



# Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 32, Issue 8 August 2004

News of Local Libertarians' Efforts and Feats

## Dream Team in Bay Area: LP's Badnarik & Gray

The Libertarian Party's Campaign 2004 dynamic duo, **Michael Badnarik** and **Judge James P. Gray**, have brought their respective campaigns to our neighborhood this month, trekking spryly through the S.F. Bay Area, engaging voters and inspiring Libertarians along the way.

On Aug. 19, San Francisco was the stomping ground for these principled candidates. Presidential candidate Badnarik had a lunch-hour speaking engagement at **Commonwealth Club of California**, "the nation's oldest and largest public affairs forum." The event included a moderated segment of questions from the 65 or 70 in attendance, and was recorded for

later radio broadcast.

Badnarik used the Constitution as his rudder as he sailed through a broad range of topics, from the war in Iraq ("immediately upon being elected I'd bring the troops home as quickly and safely as possible") to gay marriage ("there is no role of government in marriage").

Asked the seemingly ludicrous question of which major party candidate he would you vote for if offered no choice, he emphasized that if he deemed either Bush or Kerry to be a reasonable candidate, he wouldn't be here campaigning. He reminded the audience that the LP honors both our personal and economic freedoms.

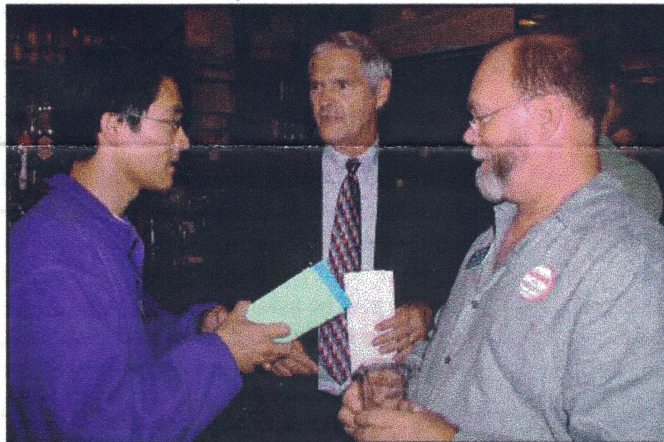
he would consider that a form of success.

He plugged the LP, noting that we have about 600 in office saving Americans about \$1 billion per year in city and county taxes.

Check [www.CommonwealthClub.org](http://www.CommonwealthClub.org) for the talk. NBC News covered the event and interviewed Badnarik afterward.

Next stop was **The LGBT Center**, where Badnarik, who'd been the lone Presidential candidate to participate in the June

■ See **Team**, page 3



L-R: **Kevin Takenaga**, LPSCC's Campaigns Chair, talks tactics with **Judge Gray**, U.S. Senate candidate, & LPSCC Chair **Allen Hacker**, also serving as Calif. Coordinator of Badnarik for President.

Badnarik acknowledged **Ralph Nader's** name recognition, but he's on the ballot in five states only, whereas Badnarik is on 34 so far, likely to be 50 by election day. If Badnarik wins just 10% of the vote, he said, "those who do get elected will be dusting off their Constitution and Bill of Rights." And



**Michael Badnarik**, LP candidate for President, meets constituents at **Harrington's Bar & Grill** in San Francisco; Aug. 19. **Catherine Tripp** (right), a loan consultant from S.F., has ensconced her LP membership card in her wallet such that cashiers requesting her I.D. will notice it. Often they'll ask about it, so that's her way of generating name recognition for the Party.

Photos this page: Elizabeth C. Brierty

## Parcel Taxes: Vigilance is Critical

Nowhere is the War on Property more prolific than right here in Santa Clara County. This November we will have 14—count 'em, 14!—tax hike propositions on the ballot.

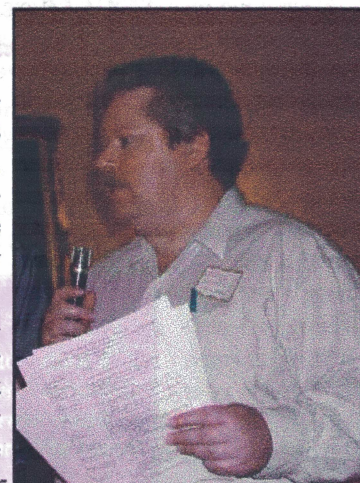
Thanks to efforts by LPSCC members, spearheaded by **Dennis Umphress** and in conjunction with Silicon Valley Taxpayers' Association, if any of those props pass, it won't have been without a fight.

Umphress was instrumental in the drafting of 11 "arguments against" and nine "rebuttals to arguments in favor," and courier **Mark Hinkle** procured signatures

from a raft of disgruntled taxpayers.

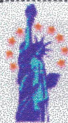
Been hearing tales of funding to California schools being cut? Not so—unless you were taught to use the New Math. Education funding per pupil in California must be no less than 55% of the state budget—which has been an increasingly higher budget.

San Diego Tax Fighters' **Richard Rider**, a frequent commentator on California government follies, writes that the state budget "finally does reveal how much total spending we do for public



LPSCC's tireless activist and 2002 Congressional candidate **Dennis Umphress** recently became President of **Silicon Valley Taxpayers' Association**. He's pictured here speaking at the May 20th general membership meeting of that organization.

■ See **Taxes**, page 5



**Santa Clara Libertarian**  
News of Local Libertarians'  
Efforts and Feats

Volume 32 ■ Issue 8 ■ August 2004

*Santa Clara Libertarian* is the monthly newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County.

#### PUBLISHER

Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County  
P.O. Box 60171  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171  
Web site: [www.SC.CA.LP.org](http://www.SC.CA.LP.org)  
Telephone: 1 (877) 872-3007

#### EDITOR

Elizabeth C. Brierly, Brierly Services Co.  
E-Mail: [BrierlyServices@Netgate.net](mailto:BrierlyServices@Netgate.net)

#### Brierly Services Company

P.O. Box 611021  
San Jose, CA 95161-1021

#### COUNTY CHAIR

Allen Hacker  
Telephone: (650) 964-4488  
E-Mail: [Allen@LawfulGov.org](mailto:Allen@LawfulGov.org)

#### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Mark Hinkle, Chair  
E-Mail: [Mark@Garlic.com](mailto:Mark@Garlic.com)

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Brian Holtz Dennis Umphress  
Mike Laursen Bill White  
Jascha Lee Sean White Photographiks  
The Pierces

#### PAST ISSUES

Issues from 1998 are available on line at  
[www.SC.CA.LP.org/sc/](http://www.SC.CA.LP.org/sc/).

#### COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Articles, photographs, and artwork,  
copyright 2004 by their author(s) and/or  
Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County,  
except where stated as a reprint. All rights

## PC Guru Revamps LPSCC Web Site

**Bill White** has a master's degree in Computer Science and worked 8 years as G.M. of PC Crisis Line resolving people's computer problems. But despite his overqualification, he has come to our rescue and revamped LPSCC'S web site. Check it out at the same address: [www.SC.CA.LP.org](http://www.SC.CA.LP.org).

White reports: "the pages have been totally redesigned to allow for consistent appearance and easier maintenance."

Maintenance of the site's lower-level pages is still in progress, with LPSCC Secretary **Mike Laursen** heading that effort. Direct your comments to the webmaster at: [LP.CA.SantaClara.WebMaster@aescirlink.net](mailto:LP.CA.SantaClara.WebMaster@aescirlink.net).

## ■ Message from the Chair

# To the Point

There's one thing we can all do that doesn't cost us money, only takes whatever time we're willing to give it, and can make a world of difference in the right places: volunteer!

Candidates need help—not all of it financial. The party needs to get things done, and it doesn't matter that we might have the money if we don't have anyone to do it.

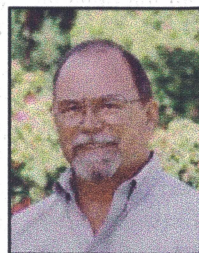
Time is money. Money is time. It takes both.

You don't need to become an officer. You don't need to promise more than you are comfortable with. Just figure out what time you can afford to put to the cause, and let us know, along with your talents and interests.

Soon there will be a new "Volunteer" link on your new LPSCC web site. You'll be able to register and post your volunteer information directly into our new projects database,

complete with geographical area details, and you'll be able to protect your information behind a password. Only the party officers who have access permission will be able to see your information, but that's not really the best part. The software will match you to projects that we post into the database, and notify us whenever one of you has made himself or herself available as a fit.

Oh, yes.... Did I mention that our new web site is up and running? A big thank—you goes to Bill White for his work on the site. Check it out, and give us your feedback and suggestions:  
[www.SC.CA.LP.org](http://www.SC.CA.LP.org) ■



—Allen Hacker, Chair

## Educational & Entertaining Events

■ On Thurs., Sept. 9, the LPSCC's **Speakers' Bureau** features Santa Clara County LP candidates and activists, who'll each have the opportunity to speak and answer questions before a friendly audience. The public can hear from real Libertarians what we're all about.

The meeting runs 7:00–9:30 P.M. and is tentatively set for Coco's in Sunnyvale.

The LPSCC's quarterly meeting of the **Central Committee** meeting will be Thurs., Oct. 14, from 7:00–9:30 P.M. This is a policy-level business meeting in which members may make, participate in discussion of, and vote on motions. Invited guests may attend.

For all LPSCC meetings, visit [www.SC.CA.LP.org](http://www.SC.CA.LP.org) for last-minute updates.

■ **Advocates for Self-Government** will be bringing "The Art of Libertarian Persuasion" to the Bay Area on Oct 16–17. This communications seminar will be led by **Michael Cloud**, author of *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*, and **Harry Browne**, two-time Presidential candidate and author of *Liberty*

*A–Z: 872 Libertarian Soundbites You Can Use Right Now.*

The seminar will run all weekend, and will cover communication from speeches to writing to face-to-face conversation. Admission is \$250 at the door; a discounted pre-registration price may still be available.

For more information, call (800) 932-1776, or visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org/seminars.htm](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/seminars.htm)

■ On Sept. 29, **Independent Institute** will present "Against Leviathan: Government Power and a Free Society," featuring **Robert Higgs**, a senior fellow with the Insitute.

In the talk, he will analyze government pork, the welfare state, the trampling of the Bill of Rights, and governmental response to a stream of "crises," including foreign wars.

The talk will be held at the Institute's offices at 100 Swan Way, Oakland, from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Admission is \$10.00/member, \$15.00/nonmember (book sold separately). For reservations call (510) 632-1366 or order on line at: [www.Independent.org](http://www.Independent.org)

### Reporters Wanted! Tax Freedom Rally

Attending the Aug. 28–29 Tax Freedom Rally of the Free Enterprise Society? *California Freedom* seeks reporters!

Share news of the world of tax freedom with those California LP members who couldn't attend.

If you can review, either briefly or comprehensively, this Constitution-promoting, Judge Gray-featuring, income tax-denouncing weekend ([www.FreeEnterpriseSociety.com](http://www.FreeEnterpriseSociety.com)), contact **Elizabeth Brierly**, at [Editor@LPC.org](mailto:Editor@LPC.org).

■ Campaign 2004

# To Speak or Not to Speak?

**M**ike Laursen jumped at the recent chance to speak on the airwaves about his campaign for California Senate District 13. Invited for an interview on KKUP's *Discovery* program on Aug. 5, Laursen found a friendly audience as the noontime guest of host **Don Cormier**, a fellow Libertarian who's been active in the local party for at least a decade. The show's topics include sociology, psychology, metaphysics, and the environment.

Laursen, who advocates an incremental approach to policy change as more palatable to the average voter, will soon have the interview available for listening on his campaign web site: [VoteLaursen.org](http://VoteLaursen.org).

KKUP's non-commercial "People's Radio," (91.5 FM out of Cupertino) is a nonprofit organization " beholden to no one but the listeners." The station maintains a "separation from any money source that would place demands



Mike Laursen

on our programming," so that they're "free to express opinions...heard nowhere else in mainstream radio."

Operating at the other end of the spectrum of audience philosophies, **Brian Holtz** will *not* be part of an Oct. 16th panel discussion hosted by American Assn. of University Women (AAUW). The nonpartisan discussion "will center on recent and pending legislation affecting women with special emphasis on Medicare, Social Security, and health issues," and will pose such questions as: "How do the changes in Medicare and Social Security affect [women]?" "Is there new legislation that we should be aware of?" and "What can we do?"



Brian Holtz

Holtz, LPSCC's candidate for Congress, District 14, deems these the wrong questions. His position on federal entitlements is that "the monumental intergenerational inequity of their unfunded liabilities makes

■ See **Speak**, page 5

# Team

*continued from Page 1*

27 S.F. Pride parade, was billed as "the only Presidential candidate who supports same-sex marriage rights [and] the repeal of laws against sex between consenting adults..."

He asserted that "the Bill of Rights is not a Chinese menu" where the government can pick and choose rights to protect. "The Bill of Rights is not negotiable," he insisted, adding, "The Constitution protects *everybody's* rights."

In the meantime, Judge Gray was scheduled to speak at a reception at Medical Society Building hosted by Dr. Robert Lull. Eventually he met up with the Badnarik contingent at **Harrington's Bar & Grill**, where the proprietress, **Kathleen Harrington**, had enthusiastically introduced Mr. Badnarik to her patrons. Mrs. Harrington is quite active in the S.F. business community. While the campaign was enjoying the happy-hour "meet and greet," alert activists were treated briefly to a snippet of the NBC coverage of the Commonwealth Club event earlier that day, revealed on the big TV screen over the bar.

**Kevin Takenaga**, LPSCC Campaigns Chair, orchestrated a radio debate between libertarian radio host **Gene Burns** (KGO 810 AM). Well-known among Libertarians, Burns had even considered running for President himself on the LP ticket in years past.

Polling results and the absence of Bush and Kerry campaigns here show that the California electoral college vote is all but certain to go

■ See **Team**, page 6

# Professor Cappels: Passionate about Financial Focus in Projects

**P**rofessor **Thomas Cappels** sure knows how to get the attention of Libertarians. His talk at the LPSCC's Inspiring Freedom Forum included a quote from **Ayn Rand**: *Within every category of goods and services offered on a free market, it is the purveyor of best product at the cheapest price who wins the greatest financial rewards...*

This truism may seem obvious to a group

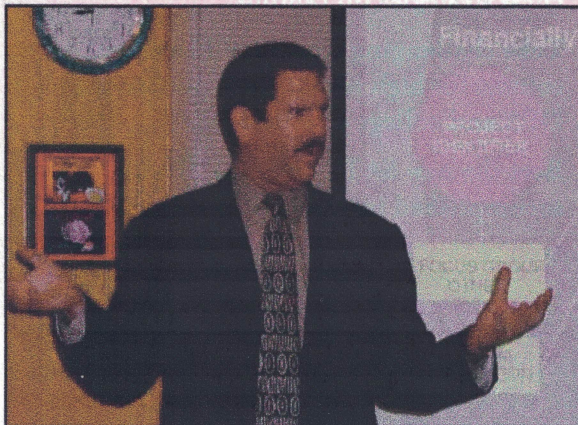
of relatively rational Libertarians, but with the LP's ambitious goals we can always use more tools.

On Aug. 12, Cappels gave a lively talk at a dinner gathering of about a dozen LPSCC members and guests, on "Financial Focused Strategic Project Management." He shared how best to integrate all our project elements by use of proven financially focused project management tools, methods and techniques. Using solder and penguins in turn as examples, Cappels distinguished between direct and indirect costs of projects, and emphasized the importance of analyzing a project's costs and of monitoring its process. Teams must evaluate cost and revenue impacts of a project continuously, including financial, qualitative, and ethical issues. A nonprofit organization or political party may have costs and revenues other than—or in addition

to—those measured in dollars, e.g., votes, members, defeats of tax proposals. The same principles of project management apply, though, to this kind of project. To know whether we are achieving our goals, we need to set expectations, and measure our efforts and success.

Cappels teaches at University of Phoenix and is the best-selling author of *Financially Focused Project Management*. As Controller of San Mateo County's Office of Education, he manages a staff of accountants and auditors overseeing financial administration of 24 school districts.

Thanks go to Professor Cappels for imparting his knowledge with us, as well as to **Don Cormier** for his help arranging this event. The next Inspiring Freedom Forum will be held in November.



Professor **Thomas Cappels** introduces LPSCC members to *Financially Focused Project Management*; August 12.

**Seeking Speakers!**

If you know speakers who'd be of interest to local Libertarians, please contact **Allen Hacker** at [Allen@LawfulGov.org](mailto:Allen@LawfulGov.org).

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS



## THE SCHOOL of CHOICE

*For bright students who persevere towards exceptional academic goals  
in the friendly environment of a small school*

### **Day School Grades Four Through Twelve Enroll All-Year Round!**

Individually-tailored, project-oriented instruction.

Very high teacher-to-student ratio.

Enhanced classical curricula: great books and diverse ideas.

Non-denominational character and leadership training.

Asynchronous academic progress with AP by grade nine.

Drama, computers, fine arts and athletics.

Supervised, after-school care: extra help in core subjects.

Master foreign languages: Latin, Spanish or Hindi.

*Affordable private education for high achievers!*

### **After-school Enrichment Small group or One-on-one.**

Master English skills — reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar — at the highest private school and college standards.

Take math tutorials up to calculus for higher grades and test scores. Learn chess strategies on campus.

Take challenging Advanced Placement courses for high school credit, enhanced GPA and college admissions.

Beat the new SAT I and SAT II with accomplished instructors.

**THE SCHOOL of CHOICE**  
[www.schoolofchoice.com](http://www.schoolofchoice.com)

3800 Blackford Avenue, San Jose  
(Near Highway 280 and Saratoga Ave.)

**408.244.9900**

Invite your family, friends, and colleagues to join the **Libertarian Party!**



**The Libertarian Party**  
of Santa Clara County  
P.O. Box 60171, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

**Please print:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Libertarian Party** is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we *request* our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on Party business.)

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Source code: 2003-0343

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NEW MEMBER       RENEWAL

\$25 Basic.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$100 Sustaining.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$250 Sponsor .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$500 Patron .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$1,000 Life Member .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MY ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO LPSCC:**

Monthly pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
One-time donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment method:**

Check: Make payable to **Libertarian Party**

**Credit card:**

Visa    MasterCard    Discover    (circle one)  
Card no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Taxes**

*continued from Page 1*

school students. It includes local, state and federal funding. While buried on page 54 of the voluminous budget summary, it is a clear representation of spending from year to year." K-12 spending per pupil has increased as follows:

2002-2003.....	\$9,112
2003-2004.....	\$9,398
2004-2005.....	\$9,614

Rider continues, "the vast majority of this spending is for salaries. It is estimated that only half or less makes it to the classroom, counting the cost of the teacher."

But *perception* of cuts has led school districts to file what is probably a record number of parcel tax measures. Thank goodness for the 2/3 vote requirement for passage.

The arguments were signed by SVTA reps, Republicans, and residents of the school districts too.

Hinkle said, "Dennis has developed a nice working relationship with Registrar of Voters staff; all of us are well thought of there." He can't say whether that contributed to their acceptance of all 11 of our arguments, two of which trumped arguments submitted by other people. Hinkle also commented that "in years past, we often used generic anti-tax arguments, but as we've become more sophisticated, especially with information being available on the Internet, our arguments are [now] more specific to each district."

Each argument ends with our ballot measures web sites's address, named [www.VoteNoOnX.us](http://www.VoteNoOnX.us), where "X" represents the ballot measure in question.

Thanks go also to these folks who were in-

**Speak**

*continued from Page 3*

entitlements the fundamental moral question for the current generation of politicians and voters. [Such] unfunded, non-means-tested, defined-benefit programs should be replaced with a combination of market-based, defined-contribution plans, and a basic means-tested safety net."

Holtz suspects that "my perspective may not be very interesting to anyone whose primary agenda is to expand entitlements for themselves and present the bill to minorities with little or no voting power, e.g., those who pay in the highest tax brackets, or those...too young to vote."

So who *will* be participating in the panel?

strumental in researching, drafting, editing, and/or signing the ballot arguments: **Robert Arne, Elizabeth Brierly, Aaron Katz, and Kevin Takenaga**. LPSCC's official ballot positions for Nov. will be published soon. Tell everyone to vote "no," and protect each other from these unnecessary and burdensome taxes.

*See also Page 6 for how these tax-fighting efforts may be paying off.*

Well, Holtz's primary opponent, incumbent Anna Eshoo (D.), plus reps of NOW, AARP, and League of Women Voters.

AAUW ([www.AAUW-CA.org](http://www.AAUW-CA.org)) is "committed to legislation and advocacy for women's rights." The event will be held on Sat., Oct. 16 at 9:45 A.M., at Sunnyvale's Congregational Church.

Holtz added that he'd be happy to participate in a discussion emphasizing market-based solutions and intergenerational equity. He recommends *Cato Handbook for Congress*, Chapters 25-27, titled "Social Security," "Public Health Care," and "Private Health Care," available on the Web at: [Cato.org/pubs/handbook/handbook108.html](http://Cato.org/pubs/handbook/handbook108.html)

**Support your LP candidates!**

**Laursen for Congress District 13**  
[VoteLaursen.org](http://VoteLaursen.org)

**Holtz for Congress District 14**  
[MarketLiberal.org](http://MarketLiberal.org)

**Collier for Assembly District 24**  
[ElectCollier.org](http://ElectCollier.org)

**Rice for Senate District 11**  
[www.Rice4SD11.org](http://www.Rice4SD11.org)

*I, however, place economy among the first and most important republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of the dangers to be feared. —Thomas Jefferson*



## Santa Clara Libertarian

Libertarian Party of California State Central Committee  
 Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County  
 P.O. Box 60171  
 Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

NON PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 4040

SAN JOSE, CA

Support the  
**Badnarik and Gray**  
 dream team!

Badnarik for President  
[www.Badnarik.org](http://www.Badnarik.org)

Judge Jim Gray for  
 U.S. Senate

[www.JudgeGray2004.com](http://www.JudgeGray2004.com)

## Team

*continued from Page 3*

to Kerry. Despite that, Burns has spouted anybody—but-Bush, Kerry—supporting rhetoric for months. Takenaga finagled a one-hour debate segment for Aug. 20 at 11 A.M. Badnarik endeavored to persuade Burns not to abandon his principles, and to vote Badnarik for President.

Despite Badnarik's logic, passion, and com-

## LPSCC Efforts Paying Off?

California lawmakers' assumption that voters will buy any emotional appeal for school funding may be ending. LPSCC activists' consistent efforts over several years' elections to file arguments against ballot measures of this ilk may be having an effect not just with the voters but the legislators too.

On Aug. 18, *San Jose Mercury News* reported ("School parcel-tax bill fails in Assembly"):

"A bill that would have made it easier for local school districts to pass parcel taxes failed in the state Assembly on Tuesday.

"The measure, ACA 4, would have placed on the ballot for voter consider-

ation a question about whether California should...lower the threshold for passing parcel taxes from two-thirds to 55 percent. It needed 54 votes to move on to the Senate, but received only 42 'yes' votes.

"The bill was introduced by Assemblyman Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, in December 2002. It was supported by more than 140 school boards statewide, including nearly all in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties."

LPSCC will not be curtailing its efforts any time soon! For the original story, see: [www.MercuryNews.com/mld/mercurynews/9430052.htm](http://www.MercuryNews.com/mld/mercurynews/9430052.htm)

Sunnyvale. Our dream team kept up their energy and passion, reminding Libertarian supporters how fortuitous this year is for the LP. Badnarik illustrated:

His assistant, Jon Airheart, and he had a rare break in their schedule. Badnarik donned casual attire, wearing his "Badnarik for President" button. A man on the hotel elevator remarked that he hadn't heard of "Badnarik." Our candidate introduced himself, "Hi. I'm Michael Badnarik, and I'm running for President." Everyone in that elevator perked up and declared, "I'm voting for you." Why? Badnarik explains: "I had two important qualifications: I'm not George Bush, and I'm not John Kerry!" Explaining:

"Americans are as dissatisfied as ever with politics, and they're actively seeking an alterna-

tive." As the Gray for Senate mantra goes, "This time it matters."

To date, Badnarik has raised nearly a half-million dollars. Aaron Russo, one of Badnarik's opponents for the LP nomination, has helped produce 14 TV commercials. Residents of New Mexico, where the ads are being broadcast, have actually been recognizing Badnarik in public. \$5 million is the fund raising goal, to enable canvassing the country in TV ads and to get public support for inclusion in the debates.

"I will debate anyone, anywhere, at any time." He is convinced that, having won the May debate against two principled Libertarians, Bush and Kerry wouldn't stand a chance against him.

Sean White Photographs



*LPSCC's Bill White has magically transformed his Mountain View office into the local campaign headquarters for Judge Gray for U.S. Senate.*

posure, Burns seemed steadfast. He also didn't seem to appreciate Badnarik's comparison between the choice of Kerry over Bush as akin to strychnine over arsenic.

After daytime outreach, the nights of Aug. 20 & 21 were devoted to fundraisers in Alamo and