Santa Clara



Libertarian

June 1994

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"FOR LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"

<u>IF YOU BELIEVE IN</u> <u>VOTING, REMEMBER TO</u> VOTE ON JUNE 7!

The Libertarian Party makes the following recommendations for the June ballot: VOTE YES: on Prop 175, Prop 176, and Prop 177. These propositions exempt certain groups from certain types of taxation. We want everyone to be exempt from taxation! The Libertarian Party favors the abolition of taxes, and the introduction of user fees and voluntary subscriptions as ways to fund government. VOTE NO on 1A, 1B, 1C, Prop 179, and Prop 180. With the exception of Prop 179, these are tax or bond approval propositions. The party is against bonds, because bonds must be paid off with taxes. Proposition 179 increases the prison time for "drive by shootings", but alleged deterrent value of this added penalty does not outweigh the increased cost to taxpayers. Please also vote for all Libertarian candidates -- THEY ARE SPENDING TIME AND MONEY TO PROMOTE YOUR FREEDOM! *okok

FROM THE CHAIR--

by David R. Bonino

I am currently going to start holding a Monthly Activities Get-Together once a month. The purpose will be to allow individuals who would like to do something as part of a group, as opposed to being "lone wolves in the forest", to get together on a

regular basis and conduct some sort of political activity. This will be of a Libertarian slant, of course. My first thoughts are to just do simple things. Letter writing to Congresscritters while chatting with other active Libertarians might be a good start. The point is that this group will provide a vehicle for Libertarians to get together in a non-pressure setting to get things done. Potato chips, carrot sticks, and donuts will be allowed.

The first scheduled meeting has been set for Monday, June 27, 1994, from 7:00-9:30 PM at the Santa Clara Libertarian Party Headquarters. Remember, no future time commitments will either be required of asked for, other than, of course, the time spent at the meetings. This will be the only ground rule for this Monthly Get-Together.

THE DRUG WAR- From the Bottom Up

by Eric Harlow, Activities Chair

Victories against oppression continue to cross our paths. Let me list just a few.

The courts of both Columbia (in May) and Germany (in April) have found, declared, and made possession of most illegal drugs now legal... The Board of Supervisors in Santa Cruz County ordered the Sheriff to stop busting "small" time (personal) growers for the cultivation of marijuana. It seems that Santa Cruz County

makes 50% of the state's amount, but gets only 5% of the volume. Too wasteful of limited resources, they say...

The present drive by Gov. Wilson to impose a "Smoke a Joint, Lose your License" law was stalled when "it" couldn't get out of committee. The lose of 60 million from Federal Highway Funds is at stake here.

Wilson will try latter in the summer. He will be offered an override bull to bypass the "lose your license" part... A pure example of Federal blackmail.

The formation of a National Coalition Against Prohibition (NCAP) goes forward as Freedom Rallies conducted by your author are bringing together people of diverse needs and "causes" to work against the prohibition substances and activities by the government everywhere. Be they caffeine, herbs, mega-dose Vitamin C, cocaine, fatty foods, gun ownership, the helmet law, alcohol and TOBACCO, all prohibitions fail and become the cancer cells in our government, forever devouring our liberty and resources, destroying the lives of millions, while producing no measurable benefit to our society.

The next two meeting dates are Wednesday, June 15, and Wednesday, July 6, at the Santa Clara County Library, at 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, (near the intersection of Homestead and the San Tomas Expressway) between 7:00 and 9:00 PM. Come and become part of the solution. For more information, call (415) 964-3655...

Lions and Tigers and Bears! Oh, My!

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

There's a sickness in the land. I call it Riskophobia.

Consider. People seem to want guarantees of absolute security on everything you can imagine, from restaurants with no cigarette smoke to risk free silicon implants for women who want to be appreciated for more than just their minds. I even heard some woman advocate that the government should force the cigarette industry to make firesafe cigarettes, for people who want to smoke in bed. No kidding. It was on 60 Minutes last March. These fear-mongers and bleeding-hearts all have one thing in common: the assumption that government should provide complete and mandatory security for everybody at any cost.

Logical extremes are fun and instructive. Let's consider one. What would it take to have an absolutely safe highway? What if (for example) an 80,000 lb diesel tanker is carrying 25,000 gallons of nitrogen trichloride at 55 miles per hour? Suppose:

- 1. the truck turns to the right and continues traveling at 90 degrees to its intended direction,
- 2. the accelerator sticks.
- 3. the brakes fail, and
- 4. the driver goes to sleep.

All these things could happen, and probably have. That they might all happen simultaneously appears to be a

premise of the folks who claim that the existing hazards are too terrible to endure unless people are protected by government intervention, and who also claim the wisdom and ability to be the captains of that intervention.

But what are the consequences of such protection? A regulatory agency using the above scenario might require that all traffic must be far enough apart, and the highway

must be wide enough, that the truck can continue perpendicular to its intended route, starting with a full tank of fuel, until it runs out of fuel and coasts to a stop without ever colliding with any other vehicle or hitting any roadside obstruction. The truck must then still be far enough from

the edge of the highway, and from all other traffic on the highway, that if the tank spontaneously ruptures allowing the nitrogen trichloride to vaporize and blow downwind, nobody will be hurt. A really strict regulator might also insist that the effects of a hurricane velocity tail wind should be included in calculating not only the truck's final position, but also the dispersion of the nitrogen trichloride. Ridiculous?

Even this, however, isn't enough. What if the truck swerves left instead of right? Clearly, the design of the highway must accommodate oncoming traffic, perhaps a tanker filled with chlorobenzene. A really dedicated bureaucrat might even specify hurricane velocity tail winds in opposite directions, for both trucks simultaneously.

Of **course** the scenario is ridiculous, but no more so than the idea that government should try to regulate all the risk out of the world. Risk reduction is a good idea, but is absolute security really a good idea? No! Risk reduction at any cost is lunacy. People who advocate it would be better off in Heaven and everyone else would be better off without them. Risk reduction by government coercion is tyranny. A government strong enough to prevent all hazards is far more dangerous than any possible combination of hazards it might prevent.

If you're careful, quick, and lucky, you might avoid the

occasional blind, drunken lunatic who's fondling his girlfriend while driving defective equipment in bad weather. Maybe your iron constitution can handle the cholesterol in your bacon, the sugar in your Frosted Flakes, the oil and salt on your potato chips, and even the stuff that ends up in your drinking water. But the demands and restrictions of a berserk regulatory bureaucracy hell-bent on protecting you at all costs

cannot be avoided, cannot be resisted, and once allowed, will grow without limit.

It may be a jungle out here, but people are better off, in the long run, living in a jungle than in the sterile cages of a government zoo.

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Preventing crime isn't an accept-

able function of government. Any

such effort will inevitably require

preemptive intrusions by govern-

ment, and will surely destroy the

presumption of innocence, requir-

ing instead that the people bear

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the onerous burden of proof.

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If you would like to get news or events published in this paper, please me call at (408) 254-2746, and leave a message, or send news to me, Donald Cormier 439 S. White Road

Santa Clara Libertarian

San Jose, California

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit organization. A membership application may be found in this issue. Interested persons may contact our office or visit one of our scheduled meetings listed in the Calendar of Events for more information.

Office: 3249 Stevens Creek Blvd. Ste 207,

San Jose, CA 95127

Telephone: (408) 243-2711 Liberty Bell BBS (408) 243-1933

Advertising Rates

A business card size ad in the Santa Clara Libertarian costs \$15 per month or \$150 per year. A full page ad costs \$100 per month. Classified ads are 15 cents per word, with a minimum of \$5.

Why you received this newsletter

If you're a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, you'll receive this newsletter every month. We also mail it to people who we'd like to join the party.

If your mailing label says Valued Prospective Member, you asked for information about Libertarianism, and this newsletter is part of our reply; you have a 3-month complimentary subscription. We hope you'll register to vote Libertarian and become a dues-paying member.

If your mailing label says Valued Former Member, you were previously a dues-paying member, and we want you back! The newsletter is a reminder of what you're missing.

If you've registered to vote Libertarian but are not a member, you'll also receive the newsletter. In this case your mailing label is in all capital letters.

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Libertarian Party of CA. 3249 Stevens Creek Blvd. # 207, San Jose, CA, 95117 (408) 243-2711	
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What you should know

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dave Bonino's Monthly Get-Together

Monday, June 27, 1994, 7:00-9:30 PM, at the office, 3249 Stevens Creek Blvd., Ste 207, San Jose, CA, (See article on front page.)

Mid-County Discussion Group (Sunnyvale)

Wednesday, June 8, 7:00-9:30 P.M.

These "second Wednesday" meetings are for anyone who wants to learn about libertarianism or who is interested in libertarian ideas. They're held at Coco's Restaurant, 1209 Oakmead Parkway (at Lawrence Expressway, one block south of 101).

LPSC Business Meeting (Sunnyvale)

Thursday, June 16,

Dinner-7:00 P.M.; Meeting-8-10 P.M.

These "third Thursday" meetings cover what's happening in the LP in the county, the state, and around the country. They're held at Coco's Restaurant, 1209 Oakmead Parkway (at Lawrence Expressway, one block south of 101). If you want to have dinner or a snack and participate in the pre-meeting discussion, please arrive promptly at 7 P.M.

Terry Savage for Assembly Campaign Meetings -- For dates, times, and places, call Terry Savage at(408)920-2193, or (408)945-7633. We're in need

of savage activists, so get wildly involved!

Freedom Rallies (Sponsored by Save Our Liberties)

Wednesday, June 15, July 6, 7-9 P.M., at the Santa Clara Public Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara.

L.P.C Officers Meetings are open to the public, and are held at the office, 3249 Stevens Creek Blvd., Ste 207, San Jose, CA, June 13, July 11, 7:30-9:00

Donald Cormier and Jonathan Steele are co-hosts of Free and Clear from 6:00-8:00 AM on alternate Wednesdays on KKUP, 91.5 FM.(June 1, 15, 29)

Special Announcement

Terry Savage will host a VICTORY PARTY on June 7, 1994, at 7:00 PM, at Round Table Pizza, 46600 Mission Blvd, Fremont, CA. All candidates and friends are invited, as well as all who passed out literature at post offices around Santa Clara County on April 15. It's time to put some PARTY into the Libertarian Party.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE LIBERTARAIN PARTY OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY 3249 STEVENS CREEK BLVD., SUITE 207 SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95117

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