

LIBERTARIAN PLEDGE

LIBERTARIAN PARTY FINANCE COMMITTEE



NEWSLETTER

January 1983 Volume II Number 1

The Libertarian Pledge Newsletter is a monthly publication for the participants in the Libertarian Pledge program of the National Libertarian Party. Because of your monthly contributions, we are able to carry on the daily activities of the Party, and we want you to know what we are doing. We also want the opportunity to thank you for your generosity and let you know about others who are helping the Party as volunteers and contributors. So, first, thank you!

SOCIAL SECURITY WEEK

The Libertarian Party has established the week of January 31 to February 4 to be Social Security Week with activist Bruce Daniel (CA) coordinating nationwide Libertarian activities to present our views on Social Security to coincide with Congressional consideration, once again, of this issue. This is a time to raise fundamental ideas and questions about the Social Security System that now requires periodic major reconsideration of it's funding. As tax rates rise, many more Americans are becoming aware that a bi-annual ritual aimed at "solving the Social Security problem" is part of the typical pattern of political patchwork that fails to address the basic problem of why the system is perpetually insolvent.

The 1982 Platform of the Libertarian Party states, "We favor the repeal of the fraudulent, virtually bankrupt, and increasingly oppressive Social Security system. Pending that repeal, participation in Social Security should be made voluntary. Victims of the Social Security tax should have a claim against government property. We note that members of the U. S. Congress, and certain federal, state, and local government employees, have been accorded the privilege of non-participation, one which is not accorded the working men and women of America."

We have enclosed the 1982 Campaign Issue Paper on Social Security for your information. A typographical error on page 2 overstates the reduction in the purchasing power of a dollar from 1970 to 1981. The correct number should be 57% instead of 86%.

Libertarian participants in Social Security Week are being encouraged to speak out through media events, with speeches before local groups, and in letters to the editor. After you have read the issue paper, we urge you to write to your newspaper's editor so your letter can be printed during our time to voice concern over this issue.

Around The National Headquarters

John Northrup (NY), 1982 candidate for Governor, will head up the nationwide effort to expand the Libertarian Speakers Bureau. Our 1982 candidates are being encouraged to participate to keep up their speaking skills and develop name recognition.

You may find it easier to have your pledge automatically credited to the Libertarian Party without writing a check each month. If you would like to convert from check writing to Mastercard or VISA, please fill out and return the form to the right and send to the Libertarian Party, 2139 Wisconsin Ave. Suite 102, Washington, D. C. 20007 before the beginning of next month.

Mastercard VISA

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Name on Card _____

Pledge term (month) _____, 19 ____ until
(month) _____, 19 ____

Emil Franzi (AZ) is leading the all-out effort to increase membership in the National Libertarian Party by the end of February. This year, National Party membership as recorded on February 28, 1983 will determine, in large part, the size of state delegations for this year's Presidential Nominating Convention in New York. Most state parties are vigorously encouraging National Party membership to secure their maximum delegate count.

Loretta Weiss (NY) is the chair of PRESCON '83 (our Presidential Nominating Convention) which will be held from August 29 through September 5 at the New York Sheraton Centre Hotel located at 7th Avenue and 53rd Street in Manhattan. There will be social events, speakers, panels, debates, workshops, and all the important business sessions on the platform, constitution and by-laws, selection of National Party Officers, and selection of our nominees for President and Vice President in the 1984 election.

In December, we were fortunate that several volunteers helped us get the work of the Headquarters accomplished. Many thanks to Richard Perry (MD), Bob Hunt (DC), Frances Eddy (MD), Al Knight (MD), and Craig Franklin (CA). Lanny Myers (DC) is coordinating the reorganization of our membership card files.

FINANCES

Finance Committee Chair, Matt Monroe (TX), has completed mailings to LP contributors urging them to become monthly pledgers. The new pledge program, called "Liberty Pledge," is aimed at providing a secure financial base for the Party. Sharon Ayres (CA) has been appointed to the Finance Committee. Her task is to communicate with monthly pledgers to urge them to renew and evaluate the level of their giving.

LP Chair, Alicia Clark (CA), has made retirement of the National LP debt accumulated since 1980 of about \$150,000 our number one priority. In the last three months, we have reduced the outstanding debt to less than \$118,000. A telephone fundraising appeal continues daily focusing attention on paying off the debt as soon as possible in 1983.

Being in constant contact with Libertarian Party contributors over the phone, we are now beginning to hear quite often the question, "Who will be our Presidential candidate?" As of the beginning of January, 1983 there are no known declared candidates for the LP nomination. Economist Walter Williams was approached by a few Libertarians, but declined to be considered for the LP Presidential nomination. News that he was considering it brought forth many notes from Libertarians and Dr. Williams was appreciative of their support and encouragement. Congressman Ron Paul was mentioned in Newsweek and the Wall Street Journal as a possible LP Presidential candidate. You'll be the first to know about any and all declared candidates.

Honey Lanham

Honey Lanham
National Director

WE NOW HAVE AVAILABLE VERY ATTRACTIVE NOTE CARDS IN ROYAL BLUE WITH OUR SYMBOL, THE STATUTE OF LIBERTY, ETCHED IN WHITE. THE CARDS ARE APPROXIMATELY 4½" by 5½" AND COME WITH WHITE ENVELOPES. EACH PACKET CONTAINS 25 CARDS AND ENVELOPES. YOU MAY ORDER THE NOTECARDS BY RETURNING THIS PORTION OF THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE SEND ME _____ PACKETS @ \$10 EACH.

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