

June 1992



LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

Published exclusively for members of the Libertarian Party's Monthly Pledge Program

New Hampshire Suit Reinforces LP Commitment to Reduce Taxes and Spending

Libertarian State Representative Calvin Warburton filed suit June 25, challenging the recent veto override vote by the New Hampshire state legislature. That vote overrode the gubernatorial veto of a \$10+ million budget companion bill.

The "Petition for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief" contends that the lower house failed to muster the required two thirds vote for the override because it (the petition) interprets the constitutional requirement as meaning two thirds of the entire house rather than two thirds of those present. The Senate uses the former interpretation, which, if applied to the vote in the House, would mean the override failed by 16 votes.

Papers have been served on the state treasurer and the secretary of state to halt any expenditure of the over \$10 million in spending vetoed by Governor Judd Gregg but reinstated by the override vote, until a full court determination has been made.

Warburton and his Libertarian colleague in the House, Finlay Rothhaus, both voted to sustain the governor's veto of the measure.

Judge Removes Libertarian from Jury for Advocating Jury Nullification

Jury foreman Jerry Douglas was removed from his post by Superior Court Judge Ruth Essigian for advising his jury that they have the right to judge the law as well as the facts in a matter being considered in the Van Nuys, California court.

Douglas, an elected Director of the Topangas-Las Virgines Resource Conservation District, defended his action by saying, "As an elected official I've taken an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, as well as the California Constitution, both of which have provisions for obtaining a fair and impartial trial. How can the accused get a fair trial when the jurors are not informed of their options regarding their responsibility to defendants to judge both fact and law"?

Judge Essigian ordered Douglas to return to her court on June 18 to face possible contempt charges, but following Douglas' appearance no charges were filed.

Texas Rally Gains National Notice

Ross Perot is no friend of the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, so a small group of Libertarians and gun rights advocates held a demonstration in front of Ross Perot's campaign headquarters in Dallas on June 11. The action was covered by most of the Texas media, CNN, and the AP. It also received a brief mention in *USA Today*.

More Media

During June, Andre Marrou appeared on a C-SPAN call-in show and his speech to the Arlington, Virginia LP Supper Club was shown on C-SPAN's *Road to the White House* series. Nancy Lord appeared on CNN's *Crier and Co*.

Both candidates are also maintaining a daily barrage of radio talk show and public appearances that keep HQ phones ringing and staff scrambling to keep up.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. • Washington, D.C. 20003 • (202) 543-1988

Libertarians seek ballot slots

By Jason Eaton
The Arizona Republic

The Arizona Libertarian Party filed petitions Wednesday to allow its candidates to appear on the November ballot along with Democrats and Republicans.

Because the Libertarians don't have enough registered voters to automatically appear on the ballot, the party has to file signatures with the secretary of state each year. It has done so since 1974.

This year, the party filed 286 more signatures than the 14,073 needed, Arizona party Chairman Rick Tompkins said. County recorders already have verified the validity of the signatures, so the party is virtually certain to make the ballot, he said.

The signature requirements are based on the number of votes cast in the most recent presidential or gubernatorial election.

In addition to a presidential candidate, the party has candidates for the Legislature, Corporation Commission and Congress, said Tompkins, who ran for the U.S. Senate in 1988, losing to Democrat Dennis DeConcini.

Tompkins said that he doesn't know the exact number of Libertarian Party members in Arizona, but that the party makes up less than 0.05 percent of the about 2 million registered voters statewide. Nationwide, the party has 10,000 dues-paying members, Tompkins said.

"We've about reached what we

believe is the critical-mass point," he said. "It's time to relieve ourselves of the onerous task of petitioning."

The party hopes to end its annual signature-gathering ritual by starting a voter-registration effort to drive up the number of registered Libertarians, Tompkins said.

The Libertarians favor less government and more individual responsibility, he said.

In Arizona, the party predicts its best chances for success are in central Phoenix Districts 20 and 24, where it hopes to capture House seats.

The party currently does not have any members holding elected positions in state government.

Attleboro Sun Chronicle, May 16, 1992

Libertarians gather signatures at mall

NORTH ATTLEBORO - Members of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts will be at Emerald Square today and Sunday to collect signatures to put their presidential candidate on the ballot in November.

The candidate is Andre Marrou who is on the ballot in 34 states including New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. The Libertarian Party claims to be the third largest political party in the United States.

Libertarian Party volunteers will be in the mall's first level in front of G.Fox from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Signers must be registered voters. Petitions will be available for all area towns.

Concord Tribune
May 14, 1992

LIBERTARIAN PARTY: The Libertarian Party of North Carolina submitted 43,620 signatures validated by county Boards of Election to the State Board of Elections. The group is requesting formal recognition as a political party. The submission marks the end of an 18-month ballot access campaign in North Carolina's 100 counties. If the party is recognized, North Carolinians will be able to register to vote as Libertarians and Libertarian candidates will appear on the ballot with Republican and Democratic candidates in November's general election, the party said.

The Evansville Press
June 02, 1992

Three Libertarians in races

Three Libertarian Party candidates should be on the ballot this fall in Vanderburgh County.

Jim Funkhouser planned to deliver between 1,200 and 1,600 petition signatures today to county election officials to qualify as a candidate for the 8th District U.S. Representative seat.

Fellow Libertarians Dan Steward and Brent Jackson also are mounting petition drives in order to run for the 77th state representative district and the Vanderburgh County Council, respectively.

Funkhouser, a truck driver from Elberfeld, has already submitted about 600 signatures to Warrick County officials and plans to submit some Posey County names later today, said Virgil Hogan, his campaign manager.

Funkhouser needs about 3,000 names to get on the ballot and run against Frank McCloskey, the incumbent Democrat, and Richard Mourdock, who is mounting his third challenge this year as a Republican.

Hogan said the public's support of Ross Perot as an independent presidential candidate makes it a good year for all non-traditional candidates.

Grand Island Indep.
June 03, 1992

Libertarians sponsor political seminar

A seminar called "The Politics of Freedom" sponsored by the Libertarian Party will be presented in Broken Bow and Grand Island next month.

The seminar will be offered at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 19 at the Arrow Hotel Club Room in Broken Bow and at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 22 at the Day's Inn in Grand Island.

The seminar is intended to explain the Libertarian Party's principles, positions and strategies.

Gerald Kosch, Nebraska's chairman of the Libertarian Party, said 200 Nebraskans are currently on the party's mailing list. But he said if more Nebraskans knew about the party, they would agree with its principles.

539 Libertarian candidate could doom Little's state Senate bid

Maybe I've fallen victim to a brainwashing experiment by the scribes who pen the screeds to my left (in this section, not in the political spectrum). Or perhaps I'm afflicted with a rare disease called Libertarian Osmosis.

But at the risk of sounding like a Manchurian columnist, consider this: The state's Libertarian party will play a significant, possibly decisive, role in Election 1992.

Take state Senate District 2, for instance. That's where Assemblywoman Pat Little, the Democrat who votes like a Republican, flabbergasted the political world by filing against Democratic state Sen. Ray Shaffer last week.

With no GOP candidates in the race, the law mandates that the two Democrats automatically skip the primary election and face each other in November. Chanting her anti-tax mantra during the campaign and benefiting from Republican voters in the general balloting would give Little a legitimate chance to defeat the baggage-laden Shaffer.

Enter the Libertarian factor and the vagaries of state law. Election



Jon Ralston

statutes stipulate that a minor party doesn't have to submit its slate of candidates until the end of June. And hazard a guess as to which seat tireless, peripatetic Libertarian state chairwoman Tamara Clark plans to seek?

According to the law, Clark's entrance into the contest forces Shaffer and Little into a Democratic primary in September. With virtually every Democratic special interest group out to defeat her and save Shaffer, Little's chances greatly diminish in a primary election.

Suddenly, I have a vision of Little's political tombstone with this epitaph: "The Libertarians killed her."

Clark, who also has led the effort to repeal the state's new business tax, insists she's more than a spoiler. She claims to have raised \$25,000

and will make a serious run at the Shaffer-Little primary winner. That seems doubtful, but in this "anything can happen" political season, nothing would surprise me.

By the way, because of the state law giving minor parties until June to file candidates — I wonder if that law will survive the 1993 session — the Libertarians could cause problems in other races.

I would expect them to receive encouragement in some cases from well-meaning, magnanimous major party strategists, hoping to force primaries where only general elections exist now. For instance, if you were a Democrat and saw former Assemblyman Bob Fay taking on incumbent William Petrak, wouldn't you rather see that contest decided in September?

Clark said Tuesday that "no race will go unopposed." Hyperbole, perhaps. But something tells me Pat Little may not be the only candidate upset with the pesky Libertarians come July.

One more note as my Libertarian fever worsens: Clark says the party plans this week to file an in-

tent to petition for a new law that would force all tax increases to go to a vote of the people.

A scarcity of money and a lack of organization has all but destroyed the party's efforts on a term limits initiative and jeopardized their business tax repeal. But in a year where \$300 million in taxes will be a campaign leitmotif, the newest Libertarian plan could gather steam and thus, signatures.

Portsmouth Herald
May 14, 1992

544 Libertarians: Strength in numbers

Political party seeks 100 hopefuls for upcoming state elections

By Steve Haberman
Rockingham Bureau Chief

HAMPTON — New Hampshire's third political party, the Libertarian Party, is seeking to field the largest number of candidates for public office in New Hampshire history this year.

The party's Candidate Recruitment Committee has the goal of running 100 Libertarian candidates for state representative in 1992, a far cry from the three candidates the party fielded in 1990.

"If we can field 100 candidates in November it will be an important psychological threshold for the party, the media and the voters," said Committee Member James McClarin. "One hundred is an impressive number for a party

which just gained 'legal' status two years ago."

Mr. McClarin was referring to the strong showing Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce made in the 1990 election, garnering 5 percent of the popular vote. Three percent of the popular vote is necessary to achieve ballot status in New Hampshire and, as a result of Ms. Luce's strong showing, Libertarian presidential candidate Andre Marrou will automatically be on the state ballot in November.

In addition, during this year's primary, a large number of former Republicans and Democrats across the state changed their party affiliations by asking for the Libertarian ballot. An estimated 2,300 Granite State voters became Libertarians, at least for a short time, to show their dissatisfaction with the choices offered by the two major parties.

During the first primary in Dixville Notch, Mr. Marrou defeated both President Bush and the Democratic slate of candidates.

To reach the goal of 100 candidates, the Libertarian Party is appealing to all members to consider a run for state office, even if they can't actively campaign for the seat. "There is more voter anger and disgust this year than ever before," said Mr. McClarin. "If we don't provide a Libertarian alternative on the ballot, voters will have a perfect reason to believe we aren't politically serious."

The Libertarians also intend this year to field candidates for governor, U.S. Congress and U.S. Senate. The party must win at least 3 percent of the vote in the governor's race to be on the ballot again next year.

KENNEBEC JOURNAL

Founded 1825

274 Western Avenue
Augusta Maine 04330
(207) 623-3811

BRIAN C. THAYER
General Manager

PATRICIA AMMONS
City Editor

GARY HAWKINS
Sports Editor

MARYANN BROOKE
Lifestyle Editor

DOUGLAS ROOKS
Editorial Page Editor

MARK DAMON
Director of Photography

SUSAN RADCLIFFE
Community Editor

GUY GANNETT PUBLISHING CO.
GUY P. GANNETT, President (1921-54)

JEAN GANNETT HAWLEY
Publisher, Chairman of the Board

JAMES B. SHAFFER
President and CEO

EDITORIALS

Libertarians need to leave the fringe

The other Maine political party came to Augusta last weekend.

No, it wasn't the Republicans (who met here earlier) or the Democrats (who were meeting at the same time in Bangor), but the Libertarians — the only other party qualified for the statewide ballot.

About 100 people turned out for the event, but what the Libertarians lack in numbers they make up in spunk.

The party's presidential candidate, Andre Marrou, offered a rousing address which was poles apart from the warmed-over rhetoric normally featured at political conventions.

He was quotable. Libertarians, Marrou explained, differ from the major parties in refusing to meddle in people's personal lives: "The Democrats want to force you to do good. The Republicans want to force you to be good."

He was provocative: "We have more troops in Japan than the Japanese do. It's insanity."

And he asked his audience to think about why our laws are written the way they are. Why, for instance, selling the tobacco which claims hundreds of thousands of lives a year is not only legal, but subsidized, while selling arguably less toxic marijuana can land you in a federal prison for 30 years.

But the trouble with Libertarians is that they don't know when to stop. Carried to the extreme — and most Libertarians do — there's practically no role for government in the society they envision.

Marrou would turn over roads to abutters, and let them pay for maintenance. Might work for a subdivision, but how about I-95? He ridiculed government attempts to mandate seat belt use; should we get rid of driver's licenses too? They, too, are a restriction on personal choice. He advocated having private citizens keep the peace by being as well-armed as the military; this will not sit well with the vast majority who think assault rifles on the streets are already a bit much.

One might answer that Libertarians are in the business of stirring up things, of getting people to rethink their assumptions.

But they are also, presumably, in the business of getting votes. And until Libertarians begin balancing their often attractive principles with a respect for proportion, balance and the way things work, they will never become a third national party, but will simply be out there on the fringe.



MARROU

Portland Press Herald
May 30, 1992

Ballots sent out blank

By JOHN RICHARDSON
Staff Writer

Thousands of primary ballots are being shipped to city and town halls across Maine without the names of any candidates on them.

But it's intentional. They're for the Libertarian Party primaries on June 9.

Libertarians won official status as a political party this year, prompting the state to print about 80,000 ballots for the party primaries. Ballots will be available for each of the 186 legislative and numerous county races across Maine.

However, only two House races have official Libertarian candidates listed on ballots. District 8, which includes Arundel, Kennebunkport and Lyman, is one. The other is District 70, which includes Durham and parts of Auburn, Lisbon and Brunswick.

In all other districts, the ballot instruction "vote for one" is followed by a blank space.

The third-party primary may lack candidates, but it does have some historical significance. It will be the first one held in Maine in at least half a century.

Ballots cost an average of 16 cents each to print, and the overall cost to the state for the Libertarian primary is expected to exceed \$20,000, according to the secretary of state's office.

Most of the ballots probably won't be used, perhaps proving that democracy doesn't always come cheaply.

The Libertarian Party is using its newfound status to give independent voters a rare chance to vote in legislative primaries. But with no candidates to vote for, few independents are expected to take advantage of the opportunity. Only enrolled Libertarians are eligible as write-in candidates.

Democrats and Republicans don't allow independents to vote for their nominees.

Libertarian primaries may be short-lived, however. For the party to retain its official status, its presidential candidate, Andre Marrou, must receive at least 5 percent of the Maine presidential votes this year.

Pensacola News Journal
May 26, 1992

CAMPAIGN '92 Libertarian candidate visits area

By Larry A. Sullivan
News Journal

The Libertarian movement is "galloping slowly" despite hostile election laws and an unfriendly press, the party's 1992 presidential candidate says.

Andre Marrou grabbed headlines in February when he carried the nation's first primary at Dixville Notch, a tiny New Hampshire town, but since has received little attention.

He spent Memorial Day in Pensacola as part of a campaign swing through the South.

During a meeting with the News Journal editorial board, Marrou called for:

- The repeal of laws that infringe on personal choice, including Marrou drug use and weapons possession.

- Elimination of most government services and taxation.

- Private enterprise to meet society's needs.

"Government by its very nature is evil," he said. "It is the only entity in our society that can use force without fear of retribution."

Marrou, 53, a Texas native and former Alaska state representative, wants the federal government trimmed to pre-World War II levels.

He drastically would scale back the military, pulling all U.S. troops out of foreign countries. Businesses would flock to buy domestic bases, he added.

Private charities can provide aid more efficiently, Marrou said.

"One dollar going to private charity does the work of five to 20 dollars going to government welfare," he said. "Any person can see if you're really serious about helping these poor people, you'll do away with government welfare and do it with private charity."

Marrou had few kind words for the prospective independent candidacy of Ross Perot, saying few in the grass-roots effort know — or care — what the Texas billionaire stands for.

He compared the groundswell of support for Perot to Nazi Germany.

"Ross Perot is attracting people on what the Germans used to call the Fuhrer principle — trust the leader, he knows what's best," Marrou said. "They want to believe this man is a savior as the Germans thought Hitler was a savior."

