

LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER



The Liberty Pledge Newsletter is a monthly publication for the contributors in the National Libertarian Party's Liberty Pledge Program and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to current National Committee Members and State Party Chairs in appreciation of their involvement and to serve them as a regular update on Libertarian activities at Headquarters and in the news.

Clippings and other stories of interest are appreciated.

Libertarian Party National Headquarters • 301 W. 21st St. • Houston, Texas 77008 • 713/880-1776

Want to raise your Pledge? Adjust it? Call us at 1-800-882-1776.

MARROU MUST BE RE-ELECTED!!!

AUGUST
1986

In Alaska a fight is brewing. A fight for the seat held by Andre Marrou. A fight he (and WE) must win.

Andre has been openly "Targeted for Defeat" by both the Democrats and the Republicans! They say, "He WILL fall."

WE MUST NOT LET THIS HAPPEN!!

Andre has worked long and hard for the Libertarian philosophy of "less government." More than a talker -- Andre is a do-er. He must prove that Libertarians CAN be re-elected to state office.

Here's what you, the Liberty Pledgers, can do to help insure his victory: If each of you sends him just \$5.00, he'll have an additional \$2000 to purchase television advertising with. Believe me, folks, this election is being fought on TV and that's what Andre will use the money for.

I'm sending Andre \$5 myself. Join me in mailing a contribution to:

Committee to Re-Elect Andre Marrou
Box 1572
Homer, AK 99603

AT THE NATIONAL OFFICE THIS MONTH

We're in a real cash-flow crisis this month. August is notoriously bad for contributions and fundraising... and it is living up to its reputation.

I'm not going to ask you to dig ever-deeper into your pockets to help us out of this present condition. What I would like for you all to do is to please send your pledge payments in as quickly as is humanly possible. This will help more than you can imagine. If you wish to send an amount over and above your usual pledge... by all means do.

Also this month: Perry Willis has resigned, due to problems with his health. I've been appointed Acting Director, and believe me... this is one complicated job. The responsibilities are great and the hours are long, but I really like it. I'm the kind of person that does his best when under pressure.

I've had a number of long distance conversations with the Chair and Vice-Chair regarding our present problem with funding. I believe we have charted a course which will steer us through September with a minimum of difficulties.

Worry not -- the LP is a resilient organization; we'll do okay, especially if you pitch-in quickly and send your pledges.

See you next month!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Perry Willis". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the bottom right portion of the page.

Marrou disputes governor on strength of economy

Saying he disagreed with the governor's description of the state's present economy, Rep. Andre Marrou, L-Homer, told the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce Tuesday that high unemployment figures prove the governor wrong.

"I disagree with the governor when he says the state's economy is in good shape," said Marrou. "Unemployment on the peninsula is at 16.5 percent. In the lower 48 states, 16.5 percent unemployment would be a depression. They start to get excited if it approaches 7 or 8 percent. We would be tickled if we had unemployment figures like that."

Marrou also addressed the recent lawsuit filed against the legislature by the Alaska Christian Bible Institute for conducting business after midnight on the 120th day of

the session. The house went 3.6 hours beyond the deadline and the senate went for more than an hour beyond the midnight curfew.

"It was unconstitutional," said Marrou. "It didn't surprise me there was a lawsuit filed."

On the subsistence hunting issue, Marrou said Alaskans inherently think it's wrong when a line is drawn between people, splitting them up.

"The Kenai Peninsula is a non-rural area and people can't live on subsistence because of it," said Marrou. "If you want to live on subsistence, you should be able to, whether it's here or 350 miles north of here."

Kenai, AK
The Peninsula Clarion



State forced to take critical look at government system

Decline in oil prices dashes state's hopes

by James D. Wasserman
Times Journal Bureau

JUNEAU — Andre Marrou lectured the Alaska House almost every working day earlier this year with stories of why they should cut the size and power of state government.

His colleagues paid their lone Libertarian member from Homer polite attention but voted his amendments into oblivion every time.

Now \$10-a-barrel oil prices have become a formidable ally of Marrou's philosophy, threatening the state's vast bureaucracy like 120 speeches could never begin to do.

The size of state government, for instance, dropped by almost 15 percent overnight Wednesday, when Gov. Bill Sheffield used his executive powers to cut \$550 million out of the fiscal 1987 budget.

"This is good," Marrou said last week. "Anything that will cut the power of government will add to individual liberty. This is what people want. Believe me, if they didn't, I would never have been elected."

Indeed, the prospects of low oil prices for months to come could force a critical new look at the government system Alaska leaders have erected with their oil riches in the first half of this decade.

Up until recently, Alaskans have taken for granted a whole range of public services and benefits almost unheard of in any other American state.

"In fact," crowed the Chicago Tribune recently, "Government in Alaska is probably the closest thing America has, or will come to socialism..."

Since 1981, Alaskans have received approximately \$1.3 billion in permanent fund dividends and \$260 million in longevity bonuses. The state has doled out another \$911 million in oil money to its cities and hundreds of millions more to schools.

Millions more have subsidized energy bills in the Bush, home mortgage costs, arts organizations, student loans and others.

If oil, which pays for 85 percent of it, stays cheap, all of the above is going to have to be re-

Insight
The Washington Times
Washington, DC

Libertarian Legacy

Thanks for the profile article on Karl Hess [People, June 30], editor of The Libertarian Party News. As a freedom fighter, Hess has suffered from excessive governmental power as have other "illegal tax protestors" in these semi-free United States.

A return to the original constitutional precepts, as written explicitly by the nonpartisan, libertarian Founding Fathers, is highly in order and in fact overdue. Leading this pro-individual-liberty movement is the Libertarian Party. The Libertarian Party was founded 15 years ago and has been the third-

Boards, commissions: Government oversees barbers to bureaucrats

by James D. Wasserman
Times Journal Bureau

JUNEAU — Nestled below the surface of Alaska's state government is a much smaller, but still powerful shadow government that has grown like an advancing glacier while the state matures.

This 899-member secondary government has a budget totaling more than a quarter of the cost of running the Municipality of Anchorage. It writes regulations for catching fish, recommends judges for empty courtrooms, writes bills for the legislature and decides who gets a license to cut your hair.

This network of 110 boards and commissions ranges from the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. to the Alaska Women's Commission to the Board of Dental Examiners and the Board of Dispensing Opticians.

Critics say far too many boards of questionable value regulate the daily life of Alaskans. Supporters say the boards are an integral part of state government — an advocacy system that can nudge policy in the public's direction.

Gerald Wilkerson, who runs the Legislative Audit Division, said Alaska still has far fewer boards and commissions than older states, where even things like watch repairs are regulated.

Wilkerson's staff audits the boards every four years under a 1977 "sunset" law that puts the boards and commissions out of business unless the Alaska legislature extends their lives.

Although the division has recommended terminating 12 boards since 1977, the legislature killed only two until this year, when it abolished eight at the request of Gov. Bill Sheffield.

In the same session, though, the legislature created seven new commissions (four of them temporary) and extended the life of 11 others.

Wilkerson said the legislature tends to avoid killing commissions because "the public rarely ever comes to testify to delete them. The legislators mostly hear from people in the profession," he said.

Rep. Andre Marrou, a Homer Libertarian, said there is too much duplication among the boards. "We have too many in

each area. There's no reason for having nine in education and seven in medicine," he said.

A House Research Agency report on commissions, prepared in April at Marrou's request, noted that independent commissions had a \$57 million budget in the 1986 fiscal year, with millions more in funds for others tucked into the budgets of agencies that supervise them.

Much of that money pays for travel and \$80-a-day expenses for members when they attend commission meetings.

At least 20 percent of the people on state boards and commissions are state employees, said Sharon Dale, who coordinates the appointments in the governor's office. State statutes, for instance, require Loren Lounsbury, commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development, or his subordinates to sit on eight commissions relating to his department.

Esther Wunnicke, commissioner of Natural Resources sits on six and Revenue Commissioner Mary Nordale sits on five.

the case now. The biggest buildings in town are the banks."

Tom Morehouse, professor of political science at ISER, said the gubernatorial and legislative candidates are focusing on cutting the bureaucracy and avoiding the issue of finding new revenue.

"The range of options is wider than what's being seriously talked about. What they don't want to talk about is reinstating the personal income tax. They don't want to talk about eliminating the permanent fund dividend. But they will talk about cutting the bureaucracy," he said.

He said the options being presented on the campaign trail, those that ignore new sources of revenue, are going to make the state's situation more difficult.

Even if the price of oil rebounds, as most expect it will eventually, state leaders will be a little more cautious, said Rep. Mike Miller, D-Juneau, a House member retiring after 16 years in the legislature.

"We'll never be as unguardedly optimistic as we were. The assumption up to two or three years ago was that oil would never drop."

Commissions unresponsive, Marrou says

The Homer News/Homer, AK

Citizens' desires are being lost in a sea of boards, commissions and other quasi-legislative panels, Rep. Andre Marrou told the Homer Chamber of Commerce Monday.

By his count more than 100 boards and commissions — such as the Board of Fisheries and the Boundary Commission — occupy rule making or advisory positions in state government, said Mr. Marrou, L-Homer. He said seven boards deal with medical matters, and nine with some facet of education.

That is redundant, he said, and he claimed the panels are not responsive.

"They too often do not listen to the people or do what the people want," he said. For example, he said, the Boundary Commission voted to carve the new Northwest Arctic Borough from the huge North Slope Borough, despite a popular vote against the move.

Rep. Andre Marrou
Alaska Legislature

Polygamists Running as Libertarians

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A shared belief in limiting the power of government has resulted in a marriage of the state's Libertarians and two prominent polygamists, who have agreed to run for office under the party's banner.

"We decided to reach out to people who, for lack of a better word, were already somewhat notorious," said Bob Waldrop, state chairman of the Libertarian Party.

"It's kind of hard to be a Libertarian and not be a lawbreaker." Although having more than one wife is against the law, authorities do not prosecute the 25,000 to 35,000 Utah residents who live in polygamist households, most of them Mormon fundamentalists.

For the Nov. 4 elections, Waldrop said he was counting on Alex Joseph, who has 10 wives, and Royston Potter, with two, to draw attention to the party in a state where its candidates have never won an election and where Ronald Reagan won his largest plurality in both 1980 and 1984.

The state does not register voters

by party, so no figure on Libertarian membership is available, but the party won about 10,000 votes during 1984 state legislative elections. About 2,000 taxpayers designated the party for campaign fund checkoffs last year.

Joseph, 49, who is running for the Kane County Commission, has been mayor for the past two years of the south Utah town of Big Water, where he, his wives and followers won incorporation in the 1970s after a dispute with the federal government over homesteading public land.

Last month, the town's council members switched allegiance from the Republican to the Libertarian Party.

Potter, 32, is candidate for sheriff of Salt Lake County. After he was fired from the Murray Police Department in 1982 for taking a second wife, he unsuccessfully fought his dismissal in a lawsuit that went to the U.S. Supreme Court last year.

Because of their advocacy of polygamy, both Potter and Joseph were excommunicated from the Church of Je-

sus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which embraced plural marriages until it abandoned the practice in 1890 in exchange for statehood.

The church's policy on excommunicating polygamists is unclear, but it is known to deal more sternly with those who openly advocate the practice.

Potter and Joseph became friends after Potter's firing when they met on a television talk show in 1983, and Potter joined Joseph's Confederate Nations of Israel.

The group is based on the notion that every man is a patriarch, and his family is his nation, Potter said. No individual or group has the right to tell a patriarch how to govern his family, Potter said.

Such a philosophy made him and Joseph naturals to join the Libertarian ticket, Potter said.

"If you are minding your own business, there is no reason for the state to step in and regulate your life," Joseph said. "If you're in your own bedroom, your own home, they have no business regulating what you do."

Potter, a former Army lieutenant in the military police, said he decided the campaign could become a platform for warning Americans that individual liberty is eroding under the weight of big government.

Laws against victimless crimes — such as polygamy — should be abolished, Potter said, adding, "You cannot legislate people into heaven."

Waldrop said Joseph can win in Kane County, but the party is trying to raise the \$40,000 to \$50,000 he believes Potter would need to be a serious opponent to incumbent Democratic Sheriff Pete Hayward.

Raising such an amount will be difficult, Waldrop said, since in 1984 the party raised only \$6,000 statewide.

Waldrop's primary objective is to draw enough votes, perhaps 10 percent of the key races, to make the Libertarian Party a factor in Utah politics.

Waldrop expects about 150 delegates to the party's state convention on June 7, nearly four times the number who turned out two years ago.

The Oklahoman
OKC, OK

Color Country Spectrum
Saint George, UT

Big Water's libertarianism rolls ahead

BIG WATER (UPI) — The Libertarian experiment in a small southern Utah town is rolling forward, crushing taxes and anything that smacks of big government, says Big Water's polygamist Mayor Alex Joseph.

While most local governments are scrambling to increase revenues to offset Gramm-Rudman and cuts in federal revenue sharing, the Big Water City Council has wiped out its city property tax.

"To my knowledge it's the first time any town in Utah has abolished

property tax since the 1930's," said William Marshall, Utah Libertarian Party secretary.

"I don't know if it's momentous, but we sure did it," Joseph, a polygamist with 10 wives and a recent convert to the Libertarian Party, said Thursday.

The vote to abolish the city's 14.9 mill property tax was 4-0, Joseph said.

"We didn't have any complaints," Joseph said. "We just got out of the business of legalized robbery."

Joseph said abolishing the city

property tax was partly a response to recent increases in the County mill levy and partly an advance of Libertarian ideals.

The loss of revenues will be more than offset by new money flowing into city coffers from a new influx of "millionaire" residents and flourishing development, Joseph said.

"Big Water is kind of a boom town on the shores of Lake Powell, it's an ideal resort-type community," he said.

Big Water, formerly known as Glen Canyon City, boomed and

busted 20 years ago as a watering hole for Glen Canyon Dam construction workers. Now, the city with about 300 residents and a truckstop overlooks a lonely stretch of U.S. Highway 89 crossing into Arizona.

Joseph, the state's most famous polygamist, is running for Kane County commissioner on the Libertarian Party ticket.

He says if elected to the post, he will also scrap the county's 16 mill property tax. "How can you go wrong putting half a million dollars back in the people's pockets to spend like they want to?"

"I don't like redistribution of wealth programs of any kind," he said. "The loss of federal revenue sharing doesn't bother me. I told them (the government) I would send back our \$5,000 check if Boston would send back its \$55 million."

The Desert News, Salt Lake City, UT

Complains that Libertarian Party is excluded from debates, stories

To the editor:

An article in the June 15 Deseret News about a debate between the Democratic and Republican party candidates for Salt Lake County's two sheriff candidates. . .

In reality, Salt Lake County has three candidates for county sheriff, since the Libertarian party has nominated Royston Potter for the office.

I am not sure why Libertarians are continually excluded from such "campaign summary" articles. After all, we've only been organized in Utah since 1971, and have fielded candidates in each election year since that time (with the sole exception of 1978).

By openly excluding Libertarian candidates — via such devices as continually referring to "two candidates" or "two major parties," etc., the Deseret News is rather flagrantly taking the side of the older parties. That, of course, is your right — but it calls into question your reliability as an objective and non-partisan source of news.

Besides being ignored in newspaper articles, it is a shame that Libertarian candidates are still — with a few exceptions — routinely excluded from the free and open forum of campaign debates.

I hope that in 1986 the Deseret News will adopt a truly non-partisan approach to the campaign season. Otherwise, your newspaper may be in the embarrassing position of watching Libertarians elected to office — in races where throughout the campaign year you have been making noises about "two candidates" and "two parties."

Bob Waldrop, Chairman
Libertarian Party of Utah

The Desert News
Salt Lake City, UT

Libertarians turn out at GOP meeting to protest state funding

Republicans arriving at their state convention Saturday were greeted by Libertarian Party members carrying signs protesting the use of state funds to pay for the convention.

State Libertarian Party Chairman Bob Waldrop said his party pays its own convention costs — even though it qualifies for state funding — and thinks Republicans and Democrats should follow suit.

State Republican Chairman Larry V. Lunt said earlier that he expected the convention at Cottonwood High School to cost about \$15,000. State Democratic Party Chairman Randy Horiuchi said his party's convention will cost \$15,000 to \$20,000.



'Third party' rights threatened

For more than 130 years California voters have had the right to get an independent or third party presidential candidate on the ballot after the national political conventions if they were unhappy with the major party nominees

and platforms.

Now the Legislature is about to deprive us of that right. Senate Bill 2480, which has already passed the Senate, would change the filing deadline for an independent candidate to submit a petition for a place on the ballot to July 22. In 1888 the Democratic national convention will be July 18-21. If people are dissatisfied with the outcome of that convention, and want to run Jesse Jackson, for example, as an independent

candidate to submit a petition for a place on the ballot to July 22. In 1888 the Democratic national convention will be July 18-21. If people are dissatisfied with the outcome of that convention, and want to run Jesse Jackson, for example, as an independent

dent, they are now free to do so. But under SB2480 it would be too late.

The excuse for the bill is that county clerks need more time to check the signatures. If they wouldn't require so many signatures, they wouldn't need more time. New York's deadline is Sept. 20, but New York only requires 20,000 signatures. California requires 135,000 (no other state requires as many as 50,000). The Legislature should leave the deadline alone and instead lower the number of signatures required.

RICHARD WINGER

Libertarian candidate for Sec. of State San Francisco

Libertarian International Freedom Network News STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE:

From Welfare State to Welfare Society -- Although the "debate of the year" is only a few short weeks off now, it still isn't too late for you to attend. For North American Libertarians, our friends at Ladera Travel in El Segundo, California have been doing a remarkable job in finding bargain travel rates for LI convention attendees. Typical rates, flying directly to Stockholm are only \$550 round-trip out of New York City.

With inexpensive fares like these plus our low conference fees (\$405 US includes first class hotel accommodations, all food, 2 banquets and all regularly-scheduled convention events) you can't miss! Toll-free phone for Ladera Travel: (800) 624-6679. (California residents call: (213) 640-0527). All signs are pointing to this being the libertarian event of the year, with the list of confirmed attendees being at least as impressive as our powerful array of speakers.

Look forward to seeing you in Stockholm!

LI TO INCREASE ACTIVIST PROFILE

The questionnaire included with the past two issues of FNN has produced a rather awe-inspiring amount of very fine input re LI's future strategies. Great enthusiasm has also been expressed about our "Earth" outreach flyer and as a result, after minor corrections, modifications and slight technical improvements, we are going into a second giant print run. Help us get these out -- particularly on college campuses. If you need copies to hand out at meetings, etc., just let us know how many you can use. By the way, a modest voluntary contribution of \$5.00 for 1st 100 and \$2.00 for additional 100s will help offset our printing and shipping expenses for these flyers.

LI's Rep meeting in Stockholm, being co-chaired by LI's chairman Vince Miller and LISTS (Libertarian Institute for Strategic Studies) president Hubert Jongen, will devote much time to devising ways of encouraging and supporting effective libertarian activism (particularly at the individual level) around the world and will stress using the prestige of a worldwide organization to add credibility to regional libertarian activities. We plan to publish details and perhaps an activist manual in the fall. Stay tuned.

UPDATE ON NORMA JEAN ALMODOVAR

Norma Jean Almodovar has spread the word of freedom to more people in the United States and internationally than probably any other Libertarian in the past year. She has appeared on well over 100 talk shows, radio and TV stations and other media outlets over the past year from Hawaii to West Germany, putting forward the basic Libertarian philosophy of self-ownership of your body and property and responsibility for your actions to millions of people of several countries. An indication of her success is the average of 70% approval rate in polls following her appearances before non-libertarian audiences. Her current candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of the State of California has rekindled the fire in many "burned out" Libertarians across the U.S. and has even attracted the interest and commitment of many who had considered themselves "non-political" or "anti-political" Libertarians. News coverage of her candidacy has appeared all over the U.S. and in several European nations. Marketing of her Campaign poster in Europe and the Far East will shortly expand interest to even more areas. Report by Larry Leathers California, USA

Editor's note: Norma Jean Almodovar is the former police officer, turned \$200-an-hour call girl, who is now running for Lieutenant Governor of California on the Libertarian Party ticket.

AIDS RESEARCH -- PRIVATE SECTOR

A good article on alternative AIDS research can be found in Christopher Street, Issue 99. Dr. Cesar A. Caceres' non-governmentally supported research indicates drug use, not sexual activity, is the primary cause for the development of AIDS. For a copy of this article, send a SASE to LGLC. In a related article in the March 10 New York Native, Caceres was asked if he was seeking federal funding to continue his studies: "No. The fees I receive from my patients are adequate. Penicillin was discovered on a shoestring. The vaccine for polio was grown over a period of several years by three brilliant men who didn't have any million dollar grants. It won't be dollars at work that will solve AIDS. It will be brains at work."

From LGLC, 1800 Market Street, #210, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Secretary Of State Kicks Out Libertarians' Emblem

By Karen L. Koman
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Members of Missouri's Libertarian Party aren't exactly kicking up their heels about a recent decision by the secretary of state.

The small, fiercely independent political party had wanted to use a Missouri mule as its party emblem on state election ballots this year. Their argument was that the Democrats in the state don't use their donkey emblem on the ballots anymore, so someone should be able to.

But Secretary of State Roy Blunt rejected the idea Wednesday. He says that the mule -- depicted with its hindquarters airborne -- would be confused with the donkey emblem widely identified with the Democratic Party.



Rejected emblem

Besides, scoffed the farm-born Blunt, the depiction doesn't even look like a Missouri mule. "That's the shortest-leg Missouri mule I've ever

seen," he said. "And I'm something of an expert on mules."

Mike A. Roberts, a Libertarian from Kansas City, said in a telephone interview that the Libertarians should be able to use whatever kind of mule emblem they want on the ballot because the Democrats in Missouri have adopted the Statue of Liberty as the party's ballot emblem.

He quoted a state election law that says that a party cannot use an emblem that might confuse it with another party -- except if the emblem has not been used in the last five years. Roberts said that no one could remember the last time the Democrats in the state had used a donkey emblem on the ballot -- although it is used in other states.

But the Libertarian's request has

more to it than meets the eye, Roberts acknowledged. The Libertarians are trying to force state Democrats into using the donkey emblem again.

He said that the Statue of Liberty had been the main symbol of the Libertarians nationally for a number of years. The emblem is on party stationery, fund-raising letters and has been an emblem on ballots in other states.

Neither Roberts nor Blunt said they knew why Missouri Democrats persist in using the Statue of Liberty as an emblem.

Blunt said that the use of the emblem on the ballot goes back to the days when a percentage of the population could not read, Blunt explained. "The emblems helped voters identify a candidate."

Watch Committee

Nassau Libertarian Party Chairman Richard Cooper announced formation of a Property Rights Watch Committee as a project of the Party. According to Cooper, a Westbury businessman, the purpose of the Committee is to help property owners defend themselves against eminent domain claims by the government. Committee members will monitor cases in their areas and hope provide advice and organizing talent to property owners in resisting the dictates of what Mr. Cooper describes as "land-grabbers."

Cooper declares that "Libertarians reject the belief that anyone has the right to seize another person's property, even if they chant the 'public good demands it.'"

Besides Richard Cooper of Westbury, the committee now consists of Levittown businessman and Libertarian Party Assembly candidate John Seymour; Farmingdale engineer Paul Otterstedt; Port Washington CPA William Stocker III; and Rockville Centre processing consultant Cyrus Arnone III.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Property Rights Watch Committee is urged to contact the Nassau Libertarian Party, PO Box 1729, Massapequa, NY 11758 or call (516) 795-0375. The next meeting of the Party will be July 21st.

Massapequa Observer
Massapequa Park, NY

St. Louis, MO
Post-Dispatch