



LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

Published exclusively for members of the Libertarian Party's Monthly Pledge Program •

MAY 1990

LNC Raises Budget After Fundraising Success

Increased confidence in the LP's ability to raise funds, based on consistent success in recent months, allowed the Libertarian National Committee to increase its budget at its April meeting in Austin, Texas, pushing the annual budget over the \$500,000 mark.

Some of the additional funds will go toward creation of the Census Defense Fund,

which will offer financial assistance to people who are fined for refusing to participate in the Census.

The LNC also approved line item increases in the budget for the Affiliate Parties Committee, Computer Programming, and *Libertarian Party News*. The increase will allow two larger-than-normal issues of *LP News*.

Capital Area Libertarians "Up the Ante" in 1990 Elections

Libertarians in the Washington, D.C. area are now gearing up for two active campaigns.

Adding to the interest created by Dr. Nancy Lord's entrance into the race for D.C. mayor will be the recently announced candidacy of Robert Murphy for the eighth district U.S. congressional seat in suburban Virginia.

The campaigns hope to gain some mo-

mentum from each other, particularly in the area of stirring up increased media interest, borrowing on each other's volunteer forces, and possibly developing joint advertisements to run on metro area media.

Libertarians Host Tax Day Activities Around Nation

Libertarians participated in numerous tax protest events last month, many of which were very successful.

The New Hampshire LP announced the defections of three leading tax protest leaders from the Republican Party--the presidents of the New Hampshire Taxpayers Association, Citizens for Tax Relief, and Granite State Taxpayers, Inc. All three have now joined the LP.

A few of the other tax protests events are related in clippings on the following pages.

Wisconsin LP Project Aimed At Outreach to Lithuania

The LP of Wisconsin is collecting English-language books on the subjects of free market economics, business management, and libertarian political theory for airlift to Lithuanian businesspersons who will read and distribute the books in Lithuania.

Books and donations for the project may be sent to: LP of Wisconsin, c/o Mary Roffers, 2462 Lake Shore Road, Grafton, WI 53024. For more information call (414) 375-0068.

Act fast. This project could be curtailed by political upheaval.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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When his conscience talks, Tom Tryon listens

Calaveras Libertarian wins respect on political trail

By RON DeLACY
See staff writer

ANGELS CAMP — Tom Tryon, chairman of the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors, has assumed one risky political stance after another in his foothill district and lived to pound his gavel about it.

He has supported what he sees as women's rights on abortion and people's rights to burn the flag if they want, and he has opposed such popular concepts as rigid sign ordinances and design-review committees.

He considers President Bush's "no-new-taxes" pledge meaningless without an accompanying balanced budget, and the "war on drugs" unconstitutional. Tryon favors tax reductions, balanced budgets and, read his lips, "the re-legalization of illicit drugs."

Tryon, a 45-year-old Angels Camp

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the national media's blinders that shut out smaller parties. Tryon said the Libertarians' goal will be to maintain "ballot status" by attracting at least 2 percent of the vote for one of their statewide candidates. So they probably will spend the bulk of their budget — maybe \$50,000 to \$100,000 — on their most attractive candidate in November. Maybe Tryon.

He has solid intellectual and professional qualifications: A bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California at Berkeley, a master's in business from the University of Chicago, two years as a New York stockbroker, three years as vice president in the Crocker National Bank's agricultural division.

And he stands staunchly behind his party's belief that the Republicans and Democrats stopped offering real choices a long time ago. To Tryon, the last president who aggressively defended freedom was Thomas Jefferson.

"There is only one party in the nation today that stands for liberty, and that's the Libertarian Party," Tryon said. "We believe in the Jeffersonian view of limited government, civil liberties, free markets,

rancher, ranks as the Libertarian Party's highest elective officeholder in the nation, and is shooting for a new height now that the party has drafted him as its only candidate for state controller.

He already is planning for his victory party after the June primary with his wife, three children and anyone else who might want to attend. But no, he doesn't really expect to win in November.

"If I can do better than 5 percent of the vote I'll be very happy," Tryon said. "It's an extremely partisan race. Not only will the Democrats and Republicans have candidates, but also the Peace and Freedom Party and the American Independents."

The Democrats and Republicans will finish either one-two or two-one, Tryon predicted, because of their wealth and

See Page B-2, TRYON

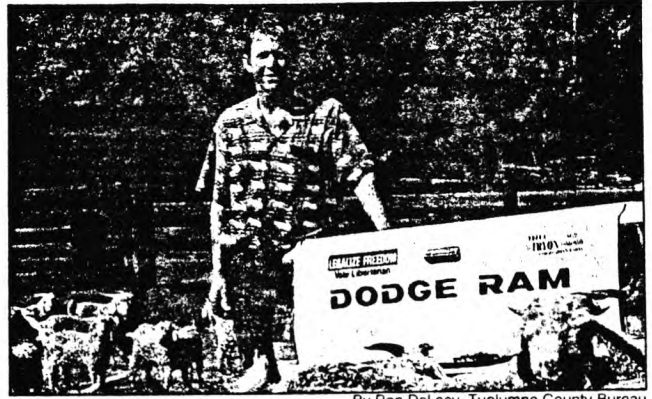
reductions in taxes, limited regulation, respect for private property and nonintervention in foreign affairs."

If he were the state controller, he said, he could espouse those values as a member of 52 powerful state commissions, including the Coastal Commission, which he considers "the grossest violator of private-property rights ever conceived by government."

Tryon, great-grandson of a Calaveras County Gold Rush miner, has run the family's 2,000-acre Angels Camp cattle and goat ranch since 1980. In 1984 he ran for supervisor, lost by 20 votes and asked for a recount. He wound up winning by one vote, and was the target of a recall petition six months later for voting against an anti-drug task force.

The war on drugs saw it, and still does, the way on drugs has been a dismal failure since the Harrison Narcotics Act of 1914.

He fought his recall with letters to local editors and constituents, acknowledging the evils of drug abuse but insisting that diminishing the demand through education was the answer. Illegalization has given the trade to mobsters, raised drug



Tom Tryon, sheep rancher and county supervisor, seeks higher office.

symbol.")

- Asking the board to oppose the illegalization of abortions. ("I'm Catholic, but I don't believe the government should be involved in the abortion issue.")
- Opposing a "historical district" government plan for the town of Murphys. ("Government planning infringes upon the constitutionally guaranteed rights to life, liberty and property by discriminating between citizens, particularly against new entrants.")

He continually explains his positions with letters like the ones that followed his infamous drug comments. And when issues arise that strike him as compromises to Jeffersonian democracy, he votes "no." And when he votes in state and national elections, he votes Libertarian.

"I may never again vote for a party that wins an election," he said, "but at least I'll be at peace with myself."

As for his candidacy for controller, it will probably be his last. "I certainly won't be a perennial candidate," Tryon said. "If ever I run again, it would be for state Assembly or state Senate, something I could stand maybe a chance of winning."

prices to encourage drug-related crimes, contributed to problems of impurities and overdoses, he said. And personal liberties have been abused ever more vigorously because "we are constantly escalating the war in response to the negative consequences of the war itself."

The recall petition fell hundreds of votes short. Two of its authors told The Bee last week they still don't favor legalizing drugs, but that they have come to understand and respect Tryon's view.

"I was roped into the recall," said one, Murphys minister Gary Lucht. "Eventually I saw his point. A lot of government programs don't achieve what they attempt to achieve."

The drug stand wasn't the last hot one taken by Tryon, who was re-elected in 1988. He has enraged some constituents by:

- Writing ballot arguments against a half-cent sales tax and hotel tax hike ("Why don't government bodies ever put tax decreases on the ballot?")
- Introducing a resolution that attacked President Bush's proposed constitutional amendment to outlaw flag burning. ("You don't destroy the principle to save the

—Portsmouth Herald (N.H.) Thursday, April 19, 1990

Radio show host speaks on crisis in government

By ROGER WOOD

Herald Correspondent

PORTSMOUTH — Boston radio talk show host Gene Burns, a member of the U.S. Libertarian Party, told a standing-room-only crowd at the Little Harbor School auditorium Wednesday night that, as American citizens, "we find ourselves in a crisis of government."

The 49-year-old WRKO radio commentator cited examples of government excess, such as \$100,000 taxi licenses in Boston and a predicted half-trillion-dollar Savings and Loan bailout, as reasons to suspect that government "is inefficient, and not

delivering what it promises to deliver, because it can never deliver as efficiently to us what we can deliver for ourselves."

His two-hour address, warmly received by an audience of nearly 300, was sprinkled with personal anecdotes and Libertarian Party philosophy of minimalist government "that is least expensive and less intrusive."

Some, like Clifford Taylor of Portsmouth, attended because they are fans of Mr. Burns' midday radio program. However, he said the speech didn't convince him to change his party affiliation to support the Libertarians.

Mr. Burns, who ran as a candidate for the Libertarian presidential nomination in 1983,

offered one year of free speaking services to the New Hampshire Libertarian Party which sponsored the Wednesday night talk.

His Portsmouth address was the fifth in a series of speeches around the state to stimulate political awareness. He said his hope is to "begin a movement that will ultimately sweep across the country and have people at least think seriously about the nature and role of government in a free society."

Changes are necessary, he said, "to make government more responsive before government is so far out of control that more radical changes are called for." He didn't specify what those radical changes might be.

He also talked about a recent trip to the Soviet Union, whose economic system he characterized as "stultifying."

"It destroys initiative. It does not produce because there is no incentive to produce," he said. But at the same time, "we see dramatic change in the Soviet Union. People have decided that the price they are paying for equality of result is too high and they want change, opportunity, choice and freedom of economic enterprise."

Mr. Burns took aim at the U.S. Congress when he reflected on "the hordes of Eastern Europeans who are descending on Washington to study the Congress as an example of how Democratic in-

stitutions work."

He suggested that Congress is the wrong place to study democracy because "Congress itself has become a stultifying bureaucracy where achievement is no longer necessary for success and you get elected and re-elected time and again if you're an incumbent whether or not you deliver the goods for your constituents." He said the ideal system put the "citizen at the very pinnacle, and government that is always subservient."

Libertarian political doctrine says that government should keep its hands off an individual's affairs such as drug and alcohol use, but Mr. Burns said, "I don't use illegal

drugs or counsel their use."

He characterized local zoning as "the attempt by one group of citizens to disadvantage another group of citizens," and said that freedom implies having the right to kill yourself, "if you're stupid enough."

The Libertarian Party in New Hampshire claims 200 paid members, plus another 200 who are active in the political organization. Chairman Bill Winter, who introduced Mr. Burns, said he feels that support for the Libertarian philosophy is actually much greater, since their presidential and gubernatorial party candidates drew over 5,000 votes in the 1988 election.

R. Richard Banks THE PENINSULA TIMES TRIBUNE

Annual parking lot fest

A COLLECTIVE SIGN OF RELIEF has greeted the passing of the annual tax filing deadline. As I drove to the main branch of the Palo Alto post office at 11:42 Monday night, I pondered how I had come, once again, to this point.

The scene was a familiar one: a long line of cars on either side of the post office, a political advocate preaching for the abolition of the income tax, people signing tax forms and sealing envelopes on the hoods of their cars.

If past patterns are any indication, several million taxpayers who were in last minute traffic jams at post offices across the nation weren't filing their income tax returns at all; they were filing the request for automatic extension. As was I.

As I approached the post office, the traffic bunched up. Police officers, with the aid of flares to delineate the lanes, directed traffic at the intersection, which is busy exactly once a year.

I had gone through this ordeal before, each of the last two years, and swore it wouldn't happen again this year. Beginning in February, I began to look for an accountant to do my taxes.

Every CPA I talked to frowned when I asked how long it would take him to go through my shoeboxes full of records. They all wanted me to do the organizing, to record income and expenses in neat little columns on neat little forms. At first I rebelled. "If I do that," I thought, "I might as well go ahead and fill out the income tax forms myself." After a while I gave in and resigned myself to that peculiarity of the CPA business.

Although I had hoped my return would be finished by the deadline, I couldn't hold my accountant responsible, as I had given him my information less than a week beforehand.

The post office scene was an event itself. A tall, bearded Libertarian stood by the driveway with sign that read "Abolish Taxes." I expected that many people, at that moment at least, shared his sentiment.

A group of three men and three women stood idly in the parking lot talking, basking in the relief of having mailed their forms while other citizens were still scurrying to beat the deadline. They appeared to have just met, and their conversation seemed more appropriate for a singles bar than a post office parking lot. The post office at 11:50 on April 16 is not the worst place to meet someone, I suppose. At least you know they pay taxes, or file an extension.

The annual ritual is becoming more like a party, as camaraderie develops from the sense that "we're all in this together." Next year, though, I hope to skip it.

Rick Banks of East Palo Alto is a free lance writer.

Groups call for end to Austin vice squad

Other crimes called more important

By Jim Phillips
American-Statesman Staff

The Austin police vice squad should be phased out and its officers assigned to investigate more serious crimes, according to members of the Texas Freedom Network, the Libertarian Party and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Members of the three organizations held a press conference Tuesday to make the proposal in response to recent stories about internal police investigations into allegations of wrongdoing by the supervisor of the unit.

"This is really just the opening volley... of what we hope will be a continuing battle," said Terry Liberty Parker, a board member of the Texas Freedom Network. The organization advocates upholding the Bill of Rights, and previously has been involved in opposing a city ordinance regulating adult-oriented businesses.

The speakers all said they were not criticizing the Police Department or the members of the vice squad, but were asking that scarce police resources be concentrated on crimes such as robbery.

The vice squad in Austin investigates prostitution, gambling and pornography.

"Vice crimes, if they have any victims at all, have willing victims," said Mark Tesouro of the University of Texas Libertarian Group.

Bruce Eaechler, chairman

of the Texas Libertarian Party, said the Legislature should repeal all laws governing vice activities and drugs.

Parker said working vice cases is a corrupting job that leads to police officers becoming disenchanted with law enforcement.

"The harder we enforce this, the sleazier it's going to become," he said. "We ought to debate this. We want to get the public dialog started on this issue."

Sylvia Cedillo, a board member of the Central Texas chapter of ACLU, issued a statement saying, "The Austin vice squad has become a self-serving unit for its own enjoyment." She said its members should be reassigned "to more pertinent duties like solving offenses against persons and property."

In response, Assistant Police Chief Ken Williams said, "I don't see any justification for disbanding a unit that works criminal activity."

Williams said citizens frequently say they want more, rather than fewer, officers assigned to vice cases.

"I get calls quite frequently," he said. "There is a community concern about these issues, and we're going to address those concerns."

He also said vice cases are not victimless, and said many are tied into organized crime. "It's more than just a local problem. There's a lot of money involved in all this. People can get hurt."

Austin, TX American-Statesman, Feb 28, 1990.

Milwaukee Shepherd Express, April 26, 1990.

Off the Spectrum

Libertarian Dick Boddie is running for president to abolish the job

BY MIKE MCCALLISTER

An odd breed, these libertarians. These crazy radicals want to legalize drugs and immigration, end U.S. military intervention everywhere on the planet and abolish the FBI and CIA.

These stone reactionaries are against income taxes, for privatizing all government services, including fire and police protection, and for returning to the gold standard.

Libertarians want you to believe they are the last best hope for freedom in America, and the last defenders of the Founding Fathers.

About 40 of them gathered at the Holiday Inn South for the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin's annual convention, April 6-8, for speeches denouncing government and all it stands for. They also heard the first announced candidate for the party's presidential nomi-

nation. Richard Benjamin Boddie, Esq. is the former firebrand African American law student at Syracuse University who claims to be an organizer of the rally depicted in the Ron Kovic biography *Born on the Fourth of July*. Abbie Hoffman wasn't really there to speak and help in Tom Cruise's radicalization, Boddie says.

He got what he calls a "Marxist education" at Bucknell and Syracuse and hung out with all the usual suspects, but says he always had a copy of Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* on his bookshelf. Rand is one of the demigods of the libertarian movement, and Boddie said he chose his friends on the basis of their reaction to the book.

Today he runs a motivational speakers bureau (he charges \$2000 a speech) and a cash-only limousine service in Orange County,



Dick Boddie

Calif. He also spends a lot of time talking about free-market solutions to virtually every problem facing humanity.

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Albuquerque Tribune, March 27, 1990.

Libertarians ignore census

BY TONY DAVIS
Staff reporter

LIBERTARIANISM

The Libertarian Party's platform: "Each individual has the absolute right to exercise sole dominion over his or her own life, liberty and property so long as he or she also respects the equal right of all others to live

their lives by the same principle." It opposes censorship, the draft, victimless-crime laws and government regulations on personal matters, supports property rights, free trade and eventual elimination of taxation.

Joseph Knight's credo is that he doesn't want to do something anyone orders him to do.

In that spirit, Knight, coordinator of the tiny Libertarian Party of New Mexico, said he answered only two questions when he mailed back his U.S. Census form Monday — his name and address.

He and other Libertarians in the state and across the country are urging others to do the same, or to boycott the census entirely.

Many Libertarians in the state will "simply ignore the census and toss it into the garbage can," said Knight, who lives in Flora Vista, a small town near Farmington.

The Libertarian Party generally opposes most government restrictions on individuals, along with most government programs except those for national defense and police protection. The state has about 1,500 registered Libertarians, said Knight.

Knight is defying a federal law requiring all United States resi-

dents to complete their census forms, except for foreign citizens living in U.S. embassies or other consulate offices.

Knight also is going against a massive publicity campaign by the U.S. Census Bureau and by numerous politicians and activist groups urging everyone to fill out the census form so New Mexico will get its fair share of federal money.

"Every year, \$38 billion to \$50 billion gets distributed annually based on the census count," said Ron Ritschard, a Census Bureau media specialist in Denver. "He's entitled to his views, but there are people out there who depend on those programs for money."

That argument carries little

weight with Knight, because he has little use for most federal programs.

He doesn't want to obey the federal law requiring completion of census forms simply because there is such a law, and it carries a possible fine of \$100, he said.

He objects particularly to questions about his income, the value of his home, the number of flush toilets in his house and other information he considers private.

"I don't see whether or not my toilet flushes has anything to do with my representation in Congress," said Knight, who calls himself a "part-time farmer and a full-time Libertarian."

Census Bureau officials say information about toilets and housing conditions helps government planners decide which areas of a city need better housing.

Officials said they're not certain if they'll prosecute anyone who refuses to fill out a census form.

Customarily, the bureau tries to persuade people to fill out the forms and prosecutes as a last resort.

In 1980, the Census Bureau didn't prosecute anyone for failing to answer the form. But in 1970, the bureau took five people to U.S. District Court for that offense. None was from New Mexico.

"Our fine is not exactly the kind that strikes fear in the hearts of people," said Pat Heelen, deputy chief council for the U.S. Census Bureau. "Our emphasis is quite the opposite: convincing people that this is an important thing to do."

Detroit News
April 16, 1990.

Tax protest: Members of Michigan's Libertarian Party plan to join a national protest today against the federal income tax at locations around Metro Detroit and elsewhere in Michigan. This year's protest theme, to be aired at post offices, is "George Bush: More like George III than like George Washington."

Detroit News, April 17, 1990.

Bombing appalls even veteran tax protesters

By Liz Twardon
Detroit News Staff Writer

Tax protests are as American as the U.S. Declaration of Independence.

In fact, rebellions against unfair taxes helped trigger the revolution that created the United States, historians note.

But even veteran tax protesters said they could not abide the explosive message one protester delivered to the Royal Oak Post Office as people scrambled to file their income tax returns by the midnight Monday deadline.

AN APPARENT letter bomb

addressed to "Tax Thieves," which also contained a tea bag, was placed in an outdoor bin for last-minute tax filers in Royal Oak. The explosion injured a postal maintenance worker, who was treated for minor burns at Beaumont Hospital and released.

The tea apparently was borrowed as a symbol of tax revolt from the 1773 Boston Tea Party. At that time, American colonists protested taxation without representation in the British government by throwing barrels of taxed tea into Boston Harbor. The "tea party" launched similar protests throughout the colonies that led to the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Steve Silver of the Metro Detroit

Libertarian Party said he sympathizes with the tea-party protesters and the frustrations of modern-day taxpayers. But he said he cannot condone violent protests such as the letter bomb.

"I think the bombing was wrong," said Silver, 34, of Huntington Woods, who was among about eight protesters at the Royal Oak Post Office when the explosion occurred.

SILVER SAID he was engaged in an annual peaceful protest in front of Metro Detroit post offices on income tax deadline night when the sparks from the explosion singed his pants and finger.

"I don't believe in using force or

violence to protest," he said. "Setting off bombs is not the way."

The Libertarians chose a more passive form of protest — holding up banners and handing out fliers that condemn what they consider an overgrown government, he said.

"I file and pay my taxes every year and grit my teeth — and protest," he said. "I believe what our founding father Thomas Jefferson believed: The government that governs least, governs best."

JUST AS EARLY American colonists protested taxation without representation more than 200 years ago, Silver said, "we object to taxes

because we have no control over what the government does with our money."

"The government holds a monopoly on guns, does all these terrible things here and in other countries, then makes us pay for it."

Fellow protester and Libertarian Stan Gentry, 28, of Warren agreed. "We're not really against taxes. We oppose what the government does to collect them and then how it spends our taxes."

"The Internal Revenue Service is ruthless."

Debbie Blair, a spokeswoman for the Church of Scientology, said U.S.

congressional hearings last summer unveiled rampant IRS abuses.

"The IRS exercises greater power over the day-to-day lives of American citizens than any other agency of the government," Blair said. "IRS agents frequently overstep their bounds in the process of collecting taxes, leaving the taxpayer in danger of having his bank accounts seized, losing his home, car, savings and even his business."

To help guide taxpayers through the treacherous IRS treadmill, she said, the Church of Scientology has published *How to Protect Your Rights as a Taxpayer: A Guidebook on Taxpayers' Rights*.

"I am running for president of the United States to educate people regarding individual liberty, free-market economic ideas and that government is too big," he said.

He expects several rivals for the LP nomination on Labor Day weekend, 1991, but he thinks the party is ripe for an "articulate African American male who knows how to deal with a (TV) camera." He once hosted a local talk show in Rochester, N.Y.

The upheavals in Eastern Europe are creating a lot of excitement these days for Libertarians. While virtually every point on the political spectrum has adopted the anti-Stalinist revolutionaries (libertarians don't believe in spectrums, but more on that later), Boddie cites evidence on his behalf.

American libertarian literature has been translated and distributed by the locals in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Boddie said, and Czech president Vaclav Havel quoted libertarian economist Ludwig von Mises in his inaugural address.

"I look at the developments in E. Europe as the natural phenomenon of people who can get information to realize that that line that (Fidel) Castro and the rest uses is really a bogus line.

"Value is not objective, value is subjective, so you cannot have a commissar of toilet paper.

"I happen to like Baroque music—bebop, Baroque, blues and ballads. If I were in a socialist state and I had the power, all you could buy would be bebop, Baroque, ballads and blues. There would be a shortage of country music. There would be a shortage of rock music. But in a free market, people will fill Long Beach Arena to make the Bee Gees rich in one night."

But make no mistake. When libertarians talk about freedom, they are talking absolutes. You do not hear a lot about democracy as an important value when speaking to them.

"The core value of America is individual

liberty, which is not democracy," Boddie said.

"Just because people can vote on the things that are happening to them doesn't have any validity if individual rights are not paramount.

"Democracy is nothing more than two wolves and one sheep voting on what to have for breakfast."

The free market is no panacea, Boddie notes, but "Utopia is not an option."

Witness the drug business. While drugs like cocaine, heroin and the rest may be deadly, in the libertarian world, prohibition is worse.

"The law should not be involved with any product or service that is used by people in an honest, voluntary way," Boddie said. He said that in addition to the violence involved in illegal

businesses (gangs) competing with each other for markets (nurf), the only thing that making certain drugs illegal does is raise the price.

That in turn leads to people turning to crime to finance their habit. For example, morphine is legal if prescribed by a doctor and costs about \$2 a hit, Boddie said. The same amount of the illegal drug heroine, with the same chemical composition as morphine, costs \$200.

"You have to get the money some way, so you aggress on others and their property."

Remembering that most narcotics were legal in this country until alcohol prohibition was repealed and all those government agents needed something to do, the LP nationally founded the Coalition to End Drug Violence to call for the re-legalization of drugs.

The coalition, complete with Washington offices and a toll-free number (1-800-869-6601), is attempting to gather all the promi-

nent proponents of legalization under their banner at a "Drug Peace Summit" tentatively scheduled for Aug. 1st.

The number one villain in the libertarian world view is government itself, so it does

"The core value of America is individual liberty, which is not democracy."

not shock one to hear Boddie call for multiple private Food and Drug Administrations as solutions to AIDS and cancer.

Similarly, the only thing keeping the air and water from being cleaned up is the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Pollution is no different from somebody throwing trash on your lawn," Boddie said.

The libertarian solution is for victims of pollution to sue those who harm them. The government's sole function, in Boddie's eyes, is to protect people's rights and their property.

"No one has been sued, or lost a case for polluting air and water," because the government has taken over responsibility for the environment, and they are influenced by the polluters to give them more time to clean up, he said.

Nevertheless, Boddie is skeptical of the modern environmental movement.

Scientists who warn of the greenhouse effect are just as wrong as some early scientists, who believed that fire burned due to a substance called phlogiston, not oxygen, he said. "If I can keep you frightened, I can go to the public treasury and get money for myself."

In many ways, just as the environmentalist Green movement is considered by many to be the next "new ideology" to sweep across the scene, so the libertarians felt their time had come in the 1970s.

Renegade Republican Roger MacBride put the LP on the map in 1972 by casting his Electoral College vote for philosophy professor John Hospers and his running mate, Antoinette Nathan (the first woman to receive an electoral vote), and from then on the LP thought that by the end of the decade, they would be as large as the Democrats and Republicans.

In 1980, just nine years after the party was founded, the LP found itself a sugar daddy in the person of oilman David Koch.

He ran for vice-president on a ticket with Ed Clark, and since federal election laws state that candidates can spend as much of their own money to get elected as they want (witness Herb Kohl), the ticket was on all 50 state ballots, bought television commercials and the like and got about 920,000 votes, including 29,135 in Wisconsin, 1.3% of the total.

But the combination of the success of the Clark/Koch ticket and the entry into the White House of an avowed free-marketeer sent what Boddie called the "conservative Republican look-alikes" into a frenzy to find ways out of the third-party environment and into the mainstream.

Just as the European Greens began fighting after winning legislative seats, so the libertarians had their "fundis" and "realos." Four years later, "fundis" David Bergland continued on page 17

only got 225,904 votes, but managed to recruit Boddie as his one-man entourage. It was during that campaign that Boddie decided to some day run himself.

While you may not have ever heard of libertarianism, this relatively young movement has developed a whole network of institutions to influence policy on a day-to-day basis.

Libertarians have formed think tanks like the Cato Institute and the Reason Foundation, magazines like *Reason* and *The Freeman*, and "educational" front groups like the Advocates for Self-Government to spread the "free people, free markets" gospel in the land.

You may have seen the Advocates on your last trip to Rummage-O-Rama handing out small cards with "the world's smallest political quiz."

The results of the two-part quiz are charted on a graph developed by LP founder David Nolan. For libertarians, the "Nolan chart" is a more reliable way of considering political ideas than the traditional one-dimensional spectrum.

There are only four ideologies, Nolan suggests. Totalitarians want government intervention in both people's personal and economic lives. Liberals and conservatives are both interested in having government clam down on either personal or economic freedom, and libertarians are against government intervention entirely.

The state LP convention featured the establishment of a political action committee which will do less fund raising than merely trying to get the word out that there is a Libertarian Party out there.

This task may prove to be a difficult one, since the *Shepherd Express* was the only local news outlet interested enough to show up

to this event.

Mark Leaver, an ambitious UWM student who may soon be the leading Wisconsin libertarian, said the two most important things the party can do is get people elected to office and to recruit new members.

"We can bitch forever," Leaver said, "but nothing will change unless we can put our people in government."

Campaigns are one way to get new people involved, Leaver said. People are not interested in joining a movement that does not do anything.

The central issue of any Libertarian campaign has to be taxes, Leaver said.

"This party can save people a lot of money," he said. As one might imagine, the LP favors a balanced-budget amendment, at least as a transitional measure, but is mainly interested in eliminating virtually all government spending.

As one party pamphlet explains, "taxation is simply some people using the force at their disposal to steal the earnings or property of other people. If a man with a gun told you to deliver to him a portion of your weekly earnings upon penalty of being locked up or shot if you refused, you would properly label it 'armed robbery.'"

The party is looking for someone to run for a state-wide office this fall, state chair Mary Roffers said. Candidates who receive just 1%

of the vote in Wisconsin retain full ballot status until the next statewide election.

Ed Clark fulfilled that obligation in 1980, but the LP lost their status on the ballot when Bergland only got 4884 votes in 1984.

Former U.S. Rep. and gold-standard advocate Ron Paul, who quit the Republican Party after Iran-Contra broke, got 5157 Wisconsin votes in 1988.

In addition, the state Libertarian Party wants to organize its 55 members to write letters-to-the-editor commenting on assorted topics. They will even have your letter ghost-written if you like.

Ontario, OR Daily Argus Observer
March 18, 1990.

Libertarian candidate joins governor's race

302 (2)
SALEM (UPI) — Libertarian candidate Fred Oerther, who gained 11 percent of the vote when he ran for attorney general two years ago, has announced that he will run for governor on an anti-tax platform.

The 53-year-old organic farmer in Clackamas County said he thinks his position against the sales tax option on the May 15 primary ballot will help him draw support from opposing candidates Republican Dave Frohnmayer and Democrat Barbara Roberts.

"I think they both have to worry," Oerther said at a Capitol press conference Friday.

"Clearly, the people of Oregon have spoken on the sales tax."

The sales tax proposal will be one of five options to reduce property taxes and help finance state schools on the May ballot.

Roberts, the secretary of state, and Frohnmayer, the attorney general, both support a sales tax.

Oerther, who helped lead an unsuccessful 1986 initiative to legalize marijuana in Oregon, ran against Frohnmayer in 1988.

Because he won more than five percent of the vote, Libertarians now have an automatic place on the ballot in all of this year's partisan elections.

Los Angeles Daily
March 28, 1990.

Chico Panel Recommends Repeal of City Arrest Law

CHICO — A City Council committee Monday recommended the repeal of an ordinance that allows various municipal employees to arrest citizens who cannot produce identification.

The law had sparked mass protests, spearheaded by the Libertarian Party and joined by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The council agreed to take another look at the law — which the council had passed in October — after opponents gathered what they said were the signatures of more than 1,000 residents opposed to it.

City officials said they were unaware of any arrests under the law since it was approved.

City Attorney Bob Boehm, who along with Police Chief John Bullerjahn had urged the council to adopt the law, argued in the committee meeting against its repeal.

The ordinance allows city meter maids, building supervisors, hot dog stand inspectors and 30 to 40 other non-police, municipal employees to make arrests.

The arrests were to be made only when persons suspected of violating city codes refused to produce adequate identification on demand, Boehm said.