber fact is that the yuppie, stripped of all the absurd media hype, is at bottom nothing more than your typical American. And, like the great mass of his fellow Yanks, this fabled young professional does not think libertarian thoughts because he does not think philosophically at all. Sad but true, such concepts as ideology, ethics, and principles are as foreign to his mind as the religious beliefs of

the Navajos.

Exhibit A: I once knew the vice president of a booming electronics firm. He was such an archtypical yuppie that the National Bureau of Standards wanted to put him in a bell jar next to their platinum kilogram. Stanford grad. Super manager. Brooks Brothers suit and Robert Hall soul.

He was also a major in the Army Reserves. He liked being a VP because he saw the position as a challenge and it paid well. He enjoyed being a major for the same reasons. He may even have believed, in a nebulous way, that he was helping to save the country from the Red Hordes (though I doubt it; he was pretty smart). In his mind, the two jobs were fundamentally the same: do work; get paid. The fact that one involved voluntary exchange and the other was a taxpayer ripoff simply didn't register. It was a difference that didn't make any difference.

And so it is with all the other yuppies I have known. They are fantastic free market operators, but when the government contracts go up for grabs, they all cluster around with their catcher's mitts, egging each other on with cries of joy. Makes you want to cry.

What about the evidence to the contrary? What about the observation that the yuppie is a fiscal conservative and a social liberal? So many have made this remark that it is almost a cliché. And indeed it is true—but on an all too personal level. I am certain the yuppie resents Big Brother poking around in his wallet and crashing through the shrubbery outside his bedroom window. But what of it? *So does everybody else.* This fist-pounding indignation,

on the other hand, becomes quite restrained when the other fellow's wallet or window is the scene of the crime. Being fiscally conservative and socially liberal in such a shallow manner marks the yuppie as a middle-of-the-roader—not as a nascent libertarian.

Do we, then, abandon the yuppie as a libertarian candidate? No. Such a well-educated and affluent person will never be abandoned by any political movement. It is just that the outreach activists must realize that driving the young urban professional into the libertarian camp is "not going to be a cakewalk," as a famous person once said.

A final thought: If I were setting traps for the elusive yuppie, I wouldn't bait them with theory. The yuppie is an intensely practical critter and will not stand for philosophizing. What I would smear on the trees is *innovation*. There are hundreds of entrepreneurs to admire in this valley, but the *living legends* are the innovators. (The name of Apple's Steve Wozniak springs to mind.) Portray the LP as the Party of Innovation. Yes, you have problems! Yes, we can solve them *this way!* No, you haven't heard these solutions because we derived them from *our* philosophy, not the superstitions of the cretins who infest Congress. No doubt you'll want to join both the local and national LP...

Now this is a dream that I find plausible. And as for principles, just show them *how* libertarians view the cult of the omnipotent state...eventually they will begin asking *why*.

Kramer is an electronics technician and a long-time libertarian.

Libertarian Party NEWS

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BBS

I run a BBS [Bulletin Board Service] in Baltimore. I'd be willing to devote a section or two to libertarian issues if there are enough users to warrant it.

The board is up 24 hours/day, 7 days a week; phone (301) 666-9109. Currently the board is devoted to the Commodore Amiga (great box!) and runs on same.

For the libertarian users, I'd prefer to make it membership by reference only, i.e. only users validated by some libertarian organization would be accepted. The board software allows fairly strict separation of sections; so that the Amiga callers wouldn't even know that there was libertarian stuff on the board (and vice versa).

The board could easily be used for private e-mail and public messages. Who can say how it would evolve (laissez faire!)?

Jim Voris
Baltimore, MD

Voting

The anti-party position serves to strengthen the State. These folks say that all libertarians should stay away from the polls as a matter of principle. But to refuse to vote when one's vote could only hasten the achievement of libertarian goals is nothing but a moral abdication in favor of the State. To see the logical result of this viewpoint, all you have to do is imagine a country where 90% of the citizens are libertarians with no political influence because they refuse to vote.

Andrew Carver
Grants Pass, OR

Porn-fest

In light of the recent Meese piece on pornography, I have come up with a modest proposal (no doubt in parallel with numerous others), that could attract much favorable publicity for the LP.

Have a porn-fest. Media representatives would be invited to watch our fest and capture on film, actual, real-life porn induced madness.

Letters

Everybody knows that porn causes rape, insanity, child abuse, animal rights violations, destruction of the moral fiber, and zoning violations. But how many people have ever SEEN it happen? Inquiring minds want to know.

Volunteers would sit at a table with a piece of killer devil-porn in front of them, wrapped in a plain brown wrapper. At the signal, they would open their material and examine it. The resulting mayhem would then be recorded for posterity lest this evil ever escape into the world again.

Of course if nothing at all happened, it would be a great spoof. It could be a very humorous event and create much laughter. And laughter is the greatest enemy of the state. So let's smash the state and have a nice day.

Tom Radloff
Houston, TX

Glitter

Why can Reagan do no wrong? Because he is so much what people appreciate, he is no challenge. He is an image. His values and rhetoric echo the guy next door. And with the Yuppie, get-ahead attitude so pervasive, for what reason can we expect to have anyone else in the White House? The dominant trend now is anything flashy, fast, glittery—style over substance. It's still 'in' to keep up with the Joneses—though not intellectually.

And I see too many Libertarians sucked into this vacuum. They exist within it, come out once in a while to criticize the government, and then rejoin the society which makes the present non-Libertarian government popular—or if not popular, able to exist.

For instance, Republicans are 'in'. So, who do many Libertarians see as a possible political alternative to the problems they see? The Republicans. While I have no special regard for the Democrats, how do they fail next to the

Republicans. I always heard that Republicans favored economic freedom more than civil liberties and the Democrats vice-versa. The two are equally vital, therefore, one party is no better or worse than the other.

As you can see, what I am writing is an argument for cultural as well as political Libertarianism, a plea for Libertarians not to lose sight of our dreams in a sea of flash, trash, and high-tech mumbo jumbo. There is so much out there for us; it is ours if we fight for it and if we believe that someday we will have it. But first, we must break the habits of despair and rise above the mundane. But before we can expect that from the rest of America, we must first achieve it in ourselves.

David Bozeman
Former Chair,
Libertarian Party of NC

No Fizzle

"Wyoming LP efforts to run a combined campaign with American Party fizzled" [LP NEWS, Vol. 1, No. 4, July/August 1986] is as campaign. It was merely a case of each party circulating the other party's petition as well as its own. Since there's no law in Wyoming against a voter signing a petition for two parties, each Libertarian activist, and each American activist, asked each voter to sign both petitions. This effectively doubled the effectiveness of each.

In fact, the American Party got more signatures for our petition, than we did for theirs. Neither party got enough, but that's only because Wyoming has only about 200,000 registered voters, and the law requires 8,000 signatures for a new party. It's almost impossible and has never been done (when we got on in Wyoming in 1984, we did it with only 2,000 signatures plus a lawsuit).

I think the attempt in Wyoming was very creative, and the Wyoming LP should be congratulated for it.

Richard Winger
San Francisco, CA

Continued on Page 10

Ron Heaton

Ron Heaton, 33, chairman of the South Carolina LP, 1985-1986, and candidate for the State Senate in 1984, was killed on July 21 when the pickup truck he was driving was hit head-on by a car driven by a man later charged with felony drunk driving. Heaton had spearheaded successful anti-zoning and anti-tax petition drives during the past year. His brother, John, was elected chairman of the state party during the group's convention in April. David Morris, treasurer of the state's LP, "shocked and saddened," said that "Ron's activism and his devotion to liberty were an inspiration to us all. He was a kind, caring, and hard-working person who always had a helpful word for all of us who were working for the Libertarian Party's goals."

Lehman Leaves

Bob Lehman, originator of California's outstanding Long Active campaign to enlarge LP membership in California (LP NEWS, Vol. 2, No. 4, July/August 1986) is suffering from inoperable brain cancer. He joined the LP in Ohio in 1973, and served as state party chairman. After moving to California, he became state coordinator there. Last year he won the Karl Bray award for his outstanding work in expanding LP membership. He is returning to his parents' home in Florida to continue his fight for health.

Trivia Quiz Winner

The winner of the Declaration of Independence Trivia Quiz in the July/August edition was Robert Proctor of Conyers, Georgia. Proctor sent in the most complete response to the Quiz, along with some excellent ideas on reviving the spirit of the Declaration.

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Gossip, Gleanings, and Gold

Lee Connelly, LP candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives from California's 38th Congressional District, is the first to report an invitation from the League of Women Voters to join candidates from the two older parties in a public debate. A good reminder that all our candidates should be in close touch with local Leagues.

☆☆☆

Ever wonder why businessmen are so often portrayed as villains on TV? Here's a hint from Steve White, NBC vice president for TV movies, as quoted by financial columnist Louis Rukeyser: "We don't get letters from white businessmen, but they are really the ones who should protest. A majority of them are shown to be corrupt and villainous and we do that because we know no one will object."

☆☆☆

Libertarianism's oldest regular gathering, **California's Future of Freedom Conference**, now being managed by Dagny Sharon (organizer also of the annual Galt's Gulch conference) is entering its 18th year with a strong emphasis on libertarians as merchants and manufacturers. For the upcoming conference (Nov. 7, 8, and 9, in Culver City, CA) there will be workshops on "Freedom in the Workplace," "Boosting Profits Using Free Market Strategies," and "Investing for Maximum Profit." Also, there will be a small business and manufacturer's trade fair and workshop. Among the 40 or so speakers scheduled for the conference are former Libertarian Party presidential candidates David Bergland, Ed Clark, and John Hospers; former Libertarian Party Chairwoman Alicia Clark; Reagan speechwriter Dana Rohrabacher and Freedom Country's Kevin Cullinane, who will debate current defense policy; "life extensionists" Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw; California candidate Norma Jean Almodovar; Agorist Sam Konkin, Jr.; activist Dick Boddie; editorialist Alan Bock; Don Ernsberger and Dave Walter of the Society for Individual Liberty; *Reason* magazine's Robert Poole; anti-political theorist Butler Shaffer, and Libertarian Party NEWS editor Karl Hess.

☆☆☆

After a year of extraordinarily high-energy, cross-country organizing, **Marshall Fritz** candidly admits that his Advocates for Self-Government program (forums to spread libertarian ideas) "failed to meet our primary objectives." Goal was to have nine chapters, of 8-15 libertarians, with each chapter discovering up to 100 new libertarians. Instead, only two chapters lasted out the year and attracted less than 20 new libertarians. Still determined, master salesman Fritz is going back to the drawing board and, determined to learn from past mistakes ("my design was too grandiose"), promises new activities soon.

☆☆☆

Dan P. Dougherty, editor of Free Marin (CA) newsletter, upon hearing that a protest was being lodged against Barnes & Noble operating a local college bookstore—because it would endanger small, independent bookstores which, like the family farm, must be preserved—wrote: "If bookstore owners really believe that government can help them, they should turn on the TV and see what fifty years of government 'help' has done for family farms."

☆☆☆

Security is so tight on the so-called "Stealth" fighter plane (F-19) that **Pentagon** spokesmen "can't even say there is such a thing." They can't, but free enterprisers, using publicly available material can. Testor Corp. has a model kit out for the plane. At \$9.95 it's the company's hottest item this season. Meanwhile, Lockheed, a prime government contractor on the real thing admits it can't locate 1,000 classified documents related to the program. No, says Testor, we didn't use those. Just trade magazine stories. For those who fear government security regulations there once again is consolation in the sheer incompetence of so many bureaucrats.

☆☆☆

Reason Foundation, *Reason* magazine, and the Local Government Center all have moved to new quarters, ironically within the borders of the town that Tom Hayden is trying to make his own "people's republic." The new address is 2716 Ocean Park Boulevard, Suite 1062, Santa Monica, CA 90405, 213-392-0443. For every Hayden proposal there will now be a locally available "reason-able" alternative.

☆☆☆

Latest news on the government money management front: **Sen. Lloyd Bentsen**, member of the Joint Economic Committee, says a new study indicates we'll have a one trillion dollar foreign debt within 10 years. In good Democrat Party style, Bentsen offers as a solution more government control over trade policy.

☆☆☆

Latest triumph of local zoning laws: a Stratford, CT, ruling that a family who held prayer meetings in their home violated local ordinances. Right-wingers who love zoning laws when they keep "dirty books" out of the neighborhood might want to look closely at this one.

☆☆☆

Montana libertarians excited about possibility of voting on a constitutional amendment that would abolish property taxes in the state. Protest group organized to petition to get the amendment on the November ballot claims sufficient signatures. Government officials, calling the proposal radical (oh, my) are now counting and checking the signatures and, probably, checking the books to find any excuse to squelch the amendment.

☆☆☆

Buried on the back pages: report of a 17-page "underground" statement in the Soviet Union, urging an infusion of free market activity lest the Soviet, with an already low standard of living, (15 years behind the West, according to the document) fall even farther behind. Britain's (Manchester) *Guardian* says the document was authored by "party and government officials of senior rank." In the same vein, **Cuba's** minister of housing says it's okay for socialists to make a profit from rental and other property since the profit performs a social good. Odd, dirty capitalists have been saying that for years.

☆☆☆

Your tax dollars at work, feeding a hungry world: Congress has passed legislation that will pour \$800 million of subsidies into U.S. rice exports this year. One effect will be to seriously damage rice production in the third world where many farmers have to operate on their own.

☆☆☆

Foot in the door note: Republican Senator Dan Evans (WA) has instigated a study to see if subsidized college students and retired persons can be used as "volunteers" in public schools. And a Ford Foundation report, covering just such experiments with government "volunteers" says that starting small, with such programs as that, could lead eventually to "a successful national-service program."

☆☆☆

Influence where it really counts: Management report of the high-tech **Kollmorgen Corp.** refers specifically to libertarian philosophy as base for its operating style: "...in our view, the authoritarian style of management can never build the enthusiasm, the yeasty intellectual ferment, that has built the growth, high-profit, first-to-market-with-the-best, high-technology company that is Kollmorgen. Hayek, the great philosophical advocate of the free market system, has pointed out that freedom can only operate successfully within a generally accepted set of traditions. There must be unspoken conviction that man is basically good, that each individual is the basic measure of worth, and that each, by pursuing his own good, will achieve the greatest good for the greatest number. Kollmorgen's constitution... is based on these traditions and convictions."

☆☆☆

Sad, sad commentary: A Georgia man,

asking for subscription information for Libertarian Party NEWS added this P.S.: "Is it politically and IRS safe to subscribe to said publication?"

☆☆☆

Shot in the arm for the **Big Apple Libertarian**, newsletter of the New York City LP: a \$5,000 check from libertarian Anthony King.

☆☆☆

South Carolina LPers active in sponsoring a Freedom Essay Contest, asked college and secondary school students to submit essays, in the form of letters-to-the-editor, on "which government agency I would abolish first." Top prize was awarded to one that advocated abolition of the Department of Education. Noting that only a few entries were received, the sponsors commented, in announcing the winners, that "the announcements must not be legible in some schools, or the schools are discouraging students from writing. As a result, the next year's state essay contest...will be on What To Do About Worsening Government School Programs."

☆☆☆

Former Austin, TX, LP Chairman Terry Parker reports that steady libertarian arguments on radio talk shows, in public forums, and in letters to editors, has "shifted the center of public opinion away from interventionism and toward discussions of practical applications of principles which, although not identified as such, are clearly libertarian." Example: recent state-level recommendation that Austin cancel its contract for a nuclear facility. A major reason was the one advanced by the LP in that city several years ago (and thought of as "radical" at the time). The LP argument, which is now part of the official argument, was the free-market point that the facility could not meet insurance liability demands. One of Terry's most effective tactics is tracking down facts in city controversies and making them available to Austin radio talk-show hosts for their use when interviewing people. Next move: Terry hopes to establish a public discussion forum, open to the general public. It won't be officially libertarian, but libertarian views will be fairly presented.

☆☆☆

Illinois LP gubernatorial candidate **Gary Shilts** filed in excess of 32,000 signatures with the State Board of Elections to obtain the Number 3 spot on the November ballot. The Socialist Workers Party filed two minutes later for spot Number 4. The Libertarian Party is filing a full slate of 10 candidates for statewide offices.

☆☆☆

The Libertarian Club of DuPage (IL) was at the DuPage County Fair July 23-27. Since the White Sox (and the Chicago Bears) are interested in moving there, the County Board was polling residents as to whether they support the Sox moving to DuPage (two-thirds do). The question which the local LPers posed to fairgoers was: "Should tax money be used to build a sports stadium or stadiums in DuPage County?" With about 350 ballots cast, 77 percent said NO!

☆☆☆

Local LPers might find some **political ammo** in having good accountant do study, based on a strictly local example, of what a person could do with private investment of the money now taken by Social Security. Announcing results would be an almost sure media grabber.

☆☆☆

You never know where or when you'll find a gem. From September, 1985, issue of **Car and Driver Magazine**: "When Iacocca and the others demand protection, they are really asking the government to make the consumers pay a higher price than necessary, and pay it to them. They are asking for a government transfer of wealth from the consumers' pockets to theirs...Why should other Americans, who make less, be expected to subsidize uncompetitive wages and salaries in Detroit?"

☆☆☆

Californians Colin Hunter and Justin

Raimondo are trying to convince LPers to join Republican Party as a power bloc or caucus. They now claim a half dozen or so direct and open adherents in California plus one in Illinois. One Californian, Gene Berkman, who is sympathetic, actually left LP to become Republican in order to support candidacy of Ed Zschau (see Libertarian Party NEWS July/August, p. 16). He commented that "Given the individualistic character of most libertarians, I'd be surprised if they'd troop into the GOP as a bloc. If they did, I guess I'd be disappointed that they had become so collective. Actually, I think libertarians would be better off as independents." Berkman's decision to become a Republican, at least for the time being, also was followed by two other members of the Riverside County central committee of the Libertarian Party there.

☆☆☆

DeAnn Pullar, insisting that she is still a libertarian and will not compromise any of her libertarian principles, is running for a state representative seat in Washington—as a Republican. Pullar formerly chaired the Washington State LP. She chose to run as a Republican after leaders of that party actively sought her entry into the state house race, promised her full support, and gave her a very realistic chance of winning. They were well aware, she says, of her libertarian views. Her campaign is expected to emphasize "a flourishing economy [as] an important condition for personal liberty."

☆☆☆

Another neat summary, reprinted by Free Vermont, the state's LP paper, is LP founder Dave Nolan's "hallmarks" of a free society: "No conscription. No taxation. No censorship. No spying. No restraint of trade. No registration of citizens. No travel restrictions. No laws against victimless acts. A hard currency. Citizens have the right to keep and bear arms." Interesting twist would be asking those in the older parties to explain why they favor, as most do, exactly the opposite on all or most of those hallmarks.

☆☆☆

USA Today in July 16 issue reports, under a Denver dateline, that "a group of investors fed up with traffic congestion says it will build a toll road with an 80-mph speed limit. The four-lane highway will run from Fort Collins, 60 miles north of Denver, to Pueblo, 120 miles south. Front Range Toll Road Co. says it will cost \$800 million, including buying land from 74 owners. Authorities say the speed limit on a private road is up to the owners."

☆☆☆

U.S. Department of Agriculture admits that farm subsidies are out of control. Robert L. Thompson, assistant secretary for economics, says that loopholes opened by Congress mean that there will be some wheat and feed grain payments in the million dollar range and that payments in hundreds of thousands will not be uncommon. "It will get obscene," he is quoted as saying. One reason: Big farmers are permitted to get past current \$50,000 subsidy limits by simply reorganizing their holdings into bunches of smaller ones.

☆☆☆

FEMA, possibly the **looniest of all government agencies**, reports to Congress that, in case of nuclear attack, it is vitally important to save government officials who can "restore postattack government and society." How about the rest of us? Citizens should be educated about "the vital importance of making their own survival preparations, individually and in block or neighborhood groups."

☆☆☆

Two Michigan state legislators, Rep. Nick Ciaramitaro and Sen. Arthur Miller, can claim **buggiest subsidy of the year** with a \$30,000 grant (obtained from the Feds, of course) to help an estimated 300 residents of a Detroit suburb to eliminate cockroaches from their homes. "The infestation was a financial burden on the affected homeowners," according to Ciaramitaro.

Continued on Page 7.

THIRD PARTY POLITICS RECONSIDERED: Open Letter to the Movement

When the LP was founded in 1972, the third party route was a necessary and courageous act of political rebellion; in the Eighties it is a prescription for irrelevance. Today third party politics amounts to sitting on the sidelines by abstaining while the real battle over liberty and peace is now going on within the Republican party. It is a struggle between quasi-libertarian "moderates" and the religious right for the future of the GOP in the post-Reagan era.

This struggle within GOP was the focus of the hard-fought California senatorial primary, which was won by Silicon Valley entrepreneur turned Congressman Ed Zschau. Cited in *Fortune* magazine's recent article on "The New Libertarians," Zschau beat a field of several right-wingers and another moderate that persistently attacked him either as a "liberal" or a "libertarian."

To libertarian columnist Joanne Jacobs of the *San Jose Mercury News*, the GOP internal struggle was precisely her reason for joining. "I am now a Republican," she writes. "Why did I sign up? At its most basic, I switched my registration from Libertarian to Republican so I could vote for Ed Zschau in the primary... But I'm going to stick around after the election is over: I think the Republican party is where the political action is going to be."

In the early Seventies libertarians were an embattled and almost invisible minority. Today, however, we have a US President who regularly uses libertarian rhetoric, and young quasi-libertarians have important positions within the Republican Party. Thirteen Republican Congressmen initially defied Reagan on aid to the contras, among them Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa, a vocal critic of Reagan's policy in Central America and chairman of a new group called "Republican Mainstream," a national coalition of Republicans who see themselves as "fiscally conservative and socially tolerant." The point is not that we can or should always agree with any such group, but that there are now strong voices with a libertarian orientation inside the GOP.

The astonishing fact of the matter is that there are now more libertarian-oriented political activists within the GOP than are currently in the LP. And although libertarian ideas have never been more popular, the LP itself is in decline. According to the most recent LP NEWS, membership is down to less than one hundred in thirty-two states.

It's true that these quasi-libertarians within the GOP are wavering and inconsistent. They haven't all made the connections between the free market and civil liberties. They sense but don't fully understand that you can't have a free economy and an empire at the same time. Zschau, for instance, has taken a number of distinctly bad positions. But it is not enough to point out the inconsistencies of those who are halfway there. We must take responsibility for articulating a consistent liber-

tarian vision within the GOP, so we can bring them the rest of the way. Some we will never convince; but we will have a better chance of reaching the reachable by operating within the GOP.

The reality of the situation is this: in America, the two big "parties" are not really ideological parties at all; they are simply the state-authorized ways of participating in American politics (via the primary system). The true American parties are the ideological subgroupings within the Democrats and Republicans; for example, the Moral Majority or the Republican Mainstream or, for that matter, the Libertarian Republicans. These ideological parties contend during the primary process for control of the "party." It's not the system we would pick — a European-style proportional representation scheme would suit us better — but it is the system we all have to live with.

We think the best strategy for libertarians now is an *organized entry* into the Republican party. The emphasis is definitely on the word *organized*; unless a large number of libertarians enter the GOP as an organized group, our influence will be marginal.

What of the LP? The continued existence of an organization is essential to the success of our strategy: libertarians within the GOP will need a structure for their group. The form will have to change because the situation has changed; it will no longer be a separate political party. Just as democratic socialists work within and recruit from the Democratic party to achieve their political ends, so libertarians can organize a similar effort within the GOP. As an organized group within the Republican Party with a consistent ideology, we will be a pole of attraction for all those GOP activists who fear a takeover by the Moral Majority types but lack a coherent ideological focus.

We will be the last to down play the dangers of such a strategy. Those libertarians who have not always stressed issues such as a non-interventionist foreign policy and civil liberties will be tempted to abandon libertarian principles. But this is nothing new; even running on a third party ticket, some of our candidates have diluted the libertarian program to the point of imperceptibility. Far from abandoning foreign policy and civil liberties issues, libertarian candidates will have to emphasize these issues in order to distinguish themselves from other Republicans.

More and more libertarians have reached the same conclusions that we have; many individual libertarians are already running in Republican primaries across the country — but this battle can't be won without an organized drive by the whole movement. As long-time libertarian activists, we will make our case to LP members at every opportunity; this is the first stage of what we hope will be a free and open debate.

Signed: Bob Costello
Eric Garris
Colin Hunter
Justin Raimondo

Yes, I'd like more information on the GOP strategy. Put my name on the mailing list of the Libertarian-Republican Organizing Committee (LROC)

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☆☆☆
Freedom of speech? In this Administration? Navy Secretary John F. Lehman, Jr. is quoted as saying that statements by an executive of a major defense contractor, supporting cuts in the Reagan defense budget, were "a personal affront." When the executive was fired, Lehman said he hadn't insisted on that. He just had hopes that the company (Raytheon) would tell VP Lawrence Korb "to shut up and stop testifying against its principal customer... Gentlemen don't do that." Only honest ones!

☆☆☆
Good local campaign issue carefully researched in the June issue of *The Pragmatist*: **Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection**, a pain in the crankcase for every car owner, turns out to have no positive effect on auto safety! Pragmatist article culls several substantial studies to make the point. (*The Pragmatist*, bi-monthly, \$6/year, Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 19822.)

☆☆☆
Possible **economic education opportunities** for libertarians in several states are presented by a prediction from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board: More than 100 savings and loans will fail within the next year. Particularly vulnerable: California, Florida, Texas. Libertarians might be ready with careful analyses when tax money is proposed to bail out the failing institutions. Same applies to the scores of big banks that are listed as unsafe. Investment analyst Doug Casey says "Over the next two years the biggest threat to free-enterprise capitalism will not come from outside our nation, but from the impending collapse of our banking system...decades of financial insanity and massive loans to deadbeat nations will come home to roost."

☆☆☆
From the lively newsletter of the **New Mexico LP**: "According to the Export Administration Act, the art of war hasn't progressed much in the last hundred years. To make sure the Russians aren't coming, the act prohibits the export of certain goods and technology that would 'make a significant contribution' to the military strength of any potential U.S. adversary. Among the goods and technology specified are unprocessed red cedar, soybeans, and horses 'exported by sea.' Just imagine what a bunch of cossacks on horseback could do to our missile silos."

☆☆☆
Libertarian International (9 South Belmont Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221, 804-353-9602) is looking for people to participate in project to assemble and publish a list of all libertarian books, in or out of print, written in languages other than English.

☆☆☆
Florida LPers **John Wayne and Kim Smith** are trying a new outreach device: "When we hear an exceptional statement or read a freedom supporting letter [to the editor], we are sending certificates of award for 'distinguished achievement in the promotion of freedom' along with an appreciative letter and some party literature."

☆☆☆
Fred Foldvary of Alameda County (CA) LP offers an alternative to current LP pledge: "I certify that I do not believe in or advocate any legal restrictions on peaceful or voluntary behavior." Alameda LP does not require pledge for membership.

☆☆☆
Objectivist Leonard Peikoff, condemning the highly acclaimed and widely recommended biography of Ayn Rand by Barbara Branden, concludes "As for myself, I have not read it and do not intend to do so."

☆☆☆
The Privacy Act, passed to protect against government records kept for one purpose being used for other purposes, is now "unenforced and unenforceable" according to Ronald Plesser, former general counsel to the U.S. Privacy Study Commission. "Social Security numbers are irrelevant," he says. "Sophisticated computers now use some combination of last name and street address to identify people. The bigger problem is matching [the cross-checking of records by one agency against the

records of other agencies]. It is done by all departments with the de facto capability of pulling together the records of all agencies." The result could be a national identity system. Already, 100,000 government computers provide electronic access to half of the government's 3.5 billion records on individual Americans.

☆☆☆
Massachusetts LP is selling "Welcome to Massachusetts" T-shirts showing rear view of policeman and, under the welcome sign, this legend: "Check your guns! Put your helmets on! Fasten your seatbelts! Leave all personal liberties and rights at the border! Your Freedom Ends Here!"

☆☆☆
Why call them **public schools**? Wouldn't it be more accurate to call them government schools? It makes an important point with just a word.

☆☆☆
Michigan LP circulating a great quote from Walter Karp article in June, 1985, *Harper's*: "What the [government] schools practice with remorseless proficiency...is the prevention of citizenship and the stifling of self-government. When 58 percent of the thirteen-year-olds tested by the National Assessment for Educational Progress think it is against the law to start a third party in America, we are dealing not with a sad educational failure but with a remarkably subtle success."

☆☆☆
Mark Skousen, in Ludwig von Mises Institute newsletter (322 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., DC 20002), presents compact view of what could be expected in a free market without government intervention: "1. Stable interest rates, probably in the 2-3% range, as in the 1950's. 2. No inflation. In fact, historically, average prices have tended to decline slightly with a free market and gold standard. 3. Low unemployment. No minimum wage laws and forced collective bargaining, which keeps wages artificially high during a recession. 4. High savings rates. Contrary to standard Keynesian doctrine, high personal savings rates are good for economic expansion. 5. Economic growth without recessions or depressions."

☆☆☆
Texas LP ballot drive was aided by an ad aimed specifically at gay community ("The Libertarian Party has supported Gay Rights every step of the way. Now they ask that you support their rights by signing their petition to be on the Texas ballot"). Immediate result: 500 signatures.

☆☆☆
First production company to throw its hat in the ring to get contract for LP's **election-year TV commercial**: Broadstar, of Sherman Oaks, CA.

☆☆☆
Neat point in the newly arrived **Voluntaryist** newsletter: United States of America should be used when referring to the government; America should be used when referring to the society. Newsletter editor Carl Watner says that "Despite the fact that this land has been designated the United States of America for more than 200 years, it is more accurately a question of the United States OR America." (*The Voluntaryist*, bimonthly, \$15/year, P.O. Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348.)

☆☆☆
Missouri LP sent in a drawing of a mule kicking its hind legs in the air as their emblem for official ballots in the state. The Missouri Democrats were using the Statue of Liberty. But state election officials ruled that the mule was too close to symbol used by Democrats in other states! Result: The LP is now using the Liberty Bell.

☆☆☆
Advertised as "The Hottest Fund Raising Give-Away," there is now a "**Candidates Biblical Scoreboard**" that claims to tell "which candidates take Judeo-Christian positions on the key issues." Biblical News Service, the publisher, pushes the scoreboard "to increase your donor giving [and] while you're raising funds you'll also be educating the Christian community on critical Election issues and candidates..."

☆☆☆

Headquarters' Computer Source of Debate

The articles on this page, concerning the Libertarian Party's computer operations, present a wide, if not complete, view of those operations. One is a serious defense of the present equipment but with suggestions for improving its performance. Another is a plea to abandon the present equipment. The other is a specific proposal for replacing it.

Why all this bother over a machine? In a recent survey of LPers to ascertain their feelings about operations at the Party's national headquarters, half of all the people who responded said they felt there were too many computer-related problems at the national office. That's a serious situation. The Party's computer, as a matter of fact, is a crucial part of Party operations.

Good Machine, Bad Usage

By I. Dean Ahmad

In 1982, I was a member of Vivian Baures' Computer Oversight Committee that investigated the problems associated with the computer system. I resigned from that committee when Liberty Services engaged my services to implement that committee's software recommendations. The hardware recommendations [a Digital Eclipse] were implemented by Craig Franklin, President of Liberty Services. A user-friendly menu system was created that enabled computer-illiterate staff members to perform day-to-day operations and three manuals were produced that explained operations of interest to the principal operator in sufficient detail so that even an inexperienced operator could learn the system with a minimum of training.

Around that time Susan Van Dyke was hired as principal operator and soon thereafter the computer began to function smoothly until sometime after her departure from the HQ staff.

In the light of these facts, charges the HQ computer problems are due to the hardware seem dubious.

Regarding charges that the current equipment is obsolete, the calculated date of obsolescence of January 1, 1987, appears to have been based on ACRS depreciation. It is a valid date given the rapid development of computer technology. Nonetheless, this does not mean that the equipment is valueless. The estimated value of \$500-\$1,000 is patently ridiculous. I have seen a used NEC Spinwriter alone advertised for \$800. Jim Turney's estimate of \$30,000 is more reasonable.

It is not true that the fundamental question "What do we want the computer to do?" has never been answered. The Baures Committee issued the response to that question and it was acted upon at Liberty Services' expense despite the fact that the Baures Committee's requirements exceeded Liberty Services' obligation under its original contract to get software designed for the previous NOVA computer to work on the Eclipse.

It is of further interest that seven of the 10 items on the checklist of requirements proposed in the Franzi report can be met now! The three exceptions are business address—which could be added—and the vague categories of "other info" and "whatever you want." It is vague demands such as the latter two that have never been met for obvious reasons. Although there were repeated complaints to Craig Franklin about problems with the system, the complaints were too vague for Franklin to take action. When it was complained that the system doesn't have a word processor, Franklin could only reply, yes it does. Once the Baures Committee advised Franklin that the staff didn't know how to install the word processor, he was able to help, and within weeks almost every staff member was able to use the processor.

The statement that we have never made a merge-purge with another list is incorrect. The prospects were merged with the main list several years ago and duplications deleted. It is true that such a merge/purge cannot be performed by the casual user from the menu—

but I would urge strongly against such a capability. When we upgrade the system to more modern hardware and off-the-shelf software I will argue for installing security protection preventing such a possibility.

The LP computer has a program to find duplicates and give the user the option of deleting either entry. It appears that the headquarters staff has not used it since Susan Van Dyke left. My investigations have revealed that they haven't used many of the capabilities of the system—because the three user manuals have been misplaced.

There is one extremely trenchant point in the current criticism of the system: that it was overpriced in today's market. That has been rectified. We are now paying \$200 a month, a fraction of the previous fee. This is said to be less than what the California LP spends on their statewide system alone.

The system has done in the past most of the things which, it has been lately implied, it cannot do. It is not doing them now because the manuals have been lost. I think it's obvious that were we to buy a dream system and lose the manuals and not use the programs, that hardware would also be of little use. To give an illustration of the underutilization of the current hardware: There is now at National HQ an IBM-PC which could be made to communicate with our existing system via the available modem. Through it, data could now be made available to state parties in the widely used IBM floppy disc format.

I have no quarrel with general suggestions for considering future hardware. There certainly are or soon will be multi-user systems available, for example, that can match or exceed our current capabilities at comparable prices. I caution, however, against a lack of attention to the software. At the December NatCom meeting, Emil Franzi suggested that we buy "off the shelf" rather than allowing a programmer to take care of setting up the new system. The fact is that any off-the-shelf software which does what we need, and what he wants, requires some form of programming (dBASE III, for example, does not program itself). Sophisticated data bases are a form of programming language—albeit of a high level. Although they require less expertise than lower level languages, to commit the development of our particular database to a hodge-podge of individual user developments is to repeat the errors that created the 1982 computer crisis. That crisis was solved by the implementation of the Baures Committee recommendations and the delegation of responsibility for operations to a single person, and the responsibility for programming to a single person.

I believe it was a lack of appreciation of the importance of software that was a major contributor to our past problems and I ask that we learn from our own experience. Any hardware proposals should include estimates of software costs and system conversion/transition times.

Ahmad is national secretary of the Libertarian Party and president of Imad-ad-Dean, Inc., a computer consulting and research firm.

Bad Machine, Good Riddance

By Emil Franzi

This report was excerpted from Franzi's report on the Libertarian Party's current computer operation. The report was requested by LP National Chairman Jim Turney.

Before we can intelligently choose among the myriad of computer options available in today's market, all consultants, analysts, and users I have visited and talked to make one point crystal clear. First, decide what it is you want the computer to do, then choose a system, including the appropriate software, that fits. Sounds simple and reasonable...and it is a principle we violated from the very beginning...

In an attempt to determine the current market value of [our current Data General] equipment I have asked several computer dealers to make an offer on the whole system... Buck Crouch, former Arizona LP chair, who has 10 years of experience as a computer consultant, says about \$1,000 if everything works properly (which it doesn't). One other estimate is \$500. Nobody else is interested, including Data General...

The problem has been further complicated by a lack of direction and comprehension by those charged with the basic decision of "What do we want the computer to do?" Five National Chairs, four NatComs, and three National Directors, as well as a bundle of Computer Oversight Committee members, have never given anyone a clear answer to that fundamental, and rather simple, question. As a result we have had a myriad of in-house and other personnel, ranging from hackers up, constantly jacking around with the programming with a variety of responses, most of them bad.

Better Machine, Better Usage

By Mitch Wayne

Continued use and upkeep of the Data General minicomputer in the National Office in Houston represents the worst sort of wishful thinking. The symptoms are obvious in the following familiar statements: "All we need is a new programmer," or "The terminals can be fixed," or "The problem can be solved with new software," or "The database is already in the machine. It would be too costly to transfer it to another machine," or "The LP requires a minicomputer...micros can't do the job."

Today's micros have all the power and features necessary to handle the LP needs for many years to come. The suggestion that only a mini (with a programmer in the saddle) can handle the required tasks does not take current technology into account.

There is available on the market, a micro-computer whose power, and ease of use make it able to do the job. I refer to the Apple Macintosh Plus. Many consultants and end users insist that the only micro to consider is the IBM PC, and its various clones. Despite all the hype about IBM and the software that is available for the PC, the Mac has all the features and software that make it ideal for use in an office situation where: 1) the users are amateurs, and are subject to layoffs, and/or replacement, 2) the data processing budget is almost non-existent, 3) other budgeted items are tightly controlled, and 4) there may be need to access the system from either the office or remote locations.

One of the greatest costs associated with computer usage which many salesmen neglect to tell end-users, is that of training. Novices can be taught the fundamentals of the Mac's use in approximately 4-6 hours. On the PC, etc. it can range from 20-40 hours. Once an individual has learned how to use one program on the Mac, he or she has already learned 50% or more of every other program that is Mac compatible.

Any system that has to be constantly re-programmed by anybody, in-house or other, is either the wrong system, or possesses inadequate software.

In the scheme of things, our needs are rather basic. We are talking about a list maintenance program currently involving 50,000 names (or records)...

What we currently work with has never been fully functional. Never mind whose fault. For a fraction of our past costs [Franzi's estimate: about \$100,000], we can get something that works much better.

[We should] dump all data on the existing computer onto both hard copy and tape, or some other format compatible with whatever system we are moving to. The purpose of the hard copy is to allow quality control/analysis by the director and others about what's actually in the computer and how much is worth keeping. The purpose of a second tape, or other, is to allow the new system to run what we [have] at at least the same level as now. We lose nothing.

The hassles over the exact ownership of the assets and liabilities...the confused history of the LP's computer operation, and mainly the large quantities of dollars expended on almost total ineffectiveness indicate that a clean break with past practices is way overdue.

The only way our mis-handled database can ultimately be inventoried and properly cataloged is by re-entering it into a new set of hardware/software capable of doing what should have been done and [that] still needs to be done. Moving our d-base as is to another system is the first step.

The Mac, in a networked situation (i.e.: several computers, hard disk, dot matrix printers, a modem, a Laserwriter and the appropriate software) would give the LP a tool that would handle the mailing list, database management, word processing, bookkeeping, communications capabilities and more. For example: there could be a person or persons in each state who could access the system via modem and receive information (i.e.: current mailing lists) from National, and send info (i.e.: election results) to National; the National Chair could access the system from anywhere in the country; all the mailing list functions could be easily maintained; inventory could be maintained; accountants could be limited to accounting; letters for fundraising and brochures and pamphlets could be 'typeset' on the Laserwriter and the data base, with mail merge abilities would make possible any sort of distribution desired. Federal election records also could easily be kept.

The LP has been and will continue to be for the foreseeable future, an organization whose lifeblood (\$\$) is always in a critical state. Every dollar is precious. While the conversion to a new system would cost in the range of \$30,000, it would pay for itself in under two years when one factors in the salary of a quality programmer needed for the Data General system. This figure would include all the hardware mentioned above, the software (word processing, accounting/inventory, database, page layout or desktop publishing, communications), design and implementation of the database, installation and training, and perhaps most importantly, the transfer of the data from the Data General system to the Mac.

Mitch Wayne is the State Chair of the LP in Kentucky and a full time computer consultant. He can be reached at P.O. Box 274, Prospect, KY 40059 or through CompuServe 72436,21. Wayne was asked by the editor to suggest a concrete alternative to the current LP computer.

Viewpoint

What's News?

By Karl Hess

There have been enough issues of the Libertarian Party NEWS in its current direction to make an assessment of criticisms appropriate. It is appropriate not only to the newspaper but to the libertarian movement and to the Libertarian Party.

The criticism that I take most seriously, one with vitally important implications, is that the publication has ceased to be a newsletter devoted to intra-party affairs. It has, instead, become a newspaper, devoted to libertarian interests generally although always relating those interests to Libertarian Party activities.

The NEWS has taken note of but has not elaborated on intra-party disputes. It has taken note of, but has not extensively profiled Party personalities. It has taken note of but has not extensively covered or even calendared local LP events. Local libertarian newsletters do all of that quite well and properly.

The NEWS has covered the Libertarian Party from the perspective of the larger libertarian movement rather than placing the Party at the center of that movement. It has not, as a newsletter rather than a newspaper might be inclined to do, treated the Party as though it were the movement. Thus there has been a mixture of general political comments, analyses of events outside the Party, references to useful resources, encouragement of networking, inattention to factions and factionalism, as well as coverage of Party activities which are particularly instructive to other Party activists. There has been, also, practical political advice for people engaged in practical political activism.

There has also been coverage of people or events which are simply presented for the sake of encouragement or inspiration. And, as with any publication with an individualistic editor, there have been things in the paper simply because the editor wanted them there. It must also be noted that there have been other things in the paper, such as the reports from the chair and the executive director, which are in simply because they want them there and because they feel that their offices carry an entitlement to the space. The editors agree with that.

The difference between the newsletter approach (concentrating on intra-party affairs) and the newspaper approach (the one you are holding in your hand) is not casual. It is crucial. There is a way to have both but, as will be discussed later, it might not be acceptable to very many Party members.

The difference is crucial in this sense: The character of the Libertarian Party, as determined by its members, should determine the character of the Party's major publication. At the same time, the publication inevitably will feed back into and, rather cybernetically, affect the character of the Party.

If the membership and the publication are badly out of tune, destructive dissonances will develop.

So far, from letters and from visits to state and local meetings, I am led to believe that there is considerable support for the sort of paper that is being produced. The strength and conviction of the criticisms, however, should not be overlooked. Nor should it be assumed that I regard the present character of the paper as right and the other version of it wrong. I regard the two approaches as simply differences.

Let me say exactly what I regard as the consequences of the two approaches since, like all such actions, they do have consequences.

The exclusive emphasis on intra-party affairs probably is most effective in building and maintaining a so-called cadre party of powerfully committed, virtually full-time activists to whom the enunciation in a political arena of clear, unequivocal, and complete libertarian theory is essential. It can emphasize, far better than a general interest publication, strict adherence to Party doctrine and can, and should, condemn heretical deviations from those standards. It will concentrate, in short, on the Party itself.

The Party that it inspires will have the great advantages of cohesiveness, hard dedication, and clear goals. Its approach in its major publication should be reflected in its approach to organization which, to best reflect the newsletter concept, will be centralized and authoritative.

The approach of the current newspaper, I hope, reflects a great respect for radical clarity and dedication of those who might prefer a newsletter approach. Its pages have been and, while I am editor, will remain open to the most radical critiques, analyses, and statements. But its pages will not be dominated by them and will not exclude the voices of those who, in their pursuit of practical political goals, stop short of perfect radicalism. Libertarians who agree to the very specific non-interventionist pledge of the Libertarian Party may widely and even wildly disagree on the steps they will take, want to take, or hope others will take in moving toward a world of purely voluntary, non-aggressive choice. The newspaper, as it now exists, is most appropriate to a pluralistic, grassroots Party of individualists who, in many different ways, choose to take political action toward a libertarian society or to the accomplishment of a limited, local libertarian goal.

The approach of the current newspaper also reflects an abiding belief by the editors in the decentralized autonomy of individuals and their voluntary associations. In the Libertarian Party, as we see it, the individual comes first, the local party, club or organization comes second, the state organization comes third, and the national committee and the headquarters comes last. The Party is its members. The other levels of organization, as we see it, are service groups, catering to the needs of, encouraging, and spotting resources for the political activists who actually undertake candidacies and advocacies.

It has been my visits with state and local groups in many parts of the country that have convinced me that individual Libertarian Party members, and particularly in their local activities, are among the most creative, exciting, and inspiring political activists I have ever met—right or left—in 63 years of life and 48 years of political involvement.

I cannot avoid in this discussion referring to the everlasting dispute between anarchists and minarchists in the Libertarian Party. I have absolutely no hesitation in taking my place with the anarchists. I have absolutely no hesitation in believing and acting as though, within my lifetime and the lifetime of most libertarians, there is not the slightest chance of these two factions being pitted against each other in a world otherwise libertarian. On such a happy day, even if the minarchists exiled me, I would go happily into whatever other part of a free world might be available to me. I do not take seriously the theoretical fears that anarchists and minarchists express of one another. (Either of their worlds would be a splendid alternative to or amelioration of what we have.)

Let me meet head-on another argument which I find offensive and unproductive. That's the argument that advocating liberty for the individual is the same as supporting the liberty of individuals to kill and pillage.

I do not deny for a moment that there are individuals who believe that the highest expression of their own freedom is the freedom to kill and pillage. Such people may be found among the leadership of great nations and in the jails of those same nations. And no system I have ever heard suggested can sensibly guarantee their control, much less their eradication.

Libertarians, knowing that, start with a principle or, if you prefer, a strongly held opinion. At the root of the libertarian position, so far as I have been able to understand it, is the notion that one cannot kill or pillage as an individual act. Such actions require victims.

Your life is yours. Everyone else's is theirs.

Using the lives of others would not be simply expressing your own (your owned) liberty. It would mean suppressing the lives of others. All of the libertarians that I know agree that they would take actions to prevent being victims—that the only action they would take to suppress liberty would be to suppress the liberty of anyone attempting to make them victims. Thus, self defense broadly defined.

There are, of course, philosophical positions which move from other principles (life is sacred, life is life, everything is alive, everything is sacred, nothing is sacred, etc.). But libertarianism is not a philosophical system. It is essentially an ethical statement about a very limited matter: the desirability of individual liberty. It is not even broadly normative since how the individual exercises liberty is of little libertarian concern excepting only insofar as it threatens to make a victim of (deny liberty to) someone else.

The Libertarian Party, for instance, asks agreement on only one point for those planning to work together in the Party: that they agree not to advocate the initiation of force to advance a personal or social goal. It does not ask that members refuse to participate in every activity in which the initiation of force is involved. Such a request would be to ask that someone leave this planet.

You cannot leave your home, for instance, without sooner or later encountering a roadway built with funds coerced, under threat of violence, from people generally. The Libertarian Party member who uses such a road to go to a polling place to vote against continuation of coercive taxation is certainly not *advocating* coercion.

It is argued, however, that they are legitimating the system by using any part of it. That argument should be respected from persons who (1) have actually withdrawn from every aspect of that system—money, roads, passports, licenses, taxes, etc., and (2) find that the withdrawal has advanced their individual liberty. Such arguments, from such people, I regard as altogether honorable, but not as mandates for everyone else to do the same as they attempt to advance their individual liberty in their own ways.

Finally, I do not believe that it is prudent to permit arguments about various ways of achieving liberty to become denunciations of those who seek it in variant ways—if those variant ways do not expressly infringe on your own liberty not just in theory but in practice.

This is not to denigrate theory for it is, indeed, the parent of practice. It is to ask attention to first things first. To spend as much energy fighting aberrant libertarians as in fighting actual and immediate foes of freedom simply does not seem prudent.

I do take seriously the many enemies of freedom who hem us in on all sides and who constitute our real enemy.

Anyone who *cannot* or *would not* abridge my freedom may be a friend.

Anyone who *can* or *would* abridge my freedom may be an enemy.

I do believe that it is in the context of an introspective newsletter that the tension between factions is most likely to be defined into heresy and eventually into exclusionism of the sort I would hate to see in an association of very individualistic people such as those I have met in the Libertarian Party.

How far should the Party's major publication go in giving voice to serious criticisms of Party positions or of the Party itself?

In a newsletter perspective the answer could be, understandably, "not an inch." In the perspective in which I view the newspaper, I ask for reader support for a broadly tolerant view of critical analysis.

This does not mean that I see any reason in the world for soliciting a critique of libertarian morality from Ed Meese. His critique is easily gleaned from his public statements and has its place in the NEWS only as an alert to the sort of issues libertarians can expect in public forums.

Nor do I see any excuse for simply repeating familiar essays arguing against the existence of the Party. However, newly considered alternatives to the Party and serious criticisms of Party position, tactics, or strategy should be

seriously viewed by Party members who are willing to discuss such things constructively rather than reject them theologically.

An interesting example is, even now, arising in California. Three distinct courses urging Libertarian Party members to leave the Party are being promoted.

One suggests that Party members leave in a bloc, join the Republican Party and, within it, *as a bloc*, exert influence toward libertarian positions. Another urges Party members to join the Republican Party specifically to support Republican candidates who espouse some, if not all, libertarian positions. As those candidates gain support and win victories, it is felt, the "soul of the Republican Party" will itself become more and more libertarian. The third course urges that libertarians register as independents, maintaining a Libertarian "Party" as an intellectual and networking support group only.

Advocates of that first position have felt that the NEWS is practicing censorship in not presenting, fully, a substantial elaboration of the idea. Actually, the NEWS has offered access to the "letters" column for a reasonably sized version of the suggestion or advertising space should they want to present a full text (as did another person with a very specific suggestion, in the last issue of the paper).

There are many avenues that those who want people to leave the Libertarian Party can take in making their case. Already, in California, they have been able to attract public press attention. And, it is believed, they will certainly seek to present their arguments to libertarian and Libertarian Party groups as well as to various libertarian publications.

In our next regular issue, when the appeals to leave the Party can be more fully understood and their impact better assessed, we may be able to run a summary of the suggestions and also a summary of contrary arguments. Surely it is appropriate for Libertarian Party members to know of such suggestions, to understand their impact, and to respond to them—not in the haste of a spate of gossip, recrimination, and plot hatching—but in good time, in good sense and, hopefully, in good humor.

Those who enjoy intra-party in-fighting, position jockeying, and invective are certainly free to indulge themselves as individuals however they wish. But they can surely do that without the attention of the Libertarian Party NEWS. If news is defined as keeping up with the Libertarian Party Joneses, there surely will be publications responsive to that definition. In a free market, there should be!

But could we not have the best of all worlds, reporting on every internal factional fight, every personality spat, every accusation, every misdeed while still attending to real world affairs, politics in a broad sense, and Libertarian Party activism in a specific sense?

One way suggests itself. We could reserve, say, two pages of each regular issue in which anyone so inclined could reveal wrongdoing, denounce heresy, damn the Party, or do anything short of leaving the publishers open to obvious law suits. (Perhaps some libertarian lawyer could even discover a way in which the people writing in such a wide-open forum could be personally liable for their statements without making the publishers liable at the same time.) There is a hitch. The space would be limited. Choices would have to be made—if even on a first-come, first-printed basis. (What properly enraged person would ever trust any editor to open envelopes in an absolutely objective sequence?)

Thus, those who now feel that the paper is soft on intra-party maneuvering, probably still would feel that way. But, if widely desired, we surely could give it a try—and if that lawyer could think of a way to make those pages litigiously separate from the publishers, we could even guarantee openness without selection but still with either first-come or space limitations. The laws of reason and mechanics apply even to the NEWS.

This is a good deal more than a statement of editorial viewpoint. It is an appeal from the several libertarians producing this paper to the many libertarians reading it for continuing comments on what they want this paper to be and what they want this Party to be.

Letters

Children

I've long felt that the libertarian movement, including the LP itself, should put more emphasis on freedom for children. Let's face it, we had a practically libertarian government here (on paper, and if you weren't black) 150 years ago, and it turned into—what we have now. In a world where a "religion of love" has spawned inquisitions, crusades, witch-burnings, and other violence, this is hardly surprising—both love and a free spirit are deep-down attributes, and all the well-intentioned rhetoric in the world cannot change the way people are in those regards, no matter what the converts say or how devout they are. Even a "libertarian" society will not be free if its members are unfree inside, any more than a religion of love can be truly loving when practiced by people who hate.

Children now grow up, generally, with coercion, neglect, authoritarianism, and other emotional and physical violence, not unlike the way citizens are treated by governments. Is it any wonder so many of us grow up to find the coercion of the state a natural and necessary part of life?

The LP, Amnesty International, and other groups working for sanity can never be more than pitifully ineffective until there are more sane people in the world. Unfree, damaged children become unfree, damaged adults, who damage their own kids (without wanting to) and create damaging, unfree societies that extol freedom without tolerating it.

Only when this ancient cycle is broken will freedom be possible.

Glen Allport
San Diego, CA

Red-bait?

There is one technique, or approach, that I believe libertarians have failed to take when running for office.

This technique is: to point out that the positions held by the other candidates are the

same positions held by communists.

For example: the libertarian candidate, when discussing his or her views on education, should point out that the other candidates support public education. The libertarian should then point out that so do Gorbachev, Castro, and every other communist dictator and party member, and that it is public schools that one finds in Russia, Cuba, and every other communist nation.

Once the libertarian candidate has done this it makes it very difficult for the other candidates to continue to support the same things that the communists support.

Thomas L. Johnson
Fredericksburg, VA

The technique that you describe has certainly been tried many times—but with mixed results, as in the case of Joseph McCarthy or in the mirror-image case of Ronald Reagan suggesting that failure to support his interventionist foreign policy is the same as being pro-communist. The technique also is quite open-ended; it can be used by anyone in virtually any direction. For instance, since parts of China have been opened to free market enterprise, libertarians could be charged with supporting the same thing that some Chinese communists support. There are, also, libertarians who support a national defense force and, of course, that's supported also by communists.

As to the technique making it difficult for candidates to support certain things, it has not worked well in the past, often resulting in the attacked candidate evoking considerable sympathy for what the candidate will inevitably charge as being an outlandish comparison. Many libertarians, instead, have chosen to emphasize the positive side of their argument—that volitional, free market answers to problems actually work better than coercive and collectivist political answers.—KH

Ex-GOP

For a number of years I've attempted to bring libertarian ideas to the residents of Narragansett with no measurable success. The state LP seemed to me nothing more than a debating society, with no practical objectives. In frustration, I joined the town Republican committee where I was, at least, successful in amending the town charter to give the residents the right of Initiative and Referendum.

I also tried to persuade the Republicans to adopt some basic principles to guide their actions. In this, I was defeated. By unanimous vote, they decided to remain without principles. They were at least honest about their motives; the leader of the party said: "If we were to adopt and publicize any principles, we would be vulnerable to criticism from the local news media when we deviated from those principles!" For me, this was "the last straw"; it said it all; I resigned!

Since then, I have worked for Initiative and Referendum at the state level. Our state Constitutional Convention just gave us a rather weak version to be voted on this November. I firmly believe libertarians can now lead the way for change, using this mechanism soon to be available at both state and local levels. At least, it will be on my personal agenda for the immediate future. I view citizen initiative as a purely libertarian concern. I would like to see it as part of the national Libertarian Party agenda.

Harold Landfield
Narragansett, RI

Solutions

The Libertarian Party can provide solutions to the problems of the Right by showing the Right that they are not problems but cobwebs. For example—the biggest fear the Right has is of chaos, which they think is the same as anarchy. If libertarians can show them that chaos will not result by a decrease in government, you will win them over. This fear is on a level deeper than reason and deeper than words, however.

The problems of the Left center around their concern for maintaining and expanding the individual's freedom of action while also protecting the less privileged from victimization. These aims sometimes come into conflict, but they are both valid and sincerely held by liberals. If libertarians can show that free market economics both liberates individuals from oppression and provides for the disen-

franchised, you will establish at least a dialogue with them.

Proselytize libertarian solutions by naming the major social dilemmas and solving them in public forums, for example—on libertarian storefronts, and on local radio and TV ads, which are cheapest at night. You could even have leafleting campaigns in tourist spots and at marches or speeches held by other partisans.

A final note: I find Mr. Bergland's use of terms like "do-good" to be indicative of a barely literate mentality; and his description of an entire class of people as "touchy-feelies" is insulting and certainly not conducive to any sort of "communication" with them. As long as libertarians hold such unsophisticated ideas, they will remain a party of hicks.

Dominic Isaac
San Francisco, CA

Index

An on-line index of major libertarian periodicals and journals would be a powerful addition to our work. I read as much as my time allows, but there obviously is more that I can't read. If I wanted to research a particular topic (say, a libertarian approach to toxic wastes), I could access the database, search for my topic and get a list of relevant articles and essays. This way, anyone with a modem could tap into the work of hundreds of thinkers.

Mark Bisaha
Westminster, CA

A movement, at least, in that direction is being undertaken for a special area of libertarian interest: the privatization of public services. It's maintained by the Reason Foundation's Local Government Center, 2716 Ocean Park Boulevard, Suite 1062, Santa Monica, CA 90495 213-392-0443.

Zschau

Of course Congresscritter Ed Zschau isn't a libertarian, "new" or old. But he's got worse things on his record than voting for the "Superfund," and I'm kind of disappointed that Jim Peron didn't mention them. Zschau voted for the MX missile; he's voted to give Israel all the guns and bombs they've asked for (Zschau and his opponent, Sen. Alan Cranston, are engaged in a running argument over who is more slavishly devoted to "the interests of Israel"); and worst of all, he voted not once but twice for Contra aid: for hiring mercenaries to murder Nicaraguans and crush their revolution. And we're supposed to get mad because Zschau supports the Superfund!?

"The real story of the Zschau claim to libertarianism," says Jim, "is that it spells the success of libertarian ideology." Sorry, I can't buy it. That *Fortune* thinks libertarians are "basically fiscal conservatives and social liberals" shows we've failed to publicize the most important part of our ideology: the anti-war, anti-imperialist tradition. Libertarian activists need to screw their courage to the sticking place and denounce U.S. mass murder abroad, not just U.S. "meddling."

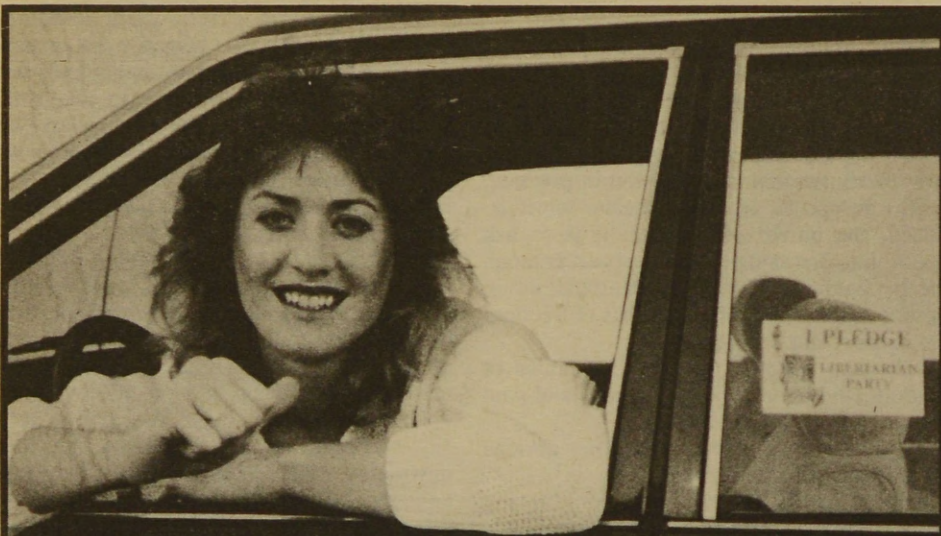
Bill Birmingham
Mare Island, CA

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LP Spirit Alive in Socialist Norway

By Kerry Welsh

Oslo, Norway—Here in the land of magnificent glaciers and fjords, there is but one television station—government controlled. Newspapers rely on government subsidies for survival. Private healthcare is non-existent so Norwegians must wait five years for some operations.

But even in the heart of socialist Scandinavia the Libertarian Party, although still an infant, is very much alive and kicking.

There are some 200 known libertarians in this country of 4.5 million, according to Party activists Jan Sommerfelt Pettersen from Bergen, and Oslo resident Bjorn Borg Kjolseth. I spent two fascinating days with each in his hometown.

Pettersen, 28, is a general practice physician and a lifelong Bergener. He is married to a libertarian and is currently writing a book about the privatization of healthcare in Norway.

Like all doctors, he is paid by the government. His 250,000 kroner salary (about \$35,000) is set by a union.

In typical libertarian fashion, the walls of his home are lined with books by Szasz, Hayek, von Mises, Rothbard, Harper, and Rand. It was a chance reading of *Atlas Shrugged* which brought Pettersen to the movement.

"The official tax rate in Norway is very high," said Pettersen. "Up to 80 percent. But everybody avoids taxes. Even the government estimates the black (underground) economy at 10 percent."

"A few years ago there were no Porsches in Bergen (pop. 207,000). They can cost more than 700,000 kroner (\$100,000). Now there are probably 50, and the new ones are sold before they arrive. There is no way anyone can afford such a car except through the black economy."

As in the U.S., the tax code can create some

interesting quirks in the economy. Automobiles are tax-deductible, and less if they are used for business. Norwegian law dictates that business cars must have a certain amount of storage space. This explains why Pettersen and thousands of other Norwegians drive around in perfectly nice cars with no back seats.

"Taking out the seat cut the cost of my car in half," smiled Pettersen to the incredulous visitor.

As a physician, Pettersen is particularly concerned with the problems inherent in socialized medicine. "For a hip transplant operation here you must wait five years. Many would gladly pay for private treatment, if it were available."

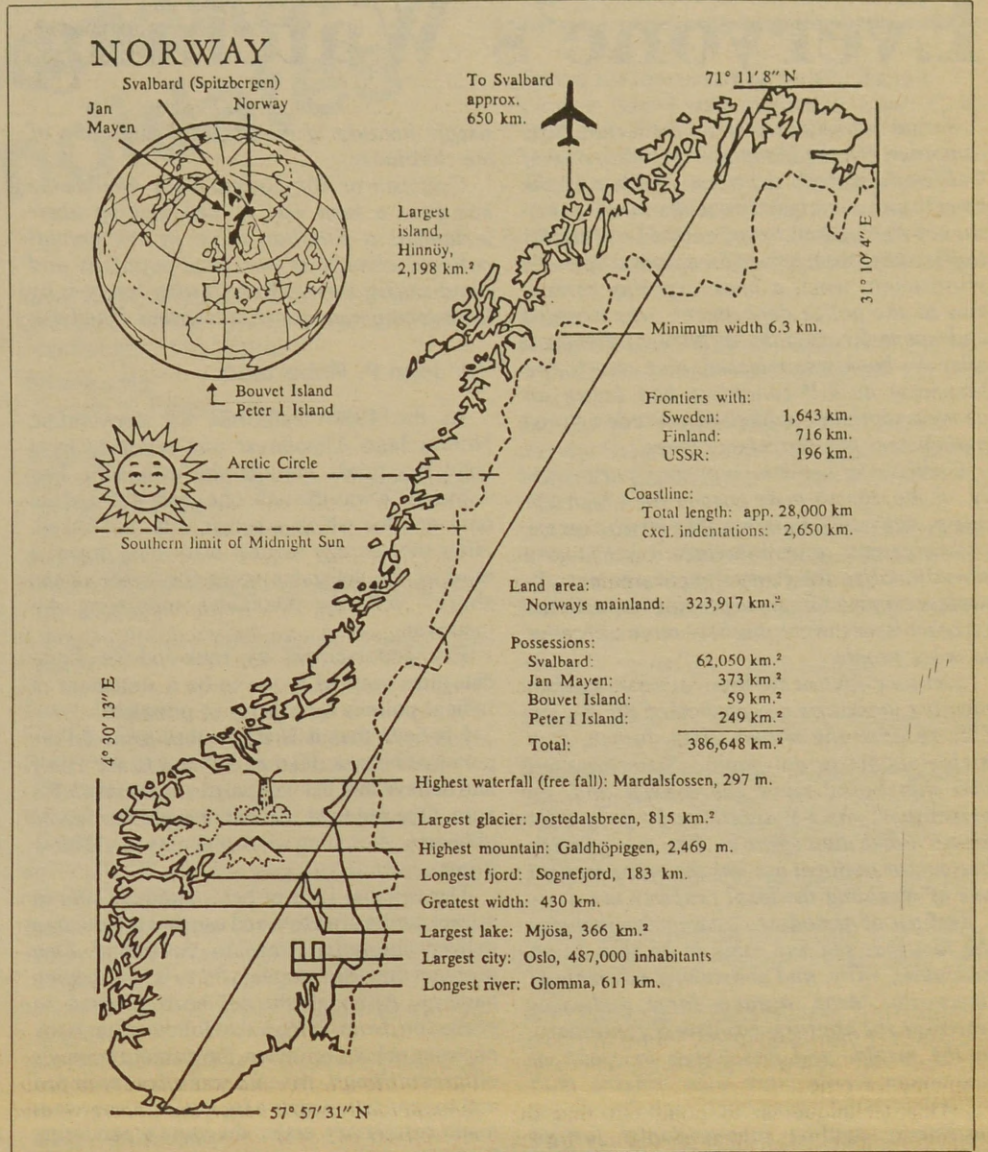
Healthcare is but one area where libertarian alternatives are gaining support. "A few years ago privatized medicine wasn't even an issue," Pettersen said. "Now most everyone agrees it's just a matter of time until it's a reality."

Bjorn Borg Kjolseth is also married to a libertarian and is mature well beyond his 29 years. Kjolseth works as an editor at an Oslo news radio station.

Advertising is banned on radio and television. Not surprisingly, the quality—and quantity—of programming is abysmal. The lone television channel operates maybe 40 hours a week, and Kjolseth's "Morgenbladet Radio" only broadcasts 90 minutes each day, as it shares the frequency with a dozen other "stations," which are really just small recording studios.

As with healthcare, a free-market future seems inevitable for broadcasting.

"Five years ago, no one would have even considered allowing advertising," said Kjolseth. "Now the politicians say, 'Okay, it's going to happen. But we can't have (advertising) like in America!'"



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Cartoons or ideas for cartoons

Humor with a libertarian twist, particularly one-liners for speakers

Plans to run for elected office

News of Libertarian Party members appointed to public boards or offices

Hints, experiences, warnings about practical political actions and issues

Suggestions of stories the NEWS should investigate

Volunteers to report meetings or actions of interest to Libertarian Party members

Copies of articles, statements, reports from sources outside the Party but of possible interest to Libertarians

Advance notice of events and actions of possible interest to Libertarian Party members

The address of the Libertarian Party NEWS, and its editor, Karl Hess, is P.O. Box 173, Kearneysville, WV 25430.

The address of the Managing Editor, Randy Langhenry, is 22 S. Braddock St., Winchester, VA 22601.

Call, yell, send a carrier pigeon. Teleport. But stay in touch! Beam us up, Scotty!

Without advertising, stations exist through government subsidies, of course. Kjolseth's station is owned by a 10,000 circulation daily newspaper—tiny even by Oslo standards. But because it is small and unsuccessful it qualifies for a bigger government handout than the competition.

According to Kjolseth, competing papers actually have tried to decrease readership to increase their subsidy.

Kerry Welsh is a libertarian from Los Angeles who is traveling around the world for

one year, visiting libertarians wherever possible. In his quest for greater understanding, as well as free housing, Kerry Welsh would like to visit libertarians throughout Europe and the world. If you know of any foreign libertarians who wouldn't mind a brief visit, please send name, address, and telephone number to Kerry Welsh, c/o Mike Welsh, 2207 Ruhland Avenue #B, Redondo Beach, CA 90278. Telephone 213-370-0725.

"Society in every state is a blessing, but government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one."

—Thomas Paine, 1776

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Congressional candidate Jay Manifold needs your contributions to wage a successful campaign against ultra-liberal Democrat Alan Wheat. Wheat, seeking reelection from Missouri's 5th District (Kansas City), votes in lockstep with Tip O'Neill in exchange for an earlier appointment to the prestigious House Rules Committee.

Manifold, a long-time Libertarian activist, is waging an aggressive campaign complete with appearances, press releases, bumperstickers, and lots of handbills! Personable, articulate, concerned, credible, and committed to freedom, Manifold has Missouri members enthusiastic about the prospect of improving on Mike Robert's fine '84 showing. This year the Republican is only a protest filing and no campaign is planned.

The national importance of this race is obvious. A strong showing would be a clear repudiation of the big-spending policies of Democrats and highlight the inability of Republicans to respond. This is a great opportunity for the Libertarian Party to gain wide media attention this year with its issues and with votes.

Your financial help is needed to wage an even broader campaign. Additional outreach to targeted issue groups and a name recognition blitz in the final weeks are planned as contributions increase. With your investment this can be a high-water mark for Libertarians in the Midwest. Your support and involvement is appreciated.

Gerry Gailer, Treasurer
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The LP Campaign Everyone's Watching

Norma Jean Almodovar's Libertarian Party campaign for the lieutenant governorship of California is both the most visible and the most controversial of current libertarian political activities. Almodovar, once a Los Angeles traffic policeman, turned for a time to up-scale prostitution, wrote a book exposing corruption in the police department, was arrested and spent 50 days in solitary confinement after the book was released, and even before becoming an LP candidate had begun an active and highly publicized crusade against punishment for victimless crimes.

Criticism of her campaign and, particularly, of the almost-nude posters for which she has posed, centers on fear that having an ex-prostitute run as a Libertarian will overly sensationalize the Party's stand against victimless crime while underplaying its positions on other issues which might be more attractive to more people.

Similar criticism has been launched against the all-Libertarian city council of Big Water, UT, because the mayor, Alex Joseph, is a highly publicized polygamist. Some have felt that this would make the council and, by association, the LP appear to be politically exotic rather than effective. Yet, the council's first major political act was the very practical one of repealing the local property tax.

Defense of Almodovar's campaign includes the fact that she has come to be seen as an articulate, witty, and convincing advocate of libertarian ideas, attracts large audiences wherever she appears, has access continually to the media, and has begun to speak of libertarian issues more wide ranging than victimless crime—most lately including strong statements against interventionist foreign policy.

She is said to be particularly effective before college audiences but also has been welcomed and earnestly listened to by such groups as Rotary clubs. The office for which she is running has traditionally been one through which California voters have expressed their discontent with old-fashioned party politics.

Her posters, viewed by some as exploiting her body rather than her brains, are, after all, of her own design, made on her own terms and for her own purposes. The pointed political messages of the posters are certainly not lost

simply because of the physical attraction of the candidate.

Criticism or not, Norma Jean Almodovar has gone a long way toward making libertarianism a familiar issue in the crucial political climate of our most populous and trend-setting state. The following report is by her campaign manager, a veteran LP activist.

By John P. Robertson

At the 1986 California LP convention, Norma Jean Almodovar was endorsed by a solid two-thirds vote of the delegates. Her nomination was the only one contested and the only one for which a secret vote was asked. After the secrecy request was voted down, a third of the delegates voted for "none of the above" with the remainder supporting Almodovar.

Her endorsement by rank-and-file Party delegates seemed to me to be a statement of radical politics by a party of principle.

I believe that it is tragic that some LPers perceive Norma Jean as a threat to the Party and believe that her campaign can dim the LP's aura. One red light will not obscure the candle of liberty. A chilling wind of apathy could blow it out.

The original idea of her candidacy was to attract media attention and use that attention to deliver libertarian ideas to the public. One problem that the campaign faces is just keeping her free. Although she has been released on probation, from charges that followed her book exposing police corruption, the district attorney's office is seeking to have the probation rescinded and to send her to prison for the full three years made mandatory under the state's pandering laws.

Rather than denying her past, Norma Jean has made it a cornerstone of her campaign. Often, in public appearances, she is asked if she regrets her "shady past." She replies that she certainly does have some second thoughts about having been a policeman. As for having been a prostitute, she quips that she was just doing openly what many politicians do in private.

Rather than denying that part of her past, she uses it as a base from which to launch a spirited defense of human sexuality as a human right

CUT THE RED TAPE



that must not be legislated—an obviously real and compelling political issue in 1986.

A major concern for me, as manager, has been the financing of our campaign. We chose to use the methods of free enterprise, promoting the candidate and financing the campaign through the sale of explicit political statement posters. Rather than asking for donations to print endless unread tracts, we are selling our ideas in the marketplace and the requests are coming from all over the world.

Most recently we have received word from the British Broadcasting Corporation of a 40-minute documentary about the campaign. Both *Playboy* and *Penthouse* have said they may cover the campaign in their November issues. Other media coverage has been substantial and

constant—all on a budget of \$9,000 covering seven months. A rock concert on her behalf is scheduled in Hollywood.

Having begun to speak out against the involvement of U.S. troops in Central America, she is now considering a law suit seeking to prevent California National Guard troops from being sent to that embattled area. She has endorsed the Gann Amendment that would limit salaries of state officials, and has strongly attacked Lyndon Larouche's attempts to encourage legislation that would quarantine persons suffering from AIDS.

Norma Jean Almodovar is more than just a candidate for the Libertarian Party. She is an example of libertarian principles in action.

Go Visit the Mountain

By Robert Waldrop

The Bible (somewhat loosely quoted) says: "A city set on a hill cannot be hid." However, it doesn't say that anyone has to actually come over for a visit.

Folk wisdom tells us: "If the mountain will not come to Mohammed, Mohammed must go to the mountain." And it doesn't take a genius to know that very few walking mountains have been spotted lately.

Our ideas seem so obvious and rational—all that should be necessary for victory is to build our city, erect our standard, sound our trumpets, and stand back while hordes of people rush lemming-like into the Libertarian camp.

Well, in Utah, we don't think we are getting enough new residents and visitors to our Libertarian city, so it's time to send out some goodwill ambassadors and invite those with common interests to relocate.

We have "made a list, and checked it twice" of the state's "troublemakers." The people on this list are leaders in their own areas—they are people who are Libertarian on one issue, and probably sympathetic on others. They have been added to our mailing list—and one by one, they are being visited by Libertarian "home teachers." Usually, we simply go by,

introduce ourselves, and leave them a copy of Robert Ringer's *Restoring the American Dream*. We leave our addresses and phone numbers and stand by to answer questions.

Make your list and check it twice, but keep it a closely guarded secret. No one outside of your planning and visiting group needs to know who is on the list. *Nothing* will kill your program faster than premature media disclosure—and the more people privy to your list, the more likely it is that someone will say—probably at the worst possible time—"Well, George is thinking about joining the Libertarian Party."

Be ready with explanations, clarifications—and avoid factional dogma and rhetoric. To catch flies, use honey, not vinegar. Appeal to their self-interest. Study the issue they are most concerned about, and be a walking Libertarian encyclopedia on the subject. Be ready to show the person how *their* particular cause will be helped by an alliance with Libertarians. We are pushing the strategy of a coalition of groups excluded from the power structure.

Be familiar with the person you are visiting. If you don't know them, go to your local daily newspaper and use the index to find stories about them or their organization. Read those

stories, perhaps get copies for a file. Study them—see how they express themselves, what issues they are concerned about—and what language they use to describe themselves and their cause. Dust off some file copies of Michael Emerling's work on "Political Cross-dressing." Use *THEIR* language and *THEIR* terminology to describe the ideals of libertarianism.

Most importantly, DO IT. The worst thing someone will do is tell you "No"—and if they do say "no," you can comfort yourself with the thought that you have planted a seed. Go back and water it every once in a while, and you may be surprised at what grows.

If you don't go out and ask, however, people will not have the opportunity to say YES. Make your list, do your homework—and knock on that door. If the mountain won't come to Mohammed, Mohammed can sit around and gripe about the lack of vision shown by the mountain. He could moan and groan about how stupid the mountain is not to come to him. He could complain about the obstacles that prevent him from going to the mountain. He could decide that since the mountain will not come to him, it is the mountain's loss, and no sweat off of his back.

Or, he could pack his bag, load up his camel, and go visit the mountain himself.

Waldrop is chairman of the Utah LP. The technique he describes is exactly the one used to locate and influence the people who switched from Republican to Libertarian to form the first Libertarian city council, in Big Water, UT.

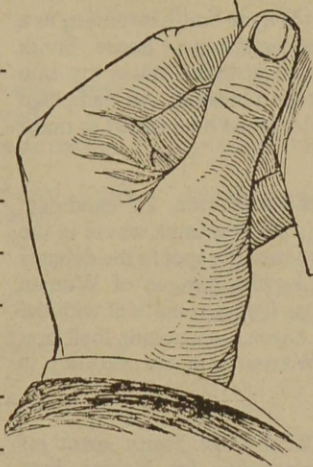
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—Thomas Paine, 1777

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Ed Hoch—Governor
Chuck House—U.S. Senate
Jacob Levine—State Senate, F-B
Andre Marrou—State House of Representatives, 5-B
John McArthur—State House of Representatives, 11-A
Stephen Pidgeon—State House of Representatives, 12-B

California

Norma Jean Almodovar—Lieutenant Governor
David Argall—State Assembly, 60th District
Phyllis Avery—U.S. House of Representatives, 43rd District
Dustin Baker—State Assembly, 22nd District
Robert Bakhaus—State Assembly, 35th District
Jona Joy Bergland—U.S. House of Representatives, 22nd District
Waheed Boctor—U.S. House of Representatives, 29th District
Laura Brown—State Senate, 24th District
Ted Brown—U.S. House of Representatives, 25th District
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Breck McKinley—U.S. Senate
Scott McMillan—Board of Equalization, 3rd District
Betsy Mill—State Senator, 38th District
Daniel Muhe—State Assembly, 76th District
John Murphy—State Assembly, 75th District
Randolph A. Myersth—State Assembly, 80th District
Carol Newman—State Attorney General
Robert Wayne Page—State Assembly, 7th District

Harry Hugh Pendery—U.S. House of Representatives, 2nd District
Taylor Rhodes—U.S. House of Representatives, 23rd District
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Jack Sanders—Board of Equalization, 3rd District
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Mark Sweaney—State Assembly, 3rd District
Dennis Thompson—U.S. House of Representatives, 44th District
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Kennita Watson—State Assembly, 23rd District
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Jay C. Wood—State Senate, 18th District
Patrick Wright—State Assembly, 79th District

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Geoff Lloyd—State Senate, 32nd District

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Vicki Kirkland—State Legislature, 64th District
John Seymour—State Legislature, 14th District

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Jim Berns—State Representative, 22nd District

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Ed Marihart—State Representative, District 19
Richard Sharvy—State Representative, District 40

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Ralph Mullinger—State Legislature
Charles Stutler—State Representative

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Drew Amendola—State Comptroller General
Jan Chapman—State Treasurer
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Jack Daniels—Railroad Commissioner
Rober Gary—State Representative, District 116
Rebecca L. Reed—State Agriculture Commissioner
J. Alex Snead—Bexar County Surveyor
Joe Paul Barnett—State Railroad Commission
Theresa Doyle—Governor
David Guier—State Commissioner of Agriculture
Bill Howell—Lieutenant Governor

David Kelley—Harris County Judge
Honey Sue Lanham—State Land Commissioner
Vincent May—Travis County Surveyor
George Meeks—State Comptroller
Wiley H. Rawlins—State Supreme Court
Robert F. Reid—State Treasurer
Mike Stephens—State Attorney General

Utah

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Gale D. Bachman—State House, 1st District
Biff Baker—State House, 45th District
James Baker—State House, 38th District
Maynard Batchelder—State Senate, 4th District
Sharon Bird—State House, 64th District
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Randall Cates—State House, 8th District
Stacy Cates—Ogden City Constable
George A. Chapman—State Senate, 7th District
John R. Craige—State Senate, 3rd District
Sylvia Curran—Salt Lake City Constable
Richard Denning—State House, 35th District
Jim Etheridge—State House, 18th District
Greg Fairless—State Senate, 21st District
John Fairless—State House, 9th District
Sheila Green—State House, 25th District
Kevin Harward—State House, 74th District
Glen Hunt—State Senate, 22nd District
Patricia Hunt—State House, 16th District
Lynn F. Jones—State House, 22nd District
Alex Joseph—Kane County Commissioner
Reid Judd—State House, 36th District
Dorothy Makin—State House, 52nd District
Willie Marshall—Davis County Justice of the Peace
Willy Marshall—State House, 19th District
David L. McCorkle—State House, 23rd District
Jeff McOmie—State House, 51st District
Mary Mickelson—State House, 17th District
Sidney J. Mucha—State House, 27th District
Marty Myers—State House, 24th District
Theresa Myers—State House, 15th District
Terry Newfarmer—State House, 53rd District
Helen Noack—State House, 43rd District
Sandy Lynn Perry—Roy City Constable
Royston Potter—Salt Lake County Sheriff
John Rasmussen—State Senate, 10th District
Kaylin Robinson—State House, 44th District
Steven Sady—State House, 39th District
Wendel Suprise—State House, 47th District
Laddie Swaner—State House, 54th District
Evy A. Tessman—State House, 28th District
Kathleen S. Trotter—State House, 33rd District
Bob Waldrop—State House, 29th District
Kent Welling—State House, 5th District
Wesley G. With—Sandy City Constable
Kathy Workman—State House, 65th District
William York—Washington County Assessor

Vermont

The state chair expects the Party will field 20 candidates.

"Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations—entangling alliances with none."

—Thomas Jefferson, 1801

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Mail to: Libertarian Party, 301 West 21st Street, Houston, Texas 77008

Campaign Notes

Florida—John Wayne Smith is running as a write-in candidate for the state house. Smith failed in his attempt at ballot status but said that he still had his platform and campaign organization in place—so he decided to make use of them.

Indiana—Bradford Warren, LP candidate for U.S. senate, is making some waves in the state. After being refused a spot in the debates being sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Warren has filed a complaint with the IRS against the League, questioning their tax-exempt status. Warren is a tax attorney in Indianapolis.

California—David Love Smith spent his 4th of July campaigning for Norma Jean Almodovar, LP candidate for lieutenant governor. Smith walked up and down Black’s Beach passing out literature about Norma Jean and the LP. He says that he found most of the sunbathers supportive of the LP philosophy and many promised to vote for Norma Jean. Black’s Beach is a clothing-optional site and a great place to recruit new LP members. By the way, Smith reported “a good time was had by all.”

New York—John Seymour, LP candidate for the state legislature, is a former Air Force Staff Sergeant who specialized in military intelligence. Seymour has been gaining some attention for his speeches which often focus on his “Case Against the Draft.” Seymour and his wife, Sonae, live in Levittown.

Indiana—Two years ago, the 8th congressional district was without a congressman for six months, due to a vote-tallying squabble between the two old parties. Marilyn Stone, this year’s LP candidate in that district, hopes to capitalize on that situation. “I think people are totally turned off by the way things happened last time. They just want to throw up their hands and give up,” Stone said. “I guess what I’m saying is, ‘Don’t give up on the system. I’m a real live, down-to-earth alternative.’ I think there’s some potential.” Stone is a teacher at a Montessori school in Bloomington.

California—Harry Pendery, LP candidate in the 2nd congressional district, is spending a lot of time in his pickup truck. Pendery is pushing his “We Can Do Better” campaign across his district. His tactics are often unorthodox, but he’s getting attention. Pendery’s been known to carry his steel tool box up to the speaker’s platform and pull out a rule to measure “our economic liberties.” Pendery is a physician from Paradise.

Alaska—Ed Hoch, LP candidate for governor, is using a “Wanted” poster in his campaign. The poster includes the following: “WARNING—If elected, Ed Hoch will be

very dangerous to government bureaucracy—a thorn in the federal government side—a uniting force for all Alaskans!!” Hoch and his wife, Betty, have two children and two grandchildren.

Colorado—David Aitken, LP candidate for the state house, has already participated in debates with his Republican opponent (the Democrat is avoiding the debates). A big issue in the state is a proposed constitutional amendment which would require all tax increases to be submitted to the voters. Needless to say, Aitken supports this amendment while the current governor and other state politicians don’t like it at all. The public seems to like the idea of having a say-so in any tax increase, and Aitken is confident of gaining considerable support around this libertarian issue.

California—Neal Donner, LP candidate for state assembly and a lifelong independent teacher, is hitting the education issue hard in his campaign. “We need to decentralize and deregulate the public school system—by giving principals more power to hire and enroll teachers and students of their choice and by allowing students to cross attendance boundaries to the public schools of their choice,” Donner said.

Alaska—Representative Andre Marrou began his campaign months ago, even though he faced no opponent in the primaries. In going door-to-door, Marrou reminds voters of his first-term achievements, including his opposition to legislative pay increases, opposition to a state income tax, and his support for deregulation of transportation. Marrou, a real estate agent from Homer, said he was encouraged by the more than \$1,000 in “unsolicited pre-campaign donations,” which he called the “ultimate expression of support.” Marrou is the LP’s highest-ranking elected official, and all Party members should be concerned with his re-election.

Indiana—Ken Donnelly, LP’s candidate for Congress, claimed he had to commit perjury to vote in the state primary. Donnelly declared himself a Libertarian at the polling place, but because Libertarians were not on the primary ballot, poll inspectors told Donnelly he could not vote. He then, under protest, declared himself a “Jeffersonian Democrat” and was allowed to vote. The LP will be on the fall ballot, but state law limits primary elections to the two old parties. Donnelly is a student at Indiana University at South Bend and writes for the student newspaper.

California—Robert Page, LP candidate for state assembly, wanted to list himself on the ballot as a “free market analyst,” but election officials insisted the market wasn’t “free” and he must list himself as a “commodities broker.” Page relates this story to show the government’s interference in virtually every aspect of life. Page and his wife, Diane, also run a catering business in Colfax.

DECENTRALIZE!

Non-Violent Radical Decentralist Strategy -- Carol Moore, Editor
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Libertarian Show Goes International

Steve Trotter, a longtime Libertarian activist in Salt Lake City, UT, has a network call-in talk show—with a twist.

Steve is on FM America which broadcasts to two million home satellite TV dish owners, but the program is audio only.

The signal reaches from the Arctic Circle to central Bolivia, and from coast to coast.

Libertarian dish owners can pick up the program on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern time.

The show can be picked up (down?) from Telstar 303 transponder 18 audio 6.2.

Trotter believes that this may well be the first regular international (borderless) Libertarian outreach broadcast.

Ed Clark says, “I heartily endorse *A Liberty Primer*. I think it is an excellent tool to deepen the understanding of those who want to learn more about liberty.” To order your copy, send \$7.95 + \$1.00 postage (NYers add sales tax) to: Genesee Valley Society for Individual Liberty, Box 10224, Drawer LPN, Rochester, NY 14610

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Ballot Access Report

By Steve Fielder

(Excerpted from the Ballot Access Committee report to the Libertarian Party National Committee. Fielder chairs the Ballot Access Committee.)

The Ballot Access Committee has approved a loan of \$1,000.00 to the Nevada Libertarian Party. The assistance was requested to pay for completion of a ballot drive then in progress.

Although the Nevada ballot drive failed, enough signatures were collected during the ballot drive to spawn a successful lawsuit. A subsequent court decision put the Nevada LP on the ballot in '86. The federal district court struck down Nevada's April deadline for petitions to form a political party and eased restrictive wording on the petition. Credit for the successful lawsuit goes to the Nevada ACLU and attorney Randall Edwards.

An as yet undetermined percentage of contributions received in fundraising will be credited to the repayment of the Nevada LP loan.

The BAC approved the conditional grant of \$15,000.00 to the Texas LP upon the timely filing of 38,400 gross signatures (20% more than the required minimum number of valid signatures) or, in the alternative, upon certification to the '86 general election ballot. The assistance was requested to pay for completion of a ballot drive then in progress.

On July 17, the Texas LP filed 39,190 gross signatures. It appears likely that the Texas LP will be certified to the '86 general election ballot.

The BAC approved the payment of an annual membership fee of \$100 to the Coalition for Free and Open Elections. The annual membership fee had formerly been paid directly from the LNC.

Lawsuits on behalf of LP state affiliates are presently pending in California, Hawaii, Oklahoma, and Oregon.

The California case, decided in the 9th Circuit, held unconstitutional California statutes regulating the internal organization of political parties. The decision has been stayed pending appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Hawaii case, decided in Hawaii's federal district court, held unconstitutional Hawaii's deadline for petitions to form a political party, but upheld restrictive wording contained in the petition. An appeal of that portion of the decision adverse to the Hawaii LP is under consideration.

The Oklahoma case, pending in Oklahoma's federal district court, challenges Oklahoma's five percent requirement for elective office other than president and Oklahoma's deadline for nominating petitions. No decision has been entered.

The Oregon case, decided in state court, upheld Oregon's five percent petition requirement for president. The decision has been appealed.

Expenses incident to bringing a challenge to Kentucky's early filing deadline were approved by the BAC. Legal action was deferred, however, when the Kentucky LP failed to nominate any candidates for statewide office at its state convention.

The LP is presently qualified to have its presidential ticket appear on the general election ballot without further petitioning [presidential ballot status] in 11 states: Alaska, California, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina, Utah, and Vermont. Similar qualification is pending in Texas. Of these 12 states, 11 are likely to retain presidential ballot status through '88; one, Indiana, is unlikely to retain presidential ballot status past the '86 general election.

Delaware recently lost presidential ballot status but regains it if seven additional voters register as "Libertarian."



"An anarchist, eh? -- Let's see your license!"

Radio Ad Spots Now Available

LP National Chair Jim Turney has announced a new "generic" radio campaign audio tape with a series of ten 60-second radio spots.

He said, "It has been a pet project of mine to have a national radio campaign for the Party because it very effectively targets a particular audience."

Each ad will be of a dialog type that features two people discussing, in a very animated and ear-grabbing manner, a subject of intense current interest and promoting the Libertarian Party and its candidates.

Although the generic ad does not promote a particular LP candidate by name, there is provision for the candidate to identify him/herself on the "tail" of each ad. By doing so, the candidate "customizes" the ad, and qualifies it

for the reduced radio political advertising rate.

Turney appointed Dr. Bruce Daniel, LP chair, Placer County, CA, to head the project. Sarah Foster, editor of the "California Libertarian News," Kim Goldsworthy, LP chair Region 63, and Phillip Lanier are working with audio specialists to produce the master tape.

"If every LP candidate in the country would buy \$300 to \$500 of radio time during their campaigns, the Party would have its first national radio coverage. It is a very do-able thing, and ought to have significant impact," Turney said.

Tapes will be available in early September. They may be ordered from the Placer County Libertarian Party, P.O. Box 165, Loomis, CA 95650. Cost: \$25.

LIBERTARIANS FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS

Libertarians who support animal rights and oppose abortion, please write for more information.

Libertarians For Animal Rights

7829 Cayuga Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20817



Libertarian Party

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713-880-1776

Acting National Director

Terry V. Mitchell

Accounting Operations

David K. Kelley

Administrative Assistant

Ken Kirchheiner

Telephone Directory

713-880-1776—Business number, National Libertarian Party

1-800-682-1776—LP new member information (outside Texas)

304-263-7526—Libertarian Party NEWS advertising or news

Libertarian National Committee
301 W. 21st St.
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