



Published for friends and supporters of the Libertarian Party

Liberty Pledge

NEWSLETTER

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LP asked for help with tax-cut bill

National Chair Steve Dasbach is urging Libertarians to lobby for the "A-Z Spending Cut Plan" — a bill that could potentially slash billions of dollars from the federal budget — after the LP headquarters was asked for help by the office of one of its Congressional sponsors

"This is a bill that every Libertarian can support. It does nothing but reduce federal spending," said Dasbach.

The LP got involved with the bill when Chip Griffin, legislative assistant to Rep. Zeliff, called the National headquarters on May 11th to ask for assistance.

National Director Perry Willis said, "As far as I know, the national LP has never been asked for help by a U.S. Congressman before. This is an excellent opportunity for us to become a more serious and respected player in Washington politics."

The "A-Z Spending Cut Plan" — sponsored by Rep. Bill Zeliff (R-NH) and Rep. Rob Andrews (D-NJ) — is being stonewalled in Congress by Speaker of the House Tom Foley. Now, Zeliff and Andrews are trying to muster public support for the bill so 218 House members will sign a "discharge petition" to force the bill onto the floor of the House.

The "A-Z Spending Cut Plan" consists of two parts:

> House Resolution 406, allocating 56 hours to debate proposals to reduce government spending. There would be an on-the-record "yes or no" vote on each specific spending cut. No tax increases could be considered.

> House Bill 3266, which provides for automatic reductions in Congressional spending limits by the amount of the cuts.

The A-Z Bill has been endorsed by the *Wall Street Journal*, the National Taxpayers Union, Citizens for a Sound Economy, and Citizens Against Government Waste.

What Libertarians can do:

> Call or write your Congressperson as soon as possible. Ask them if they have signed the discharge petition for the "A-Z Spending Cut Plan." If not, urge them to do so immediately.

Here's how to contact your U.S. Representative:

Write: The Hon. _____, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515.

Call: The telephone switchboard for all members of Congress is (202) 224-3121.

Libertarians mourn passing of Karl Hess

Libertarians are mourning the death of Karl Hess, the long-time political activist who charted a remarkable political journey from speech writer to Barry Goldwater to Libertarian activist and editor of *LP News*. Hess died in Charlottesville, Virginia on April 22nd. He was 70.

National Chair Steve Dasbach said about Hess's passing: "In many ways, Karl embodied the heart and soul of the Libertarian Party. He embraced tolerance and caring for others with a passion equal to that with which he embraced his libertarian ideals. I can think of no more fitting tribute to his memory than for each of us to rededicate ourselves to carrying that struggle forward."

"\$1,000,000" outreach project is big hit with LP activists

A new National Libertarian Party Tax Day protest project — the "\$1,000,000 Outreach Project" — was a smashing success around the country, according to LP activists.

The National LP headquarters sent every state chair camera-ready "million dollar bills." The reverse explained that the federal government spends that amount every five seconds — and noted that the LP is the only political party working to reduce that.

In Pennsylvania, where activists in 14 locations distributed over 18,000 copies, State Chair Ken Sturzenacker said, "Receptivity was very high. At least one radio [talk show host] talked about the \$1,000,000 bill for several days prior to the 15th, increasing people's awareness and receptivity. Some actually came looking for us and our money."

Around the country:

> **Pennsylvania:** Bucks County LP Committee Chairman Andrew Barniskie won the President's Award from the Falls Township Rifle & Pistol Association on April 13th for "defending the interests of gun owners."

> **Washington DC:** Alan Forschler, Chairman of the DC LP, testified on April 21st before the City Council against an unfair law which granted special ballot access privileges to Republicans and Democrats.

> **Nebraska:** State Chair Steve Bode and Vice Chair Keith Kafka organized a citizens committee to fight a \$30 million bond issue in Ralston. The result: The bond issue lost by a more than two-to-one margin.

Letters

Medical savings accounts: Reform that works

In his March 30 letter, Roger Ethier of Information America criticizes the Libertarian Party for offering medical savings accounts as a "silver bullet" for solving America's health care problems. Mr. Ethier is absolutely correct that Medical Savings Accounts — though an excellent idea — are not the answer to all the problems with our current health care system. That is why they are only one part of the Libertarian Party's comprehensive health care reform. That plan, dubbed Project Healthy Choice, also calls for:

- Making out-of-pocket health care expenditures and the cost of individually purchased insurance fully tax-deductible.

- Eliminating government regulations that drive up health care costs and limit access to care. These regulations include certificate-of-need regulations, mandated insurance benefits and restrictions on the scope of practice for non-physician health professionals such as chiropractors, nurses and midwives.

- Speeding new pharmaceutical products to the market and reducing their cost by replacing the bureaucratic and inefficient Food and Drug Administration with procedures for voluntary certification of drugs by a private-sector organization, similar to the way Underwriters Laboratory certifies electrical appliances.

- Expanding private sector alternatives to Medicare and Medicaid recipients.

The Libertarian Party believes that the solution to our health care problems lies not with huge new government bureaucracies, price controls, massive new taxes and the rationing of care, but through the establishment of a thriving free market in health care services and the empowerment of health care consumers.

STEVEN DASBACH
National Chairman
Libertarian Party
Washington

In his March 30 letter criticizing medical savings accounts, Roger Ethier of Information America shows that he has absolutely no understanding of the medical savings account concept.

Mr. Ethier says that medical savings accounts fail to address any of the three major problems facing the U.S. health care system: cost, quality and universal coverage. He is wrong on all three counts.

Economists from across the political spectrum understand that one of the major factors driving health care costs is our third-party payment system, which insulates consumers from the cost of their health care decisions. Medical Savings Accounts would establish an incentive for consumers to act more responsibly in purchasing health care services. There are numerous studies that show that health care consumers can make cost-conscious decisions when given a financial incentive to do so. For example, the Rand Corp. conducted a study of changes in people's health care decision-making based on the size of the consumer's copayment. The study found that an individual who had to pay 50 percent of the cost of health care spent 25 percent less than an individual with no copayment. The study also showed that, contrary to the assertions of some critics, those reduced expenditures are not caused by individuals' forgoing truly necessary health care. (Health outcomes were virtually identical.) Rather, the savings result from reduced utilization of optional services and cost-based selection among competing providers.

Moreover, health expenses paid out of a medical savings account would entail not insurance administrative cost. Insurance is a very inefficient way to pay for small or routine health expenses. It costs approximately as much to process a \$50 claim as it does to process a \$50,000 claim. Medical savings accounts would cut insurance companies out of the vast majority of

health care transactions. That would reduce both the overall cost of health care and the paperwork burden on doctors.

Medical savings accounts would also increase the quality of medical care by strengthening the relationship between the physician and the patient. One of the great tragedies of medicine today is that the medical ethic, where the doctor is responsible to the patient, has been replaced by a veterinary ethic, where the doctor is responsible not to the patient but to whoever is paying the bill. Medical savings accounts would reverse this trend.

Finally, while medical savings accounts are not a "silver bullet" that would instantly solve the problem of Americans without health insurance, it would take a major step on the road to universal access. Of the 37 million Americans who lack health insurance, half are uninsured for four months or less, 70 percent for one year or less. Medical savings accounts would provide these individuals with a pool of money to pay for health care and health insurance costs during these short uninsured spells. Moreover, because Medical Savings Accounts belong to the individual and are completely portable, there is no longer the fear that the loss of a job leads to the loss of insurance. Other steps may have to be taken to assist the relatively small number of hard-core uninsured, but that hardly discredits medical savings accounts.

Ultimately, the health care debate is a question of liberty. Who should control health care dollars and decisions. President Clinton, and apparently Mr. Ethier, believe it should be the government and a handful of insurance cartels. Supporters of medical savings accounts believe it should be 250 million American consumers.

MICHAEL D. TANNER
Director of Health and Welfare Studies
Cato Institute
Washington

Rebate isn't a prank

County sales tax drops to 7 cents

By Michael J. Williams
Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO — It's no April Fool's joke.

At 12:01 a.m. today, consumers in San Diego County began paying the lowest sales-tax rate in the state — 7 cents on the dollar.

"Pinch me — let me make sure it's real," said Libertarian Party gubernatorial candidate Richard Rider, whose lawsuit filed in 1988 set the stage for the tax rollback nearly six years later.

The suit challenged the legality of a half-cent sales tax passed by a bare majority of the county's voters in June 1988. The county Board of Supervisors proposed the tax to finance jails and courtrooms, and the measure set up the San Diego Regional Justice Facility Financing Agency to distribute the dollars.

The half-cent tax went into effect Jan. 1, 1988, but the courts ordered the revenues to be collected in a trust fund until Rider's lawsuit was resolved. The state Supreme Court ruled in December 1991 that the tax was invalid because it did not pass by a two-thirds majority, a requirement of the Proposition 13 property-tax law.

The half-cent tax ended Feb. 13, 1992, when the county's sales-tax rate was lowered from 8 1/4 cents to 7 3/4 cents per dollar. But politicians, attorneys and consumer representatives soon became embroiled in a series of courtroom disputes on what to do with the pot of revenues, which has now grown to \$450 million, including interest.

State Sen. Lucy Killea, I-San Diego, in cooperation with Sen. Henry Mello, D-Monterey, attempted to quash the dispute with legislation authorizing the sales-tax rollback, while allowing consumers who paid the tax on at least \$5,000 in total purchases to claim refunds.

The rollback will probably last from a year to 18 months. When insufficient dollars remain to subsidize the tax reduction for another quarter of the fiscal year, the 3/4-cent tax will be restored. The several million dollars left in the pot will be turned over to the county general fund.

"For about 18 months, we will be able to enjoy lower taxes here, which I hope bodes well for the county's struggling economy," Rider said.

Libertarians add rifle raffle to tax-protest festivities

By Victor Dricks
THE PHOENIX GAZETTE

April 15 just wouldn't be the same without a tax protest, but this year the Libertarian Party is throwing in a bonus.

The Maricopa County chapter will kick off its annual tax protest outside the downtown post office on Central Avenue and Fillmore Street at 5:10 p.m. Friday with a drawing for three assault rifles.

"We want to call attention to the fact that measures are pending in Congress to ban assault rifles," said Mike Dugger, Second Amendment Caucus director for the Libertarian Party.

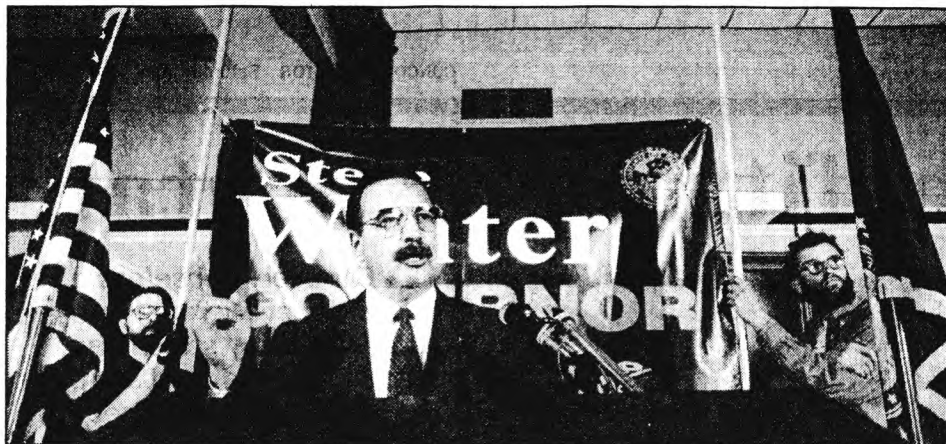
"We figured this would be a good way of killing two birds with one stone."

The party has sold more than 1,500 raffle tickets at \$5 each, Dugger said. First prize in the raffle will be a Colt AR-15 rifle.

↑ *The Washington Times*
Washington, DC
April 10, 1994

→ *The North Country*
Blade-Citizen
Oceanside, California
April 1, 1994

← *The Phoenix Gazette*
Phoenix, Arizona
April 14, 1994



JIM COLE / AP

Steve Winter, a 55-year-old Libertarian pilot, announces he's running for governor yesterday.

Libertarian candidate takes flight

Winter running for governor

By DAVID TIRRELL-WYSOCKI
Associated Press

An airline pilot running for governor as a Libertarian hopes to steer New Hampshire toward a future of dramatic education reform, drastic tax cuts and a fundamental overhaul of state government.

Steven Winter, 55, of Newbury, announced his candidacy yesterday, promising the strongest, best financed and most competitive campaign yet by his party.

His announcement came on the federal income tax filing day

— "the one day of the year when millions of Americans instinctively yearn for a government run by Libertarians," Winter said.

Winter said he would work to repeal the state business enterprise tax, review every state agency to see which can be turned over to private enterprise and revamp education to emphasize private schools and lessen the need for property taxes.

He supports giving parents who take their children out of public school tax rebates of up to half the cost of public education.

He figures up to 50 percent of public school children would leave, but half of the money earmarked for them would stay in the school, giving public schools more money per pupil, and help-

ing to lower property taxes.

Winter, an American Airlines pilot, also is for:

- Supporting abortion rights.
- Reducing of social service programs.
- Abolishing the statewide school Supervisory Administrative setup, which he said could save more than \$30 million.
- Turning the liquor business over to private business.

Winter, who faces competition in the Libertarian primary from Candia businessman Clarence Blevens and Raymond Rep. Calvin Warburton, has the support of former Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce, who is now a state liquor commissioner.

Luce received 5 percent of the vote in 1990 and 4 percent in 1992.

Karl Hess; Goldwater's Speech Writer in 1964

By MYRNA OLIVER
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Karl Hess, a Republican speech writer who worked as U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater's presidential campaign phrasemaker in 1964, has died. He was 70.

A resident of Kearneysville, W. Va., Hess died Friday in a Charlottesville, Va., hospital of an undisclosed illness.

Hess was probably best known for coining Goldwater's famous campaign slogan: "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice; moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

"It is a sad loss," Goldwater said Monday. "He was a very dear and valued friend, one of the finest writers I have ever known. I am going to miss him."

Hess was a speech writer for the Republican National Committee,

and briefly for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Vice President Richard Nixon and various Republican senators and congressmen.

He helped write the Republican Party's platforms in 1960 and 1964, and later wrote several books on politics, including "In a Cause That Will Triumph: The Goldwater Campaign and the Future of Conservatism," published in 1967.

A member of Goldwater's "Arizona Mafia," Hess was described during the presidential campaign as "a round, cheerful man . . . a dedicated right-wing ideologue who is even more conservative than the senator." As he sat in San Francisco hammering out the party's platform that year, Hess was described by The Times as "intense in his devotion to the cause of conservatism in politics."

After Goldwater's defeat, Hess appeared to bolt across the political

spectrum to become a Libertarian. He believed, however, that conservative and libertarian thinking were similar.

"I moved in a direction which the FBI chooses to call 'leftward,'" he once said. "What I actually did was go to work as a commercial welder, get arrested for demonstrating against the Indochina War, work with Black Panthers and teach a course on anarchism."

Hess ran for governor of West Virginia as a Libertarian in 1992, but failed to get the required number of signatures to make the ballot.

"I don't really expect to get the job," he said. "I am running for the right of people to be represented on the ballot, which is so fundamental to our form of government."

He is survived by his second wife, Therese Machotka Hess of Kearneysville, and two sons, Karl Hess IV and Eric Hess.



Now, on to more fun things. I suppose you've read potty-mouth radio personality Howard Stern is running for governor of New York against Mario Cuomo. He is the Libertarian Party candidate.

Libertarians organized in 1971, and according to brochures, is currently America's third largest and fastest growing political party working for everyone's liberty on every issue.

We're used to lies, er, ah, promises, during campaigns, but hearing about a party actually working for all of us all the time ... will that compute?

The brochure also states Libertarians are practical, knowing the world is imperfect but can be made better. They want a "better, freer society for everyone."

The brochure quotes newspaper editor and author William Allen White, who said, "Liberty is the only thing you cannot have unless you are willing to give it to others."

The brochure says Libertarians want to:

- Substantially reduce the size and intrusiveness of government and cut all taxes, letting individuals pay for services.

- Let peaceful, honest people offer an exchange of goods and services to willing consumers without government hassle and interference.

- Let peaceful, honest people decide what and how they want to eat, drink, read, smoke, medicate, dress and make love without fear of criminal penalties.

- They believe the U.S. government should defend Americans and their property in America and let the taxpayer off the hook for the defense bill of wealthy countries like Germany and Japan.

According to the brochure, the Libertarian view is based upon a logically consistent approach to politics based on the moral principle of self-ownership with each individual having the right to control his or her own body, actions, speech and property with the government's role a support to help individuals defend themselves from force and fraud.

Libertarians believe all people should be encouraged to choose what they want from life including freedom to live, love, work, play and dream in their own way. Preserving this heritage for children and grandchildren is what the party is all about.

COUPLE OF CANDIDATES

**Husband, wife
on Libertarian ballot**

By Lane Lambert
The Patriot Ledger

Move over, Bill and Hillary. Here come Cris and Peter.

Political power couples like the Clintons are a familiar thing these days, but Cristina Crawford and Peter Everett are doing something truly rare: The Hanover husband and wife are running for statewide office together, as the Libertarian Party's candidates for governor and secretary of state, respectively.

Crawford, who's direct but soft-spoken, is one of the few women ever to run for governor in Massachusetts and the second one on the Libertarian ticket. The party's 1982 gubernatorial candidate was teacher Rebecca Shipman of Hanson.

Crawford, 36, and Everett, 33, were nominated last month at a party convention in Somerville. He's a software engineer at Parametric Technology in Waltham. She was a software engineer there for seven years and previously was a state mental health worker.

This is the first time that either has run for any political office.

Crawford decided to run a few months ago. The party needed candidates, "and I felt I could do it right," she said. Then she persuaded her husband to stand for secretary of state.



Rosemary Lincoln/The Patriot Ledger

Peter Everett and Cristina Crawford, husband and wife, are Libertarians running for secretary of state and governor.

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■ PARTY

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They readily admit that their chances of winning are extremely small in a heavily Democratic state where the governor is a Republican who professes to be a small-L libertarian. They'll declare victory if anyone on their state gets 3 percent of the November vote.

"That would qualify us as a permanent political party," Crawford said.

Before 1990, the gubernatorial candidate had to get 3 percent to make the party permanent. In 1982, the party's nominee for auditor got slightly more than 3 percent; other candidates didn't fare as well.

Official status would be a major achievement for a party that has fewer than 1,000 members. But Crawford and Everett think the time has never been better for an alternative party to challenge the two established ones. Crawford said that's one of the reasons she decided to run this year.

Voter dissatisfaction is high, they say, and a record number of voters are unenrolled independents. They say the Libertarians' mixture of social liberalism (pro-gay and abortion rights) and economic conservatism (no taxes and less government) will appeal to those voters.

Crawford said that's exactly the reaction she got from some of her friends in Hanover.

"At first they were incredulous when I told them I was running," she said. "Then they said, 'That's great. I can't stand the other two parties.'"

She thinks Gov. William Weld can be challenged, despite his libertarian credentials.

"His record is generally good," she said. "But he compromised on state funding for the Megaplex, and he switched his position on gun control."

Crawford opposes both. She also says the MBTA, Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and Massport should be sold to private companies.

She expects many voters to be initially puzzled by the mixture of the party's positions, which range from lower property taxes for public schools to a repeal of seat-belt and anti-smoking laws. But she said all those positions have a common theme.

He said the party could get a sizable protest vote with a "celebrity Libertarian" but not with a virtually unknown nominee who's going up against Weld.

Crawford agrees that she has a long climb ahead. But that could change, she said, if she has a chance to share the stage with Weld and the Democratic candidates and talk about "honest privatization."

"People shouldn't be forced to do things," she said. "They should be persuaded."

That has been her and Everett's philosophy since they were in college.

Crawford, who's from Michigan, has been voting Libertarian since 1976 and was known around Hanover as the only registered Libertarian in town. She got her first taste of political action four years later, when she was a Massachusetts volunteer for the party's presidential candidate, Ed Clarke.

She and Everett, who's a distant relative of noted Massachusetts orator and politician Edward Everett, got their first experience in state politics in 1990, when they campaigned for the successful Question 4 ballot question. That initiative, written by a couple of Libertarians, changed the 3 percent rule, which lowered the number of signatures that minor parties need to get on the ballot and made it easier for voters to register for those parties.

Everett was party chairman that year.

Crawford met Everett when she was working at Parametric. She left the company in January and now makes and sells traditional-style quilts. On a recent evening, the dining room table in their two-story frame home was piled high with them.

She won't have much time for quilting this summer and fall, as the election heats up. But she doesn't yet know how many hours a day she'll be spending on the campaign trail.

She and her fellow Libertarians have just begun collecting signatures to get their names on the ballot.

On April 15, she and Everett will join other Libertarian candidates at their party's annual tax protest outside the South Postal Annex in Boston. The candidates will answer questions and explain their 1994 platform.

Crawford doubts she'll do much door-to-door campaigning. She does plan to be on a lot of radio talk shows. And she's already taken the first '90s-style step toward a serious run for office: She's hired a political consultant.

Peter Golden of Brookline met Crawford in 1990, when he ran the Question 4 media campaign. He thinks her work on that issue will help give her a promising shot at the elusive 3 percent vote.

Democratic consultant Michael Goldman is doubtful.

"I would love to debate our ideas with them," she said. Campaign spokesmen for Weld and Sen. Michael Barrett, D-Cambridge, said it's too early to say whether they'll agree to include Crawford in debates this fall — and that's no surprise to her.

"If I were a Republican or a Democrat, I wouldn't want to debate us," she said.

**Libertarians
eye local man
for governor**

JOHN McNALLY
Pocono Record Writer

SNYDERSVILLE — A local man running as a Libertarian Party nominee for governor says his campaign will be about freedoms such as firearm ownership and legalized drug use.

"Freedom is a package deal. I will run a principled, professional campaign.

I will offer people the choice of personal responsibility versus state control," said Pat Fallon, 43, of Snyersville.

Fallon was nominated by the Libertarians at their state convention last weekend in Harrisburg.

Fallon said a populace with the right to bear arms is the greatest deterrent to a tyrannical government.

"Guns are used primarily, responsibly, to deter crime. I would be very sorry to see that taken away," he said.

Another way to deter crime is to lift the "new prohibition" on drugs, he said.

According to Fallon, the liquor prohibition in the 1920s led to more crime, and when it ended in 1933 murders declined significantly. He said he thinks legalizing drugs would cut the murder rate.



Pat Fallon

The Pocono Record
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania
March 21, 1994