



The Liberty Pledge

MARCH 1985
NEWSLETTER

The Liberty Pledge Newsletter is a monthly publication for the participants in the National Libertarian Party Pledge program. 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!

LIBERTARIANS ELECTED -- Two more Libertarian Party members have been elected to local non-partisan office this spring. Howard Wilson, Jr. was elected in March to a one year term on the Board of Commissioners of the Andover Village Water District in New Hampshire. Commissioner Wilson, who is also the Chairman of the Budget Committee in his village, started his term on March 26.

Tom Heidenfelder was elected to a six year term on the Palatine Library District Board of Trustees in the northwest Chicago, Illinois area. Trustee Heidenfelder finished second in a field of four candidates seeking two positions, just 13 votes behind the leader. He received an endorsement from one of the local newspapers. His platform promised no tax increase, reliance on user fees, and creation of a permanent income trust fund which would make it possible to eventually eliminate Library taxes completely.

Also elected in Illinois was libertarian supporter George Clowes to a four year term on the Mount Prospect Park District Board of Commissioners.

In Roselle Village, Illinois Libertarian National Committee member Gerry Walsh lost his bid for mayor against a strong incumbent. Walsh's candidacy was so threatening to the Roselle United Party that they devoted two out of three pages of a letter to village residents to an attack on Libertarians. Sample: "It is our belief that libertarian organizations throughout the country will be offering active support to Mr. Walsh's ticket. We believe that Libertarians see the Roselle election as a grand experiment." The reality is that Walsh's campaign budget of \$700-800 was outspent by more than three to one. But he still has two years remaining on his four year term as Village Trustee.

The other four Libertarian candidates in Illinois' spring elections lost their races. They were Steve Givot, Margi Kohls, Randy Sue Heidenfelder, and Jim Young.

The most active candidate of 1985 is Kenneth Hendrix who already has two elections under his belt in just over three months time. Hendrix received 35% of the vote against a strong incumbent City Alderman April 6 in Leon Valley, Texas, a suburb of San Antonio. In January, 1985 Hendrix was an unsuccessful candidate for a seat on a local river authority board.

GRANT RESIGNATION -- Libertarian Party National Chair Paul Grant submitted his resignation in a letter to National Committee Members dated March 28. Grant cited pressing business problems as the reason he could no longer devote the time and money necessary to fulfill his responsibilities as Chairman.

Under Libertarian Party Bylaws Vice Chair Mary Gingell of California will perform the duties of Chair until the National Committee appoints someone to complete the last four months of Grant's term. The Committee is expected to fill the position at its Seattle meeting April 20-21. New Party Officers will be elected at the regular business convention in Phoenix August 14-18.

Lawmaker outlines funding cuts in Libertarian version of budget

By DEAN FOSDICK
The Associated Press

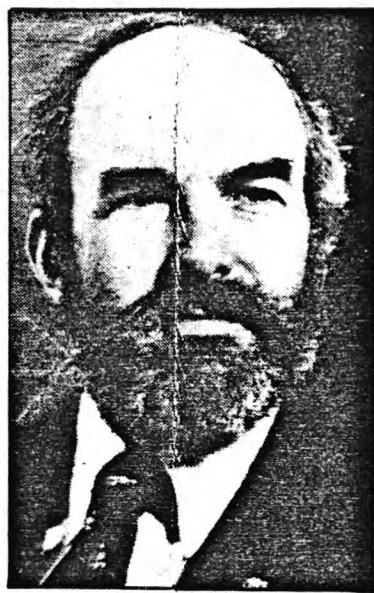
JUNEAU — The legislature's only Libertarian member says he has identified \$285.8 million that can be cut from Gov. Bill Sheffield's proposed operating budget for fiscal 1986, but he won't be backing his ideas with legislation.

Rep. Andre Marrou of Homer singled out the cuts Tuesday in what he calls a "first year Libertarian budget." The moves outline what a Libertarian administration might propose spending next year, he said.

"This is just meant to influence people as much as possible," Marrou said. "I won't be introducing any legislation."

Marrou is suggesting changes in four categories of Sheffield's \$2.4 billion spending blueprint:

- No new programs or offices.
 - No increases in current budgets.
 - Streamline the cabinet from 13 to nine agencies; and
 - Slap a freeze on hiring.
- "It's not fully appreciated



Andre Marrou

that the current administration is proposing a number of new programs and offices," he said. "Just by not adding them, we could save \$88.6 million and not lay off anybody."

Marrou said the administration is advertising a "hold-the-line" budget, but actually proposes huge increases in

some programs and offices.

"Just by eliminating all these proposed increases, we could save \$149 million and not cut anybody's budget," he said.

State agencies have been growing almost every year, resulting in a multiplicity of commissioners, deputy commissioners and other high-priced personnel, he said. One agency, Education, is 53 times the size of the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, said Marrou, adding that he would combine several of them.

This would not create any "super departments," but it would reduce the ratio of largest agency to the smallest by about half, he said.

"Savings would accrue from fewer commissioner's offices, administrative and management services, and other headquarter costs," Marrou said. "Estimated savings: \$14.3 million in the first year."

A hiring freeze would be preferable to asking state employees to take a pay cut, and could realize \$33.8 million in savings, he said.

Ban on petition pay would curb liberty

DEMOCRAT-HERALD, BANY, OREGON, MAR 11, 1985
A pending bill to outlaw the paying of petition circulators in Oregon campaigns raises more questions than it answers. It does not resolve the question of how to reduce the influence of money in politics without infringing on people's civil liberties.

A couple of years ago, a federal district judge in Portland struck down as unconstitutional a state law that banned paying the circulators of election-related petitions. The case was brought by the Libertarian Party, which wanted to pay people to circulate petitions to get its candidates on the ballot.

Since then we've had Scientific Games Inc., which paid circulators to get its lottery petitions on the ballot last year. In response, the House now is considering a bill to reinstate the ban on paying circulators. We sympathize with the sentiment behind the bill. But there are problems.

Most big-time campaigns for public office or initiatives use some paid staff, somebody to run the office, answer the phone, write press releases and so on. If it's OK to pay the people at campaign headquarters, why shouldn't it be all right to pay the canvassers out on the street?

Does anyone dispute the right of petition circulators to be reimbursed for their expenses? And if their expenses can be reimbursed by the campaign, what's so different about paying them a wage, or even paying them by the number of signatures gathered?

Everyone has the right to work for political goals, to join organized campaigns or to campaign on his own. Does this right disappear when a campaign worker is willing to be paid to exercise it?

The House committee considering the bill was warned that if the measure passed, a long legal battle would ensue. The controversy may not be worth that much trouble.

While petition circulators in Oregon now may work for pay, it's still illegal to pay petition signers for their signatures. Citizens are still free to sign or refuse to sign any petition someone puts before them. That's the main point, and the flap over paid circulators doesn't change it.

THE PILOT LIGHT

THE PILOT FEB. 20, 1985

SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA

VOTERS--Five registered Libertarians in Moore County will have to find a new party, but as of Tuesday they had given no indication to the Board of Elections where they will go.

The Libertarian and Socialist Worker parties were disqualified by the State Board of Elections recently after election results showed they failed to poll enough votes to remain as certified political parties in North Carolina.

There were no Socialist Worker party members registered in Moore County, but notices of disqualification were sent to the five registered Libertarians.

PURGING--A purging of the voter list is under way in Moore

County and Thursday is the deadline for voters who received notices from the county Board of Elections to let the board know whether their names should remain on the list.

Following each presidential election notices are sent to registered non-voters to determine if their names should remain on the voter lists and if no reply is received their names are removed.

NEW YORK ALMANAC
NEW YORK, MAR. 15, 1985

INTRO TO LIBERTARIANISM, workshop incl taped and live talks, refreshments. Libertarian Party Office, 225 Lafayette St at Spring St (ninth flr). 7 pm. Free. 212-226-6483.

Libertarians, Socialists lose party status

By CHARLES BABINGTON
Staff Writer

Once again, the Libertarian and Socialist Workers parties of North Carolina have lost their status as official political parties.

But this time it might be harder for them to get back on the ballot. A recent state law requires new parties to submit petitions with the signatures of about 44,000 registered voters, rather than 5,000, as the old law required.

Both parties sponsored petition drives that gave them more than the 5,000 signatures of registered voters needed to place candidates on the ballot in 1982 and 1984. But in 1983, the General Assembly passed a law requiring new parties to collect signatures from registered voters equal to a per-

THE CITIZEN, MAR 18, 1985
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Libertarian:

No Unnecessary Incursion of Authority

By KELLY POOLE

Written for The Citizen-Times

(This is another in a series of Monday articles on the meaning of political party labels.)

I'm a Libertarian, or I was until some kind gentleman at the board of elections informed me otherwise.

Since this political party didn't receive 10 percent of the vote for its presidential or gubernatorial candidates, Libertarians are no longer a recognized party in North Carolina.

I suppose there's some validity to this action; recognizing every political group that springs up would cause uncouth bureaucratic headaches. And I don't want my party to clog the finely-tuned machine of the state elections board.

The invitation to write this piece came as a surprise to me. While I was a registered Libertarian, I wasn't involved in the party, nor did I even know any other Libertarians.

My membership in Libertarianism is one of general idealism. I joined the Libertarian party because I believe in freedom, the freedom to live one's life without the unnecessary incursion of authority. John Stuart Mill, in his collected essays, "On

Liberty," best stated the extent of the power of state over an individual.

"The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. He cannot rightfully be compelled to do...because it will be better for him to do so, because, in the opinion of others, to do so would be wise, or even right."

Beyond the issue of personal freedom, there is the question of people taking responsibility for their own lives.

It's known in child rearing that one must allow the child a role in making decisions about his actions.

If parents take all responsibility for the child, he'll never learn how to live responsibly. The child will be too dependent. The same situation can be seen in the relationship between government and the people.

If there seems to be a problem the people are having difficulty dealing with, the government steps in. Laws, rules, regulations, and bureaucracies are established to deal with the problem for the people.

It seems like a just idea, but since the people don't deal with the problem anymore, they're no longer exercising responsibility in

that area. They're losing practice. Their ability to deal with other problems is weakened in the process.

Because of my desire for such broad liberty and freedom from government, many might assume I'm an anarchist. In many ways I am, but I do see that anarchy won't currently work.

In history, anarchy has existed generally as a chaotic transition between governments. Whenever there's a condition of no authority, someone steps in and takes control. Human nature seems to abhor a political vacuum.

The Libertarian position is based on many more issues than personal liberty and freedom.

National defense, taxation, property rights, care of the aged, helpless, and needy, and other issues are addressed by the Libertarian party, and I hope to see them discussed in this newspaper and others.

Freedom of the individual is most important to me; it is the ideal which led me to become a Libertarian.

(Kelly Poole was a registered member of the Libertarian party. He is a television producer/director at Creative Video Services.)

Tax Season Draws Ire Of Libertarians

By HUNTER KOME
Staff Writer

As the time draws near to file tax returns, one group of people is even more distressed by the prospect of filing than most. The Libertarians believe that taxation is "theft, plain and simple," said Rick Henderson, chairman of the Orange County Libertarians.

In a recent interview, Henderson cited the fourth commandment, which says, "Thou shalt not steal." "Morally, taxation is theft," he said.

Libertarians generally believe that the government that governs the least is the best government. By their standards, taxation

should be abolished completely.

Teresa Jeanne Leonarz, another Libertarian, said taxes place an unfair burden on employers to do free bookkeeping for the government. When taxes are removed from employees' paychecks, she said, "It is like an interest-free loan for a year for the government."

Leonarz said that during the Boston Tea Party, taxes were only about 14 percent of income on average, and "They were rioting, throwing things into the ocean." Now, she said, "Taxes average over 40 percent."

The Libertarians do not get out of paying taxes. When asked if he filed a return, Wake County Liber-

tarians Chairman James Chappell said that he did.

"We do not, as a group, advocate not paying taxes," Chappell said.

Said Henderson, "The biggest reason I file a return is to avoid going to prison."

Chappell and Henderson said that very few legitimate business people are getting away without paying taxes. Henderson called it a "risk-benefit proposition." The risk is going to jail.

"I try to find every little write-off and keep as much money as I can," he said.

The Libertarian Party was formed a little over 12 years ago in California. It claimed 45 registered voters in Orange County and

about 110 in Wake County before the last election.

Libertarian candidates often draw thousands of votes locally, however, Henderson said.

The party believes in a totally free market. According to its literature, the services currently provided by the government through tax revenues could be provided more efficiently by private businesses. They say taxation violates individual rights and is an economic burden most people cannot afford.

Furthermore, they claim that the IRS "systematically harasses peaceful citizens, ignoring due process and the Bill of Rights," according to one flyer.

ACTIVISTS CONFERENCE -- Illinois National Committee member Gerry Walsh has announced plans for an Activists Conference on June 8-9, tentatively set for the Granada Royale Hotel in Schaumburg, a Chicago suburb.

The theme of the conference will focus on defining and building strong state party organizations, both internally and externally. Walsh has also made a bid for the pre-national convention Platform Committee meeting to be held in conjunction with the conference.

"We have not set an admission price, and probably won't, other than having a small nominal fee on the luncheon and dinner meals," Walsh said. "With the new cut-throat competition in airfares, we are planning for this to be a major regional LP conference, and expect to get some national attendance from interested Libertarians as well."

For further information Walsh can be reached at 789 Overland Court, Roselle, Illinois 60172, (312) 894-8680 (H), or (312) 381-1980 x2136 (W).

800# RESPONSE -- David Bergland announced the LP's 800-number inquiry service during a recent ABC radio network talkshow. The result: nearly three dozen requests for more information about the Libertarian Party.

Other calls are being generated as the number becomes more widely available in materials and publications. The South Carolina LP has even erected a billboard with the message "If you hate taxes, call 1-800-682-1776."

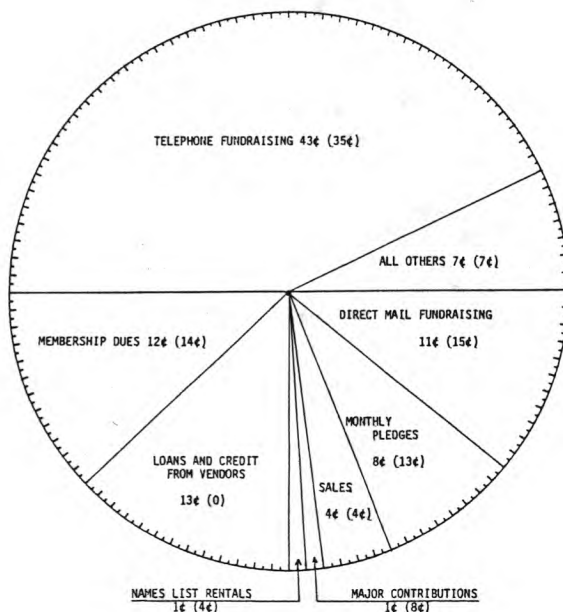
STAFF ADDITION -- Paula Bosse has joined the national headquarters staff in the position of secretary.

BUDGET CRUNCH CONTINUES -- Although the financial crisis has eased slightly during the last month, the Party is still nearly 25% behind budget for the first quarter of 1985. The Liberty Pledge, the most dependable and economical source of income for the Party, is almost back on target after dropping to only \$2,171 in January as a result of the expiration of many pledges toward the end of 1984. Recent direct mail fundraising for the Liberty Pledge has caused a rebound to \$3,243 in March. Pledge income in 1984 was \$36,500 and the budgeted goal for 1985 is \$40,000.

Revenue and expenses for 1984 are summarized in the pie charts below with comparisons to 1983. Totals for 1984 were: \$414,905 income, \$475,854 outgo; for 1983: \$372,034 income, \$285,868 outgo. The 1985 budget of \$470,500 includes provision for repayment of \$40,000 in loans approved by the National Committee for ballot access drives.

WHERE THE LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE'S DOLLAR CAME FROM AND WENT TO IN 1984
(1983 IN PARENTHESES)

EACH \$1.00 CAME FROM:



EACH \$1.00 WENT TO:

