

# Santa Clara Libertarian

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January 1982

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## *Libertarian Council County Convention To Choose Officers*

The Libertarian Council is a membership organization intended to support the goals and principles of the Libertarian Party. In California the Libertarian Party is a legally recognized, ballot qualified political body representing those who register "Libertarian." It may not charge dues or have other requirements for membership. The California Libertarian Council is the state affiliate of the national Libertarian Party, which is also a membership organization, charging dues and requiring each of its members to agree not to initiate force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

The Santa Clara County officers of the Libertarian Council will be chosen at the January 21 county convention. These officers include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as the Chairs of various active committees (Membership, Research, Activities, and Fundraising). In addition to duties normally associated with the office, the Vice Chair is usually responsible for arranging for speakers for monthly meetings of the Council.

The Membership Chair is responsible for maintaining the records of membership and the data necessary for communication with the members of the Libertarian Council. The Membership Chair also maintains a liaison with the County Registrar of Voters in order to coordinate communication with all registered Libertarians.

The Research Chair maintains files for use by Libertarian candidates. This officer is responsible for reporting on important changes in the law and on important positions taken by lawmakers. Thus the Research Chair will usually maintain subscriptions to various periodicals supplying this information.

The Activities Chair manages the regularly scheduled outreach activities of the Libertarian Council including the annual County Fair and the monthly booth at the De Anza Flea Market.

The Fundraising Chair is responsible for the contribution income of the Council. This officer maintains a list of contributors and those who pledge money toward meeting the expenses of ongoing projects. The main duty of the Fundraising Chair is to solicit contributions and pledges.

The Secretary is responsible for recording the activities of Council, as well as for corresponding in the name of the Council under the direction of the Chair.

The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the treasury of the Council. This officer makes monthly reports and mails bills and acknowledgments to those who pledge money to the Council.

The Chair and Vice Chair are responsible for presiding at meetings and for seeing that all the other officers perform their duties.

The above listed officers form the County Executive Committee. In addition to these officers, the convention will also choose four representatives to the State Executive Committee and a large number of delegates to the California Libertarian Convention, scheduled for February 12 in Long Beach.

The Libertarian Council of Santa Clara County meets regularly on the third Thursday of the month at our county headquarters meeting room at 401 E. Taylor in San Jose. Meetings start at 8:00 p.m. There is no admission fee and the public is welcome.

## **Where Are the Bumperstickers?**

**by Dante DeAmicis**

Generally it is not a good idea to criticize the way other libertarians contribute to the movement . . . This one time I'll have to put aside sound policy to point out that most libertarians are blowing an easy one. I'm talking about bumperstickers. (Right here in River City?)

Out of four thousand registered libertarians and two hundred dues paying members in Santa Clara County I haven't seen ten explicitly libertarian bumperstickers on cars in Santa Clara County. Why?

Of all the things that you could possibly do, corresponding with your level of involvement and personal style of operating, sporting a bumpersticker is clearly the most cost effective, least labor intensive, and certainly the easiest way to have a continuing effect during burn-out periods when you don't have the time or money to spend on saving the world from government. They cost about a buck, take a minute to put on, and are seen by hundreds of people a day, reinforcing name awareness and piquing curiosity.

In contrast it costs about fifty dollars for a one minute radio spot. The fair booth costs over five hundred dollars and is a tremendous hassle to pull off. Going one on one with the vulgar masses is time consuming, nerve-racking, and disillusioning. (Most people only understand coins being thrown by the emperor.)

So don't be afraid of making a bad impression on your neighbors. If you're a typical libertarian they probably think you're a little weird around the edges anyway.

So take a ride over to Liberty Bookstore and get yourself a bumpersticker that will carry our message to the public every day of the year.

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This is a story about four people named  
**EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY,  
ANYBODY, and NOBODY.**

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure SOMEBODY would do it. ANYBODY could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody and Nobody did what ANYBODY COULD HAVE DONE . . .

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# Angels, Unpaid, Show Up Politicos

by Bill Wade

(Reprinted from The Peninsula Libertarian.)

Ken Carson, leader of the San Francisco Guardian Angels, discussed his group's aims and activities at the October 13 meeting of the Free Exchange, a Libertarian discussion group in San Francisco.

Carson gave a fascinating presentation of the group's voluntaristic approach to crime prevention. Each remark reinforced our original impression that this was a Libertarian concept. Ken said, "We don't get involved with anything but violent crime." Regarding prostitution or drug cases, he said, "...right or wrong, it's his (the subject's) business." But in any violence involving a victim (involuntary participant), they act. He said, "You jump on someone else. We think that's wrong. Then we come in."

The Guardian Angels were founded in Brooklyn by Curtis Sliwa in February of 1979 in response to the growing crime wave in the subways. The success of the concept in New York City led to the formation of branch operations in other cities including San Francisco.

In two and a half years there has not been a single court case against the Angels. Disputes on the street are handled with the minimum amount of intimidation or force (as a last resort) needed to end the situation. The actual use of force is seldom necessary, and Ken said they are taught to take punches before giving any. Martial arts instruction is included in their training. Whenever possible, a citizen's arrest is made, and that matter referred to the police.

The Angels call themselves a "safety patrol" to distinguish their role from that of the police. They are all volunteers and apolitical. All members must be employed or in school and use their own time to patrol. They spend about ten hours a week patrolling in groups of six, usually at night.

When asked about finances, Carson said each member pays his or her own expenses. (Yes, they are adding women to their ranks.) They accept donations in kind such as office space or payments of specific expenses such as telephone bills. (Ken is on the phone nearly every day to Sliwa in New York.) They do not accept cash donations. He said, "Cash has a way of getting lost."

Carson accepted 31 out of 107 applicants for the initial San Francisco group. Screening included in-depth interviews with Ken himself, checks for criminal records, and employer contacts. Those 31 have completed their training and are now patrolling. And two more groups of about 45 each are in training.

All ethnic groups, neighborhoods, and economic levels are represented in the membership. The San Francisco group has members from Hunters Point, the Mission, Chinatown, St. Francis Wood, the Sunset, and Richmond districts.

San Francisco mayor Diane Feinstein first called the Guardian angels "carpetbaggers and vigilantes" but has since toned that down to "city liability." (The city has many liabilities, but it's doubtful the Guardian Angels can be counted in their number.) In any case, the Angels have a right to do what they are doing.

Ken summed up by saying that the ultimate goal of the group is to make the general public more aware and caring about crime and their fellow citizens. "When private citizens get involved and try to stop crime, the Guardian Angels won't be needed," he said.

*(Bill thanks Kate O'Brien for the use of her notes in preparing this article.)*

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# 1982 Is the Year of the Volunteer

by Ray Strong

This issue of SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN features several articles on volunteer activity and, considering the requirements of the Libertarian Party to remain a viable organization, it seems appropriate to label this the beginning of the year of the volunteer. Here in Santa Clara County, the LP must grow in order to maintain itself. The alternative is stagnation and burn-out for the activists. It is time for us to show some progress resulting from the year of consolidation following the Clark for President campaign.

What do we need to produce that progress and what is our best measure of progress on a week to week short run basis? The answer to both of these questions is volunteers: activist members of the Libertarian Council who care enough about liberty to donate their time and money to help us grow.

The growth of the LP has been encouraging, especially since we expected to lose many more registrations than we have, when people who registered Libertarian just to help us get on the ballot returned to their previous affiliations. But the real growth of our movement must be measured in numbers of active volunteers. We do not yet have sufficient resources to contact all registered Libertarians on a regular basis. And we have one of the most active county organizations in California. What we need is more dedicated activists. When we have more we will be able to reach and bring in still more.

Right now membership in the Libertarian Council remains at roughly the level of 1980. We are just beginning a membership drive that will coincide with circulation of our candidates' petitions in lieu of filing fees. But we cannot stop with this early 1982 period. We must continue to concentrate on membership growth all year long, even at the expense of registrations and votes. It is imperative that we build up our level of activism in this county to the point where we can afford the time and money required to contact our registered Libertarians, at least on a monthly basis. We should also be contacting all voters, and even all residents on an occasional basis.

That kind of strength will not happen overnight. But that is the kind of strength we must have if we are ever to plan to win elections. And we must show that strength consistently, not just at election time. Otherwise we will not be ready when opportunity knocks. For example, a set of advantageous circumstances leading to our first election victory could start with the scheduling of a special election to fill a vacant seat. Special elections generate more publicity and are given more attention by media and voters. They also usually allow less lead time for preparation. If we were ready for a full scale campaign with a strong Libertarian candidate facing two or three equally unknown candidates from the other parties, we could win a close race here in Santa Clara County, but only if we had enough volunteers.

We aren't ready yet. If we are going to get there, it will be first by small increments. That is why I propose that we regularly publish our membership count. Then all of us who are working to produce freedom in our time can measure our progress. There will always be reasons for small fluctuations; but basically, if the count goes up, we are doing something right; if the count goes down we need a change. I'll also set a goal: let's at least double our membership by the end of the year. Our current membership is 177.

If we double our membership, registrations and votes will eventually follow. Pursuing voters and registrants with whom we will have infrequent and irregular contact at best is not likely to build the organization we need. So let's get busy, volunteers: go forth and multiply.

# News Note from California LP Headquarters

by Lisa Hosbein

(Ed. Note: This article is adapted from a letter sent to contributors by Lisa Hosbein, LPC State Coordinator.)

- **Surprise! Surprise!** Government bureaucrats are asking us to tell them about "The Proper Role of Government!" Sandy Kirluk ("Chief of Systems" for Medicare and Medicaid) phoned last week to inquire about a Libertarian speaker for a government workers seminar and I gave her some names to contact. In response to my questions about government workers' interest in an organization that advocates dissolving their jobs, she said that now is a "very difficult time to defend government" and that the bureaucrats in her seminar group are open to new ideas.
- **Although our candidate for governor** will probably have the highest profile and receive the most media coverage, we are very interested in running many strong Libertarians for offices at all levels of government. In efforts to find and develop strong Libertarian candidates, many Libertarian organizations are holding Candidate Workshops. One such workshop was held here at the state office on Saturday, December 12th. Martin Buerger, Mike Hall, Less Antman, and Bill Evers addressed topics which included, "Gearing Your Campaign to Your Area," "Developing Issue Material and the Campaign Speech," and our old favorite, "Fundraising Approaches for the Libertarian Campaign."
- **I am presently in the process** of sorting through the red

tape of the Election Calendar, organizing an outline for Libertarian candidates. You can easily fill up your datebook with due dates for the various forms candidates must file in order to make it on the ballot. If you are running for office and have any questions about filing or collecting signatures, give me a call and I'll be happy to help you out.

- **Bill Evers, the state chair**, has been writing a steady stream of news releases which I have been sending out to newspapers and television and radio stations throughout the state. Last month "Libertarians Labeled Deukmejian an Enemy Privacy." This month Libertarian news releases have attacked a police libel suit against a San Francisco newspaper, criticized video game laws, and called for an end to commute subsidies. By sending out regular news releases we are keeping the media aware of our permanent status as a political party.

- **In spite of our efforts** to expand the number of monthly pledgers, our regular income is still far from enough to cover our expenses. If you receive any extra big Christmas checks feel free to send some of them on to us, to LPHQ, 5332 College Ave., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94618.

## The Joys of Putting out a Newsletter

Getting out this newsletter is no picnic.

If we print jokes, people will say we're silly;

If we don't, they say we're too serious.

If we clip and use things from other papers,

We're too lazy to write our own articles;

If we don't, we're stuck on our own stuff.

If we stick close to our regular work all day,

We ought to be out hunting up news and taking pictures.

If we do go out and try to hustle up news,

We ought to be on the job in the office.

If we don't print contributions and/or recipes,

We don't appreciate true genius;

If we do, the newsletter may be filled with junk.

If we make a change in someone else's article

We are too critical, and if we don't we're asleep!

Now, like as not, someone will say we swiped

This from some other paper. We did!

(We swiped this from the Minnesota ASSP Scoop Sheet for February.)

Thanks to Jim Huffman for the above.

SANTA CLARA LIBERTARIAN is a monthly publication distributed to all members of the Libertarian Council of Santa Clara County.

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to be held on JANUARY 21, 1982

Special Hours: Noon - Midnight.  
Third Thursday of each month

# Calendar

## LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL BOOTH AT THE DE ANZA FLEA MARKET

**Saturday, February 6. 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 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 at 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 (12-5 weekdays).

## SAN MATEO COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday, January 11. 7:30 p.m.**

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.

## EASTBAY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday, January 15. 7:30 p.m.**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. For information on the speaker and the location telephone Yvonne Davis at 415/835-4765.

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBERTARIAN COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday, January 21. 8:00 p.m.**

This month's meeting will feature the Annual Libertarian Council Convention. We will be electing regional officers, representatives to the CLC Executive Committee and delegates to the CLC State Convention to be held in Long Beach in February. Location: 401 E. Taylor St., San Jose. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Information phone: 408/CRY-FREE.

## CALIFORNIA CLC/LP CONVENTION "Destination: Freedom"

**Friday, February 12. 9:00 a.m. through  
Sunday, February 15. 2:00 p.m.**

The California Libertarian Council & Libertarian Party will hold its ninth annual convention in Long Beach. For a brochure giving all the details write to: Convention '82, P.O. Box 154, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. The early discount price deadline is December 31. Package prices range from \$45 to \$185.

*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 95112-9990*

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## 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."*

## Giant Flea Market

at

## De Anza College

**Stevens Creek Boulevard and  
Stelling Road in Cupertino**

**February 6  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

For information or booth reservations call 996-4946

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