

ALABAMA LIBERTY

Alabama LP leads all in Seminar 1's

Alabama Libertarians are far ahead of other states in starting Seminar 1's this spring. Ten Seminar leaders in Alabama are now in training and will be starting study groups the last week in March.

Seminar 1 was developed by the Advocates for Self-Government as a way to find or create new libertarians. Seminar leaders in Alabama are:

Birmingham

- Bob Chapuis (930-0196)
- Charlie Haines (323-2404)
- Tommy Taylor (822-4656)
- Jimmy Blake (933-0033)
- Mike Grabowski (870-4420)
- Steve Smith (853-9307)

Huntsville

- Mack Draper (882-0667)
- Dave McDaniel (859-2495)

Ozark

- Wade Keller (774-2525)

Auburn

- Jim Langcuster (826-6576)

These leaders will meet with small groups of non-libertarians, usually in a local restaurant, once a week for five weeks. The leaders act as moderators for the non-libertarians, who study and discuss libertarian ideas to decide if they make sense. The book *Libertarianism in One Lesson* provides discussion material.

If you're not leading a group, you can help the

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Briefly

Magazine may profile party

Keep your fingers crossed and watch *Birmingham* magazine for a feature on the Alabama LP. Writer George Scherer recently interviewed Jimmy Blake, as well as attended our state convention. Scherer says he still has to get the magazine to OK the story, but they have published other articles of his and he believes they will want this one, too.

Liberty message arrives on TV

Set your VCR for the Discovery Channel, every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m., for *At Issue*. This slick new TV show, which debuted March 6, explores current issues from a hard-core libertarian perspective. Several episodes already in the can cover such topics as drugs, taxes and education. Local publicity will help keep the show going. How about a letter to your newspaper urging folks to tune in for an exciting new perspective on politics?

ALP joins in Colombian ad

The Alabama LP was listed as a sponsor of a full-page ad that ran in Colombia's largest newspaper during George Bush's "drug summit" in that country. The ad conveyed sympathy for Colombians who are being victimized by narcoterrorism, and stated that Libertarians oppose the U.S. government perpetuating the violence through its war on drugs. Alan Barksdale and Jeff Johnson contributed the money that allowed the ALP to be listed on the ad along with many other Libertarian organizations and individuals.

'Let Freedom Ring' April 19

Supporters of gun owners' rights are promoting "Let Freedom Ring" on April 19. Call your congressman's local office on that day and express your support for the right of Americans to keep and bear arms. Organizers say this project had a big impact when it was first tried last year. They are hoping for an even greater response this time. (You can also call your senators, governor, city hall, etc.)

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Ballot loss may be gain

Being off the ballot could be the best thing that happens to us this year. I say that not only as someone who has put in 10 years trying to make the ALP a political contender, but as the person you have honored as your nominee for Governor.

We must eventually return to the ballot, of course, otherwise there's no point in remaining organized as a political party. But that can wait.

Ballot status this year would mean, inevitably, getting caught up in the election hoopla, to the possible neglect of less glamorous but more crucial party building activities.

We've gotten our hopes up before and looked for miracles at the ballot box, only to end up (as candidates and as a party) right where we started — ignored and unknown. For it to ever be different, we must first have a foundation we have never really had, one built on solid organization and education, systematically pursued. We're building such a foundation now.

We're spreading the understanding of libertarianism ... steadily bringing more people into our camp.

We're reassembling the party organization from the ground up, with components that have long been needed: a real office, some serious funding, a working communications system, and local groups capable of initiating and carrying through on projects. Educationally, we're spreading the under-

standing of libertarianism through Operation Politically Homeless and the Seminar 1 process — not as hit-or-miss efforts, but as ongoing projects to steadily bring more people into our camp.

We are also leaving behind the "single dynamo" model of LP organization. This is where one person, through his enthusiasm and energy, keeps the party going during otherwise lean times. Such individuals often perform heroic feats that bring great credit to us. But dynamos overheat or burn out when made to carry too big a load for too long a time. It has happened time after time in the ALP.

This can be the year we change all that. To continue the metaphor, we can put many motors — many little dynamos — in place, working together to power the party through the 1990s. These motors might be individuals or local "action teams" or whatever. The important point is that we will be distributing the load. This will make us more efficient, help prevent burnout, and keep the party from grinding to a halt if one motor does happen to fail.

As your nominee for Governor, I will use our exclusion from the ballot to indict Alabama's establishment politicians for their shameful treatment of this state's voters. We can all use the elections to drive home the point that Alabamians are being denied the range of ballot choices enjoyed now even by people in Eastern Europe and Nicaragua.

Our exclusion from the 1990 ballot will be a blessing in more significant ways if it means we put our energy into building for the future, instead of exhausting ourselves in the typical election-year gestures that may be fun and exciting — but at our stage of organization, mostly futile. It's not crying "sour grapes" to say we have better things to do with our time.

So let the old-line politicians make their hollow speeches and spend millions on their intelligence-insulting TV spots. We Libertarians will spend this election year organizing, winning minds — and slowly but surely digging the sand out from under the clowns.

Published by the
**Alabama
Libertarian
Party**

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State party officers

James D. Blake
Chairman
John Sebastian
Vice chairman
Jeff Johnson
Secretary
Charles Haines
Treasurer

Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party

"We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the 'out' of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual."

"We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose."

"Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor without their consent."

"We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life - accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action - accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property - accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation."

"Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market."

OPH event takes liberty message to gun enthusiasts

Alabama Libertarians staged the first-ever Operation Politically Homeless event in the state at the Cahaba Temple Gun Show in Huntsville, Jan 13-14. OPH is a booth event developed by the Advocates for Self-Government to educate people about libertarianism.

Banners above the booth proclaimed "Find out more about the LIBERTARIANS," "Alabama LIBERTARIAN PARTY" and "Hope for the POLITICALLY HOMELESS."

A sign asking "Does the Government Do a Good Job?" was set over a bowl of pennies labeled "Voting Tokens" and five jars labeled "Most," "Some," "Seldom," "Rarely" and "Never." Passersby were asked to vote by placing a penny in the jar of their choice. This was the hook to pull them to the booth, where we gave them the *World's Smallest Political Quiz*.

The quiz consists of ten questions -- five on personal issues and five on economic issues. When the quiz-taker's responses are plotted on the Nolan chart of self-government, the person can see where his political beliefs place him -- in the authoritarian, liberal, conservative, centrist or libertarian area.

The quiz shows people that the left-right labeling system is inadequate to describe the true political spectrum. To highlight this, booth workers would draw a horizontal line from the left "liberal" corner of the chart to the right "conservative" corner, and point out how this line excludes authoritarians at the bottom and libertarians at the top of the chart.

**We were able to show people
a true alternative to the
Democrats and Republicans.**

We had several objectives. First, we hoped to increase party name recognition, while giving people a better perception of what libertarianism is. The political quiz coupled with the Nolan chart served to show where libertarians fit in relation to liberals and conservatives, with whom most voters are already relatively familiar. By explaining where the LP is on the political map, we could offer people an alternate, often unknown, alternative to the Democratic and Republican parties.

Another aim was to let people know the basic philosophy

and history of libertarianism and thereby dispel several myths, such as the mistaken belief that the LP is a "flash in the pan" third party without serious popular support.

We also wanted to identify people who were unaware of the LP but who hold libertarian views. Since such people routinely find that neither Republicans nor Democrats represent their views accurately, these people are "politically homeless."

One reason we chose a gun show for OPH was to gain access to obvious gun rights supporters. We wanted to convey to these people the strong libertarian position on the right to keep and bear arms.

**Results were substantial ... we garnered
new names for the mailing list and
signed up a new member on the spot.**

Results of the event were substantial. Over 130 people took the quiz, with this distribution of answers: authoritarian, 12; borderline authoritarian, 7; liberal, 7; borderline liberal, 3; centrist, 29; borderline centrist, 23; conservative, 25; borderline conservative, 14; libertarian, 30; borderline libertarian, 12.

The penny "votes" on the question "Does the Government Do a Good Job?" were: "Most," 16; "Some," 32; "Seldom," 39; "Rarely," 45; and "Never," 10. (Booth volunteers noticed that about half of the people voting "Most" apologetically explained, "I work for the government, so I have to vote 'Most.'")

We garnered 19 names for the party mailing list, among them a "displaced" libertarian who did not know of the existence of the ALP; he paid his dues and became a member on the spot.

We found some truly "politically homeless" people who held libertarian beliefs and felt left out of a political party. One person said, "I don't have to take the quiz, I already know I'm a conservative." After taking the quiz and scoring *libertarian*, he began explaining his beliefs, noting that "the government does a lot of things it doesn't need to." We opened some literature and showed this person his own philosophy, echoed almost verbatim, from the introduction to David Bergland's *Libertarianism In One Lesson*.

We gathered 34 more signatures on ALP ballot access petitions. In the process, we explained to people that having to collect so many signatures costs so much time and money that it significantly detracts from the party's ability to promote its candidates.

At the end of the event, the gun show's proprietor heartily encouraged us to attend future shows, and said, "I like what you guys are doing."

Thanks are due these persons who helped make our first OPH a success: Alan Barksdale, Steve Dow, Mack Draper, Jeff Johnson, Dave McDaniel, John Sebastian and Steve Smith.

'Smith for Governor' says convention

Delegates to the 1990 state convention chose Steve Smith as the party's nominee for Governor of Alabama. The vote was close, with Smith edging out George Yossif, M.D., for the nomination. Both men are from Birmingham.

With it all but certain the ALP will not be on the ballot this year, nomination of a candidate for public office was mostly a symbolic gesture. But delegates wanted to let voters know they would have a real choice in this year's elections if not for the onerous petitioning requirement placed on third parties.

Smith said he would use his exclusion from the ballot to hammer home the message that voters in Eastern Europe have more choice in their elections than do voters in Alabama.

Alan Barksdale of Huntsville was nominated for Lt. Governor, another state constitutional office.

Lonnie Burford of Warrior will run for the Public Service Commission. Burford said he intends to wage an active write-in campaign. His goal is to garner 20% of the vote through write-ins, at least in selected areas of the state, and use that as a point for arguing that the ballot-access law needs to be changed.

Other nominees for public office are:

U.S. Senate -- Mack Draper

U.S. Congress, District 2 -- John Hix

U.S. Congress, District 4 -- John Sebastian

U.S. Congress, District 5 -- Jeff Johnson

U.S. Congress, District 6 -- Bob Chapuis

State House, District 47 -- S.D. Yana Davis

Readers of *Alabama Liberty* are urged to write in these names at the general election and encourage others to do the same.

ALP leads in Seminar 1's

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people who are by forwarding names of potential participants.

Support Groups Formed

Birmingham's Seminar 1 leaders are recruiting other local volunteers to be on support teams. The idea is to have each Seminar 1 leader backed up by other libertarians who will help recruit participants, make phone calls, etc.

If the idea works, the teams eventually will do more than

Blake takes on party chairmanship

James D. Blake, M.D., was elected Chairman of the Alabama Libertarian Party during the ALP convention Feb. 10. Blake has been quite active in the party during the past year and has listed improving the party's public image as a top priority. He lives in Birmingham.

John Sebastian of Grant, who served as Chairman last year, was elected Vice-chair. Bob Chapuis of Homewood also was nominated for the post but he withdrew and Sebastian won unanimously.

Jeff Johnson of Huntsville was elected Secretary, taking over from Steve Smith of Birmingham. Charles Haines, a financial planner from Birmingham, was elected Treasurer. The Treasurer's position was held last year by Alan Barksdale of Huntsville.

The convention also selected District Representatives. The new Reps are:

District 1 -- William Lehmberg; Mobile; ???

District 2 -- John Hix; Montgomery; ???

District 3 -- Jim Langcuster; Auburn; ???

District 4 -- Jim Boggus; ???

District 5 -- Alan Barksdale; Huntsville; ???

District 6 -- Robert Cooksey; Center Point; ???

District 7 -- Ross Lowe, Lipscomb; ???

The ALP Districts coincide with Alabama's U.S. Congressional Districts. District Reps are expected to help develop Libertarian organizations and to serve as contacts for people in their Districts wanting to associate with the party.

If you are not currently active in the party, but would like to be, give your District Rep a call. He will welcome your ideas for Libertarian growth and activity in your area.

work on Seminar 1. They will set up OPH events, schedule speaking engagements, "adopt" outlying communities or for LP organizing, and so on.

One person likened the idea to the Boy Scouts: There's the overall troop, but there are also patrols within the troop. These patrols determine their own activities and interests. There's friendly competition between patrols, which encourages setting and achieving higher and higher goals.

Birmingham's Seminar 1 leaders decided to start with two support teams (or "action teams"). Group 1 is Bob Chapuis, Charlie Haines and Tommy Taylor along with supporting volunteers. Group 2 consists of Jimmy Blake, Mike Grabowski and Steve Smith, plus supporters.

If you are called and asked to be on a support team, please say yes. Libertarians in other areas are encouraged to organize support teams, too.

Short takes

An Open Letter to Mr. Llewellyn Rockwell

I am so appalled by your speech to the recent Alabama LP convention that I am impelled to respond in part to your harsh critique of the Libertarian Party. From a man of your stature, I expect a well-reasoned criticism of Party policy and structure. Instead, you stoop to personal attacks, smearing your opponents as "drifters" and "scam artists."

You correctly point out that running a prostitute for public office is counterproductive. I agree that being victimized by the vice squad is not a qualification for office.

On the other hand, being jailed or harassed by the government certainly adds to the credentials of those who are standing up for liberty.

Paul Jacob challenged the draft law. Russell Means defied the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Jim Lewis and Karl Hess challenged the IRS. Our hearts go out to these freedom fighters who made great personal sacrifices in the cause of liberty. You asked why "drifters" like Karl Hess and Russell Means are admired by Libertarians. This is the answer.

Your unkindest cut of all is to imply that Tonie Nathan's small salary from the National LP Office is the most she is competent to earn. Nonsense! I gratefully applaud Ms. Nathan's donation of time and talent to the cause of liberty. The fact that she is not wealthy enough to refuse partial compensation is certainly no reflection on her abilities. You owe this lady an apology.

It has been said that Ludwig von Mises' greatest fault was his gentlemanly presumption that his adversaries were well-intentioned. Sir, I confidently predict that you will never be accused of this fault.

Bob Chapuis
Homewood, Alabama

Call him Doctor

Congratulations to Mark Thornton, Auburn-based economist and Alabama's only elected Libertarian. Mark has been awarded his Ph.D. degree and is now fully certified to go out and impart Austrian free-market wisdom to new generations of truth-hungry students.

Mark says his immediate plans are to continue working for the Mises Institute, which has its campus offices at Auburn University. We are sure that Dr. Thornton is also continuing to faithfully perform his duties as constable of Lee County, whatever those are.

**Real Libertarians
forward the names,
addresses and
telephone numbers
of potential new
Libertarians to
ALP Headquarters
IMMEDIATELY....
How about you?
Forward the name of
a friend today!
Alabama LP Office
PO Box 11514
Birmingham 35202
205/933-1776**

Civic meetings are not just for platitudes, anymore....

Erdreich gets surprise at Center Point Chamber meeting

Probably the last thing Sixth District Congressman Ben Erdreich expected to find at a Center Point Chamber of Commerce meeting was a pesky Libertarian asking embarrassing questions. But that's just what the Demopublican from Mountain Brook got in in February.

On hand for the luncheon address in his new capacity as editor of a community newspaper was longtime Libertarian S. D. Yana Davis who turned the boring meeting into an interesting one by refusing to let Erdreich off the hook on tuition tax credits.

Citing statistics which show costs of education in private and church schools are at most one-half costs in public schools, Davis asked if Erdreich would support a tuition tax credit against federal income taxes.

When Erdreich replied no, because, in his words, "I've always been opposed to funding private education with public money," Davis immediately pointed out that Erdreich was playing semantic games. "It's our money to begin with," Davis told the Congressman.

Erdreich then tried to impugn Davis' integrity by saying that "I thought Libertarians were against using tax money for anything." Davis again stated all tax money is originally individuals' money. Erdreich, now frustrated, said he didn't want to debate and asked rhetorically, "What is this all about, anyway?"

Erdreich hastily closed the question and answer session with Davis loudly rejoicing, "It's about parents having a choice in educating their children, Congressman."

The audience of small business owners and professionals from the suburban Birmingham area appeared to side with Davis, since many of them send their own children to private and church-affiliated schools. A chiropractor present was impressed enough to buy an ad in Davis' newspaper on the spot. "Was I clear in what I was saying to Erdreich," Davis asked the chiropractor. "Hey, you don't have to sell me on private schools," came the reply.

One of the conclusions drawn by Davis from the incident is that many mainstream, middle class individuals are potential allies on a number of issues, including, and perhaps most important, the issue of separating education from the state.

102 thrill to 'roller-coaster' convention

Never let it be said Libertarians put on dull meetings -- not after the 1990 Alabama LP convention.

Held at the Radisson Inn on Birmingham's Red Mountain, the convention became an emotional roller coaster ride for many of the 102 attendees. Lewellyn Rockwell, a main speaker, denounced the national LP and many prominent Libertarians. "Mr. Libertarian" Murray Rothbard, speaking later, seemed to be saying goodbye to the party in his pursuit of alliances with libertarian-leaning conservatives who have surfaced with the end of the Cold War.

Resolutions on education, abortion and other issues also caused debate. The biggest argument was over mentioning transitional measures, such as tuition tax credits, in the education resolution.

Good Time Had By Most

Despite the controversy, post-convention comments were overwhelmingly positive. Convention goers seemed impressed with the professionalism of the Alabama party.

New chairman Jimmy Blake said there was much interest in the ALP's growth plan, heavily promoted during the convention. Members were urged to lead Seminar 1's, run Operation Politically Homeless booths, and start new local groups.

"We emerged stronger, with a clearer idea of where we're going and how we're going to get there," Blake said. "Although I think Lew Rockwell hurt his case with his name-calling, some of his criticisms were valid. This actually helped us because people can see we're addressing the problems constructively in Alabama. We're doing things right."

The convention ended on an upbeat note with a well-attended banquet and a talk by Robert Poole Jr. of the Reason Foundation.

Taking Care of Business

The convention opened with a business session which included election of new officers and nomination of candidates for public office (see separate stories).

Delegates debated several resolutions and adopted most of them, though in some cases not until later in the day, after

wording changes were made. The two most controversial ones dealt with abortion and education.

The abortion resolution was intended as a clear pro-choice statement. Some delegates pressed for wording that would recognize a point at which abortion becomes murder. Others countered this would invite state monitoring of pregnant women and murder prosecutions of women who have abortions a day past that point.

Yana Davis offered the addition of words to the effect that abortion should be allowed up to the point of fetus viability as a separate human being, with determination of viability resting with the woman and her doctor. The amended resolution passed with three nays. Ironically, two of those nays were by individuals representing opposite positions -- Ross Lowe, a Libertarians for Life supporter, and Steve Smith, who contended the amended resolution calls for more restrictions on abortion than now exist.

The education resolution called for complete separation of school and state, but also outlined possible transitional programs such as tuition tax credits. George Yossif led delegates who argued this opens the door to government control of private schools, and that Libertarians shouldn't lock themselves in to any particular transitional measures. The resolution was reworded slightly and a vote was postponed until later in the day, at which time it passed over continued opposition.

Resolutions addressing ethics in government and ballot access passed with little discussion. A lengthy resolution entitled "Party of Principle and Not of Rhetoric" was tabled.

'Neanderthal' Libertarianism?

Lewellyn Rockwell Jr., founder and president of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, was the first major speaker of the day. His topic was "What's Wrong With the LP" and it was quickly clear he finds a lot wrong with it.

Rockwell repeated charges he made in his famous "Paleolibertarianism" article in *Liberty* magazine. He accused the LP of being infected with "egalitarianism" and said mainstream Americans are repelled by what he claimed to be Libertarians' militant anti-Christianity and libertine lifestyles.

It was Rockwell's attacks on individual Libertarians, though, that shocked many convention goers. Mentioning a number of prominent activists by name, he accused them variously of being "drifters," "hippies," "scam artists," and "con men." He said the party is full of "unreal people," by which he seemed to mean people who don't work at jobs with high enough status and salary to meet Rockwell's own criteria for "realness."

The speech left many people wondering what party Rockwell was talking about. Alabama LP members (and the several Georgia LP members at the convention), discussing the speech afterward, agreed they did not know any "egalitarian" Libertarians, nor could they recall any party events where Christians were told

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If you had the choice ... would you sign this?

SOCIAL CONTRACT

Between an Individual and the United States Government

WHEREAS I wish to reside on the North American continent, and

WHEREAS the United States Government controls the area of the continent on which I wish to reside, and

WHEREAS tacit or implied contracts are vague and therefore unenforceable, I agree to the following terms:

SECTION 1: I will surrender a percentage of my property to the Government. The actual percentage will be determined by the Government and will be subject to change at any time. The amount to be surrendered may be based on my income, the value of my property, the value of my purchases, or any other criteria the Government chooses. To aid the Government in determining the percentage, I will apply for a Government identification number that I will use in all my major financial transactions.

SECTION 2: Should the Government demand it, I will surrender my liberty for a period of time determined by the government and typically no shorter than two years. During that time, I will serve the Government in any way it chooses, including military service in which I may be called upon to sacrifice my life.

SECTION 3: I will limit my behavior as demanded by the government. I will consume only those drugs permitted by the Government. I will limit my sexual activities to those permitted by the Government. I will forsake religious beliefs that conflict with the Government's determination of propriety. More limits may be imposed at any time.

SECTION 4: In consideration for the above, the Government will permit me to find employment, subject to limits that will be determined by the Government. These limits may restrict my choice of career or the wages I may accept.

SECTION 5: The Government will permit me to reside in the area of North America which it controls. Also, the Government will permit me to speak freely, subject to limits determined by the Government's Congress and Supreme Court.

SECTION 6: The Government will attempt to protect my life and my claim to the property it has allowed me to keep. I agree not to hold the Government liable if it fails to protect me or my property.

SECTION 7: The Government will offer various services to me. The nature and extent of these services will be determined by the Government and are subject to change at any time.

SECTION 8: The Government will determine whether I may vote for certain Government officials. The influence of my vote will vary inversely with the number of voters, and I understand that it typically will be miniscule. I agree not to hold any elected Government officials liable for acting against my best interests or for breaking promises, even if those promises motivated me to vote for them.

SECTION 9: I agree that the Government may hold me fully liable if I fail to abide by the above terms. In that event, the Government may confiscate any property that I have not previously surrendered to it, and may imprison me for a period of time to be determined by the Government. I also agree that the Government may alter the terms of this contract at any time.

signature

date

Convention

(continued from Page 6)

they were not welcome.

Well-known libertarian philosopher Tibor Machan perhaps summed up general reaction when he confronted Rockwell in the hallway. Machan was overheard to tell Rockwell, "Look around you. These are not the people you're talking about. You've hurt a lot of feelings here."

Meeting the Media

After Rockwell, a media Q&A session was almost sedate. The panel consisted of Ron Casey, editorial page editor of The Birmingham News; Tim Lennox, WERC talk show host; and Phil Rosen, Channel 13-TV reporter and weekend news anchor. None of the panel members had any magic answers about how Libertarians can improve the coverage they get. All agreed that simply taking a position on an

issue is rarely newsworthy, but Lennox said coupling a position stand with some solid analysis might be. He gave, for example, a study he had seen in which someone had figured out how long the average taxpayer worked to pay for specific government boondoggles. Rosen said for TV, "newsworthy" means "visual." He said viewers don't like to see or hear numbers, which may be one reason Libertarian vote counts are ignored on election night.

Rothbard Past and Present

Murray Rothbard's speech was billed as "The Libertarian Movement in the '90s," but much of it was an eyewitness history of the evolution of conservative and libertarian thought over the past 40 years.

Rothbard said Old Right conservatism, which was libertarian in many respects, disappeared with the ascendancy of the Cold Warriors. He said with the crumbling of Communism, conservatives are splitting into "neocons," who support contin-

ued military globalism as well as a conservative welfare state at home, and "paleocons" who are both anti-New Deal and anti-interventionist. He reported a recent meeting where libertarians and paleocons agreed on almost everything.

As for the prospects for liberty, Rothbard said no one seriously calls for central planning any longer. He said the main threat to freedom will be interventionism -- the expansion of the welfare state in bits and pieces. He predicted environmentalism will be a main driver of interventionism in the decade ahead.

Asked about Rockwell's remarks on the LP, Rothbard advised the audience: "Don't kill the messenger who brings you bad news."

Robert Poole wrapped up the convention with a talk on airport privatization following the evening banquet. He said his meetings in Birmingham with airport officials and local business leaders went well, and that people seemed open to the idea of selling airports to private firms.

Alabama Libertarian Party

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