



Santa Clara Libertarian

Liberty is not a means to a higher political end. It is itself the highest political end. - Lord Acton, 1906

November/December, 1992

3249 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 207
San Jose, CA 95117 (408) 243-2711

Volume 20, Number 11/12

Election Night Pizza Party

by Ed Wimmers

Over 50 Libertarians gathered at Round Table Pizza on Moorpark Avenue on November 3 to watch the election returns. While not all the returns were to our liking and the networks avoided reporting Libertarian vote totals, the fellowship was strong and the pizza was good.

Freedom-hungry Libertarians consumed 26 large pizzas and enjoyed discussions about the issues and the campaigns. Local member Vicki Hargrove presented each local candidate attending the event (Bob Goodwyn, Chris Inama, Jim Ludemann and John Webster) with a red carnation with a red, white and blue ribbon to thank them for their efforts. Scott Lieberman organized the event and worked hard in the office to obtain election results. He forwarded the information to Alan Furman (on a phone provided by Jim Switz) to announce them to the group.

Not only was the party enjoyable to the attendees but it served as an opportunity for outreach. In fact, as a result of good discussions at the pizza party, several people expressed an interest in becoming more involved with the Libertarian Party. Since I collected the money to pay for the pizza, I got a chance to meet most of the people who attended and I especially enjoyed meeting and talking with several of the people who expressed interest in becoming more active in the party.

Thanks to all who attended for making it an enjoyable evening and a special thanks to Scott Lieberman for arranging the event.

Keep Fighting — It's Not Over Yet!!

by Alan Furman

This presidential election has driven home the lesson: If the electorate perceives you as unwinnable, they will treat you like dirt (while voting for candidates who promise to treat THEM like dirt, of course; polling places seem to emanate an IQ suppression field...). This means picking winnable races and winning them — anywhere.

Many of us supported Tamara Clark's campaign for the Nevada senate for just this reason. She had major endorsements and (for a Libertarian) good financing; it would be the highest office ever held by a Libertarian if she had won. She was reported as losing 45-55. But it isn't over yet. Exit polls (said to have a 4% margin of error) showed her winning 60-40! The Clark County (no relation, I presume) election bureaucrats "misplaced" 2% of the ballots on Election Day. Registration records showed 20 "Democrats" living at a vacant lot. Some estimate that 3,000 or more ballots (Tamara Clark "lost" by about that amount) are crooked; her campaign staff thinks it could be twice as high.

The upshot is that Tamara Clark may actually have won that victory that the LP badly needs, but she will have to FIGHT FOR IT in the courts. That takes money — our money. But if we want the Libertarian Party of California to become strong enough to win legislature seats, we **must** have victories like this to point to. Will this be the turning point, when the LP starts building a "winner" image? The choice is yours. *Tamara Clark for Senate 8124*

Bridlepath Way Las Vegas, NV 89128. Telephone (for pledges and credit card contributions): (702)255-1355

Members Respond to LPSCC Financial Difficulties

by Ed Wimmers

In order to understand the recent financial history of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County (LPSCC), it is useful to review the LPSCC monthly finances.

The two main monthly expenses are rent, which is \$440 per month, and this newsletter which typically runs at least \$240 per month. The two major sources of income are the yearly dues for membership in the state LP, of which a portion (60%) is returned to the county and the monthly pledge program in which members pledge to send a fixed monthly amount (typically between \$10 and \$25) to the LPSCC.

During the first six months of 1992, the LPSCC was spending over \$200 per month more than it was receiving in income. Such a long-term cash drain eventually causes short-term difficulties when the bank balance gets low enough. In July 1992 we were facing the double problem of a long-term cash drain and a short-term cash squeeze.

At that time, our financial director Mark Hinkle began a series of fundraising activities that included a call for members to join the pledge program at the July business meeting and an August fundraising letter to the membership. The response by the membership has been very strong. In particular, over \$1000 was contributed in onetime donations and over \$200 per month was added to the monthly pledge totals. Thanks to Mark Hinkle for the very successful fundraising, but more importantly thanks to all the members who have pitched in with the donations and new pledges.

Finally, the dinner in honor of Andre Marrou held on September 17 at the Sunnyvale Hilton made a profit of slightly over \$400 for the LPSCC (in addition to the money raised for the Marrou campaign).

This means that while there are some remaining difficulties (such as the long delay of the state LP in paying the county share of yearly membership dues to the LPSCC), the situation just before the election was greatly improved over the preceding months. In particular, the long-term situation is looking up and the short-term cash position was sufficiently strong to enable us to spend more during this critical political season than we would otherwise have been able to. In fact, we printed and mailed over four times the normal number of newsletters in October to reach as many people as possible just before the election.

On the theory that it is more effective to spend money before the election rather than after it, we stretched our pre-election spending to the limit. This implies that our after-election budget will be tight and that any late contributions can still be put to good use.

So, any contributions or pledges you are able to make will be most welcome!

Election 1992 - Mainstreaming Libertarianism

by Dave Thomas

The experts tell us that any political movement starts with the intellectual stage where the philosophy is formulated, then gains public awareness when its ideas begin to be debated, and finally enters the phase of acceptance when the movement becomes mainstreamed into society. Clearly the Libertarian philosophy has been formulated and the intellectuals have provided a firm foundation. Now the 1992 election campaigns have shown strong evidence that Libertarian ideas are being debated, and are starting to reach the mainstream.

The 1992 Presidential election saw the Marrou/Lord campaign getting our message out in print, on talk shows, TV appearances and TV ads. We heard our local candidates on radio and in numerous public forums and debates with their Republican and Democratic opponents. Some of our own LP members actively campaigned on local issues alongside non-Libertarians and elected officials, and local college students enthusiastically participated in the LP campaigns. These activities all created awareness by putting Libertarians out in the forefront of the mainstream public's eye.

Bay Area radio station KQED-FM on separate FORUM shows hosted national LP chair and local LP member Mary Gingell and local Libertarian candidates Chuck Olson and June Genis, who all answered many challenging listener call-in questions. Voters and press people attending candidates' forums heard the Libertarian perspective from local LP candidates Bob Goodwyn, John Webster, Chris Inama and Jim Ludemann. Several DeAnza College students volunteered to distribute campaign literature for Jim Ludemann and Chuck Olson as part of an American Government class assignment. These students had sought information on the LP from Vicki Hargrove after spotting her Libertarian bumper stickers (it pays to advertise!). And the "No on Measure A" campaign, promoted by County Supervisor Zoe Lofgren to oppose yet another transit tax, received the help of Jon Petersen, our county LP chair, who co-authored the ballot argument against Measure A, and LP members Vicki Hargrove and Dave Thomas, who leafleted 900 houses and hung 200 signs against Measure A the last weekend before the election.

Did we make a difference? Only time will tell. But try to observe in your daily life how many references are now being made to Libertarians, or how many people react to your mention of the LP with "Well I think . . ." rather than "What's that?" Undoubtedly some of your acquaintances voted Libertarian for the first time, and are justifiably proud of it! Let's all keep working. There is still much to be done to get the Libertarian message out. But the time is right. People in the mainstream are listening. We're getting there!

January 21: County Convention

The annual Santa Clara County LP Convention will be held on January 21, 1993. The time, place and format will be the same as for the regular third-Thursday meetings, except that convention business will replace almost all regular business.

The location is as usual: *Coco's Restaurant* on the corner of Oakmead Parkway and Lawrence Expressway in Sunnyvale. The convention begins at 8:00pm, with optional dinner and/or socializing starting at 7:00.

Convention business includes election of county LP officers, committee chairs and state LP convention delegates. Nominations will be taken from the floor for all offices. Plan ahead to make sure your favorites run.

The available offices are for *County Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer; the Fundraising, Membership, Activity and Publicity chairs; our Representative to the LPC Executive Committee; and our delegates to the state LP convention (which is being held only a few hundred yards away this year — see below).*

The other major item on the agenda is the annual recap of our previous year's successes (1992 in this case). There were quite a few in Santa Clara County, and California and other states had a number as well.

All in all, it should be quite a night. Come join the fun!

February 12-15: State Convention

The LP of California traditionally holds its annual convention over Presidents Day weekend. For 1993, this is February 12-15.

Continued next page

Why Did I Get This Newsletter?

If you are a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, you'll receive this newsletter every month. It's the chronicle of Libertarian ideas and activities in our county. We also mail it to people whom 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 of the party, and we want you back! The newsletter is a reminder of what you're missing.


And on occasion, persons who have registered to vote as Libertarians but who are not members will also receive it (this is the case if your mailing label is in all capital letters). You've taken the first steps, and we hope you'll be encouraged to become more fully involved in helping us spread Libertarian principles!

Santa Clara Libertarian is the monthly publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit organization. A membership application may be found on the inside back cover of this issue. Interested persons are encouraged to contact our office or visit one of our scheduled meetings (listed on the back cover) for more information.

Office: 3249 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 207, San Jose, CA 95117
Telephone: (408) 243-2711
Liberty Bell BBS: (408) 243-1933 (for callers with a computer and modem)


County Officers

- Chair Jon Petersen
- Vice Chair Jim Switz
- Secretary Vicki Hargrove
- Treasurer Ed Wimmers
- Newsletter Editor *We're working on it!*
- Activities Chair Eric Harlow
- Membership Chair John Inks
- Fundraising Chair Mark Hinkle
- Publicity Chair Scott Lieberman
- LPC Executive Committee Representative David Thomas



I'm staying young. Ask me how.

Hugh & Rita Curley



MATOL BOTANICAL INTERNATIONAL
Independent Distributors

6468 Purple Hills Drive
San Jose, California 95119 (408) 629-9038

Energy/ Weight Management Program

The BIG news here is that this one is taking place right here in Santa Clara County, sponsored by the LPSCC. What an opportunity for local LP members! Not only do you have the chance to attend the convention without huge travel expenses, but you can easily volunteer to help! Just call the LP office at (408) 243-2711 and state that you want to help with the convention. We need folks to help out with all kinds of functions, and no experience is necessary!

Various convention attendee packages are available for events and meals, but advance discounts expire December 31, 1992. Mark your calendar — the **1993 LPC Convention, February 12-15** at the *Sunnyvale Hilton Inn*, 1250 Lakeside Drive, Sunnyvale. Don't forget to buy your packages before the discounts expire!

Update on Measure A

by Jon Petersen

Santa Clara County is planning a lawsuit to determine the validity of Measure A (extension of the half-cent sales tax), which received 54% of the vote November 3rd. They believe it did not need a 2/3 vote, but want a court test as soon as possible (so they can issue bonds and get Federal matching funds right away if a simple majority was enough).

The *No On A Committee* believes that this is not the best approach. The suit would cost the county money and might not be as adversarial as needed to probe the issues in depth.

In view of this, the No On A Committee is initiating a suit challenging the validity of Measure A. It will not be a mere formality — we are going for a win! The argument, in short, is:

- The county claims Measure A was a citizen-initiated tax (which would not require a 2/3 vote).
- But no initiative petitions were circulated to put it on the ballot.
- That means the County put it on, and a 2/3 vote is required.

Our lawyers say the case should be open-and-shut, but one never knows. What we can be sure of is that money will be needed to carry the case through the court system.

Just a few thousand dollars will do it. Libertarians are not alone in this, and the lawyers are taking it on as a "public interest" case. We only have to pay filing fees and other incidentals.

It's cheap at the price. Any contribution, even a small one, will be a help. Send it to No On A Committee, 4960 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 101, San Jose, CA 95130.

You'll be glad you did.

Membership Application

Libertarian Party of California

3249 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 207
San Jose, CA 95117 Phone: (408) 243-2711

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals.

Signature _____ Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

- Basic County and State Membership \$25
 Household Membership \$35 (requires each member to sign)



Business &
THE POSTAL CONNECTION
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PRIVATE MAIL BOXES
NOTARY PUBLIC • FAX • SHIPPING
SECRETARIAL & ANSWERING SERVICES

1556 HALFORD AVENUE (408) 247-6300
SANTA CLARA, CA 95051 FAX# (408) 241-9860

Santa's Biggest Helper



Enjoy up to 50% off dining, theatre, movies, sports, travel and more!



entertainment.

Only \$40. To order, call the LPSCC office (408-243-2711) or Jon Petersen (408-778-9605). All proceeds go to benefit the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County.

- National Membership add \$20 per person
- First Class Mail option for *California Libertarian News* \$5
- I wish to pledge \$ _____ per month or a one-time additional donation of \$ _____ for the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara

Payment by:

- Check payable to *Libertarian Party of California*

or, charge my: Visa MasterCard

Number _____ Expires _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Calendar

- **MID-COUNTY DISCUSSION GROUP (SUNNYVALE)**
Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

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

- **SAVE OUR LIBERTIES MEETING (MOUNTAIN VIEW)**
Thursday, January 14, 7:30 - 9:30 pm.

Guest: To be announced. **Location:** Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave. For more info call S.O.L. at (415)964-3655.

- **Lpsc OFFICERS MEETING**
Monday, January 18, 8:00 pm at the LpSCC office

- **Lpsc BUSINESS MEETING & CONVENTION (SUNNYVALE)**
Thursday, January 21, 7:00 pm dinner, 8-10 pm meeting
Special Convention Meeting (see page 2)!

These "third Thursday" meetings cover what's happening in the LP in the county, the state and around the country. Held at **Coco's**

Restaurant, 1209 Oakmead Parkway (at Lawrence Expressway, one block south of 101) in Sunnyvale. If you want to have dinner or a snack and participate in the pre-meeting discussion, please arrive promptly at 7 pm.

- **NORTH COUNTY DISCUSSION GROUP (MOUNTAIN VIEW)**
Thursday, January 28, 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

These "fourth Thursday" meetings are for anyone who wants to learn about libertarianism or is interested in libertarian ideas. They are held at **Harry's Hofbrau**, 399 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View; about 3/8 of a mile north of Grant Road and Hwy 85.

- **LP OF CALIFORNIA STATE CONVENTION**
Friday - Monday, February 12-15

Don't miss your opportunity to attend a local state convention! And this year, we're hosting it! Discount packages available only until December 31 - see page 2 for details.

HELP WANTED: The LpSCC needs volunteers to help with organizing and running the 1993 LP State Convention (see page 4). If you are able to volunteer some time between now and February, please contact the office now at (408) 243-2711.



Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County

3249 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Suite 207
San Jose, CA 95117

Forwarding and Return Postage Guaranteed
Address Correction Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 4040 SAN JOSE, CA
