

# Santa Clara Libertarian

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

June 1981

Volume 9 No. 6

## Ballot Competition: Democrats Attack

by Dante DeAmicis

Riddle: What's big and two-faced and crushes everything in its path—foes and fellow travelers alike? Give up? It's the Democratic Party, of course. And its latest venture in making government more responsive and meaningful to the already jaded voter is Assembly Bill 2131, a rather blatant attempt to shore up the Democratic Party's anything-but-Republican monopoly.

The mechanics of the bill are this. Currently it takes 1/15 of 1% of all voter registrations for a party to stay on the ballot. This measure would increase the requirement to 1/2 of 1%—just enough to knock the Peace and Freedom Party off the ballot. The Libertarian Party is somewhat threatened by this also. An increase in the total number of voters and a modest purge in Orange County, the center of our registration drive, could knock us below 1/2 of 1% and off the ballot.

But why does this new requirement cast aspersions on the motives of California's worthy majority party? Just because a proposal is bad for a minor party or two doesn't mean its author was prompted by so base a goal as political expediency. Well, let's see.

The following analysis is extracted from a report done by the California Libertarian Party's ballot law specialist Richard Winger.

First, look at who is supporting this bill. Democrats overwhelmingly favor it. Republicans are against it. Fact: Any minor party takes votes away from the Democratic Party because it is the party of nothing in particular. There is an old Sicilian proverb that says "if you have to ask why just look and see who benefits."

Our existing ballot law does an adequate job of pruning the number of minor political parties—maybe even too good a job.

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Since 1918 seven parties have been knocked off the ballot by the 2% vote requirement and two parties by the registration requirement. If the 1/2 of 1% requirement had been in effect during this time, 75% of all elections after 1933 would have had no qualified third parties. In the remaining 25% of elections, the number of minor parties would have been reduced from as many as six to as few as one. How convenient.

Now let us look at some of the glib reasons cited by the legislators in support of this bill. Obviously you have to have "good" reasons regardless of whether they are true or whether you mean them.

• "Peace and Freedom is a declining party." This is not a reason. This is wishful thinking. The truth is that PFP registration has in-

## June 18 Is Movie Night at Libertarian HQ

The Thursday June 18 meeting of the Libertarian Council of Santa Clara County will feature a showing of the movie *Libra*. A science fiction film with a libertarian theme, *Libra* is one of a series of educational films produced by World Research. Other films in the series include *The Incredible Bread Machine* and *For A New Liberty*, one of which will be the backup film in case *Libra* fails to arrive on time.

Popcorn will be available, as will a discussion of other libertarian movies we should show. So plan now for a night at the Libertarian movies beginning at 8 p.m. in our new headquarters location: 401 E. Taylor near 10th Street in San Jose.

The Libertarian Council meets regularly the third Thursday evening of each month at our County Headquarters. There is no admission fee.

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creased every year since 1975. In 1978 the PFP got its highest percentage of the vote in a statewide race ever (over 4%).

• "Any party with registration less than 1/2 of 1% can't accomplish anything." The truth is that third parties with registration less than 1/2 of 1% sometimes *win partisan elections*. And if they win, another party can't. Richard Winger's list of low registration winners includes candidates from the American, Libertarian, Progressive, Socialist, Prohibition, Right to Life, Communist, La Raza Unida, and the Citizen's parties.

• "One-fifteenth of 1% is too low." Too low for comfort is what they really mean. In 46 states there is no registration requirement for a party to remain on the ballot. Most states have "vote" requirements which are the only relevant criteria. Registrations did not elect Ronald Reagan. The American Independent Party, which would not be affected by this proposed bill, has nearly three times as many registrants as the Peace and Freedom Party yet cannot poll nearly as many votes statewide.

• "If the Peace and Freedom Party is disqualified it will save money." I personally don't believe the legislators care. If they did they would have adopted the proposal by the county clerks to have *all* minor parties nominate by convention, saving much more money than knocking a party off the ballot. Besides, if this reasoning were carried to its logical conclusion, the Democrats could save even more money by also kicking off the Republicans and still more money by abolishing elections altogether.

So what other motivation can we infer but political opportunism so brazen that even many newspapers attacked the legislature for such a petty move. This surge of criticism has temporarily stalled the bill.

However, AB 2131 will probably start moving again when things cool down. When dividing up the voter pie, it's naive to think hogs will ever have table manners.

# Libertarian Weekend In San Jose

by Ray Strong

Festivities Saturday night, a mini-conference at the LeBaron Hotel, and a meeting of the Executive Committee of the California Libertarian Council capped months of preparation by volunteers from Santa Clara and neighboring counties for the San Jose Libertarian Weekend held on May 30 and 31.

For the last two months volunteers including Karen Huffman, Aleece Huffman, Moya Huffman, Bill White, Kathy White, Erik White, Gloria Rotunno, Ray Strong, Mark Hinkle, Dante DeAmicis, Lory DeAmicis, T.F. Falcon, Russ Fridley, Bob Bennett, John Anderson, Dale Burrow, Jim Huffman, Fred Moulton, Lyn Sapowsky, Pam Loucks, Harvey Loucks, Eric Loucks, Andy Garret, Greg Snyder, Anna Justi, and many others worked to prepare our new county headquarters for the Grand Opening Party.

Meanwhile, Bill Evers and Carolyn Felton organized a seminar series for the edification of attendees and visitors to the Executive Committee Meeting. The results were successes beyond our most enthusiastic projections. Attendance at the Saturday night party in our new headquarters topped 90 including many executive committee representatives from all over California; and profits from party donations (after paying for supplies), combined with donations collected at the seminars, came very close to paying for the meeting rooms at the hotel.

The lead event of the weekend was a panel discussion on the Reagan administration from libertarian perspectives (Bill Evers on foreign policy, Milton Mueller on civil liberties, and David Henderson on economics). After Bill established Reagan's interventionist credentials, Milton lamented "...intellectuals who used to be liberals suddenly becoming Reaganites," and David praised Reagan's planned deregulation and tax and spending cuts. Questions from the audience moved the panel into a discussion and debate of two interesting issues: (1) whether libertarians should support tax credits for special interests and (2) what is a proper libertarian position on the current defense of the United States. Concluding a discussion of difficult to understand or unpopular libertarian positions, Bill made a statement that epitomized the mood of the debate: "You have to realize that being a libertarian is not necessarily a rose garden."

The executive committee, representing the members of the California Libertarian Council, conducted its relatively routine business in a timely and fairly straightforward way. Regional representatives were pleased to receive quarterly disbursements representing the regional share of dues. Lyn Sapowsky was elected to the Credentials Committee of the National LP. Scott Olmsted was elected to the National LP Platform Committee. Ed Wolford was chosen Platform Committee Coordinator for the California 1982 Convention.

A number of committees were abolished and a new committee on endorsements was established. Resolutions endorsing the CAST Initiative and the wording of a proposed Marijuana Initiative, and opposing AB 2131 (the Democrat-sponsored bill which would eliminate the ballot status of the Peace and Freedom Party), harassment of midwives, and inheritance taxes were passed. The committee heard a presentation by Omni Designers, specialists in community resource development, and then voted to rent the CLC mailing list to both Omni Designers and *Reason Magazine*.

A series of three panels followed the conclusion of the executive committee meeting Sunday afternoon. First, Kevin Dye (CLC treasurer) moderated a panel on finding and funding local offices composed of Eric Garris, Mark Hinkle, and Jack Dean. The second panel on local newsletters consisted of Ray Strong and Scott Olmsted with Gloria Rotunno answering technical questions related to typesetting and printing. Finally, Martin Buerger, Sara Baase, and Hank James discussed building local organizations.

Many important ideas discussed in these final panels were missed by representatives with conflicting travel arrangements. However, taken as a whole, the weekend was intellectually stimulating, festive, more financially successful than we had hoped, and a pleasant introduction to the guiding body and principles of the Libertarian Council.

## Giant Flea Market

at

## De Anza College

Stevens Creek Boulevard and  
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July 4

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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## Endow A Chair

These names of famous libertarians have already been chosen:

Ayn Rand  
Thomas Jefferson  
David Nolan  
Lazarus Long  
Howard Roarke  
Adam Smith

Murray Rothbard  
Ludwig von Mises  
Karen Huffman  
Ed Clark  
Timothy Leary  
Karl Bray

Others are still available. Endow a chair at Libertarian Headquarters for only \$25 and choose the name of one of the remaining heroes and heroines. As of June 1, 19 chairs remain. The price of an endowment will go up \$5 each month until all the remaining chairs are endowed. So act now to be sure your favorite libertarian will have a place in the history of our headquarters.

Send your choice and check for \$25 payable to the Libertarian Council to 401 E. Taylor, San Jose, CA 95112.

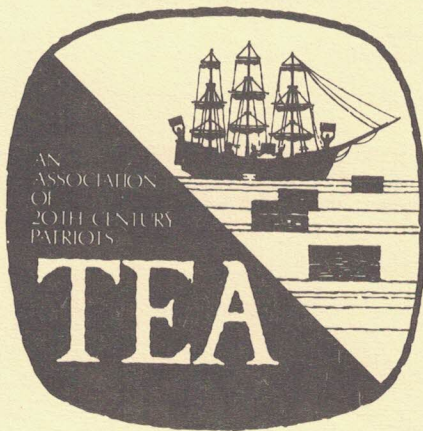
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# **The First Amendment will be the Last Battleground in the Great American Tax Resistance Movement . . .**

*The words . . . "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" may be among the most significant ever penned for us in the tax resistance movement. Because of them we enjoy total separation of church and state today. So strong is this sentiment that when IRS tried to challenge the validity of the Universal Life Church in 1970 it was soundly defeated in Judge Battin's court. We'll show you how to conveniently tie into the strength of the First Amendment and specifically the Universal Life Church. It's a chance for you to lawfully and safely do your part to regain some personal freedoms and perhaps someday regain our country.*

**With our program, 50% of your total income for the year becomes completely tax-exempt. Our clients enjoy an average 75% reduction in their federal taxes alone.**

**TEA** invites you to one of our **free** public information meetings held **every** Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the:



Sundowner Inn  
504 Ross Drive  
Sunnyvale

Going North take Hwy. 101 to the N.  
Mathilda Ave. exit and an immediate left  
onto Ross Drive.

Going South take Hwy. 101 to the  
Alviso-237 exit. Stay in right lane. At  
Mathilda turn right, and right again onto  
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*For more information call*  
**408/746-3755**

Meeting locations in 12 other cities on the West Coast.

**TEA, An Association of 20th Century Patriots**  
**1928-C Old Middlefield Way**  
**Mountain View, California 94043**  
**408/746-3755**

# Legislative Log

by Mark Hinkle

State Senator Milton Marks (R—San Francisco) qualifies for my nomination for the S.L.A.P. (Silly Laws Actually Proposed) award for the month of May.

Last month he introduced legislation which "provides that any employer who operates motion picture projection equipment in movie theaters without a motion picture projectionist present is maintaining an unsafe place of employment." How can a place be unsafe to employees when there aren't any?

Many theaters now have fully automated equipment requiring no manual intervention, after the initial loading, for as long as the movie plays at the theater. This equipment controls lights, curtains, intermission music. The cost of the proposed featherbedding bill will simply be passed on to the consumer, who will once again be forced to pay for the results of collusion between legislators and special interests.

Who does Senator Marks think he's fooling?

## The United Libertarian Fellowship



1220 Larnel Place  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
(415) 961-4837

The United Libertarian Fellowship is a Religious Order whose members are organized to promote the belief that "God is the supreme universal reality; all that has ever existed or will ever exist; the fundamental force of the universe."

Our members are dedicated to the spiritual and moral development of free, independent, and self-responsible individuals. We emphasize knowledge and self-improvement as the path to spiritual fulfillment and human freedom.

*"Know the Truth . . . and the Truth shall set you Free."*

# NOTES

• **Ayn Rand** spoke to the Ford Hall Forum in Boston on April 28. According to *frontlines*, Rand blasted Reagan as a "right-leaning pragmatist who thinks that a mixture of religion and patriotism will solve the country's problems."

• **Dick Randolph**, one of two elected Libertarians in the Alaska Legislature, has announced that he will be a candidate for governor of Alaska in the 1982 elections.

• **The Libertarian Supper Club** of San Francisco meets monthly at various San Francisco restaurants. If you would like detailed information on the upcoming dinner please telephone the sponsor, Beverly Locke, at 415/864-3969 or write to her at 117 Pierce St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

• **Advertising wanted** for the SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN. Many local libertarians would like to patronize area businesses that are owned or operated by local libertarians. This newsletter circulates to over 600 members, subscribers and new inquiries every month. Your advertising would help to support this outreach to more potential libertarians living in the Santa Clara County area. Business Card Rates (camera ready copy): \$10/month, \$100 for 12 months. Full Page: \$100, \$200 for 3 months. Half Page: \$50, \$100 for 3 months.

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# California Libertarian Council

401 East Taylor Street, San Jose, CA 95112

## Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address  h  w \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone  h  w (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Please do not release

- Please do not release my name and address for non-CLC purposes.  
 I wish to be a member of the local region or region \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am eligible to vote in \_\_\_\_\_ County.  
 I am ( I am not) registered to vote in the Libertarian Party.

*I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please allow six weeks for processing your application.

Membership Category	California Only	Combined Membership CLC/National*
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$9.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$13.00
Regular/Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$33.00
Sustaining	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$56.00
Sponsor/Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180.00
Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400.00
Life/Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1300.00

A subscription to the newsletter of the California Libertarian Council (CLC) is included in all the above membership categories.

*California Libertarian* subscription (non-member) \$10

- Donation for regional newsletter (Suggest \$2-\$10) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation to assist regional activities \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation to help support the California Libertarian Council \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership dues only—no *California Libertarian*—minus \$8  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

\*This includes a 20% discount off the Libertarian National Committee dues.

# ==Initiative Would Stop All New Taxes==

Think how hard it would be to get two-thirds of the voters to approve a new or increased tax. What if the taxmongers had to come back to the voters every six years or the increases they had sold to two-thirds would automatically cease? How many new taxes and increases would pass? Maybe the legislators might get the idea that coercive taxation was no longer an available solution to their problems. That is exactly the situation hoped for by the promoters of a new initiative which would amend the constitution to require two-thirds voter approval for any "new tax, fee, or levy of any kind."

Petitions for the initiative proposed by CAST (Citizens Asserting Supremacy over Taxation) will be available soon. (Call 408/CRY-FREE to volunteer time or money for the petition drive.) These petitions will be one of our major outreach tools at the flea markets this summer and at the County Fair in August.

The CAST Initiative could represent the beginning of the end to coercive financing of government, and Californians may be ready for it in its relatively innocuous form; but let's be clear about our support: we think it's important because it could effectively end the power of state and local governments to tax. For that reason, we include below the entire text of the proposed initiative.

## Proposed Initiative Constitutional Amendment To Be Submitted Directly To The Voters

### CAST proposes that the Constitution of the State of California be amended to provide:

That Article XIII C be added to the California Constitution to read:

SEC. 1. From and after the effective date of this Article, no new tax, fee, or levy of any kind shall be enacted or imposed, and no existing tax, fee or levy of any kind shall be increased or extended beyond its scheduled date of expiration, by the State or by any county, city and county, city, district, authority or other existing or new entity of government, except for a specified purpose and for a specified period not to exceed six years, at a rate or amount authorized by two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on the question in the affected jurisdiction at a general, special, or direct primary election.

SEC. 2. Any tax, fee, or levy of any kind which, on or after January 1, 1981, shall have been enacted, imposed, or extended beyond its scheduled date of expiration, or the amount of any increase of any tax, fee, or levy imposed on or after January 1, 1981, which:

(a) Was not approved by two-thirds of the qualified electors in the affected jurisdiction, shall expire within twelve months and thereafter cease to be collected, unless, at the next general, special, or direct primary election after enactment of this Article, it be submitted to the electors of the jurisdiction affected in a form meeting the requirements of Section 1, and is approved by two-thirds of those voting on the question.

(b) Was approved by two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on the question in the affected jurisdiction, shall expire within six years and thereafter cease to be collected.

SEC. 3. Exempted from the six-year limitation and requirement of specification of purpose imposed by the foregoing sections shall be any tax, fee, or levy which:

(a) Has been or is submitted to and approved by two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on the question in the affected jurisdiction for the purpose of providing revenues dedicated solely to the retirement of bonded indebtedness of the affected jurisdiction, or which:

(b) Is submitted to and approved by two-thirds of the qualified electors voting on the question in the affected jurisdiction, if such two-thirds vote shall constitute a majority of the qualified electors entitled to vote on the question, in a form proposing that it be collected for a specified period in excess of six years and which the electors, in the exercise of their sovereignty, shall conclude is necessary and justified.

SEC. 4. Exempted from the limitations imposed by this Article are (a) fines, costs, and judgments imposed by courts, and, (b) fees collected to cover, but not exceed, the fair and reasonable cost of any governmental service of which the payor is a direct beneficiary and which the payor may elect not to use and avoid payment therefor.

SEC. 5. If any provision of this Article or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of the Article that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this Article and specific words, phrases and portions thereof are severable.

## Libertarianism

Libertarianism is nothing more nor less than the politics of liberty. While other parties and groups seek to use the tools of politics to give some groups power over others, to enrich some at the expense of others, or to impose some set of values on those who disagree with those values, Libertarians seek nothing more than Liberty.

In economics, Libertarians advocate the establishment of the purely free market, that is, a market unhampered by government intrusion.

In the field of civil liberties, Libertarians hold that individuals must respect the right of others to live different lives, to read and enjoy different commodities, to shape their relationships, sexual and other, in their own way, to live their lives in their own way, at their own expense and risk, never forcing others to pay for their mistakes.

Americans two hundred years ago knew that eternal vigilance was the price of liberty, and were prepared to pay that price. Whether we are willing to pay that price today is a question which must be answered individually, by each of us. But we of the Libertarian Party have made our choice. Moved by a passion for justice, by compassion for those oppressed by state power and privilege, we have raised the banner of liberty.

Adapted from *Libertarianism*, Libertarian Party Position Paper #1, available at \$3.50/100 from Libertarian National Committee, 2300 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Suite 201, Washington, DC 20007.

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Subscription price for non-members is \$10 per year. Send all correspondence to the Libertarian Council of Santa Clara County, 401 East Taylor Street, San Jose, CA 95112.

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Legislative Log ..... Mark W.A. Hinkle  
Mild-mannered Reporter ..... Dante DeAmicis

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# Calendar

## SAN MATEO COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday, June 8. 7:30 p.m.**

A business meeting for the local Council will be featured this month. Meetings are held 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: Don Smith at 415/368-8148.

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday, June 18. 8:00 p.m.**

This month's meeting will feature the libertarian science fiction movie *Libra*. PERMANENT LOCATION: 401 East Taylor Street (corner of 10th & Taylor) in San Jose. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. For more details about the movie telephone 408/CRY-FREE (11-6).

## 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 to 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 our Taylor Street office. Location: De Anza College Parking Lot C, Stevens Creek Boulevard and Stelling Road in Cupertino. For more information or to volunteer call 408/CRY-FREE (11-6 weekdays).

## DECRIMINALIZATION DAY

**Saturday, July 3.**

First celebrated in 1976, D-Day was conceived by California Libertarian activist Robert Bakhaus as an alternative to the government coopted July 4. D-Day activities focus on the decriminalization of victimless crimes.

## UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL REALITY THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SPONTANEOUS ORDER

**Sunday, July 19 through Saturday, July 25.**

A college-level interdisciplinary seminar devoted to the intellectual and moral foundations of the free society. Lectures will weave together insights from economic theory, economic history, and legal and moral philosophy. Based on the insight which has been emphasized by F. A. Hayek that a viable social and economic order results from human purposes, but not from central design, the lectures by Murray N. Rothbard, Joseph Salerno and George H. Smith will analyze the nature and function of the private property, voluntary free market exchange system. Applications for fellowships (which will cover all but travel expenses) will be accepted from any student enrolled in an accredited senior college. Location: Stanford University. Fee: \$10 and a college transcript. Apply to: Seminar Director, Foundation for Advanced Studies in Liberty, Institute for Humane Studies, Suite 10, 1177 University Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

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

**Thursday, August 6 through Sunday, August 16.  
Noon to 10:30 p.m. every day.**

A booth has been reserved in the center aisle (where the two other major political parties have their booths) in the Exposition Building at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds at 344 Tully Road in San Jose. Phone 408/CRY-FREE (11-6 weekdays) if you wish to participate in the planning of this year's booth.

## SUMMER SEMINAR IN POLITICAL ECONOMY

**Saturday, August 8 through Saturday August 15.**

**Nine a.m. to mid-afternoon daily.**

The seminar will ground participants in economics, history, ethics, political theory, energy, and strategies for freedom. Location: Stanford University. Fees: Students \$95, others \$295. Sponsor: Cato Institute, 747 Front Street, San Francisco, CA 94111. Telephone 415/433-4316.

## STUDENTS FOR A LIBERTARIAN SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION

**Saturday, August 14 through Sunday, August 15.**

The convention will feature speakers, movies, workshops, parties, and debates. Help decide the goals, structure, and future of libertarianism on campus. Location: New York City. Cheap rates end July 1st. For more information write to: SLS, 2262 Hall Place, NW, Washington, DC 20007 or telephone 202/965-6997.

## THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP/10 Here To Stay

**Wednesday, August 26 through Sunday, August 30.**

The highlights of this historic gathering will include panels, workshops, a reception in honor of our three past presidential candidates, a trip to an old gold mining town, a great debate on the future of the party, and a gala 10th Birthday Banquet. Fees: (After July 4th) Full package \$180 (\$225), Delegate package \$150 (\$185), Economy package \$120 (\$150), Barebones package \$80 (\$100). Location: Hilton Hotel in Denver, Colorado. For more details write to: LP/10 Convention Committee, 1041 Cherokee Street, Denver, CO 80204.

*Additional announcements of events sponsored by and/or of interest to Bay Area Libertarians are requested. Deadline is the first of each month. Send announcements to SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN, 401 East Taylor Street, San Jose, CA 95112.*

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