

# Santa Clara Libertarian

401 East Taylor Street • San Jose, California 95112 • 408/279-3733

June 1982

Vol. 10 No. 6

## Special Primary Issue *Analysis and Recommendations on the June Primary Ballot Measures*

*This article is a combination of descriptive excerpts and paraphrases from an article by Les Antman in the March-April issue of Caliber together with comment from the editors of SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN. At the end of each section we summarize the recommendations of the executive committee of the California Libertarian Council, Les Antman, and your editors. Missing propositions were not deemed important enough for inclusion (we ran out of space).*

**Proposition 1. New Prison Construction Bond Act:** Authorizing \$495 million in new bonds to be paid for out of tax revenue, this proposition would punish victims again by making them pay more for the housing and feeding of criminals. All sources recommend a **No** vote.

**Proposition 2. President of Senate:** This proposition repeals the constitutional provision that the Lieutenant Governor is President of the Senate. Antman recommends **Yes**; the CLC and your editors take no position.

**Proposition 3. Taxation:** This proposition provides property tax reduction for victims of eminent domain. All sources recommend a **yes** vote.

**Proposition 4. Bail:** This amendment to the constitution would extend the criteria for denying bail from those charged with capital crimes with a strong presumption of guilt to those charged with felony acts of violence where there is "substantial likelihood the person's release would result in great bodily harm to other." Libertarians advocate speedy trials and restitution for victims, including those wrongfully imprisoned. Antman argues that this amendment tends to move us in the opposite direction. The CLC and Antman both recommend a **no** vote. Though we hate to see repetitive perpetrators of rape and armed robbery released on bail, we must reluctantly agree that the proposition provides insufficient objective standards and no restitution for the wrongly confined; so we also recommend a **no** vote.

**Propositions 5 and 6. Gift and Inheritance Taxes:** These propositions are identical in intent to replace existing gift and inheritance taxes with a state "pickup" estate tax equal to the maximum federal tax credit. All sources strongly urge repeal of the "death tax" and recommend a **yes** vote on both propositions.

**Proposition 7. Income Tax Indexing:** This proposition would bind percentage changes in income tax brackets to the full percentage change in the Consumer Price Index. It's a small change in the right direction. All sources recommend a **yes** vote.

**Proposition 8. Criminal Justice:** This proposition, called the Gann Initiative, contains provisions too numerous and varied to list. According to Antman, the most libertarian of its provisions is for restitution by the criminal to the victim; its least libertarian provisions include one declaring that students have "the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure, and

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## LIBERTARIAN PARTY PRIMARY BALLOTS ARE GRAY!

by Karen Huffman

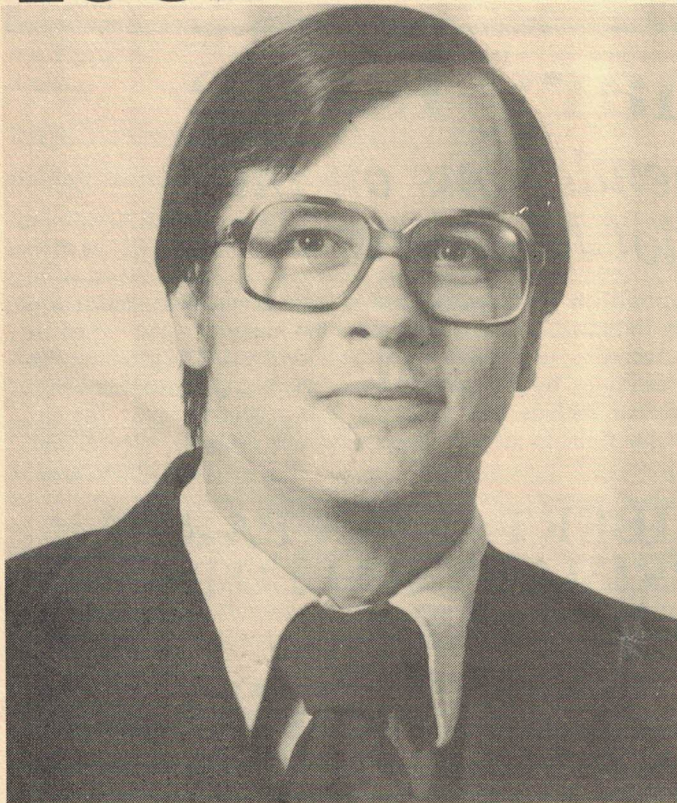
Registered Libertarians in Santa Clara County will be allowed to use voting machines for the first time. The Santa Clara County Registrar has arranged for all minor party voters and the non-partisan voters to share one Vote-O-Matic machine at each polling place. The voting booths will have instructions on how to fix the ballot-holder to vote only for the party the person is affiliated with.

In 1980 many Libertarian Party (LP) voters were deprived of their right to vote for LP candidates because they did not know their rights and some poll workers are woefully ignorant of correct procedures for third parties. The most common errors are trying to give LP voters a nonpartisan ballot (light pink) or an American Independent ballot (lavender) or telling them they can only vote for propositions and nonpartisan candidates. **Do not accept any color of ballot except the light gray one assigned to the LP.** It has already happened this year to an absentee voter—do not let this happen to you!

If you wish to confirm that you are registered in the LP you can call the Taylor Street Headquarters at 408/CRY-FREE from noon to 6 p.m. on Monday through Friday. (The Registrar of Voters will only give this information if you write to them or if you go to their office, whereas we can give you this information by phone in a short amount of time.) On Election Day the 408/CRY-FREE phone will be answered by a live person from 8:00 a.m. until midnight or later. If you have any problems voting please let us know. Although it is almost impossible to get through to the Registrar of Voters on Election Day any urgent problems should be phoned to them at 408/299-2161.

The LP will have observers at ballot-counting headquarters on election night. They will be phoning in election results to CLC Headquarters as soon as possible after they come off the computers.

# Campaign For Liberty, 1982



**JEFFREY D. SMITH**  
**STATE ASSEMBLY**  
**DISTRICT 22**

*"Our children deserve competition in education—  
not a government monopoly."*

Jeff Smith was born in Chicago, received his B.A. from Michigan State University and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago. He has been Vice Chair of the Illinois Libertarian Party and a candidate for U.S. Congress from the first district of Pennsylvania in 1978. He is currently assistant professor of mathematics and computer science at San Jose State University.

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# Special Primary Issue

*continued*

peaceful," one allowing presentation in criminal cases of illegally obtained evidence, and one providing even less objective standards for denial of bail than Proposition 4. Appealing to conservatives and libertarians, it is unfortunately likely that the proposition's worst features will be the only ones to survive a test in the courts and implementation by the legislature. All sources recommend a **no** vote in spite of the provision for restitution.

**Proposition 9. Peripheral Canal:** Libertarians firmly oppose this further dislocation of the economy. According to Antman, it will increase the general costs of water and electricity while the real benefits will go to large agricultural interests in Kern County. All sources recommend a **no** vote.

**Propositions 10, 11, and 12. Reapportionment:** We oppose these blatant attempts to provide incumbent politicians with increased job security. All sources recommend **no** votes on all three propositions.

## *Nonpartisan Races in Santa Clara County*

We cannot recommend any of the candidates for nonpartisan office as explicitly libertarian, though some come close. In the absence of libertarian candidates, we remind our readers to vote against incumbents.

## Is Nuclear Destruction Imminent?

Find out one libertarian's answer at the regular third Thursday night meeting of the Libertarian Council, June 17th, when speaker Jeff Hummel gives a talk entitled "Will Ronald Reagan Blow Up the World?"

Jeff Hummel is a graduate student in history at the University of Texas, currently employed by the Dougherty and Fuhrig campaigns as a research director. He is famous in Libertarian Council circles for his recent article in *Caliber* on "Unilateral Disarmament" and for his authorship of the Unilateral Disarmament and Debt Repudiation planks considered at the most recent Libertarian Party national convention.

Jeff obtained direct experience of the U.S. military when he served in the Army for 2½ years as a tank platoon leader. He has written for *Libertarian Review*, *Reason*, *Inquiry*, *Caliber*, *Free Texas*, *Individual Liberty*, *Journal for Libertarian Studies*, *Reason Papers*, and *Strategy and Tactics*. Come to the June meeting to learn more about this controversial speaker.

The Libertarian Council of Santa Clara County meets at 8:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Libertarian Headquarters, 401 E. Taylor, in San Jose. There is no admission fee and the public is welcome.

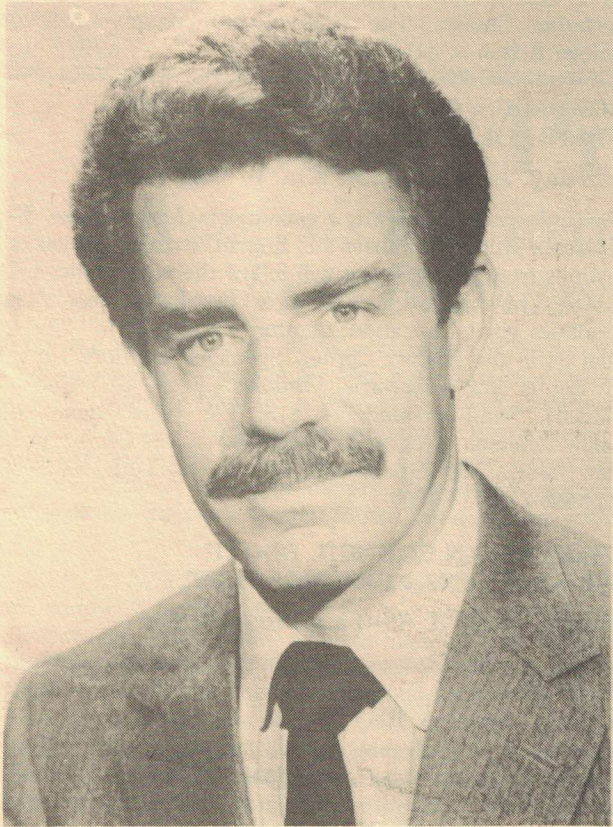
The staff of the SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN would like to thank the following persons who helped with writing, folding, stuffing, sorting, stamping, mailing, etc., during April and May: Steve Alexander, Dante DeAmicis, Janet Dwyer, Tom Fairbairn, Russ Fridley, June Genis, Stu Goodgold, Aleece Huffman, Kim Roberts, Lyn Sapowski, Don Smith, Howard & Janet Underwood, Bill White, and Jim Wilson, Jr..

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# Two Libertarians Battle for Lieutenant Governor Spot

In the only contested primary race for Libertarian voters in Santa Clara County, John Vernon and B.J. Wagener are both running for our nomination for Lieutenant Governor. The CLC con-

vention endorsed John Vernon in February. In this issue we reprint excerpts from statements and biographical material submitted by both candidates.

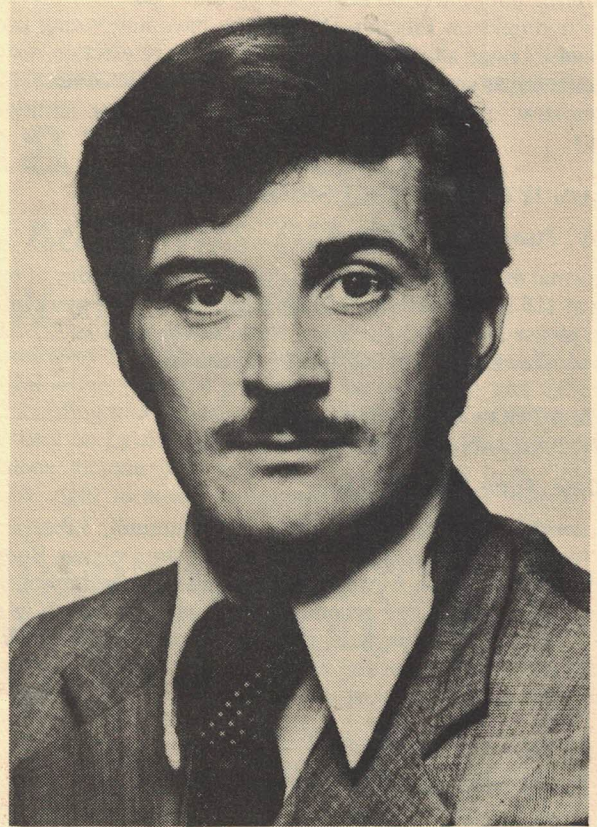


**JOHN VERNON  
LT. GOVERNOR**

John Vernon is a restaurant consultant and caterer who is known in catering circles as "The Omelette King." He lives in Los Angeles and he is a member of Toastmasters International, the National Rifle Association, and the Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association.

"As Libertarian candidate for Lt. Governor, I offer my services in the interest of promoting the philosophy of government which says that each individual is the rightful sovereign of his or her own life and affairs. Thus, if elected, I will endeavor as President of the California Senate to assist in the introduction of bills which will reduce taxation, relieve regulation of business and implement a hands-off policy with regard to the private lives of individuals. Our aim is to build a society in which every individual can fulfill his or her maximum potential through the possession of maximum individual freedom and the exercise of personal responsibility.

"Crime is one of the most important issues on the minds of urban Californians. I advocate the encouragement of the voluntary Neighborhood Watch as the most effective means of preventing crime in our neighborhoods and on our streets. Traditional politicians have yet to come up with a 'program' which can take the place of individual responsibility. I also propose a Private Police Tax Credit as a means of enabling many people not now able to do so to obtain more satisfactory police protection from private security agencies operating in the free market."



**B.J. WAGENER  
LT. GOVERNOR**

B.J. Wagener is a self-employed real estate investor/consultant. He lives in Los Angeles where he is scoutmaster for an inner-city troop. He has been married fourteen years and is the father of two sons.

"As a candidate for State Senate (1st Dist. Wisc.) in 1970 and 1974, and Assembly (4th) and Congress (8th Dist.) in 1972, I have vastly more experience in campaigning and debating than my worthy primary opponent. I also ran for Board of Trustees for L.A. C.C. in 1977, and for the 26th Congr. Dist. of Calif. as the LP nominee in 1980 with a full-time campaign office in my district. Experience! There is no substitute.

"I alone am willing to uphold the absolute inviolability of property rights regardless of whether one 'creates,' buys with honest money, uses or chooses to not use a given piece of property, real or personal. This is a fundamental concept in libertarian thinking. My opponent made clear at the CLC convention that he did not quite believe that. It is a very important issue. So much so that Dr. Nathaniel Branden, a leading writer philosopher and formerly close associate to Ayn Rand, broke his long-standing policy of *not* endorsing candidates of any party, and has endorsed me in his letter of April 20, 1982, 'on the grounds of his general support of the Libertarian platform and more particularly because of his stand on the inviolability of property rights.'"

# Calendar

## ELECTION DAY

**Tuesday, June 8. Polling places—7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
LP Headquarters—Noon to midnight.**

Don't forget to go to the polls and vote for Libertarian Party candidates and to vote on the ballot propositions. The 408/CRY-FREE phone will be answered by a live person from 8:00 a.m. to midnight on Election Day. If you have any voting problems please phone and let us know. We will have election results in the evening as soon as they are available from the computers at the Registrar of Voters. (See article on voting for additional details.)

## PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION GROUP

**Friday, June 11. 7:00 p.m.**

An informal discussion group meets on the second Friday of each month at 416 Leland Avenue in Palo Alto. If you wish more information please phone the sponsors: Ruth Stevenson 408/727-3747 (days) or Chuck Olson 415/324-0516 (evenings).

## SAN MATEO COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday, June 14. 7:30 p.m.**

This month's meeting will feature Jeff Hummel, Libertarian Party researcher, speaking on "How to Cut the Defense Budget by 90% in One Year—A Modest Quasi-Libertarian Approach." Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month in the Seven Oaks room of the A.P. Giannini branch of the Bank of America at Third Avenue and El Camino in San Mateo. Information phone: Lyn Sapowsky at 415/368-8148.

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday, June 17. 8:00 p.m.**

This month's meeting will feature Jeff Hummel, staff researcher for the 1982 statewide Libertarian Party campaigns, will be speaking on "Will Ronald Reagan Blow Up the World?" LOCATION: 401 East Taylor Street (corner of 10th & Taylor) in San Jose. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Information phone: 408/CRY-FREE.

## DINNER WITH MURRAY ROTHBARD

**Friday, June 25. Cocktails at 6:15, Dinner at 7:30 p.m.**

Murray Rothbard, well-known economist, historian and liber-

tarian political theorist, will be the featured speaker at this fundraising dinner to benefit the Center for Libertarian Studies. Rothbard will be making only two public appearances in Northern California in 1982 (see below for second one). Location: Villa Hotel, 4000 South El Camino Real in San Mateo. Fees: Single \$40, Couple \$75, Table for 10 \$350. Sponsor: Burt Blumert of Camino Coin in Burlingame and the New York based Center for Libertarian Studies. For reservations, contact Chairwoman Kathleen Hogan at 415/348-3000.

## ECONOMICS: AUSTRIAN THEORY AND PUBLIC POLICY

**Saturday, June 26. 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

This conference will feature economists Mario Rizzo, Gerald O'Driscoll, Murray Rothbard and Roger Garrison. Discussion and questions from the audience will follow the presentations. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear first-hand these Austrian Economics giants. Location: Stanford University in "The Quad, Room 34 in the History Corner. Sponsors: Stanford University and Center for Libertarian Studies. Fees: \$20 (lunch not included), Stanford students \$15. For reservations contact Dyanne Peterson, Programs Coordinator, at the Center for Libertarian Studies, 200 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003 or telephone 212/533-6600.

## LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL BOOTH AT THE DE ANZA FLEA MARKET

**Saturday, July 3. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Volunteers are needed, especially in the morning to staff our permanent information and merchandise booth at the De Anza Flea Market in Cupertino. Help us raise money to support our many local projects and educate yourself and others on the issues by talking to the public about libertarianism. Donations of books and other fast-selling items are needed and may be dropped off at the flea market or at our Taylor Street office.

## EIGHTH ANNUAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY BOOTH AT THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIR

**Thursday, August 5 through Sunday, August 15.  
Daily hours: 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

We have reserved the same booth that we have had the last two years (in the center aisle where the two other major political parties have their booths). This booth in Exposition Hall at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds at 344 Tully Road in San Jose will cost us \$500 this year. County Fair attendance is around 500,000. If you wish to help with this major project send your \$\$ to: 401 E. Taylor St., San Jose, CA 95112 and/or phone 408/CRY-FREE if you wish to help with the staffing and/or planning of the booth.

## LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA CONVENTION

**Saturday, August 14. Noon-5:00 p.m. Banquet—7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, August 15. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

The convention will include Alicia Clark, Chair of the National Libertarian Party, Dan Dougherty, California LP gubernatorial candidate, and other guest speakers, floor sessions, a banquet, a pancake breakfast, and other special events. The Libertarian Council will hold an Executive Committee meeting on Sunday. Location: Le Baron Hotel at 1350 North 1st Street (between Highways 17 and 101) in San Jose. Many volunteers are needed for this major project. If you are willing to help with small or large tasks please phone the Taylor Street Headquarters at 408/CRY-FREE.

## Giant Flea Market

at

## De Anza College

Stevens Creek Boulevard and  
Stelling Road in Cupertino

**July 3**

**8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

For information or booth reservations call 996-4946

Sponsored by DeAnza College Student Body