

LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

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

November
1985

7887 Katy Freeway Suite #385, Houston, Texas 77024 713-686-1776

GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS! A combination of spending reductions and improved fundraising efforts has resulted in a dramatic turnaround in the LP's financial picture.

The LP's debt has been cut nearly in half since July 1st of this year when spending reductions were made at the National HQ. Following those reductions, a fundraising letter went out apprising the membership of the problem. The response to that letter was enthusiastic. It has brought in \$23,000 to date, making it the most successful non-presidential fundraising mailing we have on record.

As a result, we are able to renew publication of **LP NEWS**. We hope to put an issue in the mail in early November.

We should all be happy about this turn of events, but we should also keep in mind that we are still in debt to the tune of about \$39,000. It will require the work of all of us to insure that the progress we have made to date continues. New programs, involving tried and true methods of outreach, are now being developed for 1986. These programs should insure our growth and financial stability in the years to come, but we must also continue to retire our current debt. We cannot rest simply because we've gained a little breathing room.

Those of you who receive this newsletter every month are vital to this effort. We were unable to publish this newsletter for a couple of months because of staff cuts at National HQ. We are delighted to be able to resume publishing it now. You are our financial backbone, and we are very, very grateful.

MORE GOOD NEWS: The convention in Phoenix was a great success. The convention's organizing committee realized a healthy \$10,000 profit on the event. In addition, \$15,000 was raised for debt retirement at the convention banquet.

A hard-fought but friendly Chairman's race resulted in the election of **Jim Turney** of Richmond, Virginia. Jim is the owner

7887 Katy Freeway, Suite 385
Houston, Texas 77024

of Liberty Audio, and comes to his new job equipped with a wide knowledge of the Party based on his long years of volunteer service, and the many miles of travel he has logged as a result of his business. Jim can honestly say that he has been to more Libertarian conventions than any other person in the history of our young Party, since part of his business is to record and sell tapes of these events. The many contacts he has made place him in an excellent position to draw on the many unique talents available in our Party.

Sharon Ayres of Costa Mesa, California was elected Vice Chair, **Dean Ahmad** of Maryland was elected Secretary, and **Sam Treynor** of Manhattan Beach, California was elected Treasurer.

TELEVISION ADS!: As part of our outreach program for 1986 we are planning to produce and broadcast television ads. These ads will also be available to state and local parties who may wish to raise money to broadcast these ads on their own.

America's only elected Libertarian legislator, Andre Marrou of Alaska, will be touring the West Coast in early November to raise the seed money for this project. The plan at present is to test-broadcast these ads over a period of a couple of days in one market, and then to evaluate the results and determine how best to develop an ongoing television outreach program.

DESIGN COMPETITION: Have you always thought that you could write a bang-up television ad? Well, here's your chance. Submit a 30- or 60-second script to National HQ by January 1st, and yours may be chosen as one of the ads we produce.

VIRGINIA FLYNN GOES HI-TECH: Libertarian candidate for Governor of New Jersey, Virginia Flynn, was interviewed by subscribers to CompuServe, the nation's largest computer network, on September 11. The interview received extensive press coverage and, as far as is known, was the first one of its kind in history.

H.R. 2320: This bill, which would greatly reduce ballot access requirements, has gained many supporters since it was first introduced. Thirteen Congressmen are now co-sponsoring the bill and many organizations have endorsed it, including Ralph Nader's organization. Al Swift's office (he is the Chairman of the House Elections Committee) reports that the lobbying effort for H.R. 2320 appears to be very well coordinated and that it is having an effect.

David Bergland is coordinating an effort to have local Libertarians meet with their Congresspeople when they come home for Christmas recess. So far that effort is going very well. In addition, Richard Winger is spending the last half of October in Washington lobbying for the bill. Richard says that the great effort that is being made on behalf of this bill will help us to come back for round two, even if the bill doesn't make it this time.

I CAN'T DRIVE 55: The Arizona LP, flush with the success of the National Convention it organized so wonderfully, is attempting to repeal the 55 mile per hour speed limit. We should all be cautious in our enthusiasm, but it looks like they just may pull it off. A top highway bureaucrat informed one Arizona LP official that he thought the vote would be 60-40 in favor of repeal. The Arizona LP is working to place this initiative on next year's ballot.

There's a lot of good work being done, folks. We'll have more to report next month.