

# Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 30, Issue 1, January 2002



## **10% QUORUM AT GALA ANNUAL MEETING LETS MEMBERS VOTE TO MAKE IT 10% NO MORE**

**Big Effort by Chair and Volunteers Gets 10% Turnout, Enables Bylaw Change To 25/15; Energy Tax Rollback Initiative And Candidates Endorsed; 9 of 11 Excom Positions Filled; 16 LPC Convention Delegates will be Nearly Most Among Regions**

by Marv Rudin

The 2002 Meeting of the LPSCC was a gala affair beginning with a sumptuous Chinese dinner, and capped off by a drawing for a \$300 dollar door prize - a One Ounce American Eagle Gold Coin - won by lucky attendee, Ann Strangman.

Thanks to \$600 for a special invitation card mailer, a front page article in the SCL News, and a never-say-die campaign by Chair Ray Strong, who feared that getting the extraordinary quorum of 10% required by our

Constitution and Bylaws to change their terms, and the 5% quorum needed to conduct any Santa Clara County Libertarian Party official business would become practically impossible to meet as the party grows, both the difficult-to-meet 10% and the 5% quorum requirements are no more. They were replaced by fixed numbers of 25 and 15, which experience has shown can be easily met. 54 members were in attendance, well in excess of the 45 needed to meet the 10% minimum.

After a perfunctory opening, with Dennis Umphress distributing the standing rules and resolutions passed in 2001, and Gary Molle, who was elected to the Guadalupe-Coyote resource conservation district and now chairs it, making a brief

statement thanking Scott Lieberman and the party for helping him to achieve that opportunity, the annual party business - starting with checking for the 10% quorum and addressing the proposed by law change - began in earnest.

An amended motion to make the bylaw in Article VIII, Section 2, read " 15 central committee members shall constitute a quorum for any official business meeting. Meetings at which amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, or Meeting Rules are to be voted on require a quorum of 25 central committee members" was passed by a majority vote of 47 for and 8 against. An up/down vote on all of the changes proposed by Marv Rudin in the November SCL News failed to pass.

A unanimous endorsement vote was given to all of the LP candidates with any or all of their districts in Santa Clara County, i.e., Partisan candidates Elizabeth Brierly for Board of Equalization, District 1, Ervan Darnell for Senate, District 10, Andrew Carver for Representative in Congress, District 14, Jeff Landauer for Representative in Congress, District 15, Dennis Umphress for Representative in Congress,



**Big crowd participating in annual election of officers, delegates, bylaw changes and endorsements**



**Ray Strong at mic and lectern chairing meeting**

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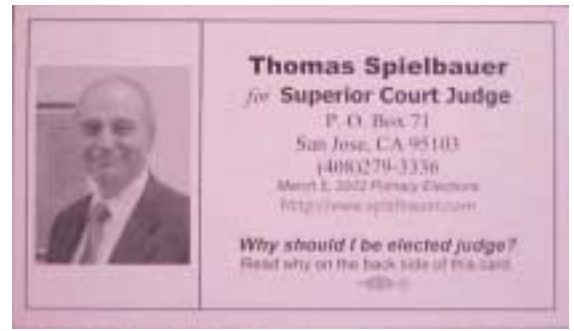
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**LIBERTARIAN TOM SPIELBAUER IS RUNNING FOR JUDGE ON MARCH 5TH  
WILL YOU PLEASE HELP GET HIM  
ELECTED BY PASSING OUT THIS CARD?**

by Marv Rudin

Wouldn't it be nice to have a judge join John Mehaffey as another high profile Libertarian elected official in Santa Clara County? LPSCC member Tom Spielbauer, who is presently a Deputy Public Defender in Santa Clara County is running for Judge of the 16th District Court on March against 3 opponents out of the prosecutorial side. He has been endorsed by the LPSCC and needs our help. As is often the case with our Libertarian candidates his opponents are better funded. To overcome this, as an economical means of reaching the voters. he has printed up 50,000 copies of the above card with his ballot statement on the back. But he needs many hands to distribute them to the public. They can be handed out to people or placed under the weather seal on on car doors. His ballot statement on the back of each card reads:



Tom's method of advertising his campaign. For judges, March 5 isn't the primary; it's final election day.

**Ballot Statement of Thomas Spielbauer**

Why should I be elected judge? I stand for the constitutional principles upon which this great country was created and continues to exist.

If you are concerned about the current erosion and elimination of our basic freedoms of speech, privacy, association, and others, so am I. The Courts are the only place where your rights can and will be protected. I will do that. If you want a Judge who takes seriously the protection of your constitutional rights, then vote for me!

I believe in law and order. I support constitutionally-based law, not hasty and fear-generated remedies. I will always protect and defend our Constitution.

Look at my record, visit my website, then, Vote Thomas Spielbauer for Judge!

Qualifications: Attorney for 23 years, twice as long as each opponent. Argued to the United States and California Supreme Courts. Extensive courtroom experience and numerous jury trials, safeguarding the rights of the unfortunate, the forgotten, and the vulnerable. Army officer/Vietnam-era vet. Law professor to lawyers. President of local and then State lawyers association. Family man. Major fundraiser for Eastside schools. Broad life-experience.  
[www.spielbauer.com](http://www.spielbauer.com)

Regarding his cards, Tom says "They are very easy to distribute, and once people realize what you are giving them, the folks are generally quite receptive. Some of the effective statements I have used when handing cards out are, 'Something for you,' or 'Here's a winning ticket.'

**LATE BREAKING NEWS:** The legal newspaper, the San Francisco Recorder, in conjunction with the Santa Clara County Bar Association will conduct a panel discussion for superior court judge Seat 16 on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, from 5 pm to 6 pm, at the Board of Supervisor Chambers, Newton Auditorium, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110.. This discussion will be a public forum. Each of the candidates will be asked direct questions on a number of topics concerning their candidacy. Additional information can be obtained by calling (415)749-5428 (Greg Mitchell) or the Recorder Editor, Scott Graham at (415)749-5400.

Your distribution of these cards can be extremely effective in gaining votes for me. One of the reasons is that most people have no idea as to whom to vote for. This is reflected in the fact that 50% of the voters do not vote for judicial candidates in any given election. Thus, the choice of

judge is left to the 50% of the voters who do vote.

I ask that you obtain a supply of these cards and distribute them to friends, neighbors and family. I also ask that if you have a business, you make these cards available on your receptionist or counter top so persons who are interested can take a card.

To order these cards, please go to: <http://www.spielbauer.com/feedback.html>. and tell me the number of cards you would like and the location to which they should be delivered."

# PUBLICITY CHAIR ED ALLISON'S PLAN

Reported by Marv Rudin

Recognizing that the job could become an over challenge if not limited, newly elected Publicity Chair Ed Allison has come up with a practical plan for 2002 after considering the wide gamut of possible ways to publicize the Libertarian Party in Santa Clara County.



Ed Allison Will Concentrate On Media

In an exclusive interview with this reporter, he said " I am limiting the scope of my goals and activities to publicity; that is to publicize the events, mission, etc. through existing media and established media channels and media publications. The things such as boothing events, Audacity van etc. could fall both in publicity and/or activities, but my thoughts would be to defer to the activities chair or work with the activities chair on those events. I would like to try to exploit the established media channels in my role. Again, this is an open issue with me, and those are my thoughts. I am open to considering other goals."

## Goals For The LPSCC Publicity Committee:

Written by Ed Allison

1. Write and distribute Press Releases to area newspapers to make LPSCC more visible in the community. All LPSCC Endorsed events at a minimum.
  2. Maintaining current list of publication point of contact, addresses and deadlines for all print publications, radio stations, public access TV Stations.
  3. Have regularly scheduled attendance and organize/promote call-ins on available talk radio programs around the county.
  4. Utilize any public access television networks to further promotion of the LPSCC, both by playing LP tapes or for LP member appearances.
  5. Maintain a column in the LPSCC Monthly Newsletter.
  6. Maintain an organization of a minimum of three individuals to meet all published goals.
  7. Provide historical methods, tools, and lessons learned to next Publicity Chair.
- Method: Three stages will be used to accomplish this task.  
Stage 1: Recruiting: Utilize Email, Newsletter, and Phone calls to recruit active participants. Participants Needed:  
> Publication Secretary: Purpose – build and maintain a list of all known Santa Clara County Publications. This will be maintained online, and all participants of the party will be able to contribute any knowledge. This person would edit the list and confirm/follow up on all contacts. Update time requirement: Quarterly.  
> TV / Radio Secretary: Purpose – same as publication secretary.  
> Writers / and or Speakers: People willing to write LTEs and to contribute to talk radio/TV shows.

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

# ACTIVITIES CHAIR COLLIER'S PLAN

Reported by Marv Rudin

New Activities Chair Zander Collier has decided to emphasize activism as a way to meet the duties of his office given by the LPSCC Bylaws ("coordinating activities intended to involve, motivate, and inspire members.")



Zander Collier Will Emphasize Activism

He says "Unlike previous years, the Activities Chair is going to, contingent approval of the Executive Committee, take on the mandate of organizing political activism. This Activities Chair intends on working with everyone, but most closely with the Publicity Chair. It is the hope that Activities will organize an event and Publicity will publicize it. In this way I hope to BOTH provide vehicles for raising morale AND visibility."

"My plan is broken down into two sections: Unique Activities and Recurring Activities. 'Unique' refers to activities that are only undertaken once within a calendar year. An example would be the Income Tax protest on April 15. 'Recurring' refers to activities which are undertaken more than once a year. An example of this would be the monthly Letters-to-the-Editor meetings."

## Goals For The LPSCC Activities Committee:

Written by Zander Collier

**UNIQUE ACTIVITIES:** \*Annual Income Tax Protest\*  
Event date: Evening of Monday April 15, 2002 Where: TBD, Local post offices. Purpose: To build awareness of the injustice of the Income Tax and increase party visibility. Notes: Being responsible for this sucks. However, unlike last year, most of the propaganda is written! \*Summer Picnic\* Event date: TBD Where: TBD Purpose: Socially raise morale. Notes: Provide for safe rides home for everyone. \*Oktoberfest\* Event date: TBD Where: TBD Purpose: Socially raise of morale. Notes: Opportunity for Speaker? Provide for safe rides home for everyone. \*Mountain View Energy Tax Rollback\* Event date: TBD Where: TBD. Purpose: Activism to repeal the energy tax assessed in Mountain View. Notes: Initiative signature gathering postponed \*January Convention\* Event date: TBD. Where: TBD. Purpose: The election of new officers, pass bylaws changes Notes: Scott Lieberman indicated that he would be willing to set up another Convention. As to whether it is Hong Fu, as in January 2002, or whether it is at another venue is still to be determined.

**RECURRING EVENTS:** \*Central Committee Meetings\*

(Continued on page 4, column 1)

Editor's Note:

Their plans are presented side-by-side because these two chairs plan to work together to use party events and actions to get media coverage.

## FEBRUARY LTE SUNDAY CANCELLED

Zander informs us that the LTE Sunday scheduled for February 17th (3rd Sunday of month) is cancelled because he will be at the LPC convention in Santa Maria on that weekend. But he asks you to participate in the next one, which will be at Stoddards in Campbell on March 17th (3 pm).

# HOW ATTENDING ANNUAL CONVENTION HELPED ME CONVERT TWO OF MY FRIENDS!

by Randy Overbeck, Reporter, SCL News

I attended my first Libertarian meeting, the Santa Clara Libertarian 2002 Annual Convention, on January 10th. In the November newsletter I had seen an advertisement for the dinner and the meeting. I thought it would be a great introduction to the Libertarian Party for my Fiancée and a friend who was visiting from New York.



Randy Overbeck

My friend from New York, Mike Reilly, is not very active in politics. He has never registered with a party, but he has voted in all the major elections that have been in his area. He classified himself as an independent before attending the event. Although after being given the link to the National Libertarian Party website in an email, he said that the Party did seem much closer to what he believed than the Republican or Democratic Party.



Mike Reilly

Just after arriving at the Hong Fu Restaurant, Marv Rudin was nice enough to give me a couple of copies of his LIFE cards with a Political Quiz (Very similar to the "World's Smallest Political Quiz"). Mike took the test and scored an Economic score of 8 and a Social score of 9. He commented that he was surprised that he was so libertarian and didn't know it. Unfortunately, we couldn't register him as he lives just outside of Rochester, NY. I will be following up to hopefully convince him to register with his local chapter.

Kim, my Fiancée, was a different matter entirely. Ever since I met her, Kim has been a registered Democrat. She would often agree with many of my libertarian positions but still hadn't considered switching her registration. So when I saw the ad for the meeting I knew that this was my chance to convince her to at least take a look at what the local LP had to offer.



Kim Smith

She took the Political Quiz just like Mike and scored very high as well (an Economic score of 8 and a Social score of 8.) This just served to confirm my supposition that the Libertarian Party was a much better fit than the Democratic Party. I offered to pay the registration fee for her, and with that she finally said yes. It was truly a great feeling for me to convince two of my very best friends to take a much closer look at a party that I knew was more in line with what they believe. ■

(Continued from page 3, column 1)

Stage 2: Building Organization -- To do so I plan to hold conference calls or short time meetings, or web meetings to meet Goal # 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.

Stage 3: Performance -- Carry out the purpose of each position above.

Continue to modify goals, methods, and activities of the chair. During this time develop metrics to measure the success of certain activities and their effectiveness.

(Continued from page 3, column 2)

April, July, October. Event date: 2nd Thursday(?) of each of the respective months. Where: TBD Purpose: For reporting out the activities undertaken by the LPSCC to the dues-paying members. Notes: \*LTE (Letters to the Editor) meetings.\* Event date: 3rd Sunday of every month, from 3pm to 5pm. Where: Stoddard's Brewery on Murphy Ave., Downtown Sunnyvale. Purpose: To provide a social setting for Libertarians to discuss and write letters to the editor for publication Notes: Another location for Stoddard's is opening up in downtown Campbell. Once the brewery in Campbell opens, the meeting location will be moved there. \*Orientation Meetings\* Event date: Proposed to be Quarterly. Where: TBD. Purpose: Welcoming new Libertarians to the party, invitation to become dues-paying members Notes: Libertarians don't do the best job of welcoming newcomers to their ranks. In an

attempt to reverse this state of affairs, we're going to be putting a more congenial face on the party by inviting new members to participate. This is also a great opportunity to gather the best information on our members so that the Membership rolls can be updated in a timely manner and on an ongoing basis. \*Gun Show Booths\* Event date: TBD. Where: TBD. Purpose: Outreach to gun-owners. Notes: Great venue for Operation Politically Homeless. Jason McClelland has been interested in efforts to organize and get these booths staffed. \*Singles Night\* Event date: Proposed to be Quarterly. Where: TBD. Purpose: Breeding more Libertarian Babies. Notes: I had discussions on this with Gloria Strong and Elizabeth Brierly. Not only would we like to see more people register as Libertarian, we would like to see more female involvement with the party. Singles night would seem to be the antithesis of this. Gloria observed that groups of women tend to attract more women. Naturally such groups, would seem to attract men as well. The purpose of "Singles Night" is to gather a group of Libertarian women together, create a comfortable space for them to socialize, and then give them the mandate to start organizing Libertarian singles nights. Why singles nights? The mailer for attendance for the October Central Committee meeting had a brief questionnaire. One of the options offered, as a joke, was the choice of "Just tell me when it's singles night". I was astonished to find that this joke was the most selected questionnaire option. This may work, it may not. It's an experiment. ■

# ***NEW EXCOM SHOWS ITS RESOURCEFULNESS***

## **When Sunnyvale Cocos Reservation Fizzles, Moves 1st Meeting To SJ Cocos To Hear League of Women Voters Lady And Begin To Organize 2002 Agenda**

Reported by Marv Rudin

Treasurer Jon Hugdahl, who had arranged an unusual Thursday night meeting for the newly elected Excom, may have been a little nonplussed when Cocos Sunnyvale reneged on the banquet room he'd reserved. But with aplomb he quickly got them to find a room at the nearest Cocos along the 101 freeway, which was at 1st and 101 in San Jose. In just 15 minutes guest Barbara Wardenburg of the League of Women Voters and all Excom members were in place and ready to go at Cocos #2.

Further resourcefulness was displayed at the Jan. 31 meeting when both the Publicity and Activities Chairs submitted their complementary plans for 2002 on which they had mutually conferred (see articles on pg.3 for details).

There were no urgent reports by members. Regarding old business, Secretary Joe Dehn described the status of the "VoteNoOn.org" web sites usage and described variations he offers such as links to other sites and some use of links on the LPSCC's sc.ca.lp site when no-on is not appropriate, such as for the Mt. View Energy Tax Revolt.



Ray Strong, Dennis Umphress, Barbara Wardenburg, Marv Rudin exiting Cocos Sunnyvale to go to Cocos 1st & 101 after losing reservation

Steve Prestrelski described the status of his Energy Tax Revolt Initiative petition drive, saying that on Saturday, March 17th the volunteers would gather at his apartment before going forth, but that he planned to set up a place to celebrate afterward, but hadn't yet selected where and when that would be. He said that if insufficient petition signatures were gathered on that Saturday, the effort would continue again the following day.

Joe Dehn was asked about the status of the Libertarian videos for public access cable he had bought for the LPSCC last year. He said the 2 showings he had gotten in Palo Alto and the 3 showings Glenda Stephens had garnered in Los Gatos were the only showings to date. New Publicity Chair asked to take over the tapes, as it fits with his plan to concentrate on media publicity almost exclusively.

Barbara Wardenburg then gave a presentation about the League of Women Voters free candidate web site called "Smart Voter" where the public can find out what all candidates for all offices offer, all in one place.

Laura Stewart said she'd like to concentrate on OPH outreach booths rather than getting people out to local government meetings as has been requested for her appointed office of Local Organizing Chair. 2. Dehn reported that the initial foray into putting the Libertarian show tapes by Selzer in LA has not continued.

Marv Rudin asked to add 2002 LPSCC goals to the agenda, and discussion on them began after the 9 pm when the meeting was scheduled to close. In the ensuing discussion Rudin asked for more than just setting goals as occurred in 2001. He requested a discussion and a resulting plan of how we'd try to reach the goals. Ed Allison proposed the primary goal be registrations. Rudin agreed and added that there also should be secondary measurable goals for publicity. Ray Strong said it would be difficult to measure publicity and other beneficial activities. Rudin suggested polling the public and registered Libertarians to measure and learn how well what we do works in both getting public attention and in attracting new party members. He emphasized that the subject was never discussed last year, that too much time was spent at the current meeting on discussing when and where to hold Excomm and CC meetings. And he asked that at the next Excom meeting goals and how to meet them be discussed starting earlier not 2 hours into the meeting - when everyone is antsy to leave). ■

Reported by Marv Rudin



Mike Laursen reaches out ..

For our lunch hour on Monday, January 28th, member Mike Laursen and your reporter took a first small step toward reaching out to the adult entertainment business people in our county by visiting one of only two nude clubs remaining in business here - the Kit Kat Club, in Sunnyvale - for a late lunch. As it turned out, the buffet lunch they advertise had been discontinued, so we had only a brief time to ogle the nude performers while trying to concentrate on how to reach the manager and employees with our Libertarian message.

Fortunately, being more of a tactilist than a voyeur, your reporter managed to concentrate on the primary mission at hand and reach the door man Rick, Milan the bartender, and Ivan, the manager, and a guy at the non-alcoholic beverage bar (no alcohol allowed!) with an LP message but did not talk to any of the performers directly because it looked like reaching out to them would be frowned on considering that they were constantly busy undulating their bodies. And the fact that the doorman wouldn't let me bring in a camera, nor Mike carry in a box of Adobe software he was bringing me for the SCL News was a bit inhibiting.



A Kit Kat Club employee shown lying down on the job

However we may have found a way to reach them with our message anyway. On leaving to get lunch after a 15 minute visit (and each of us poorer by a 10 buck cover charge), we took the opportunity to put LIFE cards on the cars in the parking lot, which just may have included cars of some of the of the dancers. I was told that the co-owner, Bill Orton - who also is co-owner of the Candid Club in Sunnyvale, is almost never there. So it looks like we had little chance to reach him. But there may be another way to reach him. Since visiting the Kit Kat I discovered that he also owns the Tarragon Restaurant in Sunnyvale. Hopefully we'll be able to make contact with him there. Our hope is to first introduce the owners and managers of such clubs to Libertarianism, on the theory that they may become advocates and put LP information out for employees and guests. And if everything were to go perfectly, all the dancers would go Libertarian, come to our meetings regularly, and our LPSCC ranks would suddenly mushroom with hundreds of new male members :-)).

On looking into the City of Sunnyvale's control over the adult ent business, Mike Laursen said "Check out **this article at:** <http://www.metroactive.com/papers/sunnyvale.sun/04.11.01/adult-laws-0115.html>. The Sunnyvale clubs have a cozier relationship with the City Council than I expected. It seems that the City Council grandfathered them out of a bunch of new regulations."

Sunnyvale's adult businesses have experienced the oppressive power with which government can threaten the freedoms of business owners and their patrons who are harming no one. I think we will find among them many libertarian thinking folks who are oblivious to the existence of a party that shares THEIR views. Based on the new law's grandfathering of the Kit Kat as the only nude bar allowed in Sunnyvale, we may find the owner(s) to have mixed emotions about reducing government power that provides them with a monopoly status. However, their employees may feel otherwise, as it restricts their opportunity to seek employment with competitors; and since the owners can't sell their business with the special monopoly privilege included, the value of their business could be very adversely affected.

The report of the Sunnyvale city attorney which ultimately resulted in the recent legislation is on the web at <http://www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us/200102/rtcs/01-3CA.asp> (which also references the ordinance itself). Apparently after a hurried hearing and then private negotiations with the affected businesses the city decided to keep it out of the courts by granting special treatment. It is obvious that the city's report and subsequent hearings and negotiations were all in the direction of how much restricting will the courts allow them to do, not how much freedom can they allow without a hue and cry from the voters. This report is a perfect example of how government bureaucrats - in this case the city attorney - can control the legislative process by giving legislators (i.e., city council) biased information that induces them to pass ever more controlling laws desired by the bureaucrats. Rarely is there a thoroughly researched countering report with information and evidence rebutting their report. Instead there are just hearings of complaints by those abeing oppressed, often individuals and businesses with inadequate resources and time to prepare and resist.

To give an idea of how ridiculously extensive and complex a city government's ordinance on adult entertainment can be, the latest Sunnyvale ordinance resulting from the referenced report and subsequent amendments to the prior ordinance, is a monstrous 10,080 words long!

## **RAY STRONG SPEAKS AGAINST MEASURE O TO ALMADEN GROUP**

Being a signatory for the LPSCC to the argument against Measure O, a San Jose bond proposal on the upcoming March 5 ballot, gave Chair Ray Strong the opportunity to address the Almaden Valley Community Association in January to explain why and how the Libertarian position makes sense. Apparently it was effective. Ray said "The outcome was no position taken on either bond measure (editor's note: he also spoke against Measure F) reflects AVCA reasonableness in the face of very difficult choices. As one of the members said, "We are caught between a rock and a hard place." Following is a version of his speech against O which he has slightly modified. It contains an insightful argument that can be useful against many proposed large government expenditures.

### **VOTE NO ON O**

My name is Ray Strong. I am a long time resident of San Jose and the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County. As a Libertarian, I must tell you that I have never seen a tax increase that I could support or a tax reduction I would not support. That being said, I want to give you some simple, practical reasons to vote against the ballot measure known as the "San Jose 911, Fire, Police, Paramedic, and Neighborhood Security Act," or as Measure O.

The main reason to vote against this type of ballot measure is that it **PUNISHES SUCCESS** and **REWARDS FAILURE**. When a government agency finances its operations by borrowing against tax income and then asking the voters to authorize still more borrowing and more taxes, there is a tendency for the agency to allow the most important and most needed operations to go undone while everything else is funded from the current budget. When voters observe how the important things are not being done, they will generally reward this mismanagement by voting more money to cover them. But if the agency is fiscally prudent and does the important things while leaving out the extras, the voters will punish them by failing to pass their bond measures. I am not suggesting that there is a conspiracy here to intentionally mislead, just that there is a tendency for public officials to act in ways that are rewarded by the voters, even when those ways reverse the priorities of good government. The only way to stop this tendency is for the public to refuse to pass bond and tax measures based on their stated purpose and insist on knowing the full set of budget priorities. Voters should not allow public officials to reverse priorities. They need to know how all the money is being spent before they agree to increases. The worse the condition a specific bond measure is supposed to solve, the more likely this reversing of priorities has taken place, and the more important it is for voters to refuse to be swindled and to turn out the politicians responsible.

The argument I have given you so far applies to all the bond and tax measures on the ballot in this election. The more deserving they seem, the more likely they represent priority reversal and should be defeated for that reason alone.

Now let's look at Measure O. Apparently, this is one of the most deserving of all. What could be higher in priority for San Jose government than police and fire protection. The ability of our uniformed service people to respond rapidly to emergencies has deteriorated. Shouldn't this be our top priority? How can we not vote to support our police and fire fighters? But wait — ask this same question of our elected officials: How could you not vote to support our police and fire fighters? The amount of money they are asking for in Measure O is \$165 Million. Given the seriousness of the problem and the extent of new facilities required to solve it, the \$165 Million hardly seems enough. In fact it isn't enough. It will not cover the salaries of the increased staff we need in San Jose. I believe a more appropriate amount to spend on police and fire enhancements would be the more than \$300 Million that the San Jose City Council has voted to budget for a New City Hall — without asking you!

The New City Hall is a monument to priority reversal. A vote for Measure O is a vote for the biggest and most significant priority reversal I have seen in a long time. I ask you to Vote NO on Measure O. I also ask that you check out the web site at [www.VoteNOonO.org](http://www.VoteNOonO.org).

But you might say, "We are caught between a rock and a hard place." We need the improvements Measure O promises. My response is that every time you give in to politicians and reward their failures, you make it harder to correct the problem. As voters we must insist that the Mayor and City Council get their priorities straight. Some of them are also up for election. Ask them what they do when they are caught between a rock and a hard place. How do they make the hard decisions between police and fire protection on the one hand and a new city hall on the other? Then, as voters rather than politicians, you do the right thing.

Thank you. ■



Ray Strong

# ***MV TAX REDUCTION INITIATIVE PETITION BLITZ MAR. 16TH - A CHANCE TO SHOW WHAT WE LIBERTARIANS CAN DO***



**Steve Prestrelski leads initiative to force tax rollback vote**

Reported by Marv Rudin

Energy Tax Reduction Initiative manager Libertarian Steve Prestrelski was forced to delay his big petition day originally planned for Feb. 2nd to March 16th due to legal technicalities. But this may give everyone more time to prepare. Steve says that with the help of enough of you and maybe your friends who want to see taxes reduced:

“We have a great opportunity here in Mountain View and I need your help to take advantage of it. You don't need to live in Mountain View to help, you just need to be a registered voter. The opportunity: To work with other libertarians on a 'weekend blitz' gathering signatures to get Mountain View's 'Energy Tax Reduction' initiative onto the November ballot. This initiative would roll back the long-standing 3% tax on electricity in Mountain View. The drastic increase in electricity prices during the past year has resulted in a corresponding "windfall" in increased tax revenues to the city of Mountain View...coming out of our pockets, of course. The initiative essentially caps the tax at the amount the city could have reasonably expected it bring in, namely 3% of the 'pre-energy-crisis' price on Jan 1, 2001.”

“Would you be willing to spend a few hours with us on March 16th (and Mar. 17th if need be) as we gather signatures for this petition? We're taking care of all the logistics. We just ask that you show up! And if you would also respond by email (Sprez33@aol.com) or phone (650-969-5198) to let me know you are coming, that would be even better. We will have 3 "sessions", come for one or all: SATURDAY 9:30 AM, meet to canvass from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM; meet to canvass from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM; SUNDAY 9:30 AM, meet to canvass from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. HEADQUARTERS: My house at 1971 W. Middlefield Road #5, Mountain View.” ■

## **(Annual Meeting - Continued from page 1)**

District 16, Keith Lyon for Assembly, District 20, Raymond Bell for Assembly, District 21, Kennita Watson for Assembly, District 22, and Gordon Sachtjen for Assembly, District 27, and Tom Spielbauer for Superior Court, Seat 16.

Also endorsed were any and all Energy Tax Rollback Initiatives in the county to cover the one being attempted in Mountain View, and any others that may come up.

Officers elected were Ray Strong as Chair, Joe Dehn as Secretary and Jon Hugdahl as Treasurer. No one put their hat in the ring for Vice Chair.

Committee Chairs elected were Steve Prestrelski as Membership, Ed Allison as Publicity, Marv Rudin as Newsletter, Dennis Umphress as Campaign, and Zander Collier as Activities. No one ran for Fundraising. All were elected unanimously except Newsletter, for which there were 4 NOTA (None Of The Above) votes.

Several appointments by the Executive Committee meeting on January 5th were ratified by Central Committee vote as follows; Laura Stewart's appointment as Local Organizing

Committee Chair, Mark Hinkle's appointment as LPC ExCom Representative, Joe Dehn's appointment as Alternate LPC ExCom Representative, Roger Ver's as LPC Platform Representative. Zander Collier's appointment as LPC Program Representative.



**More LPSCC members turned out than expected - easily met needed 10% quorum**

Unlike all other elections on the night, there was competition other than NOTA for the 3 Judicial Committee positions. So a complex voting procedure using poker chips was applied to determine the outcome, which was that Bill White with 36 votes, Elizabeth Brierly with 33 votes, and Kennita Watson with 23 votes were elected. Other votes were 20 for Mary Gingell, 16 for John Webster, 15 for Paul Rako, and 3 for NOTA.



**Multicolor chips were used for complex voting for 3 Judicial Committee seats and 6 nominees**

Election of Delegates was simplified by the fact that less than the LPC's regional delegates allotment rule of 0.5% of the number of central committee members (= 18 for the LPSCC) sked to be delegates. So it went swiftly, with Mary Gingell, Dennis Umphress, Elizabeth Brierly, Marv Rudin, Zander Collier, Scott Lieberman, Laura Stewart, Andrew Garret, Ed Allison, Roger Ver, Joe Dehn,

**(Continued on next page)**

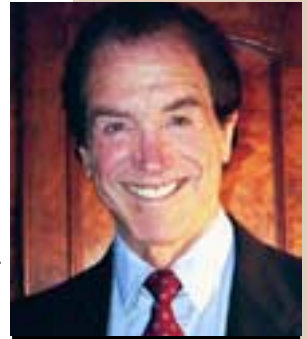


# Goals - How To Set, How To Measure?

## OPINIONS

Last year our Excom voted to commit to 3 goals - (1) Raise SCC LP registrations from 0.75% to 0.85%; (2) Run 8 candidates for public office and elect 1; (3) Attain 500 volunteer actions. But there was no discussion and little effort to try to reach the first goal, and two of them were badly missed. Now goals are a fine thing to set if they are challenging but reasonably achievable, based either on direct experience or on proposed new methods that look promising because of some form of related experience. Otherwise goals are just form without substance, doubly so if they are not taken seriously and real effort is not applied to reach them.

Our party is less than 1% of the electorate. Therefore it desperately needs a huge amount of growth in members - both registered voter, dues paying, and activist kinds of members - to be able to have any real effect on reining in excessive government and restoring freedom. And our methods to achieve growth in these numbers must be (a) be efficient of time and money per new registrant, and (b) be measurable in ways that are accurate enough to not be misleading, nor require great effort or cost. Potential methods of achieving growth are numerous and complex; they will be discussed on next month's Opinions page, hopefully after some incisive Excom discussions. But what to focus on and measure seems apparent: (1) Registrations and (2) Public Familiarity gained from party Publicity and Outreach.



Marvin B. Rudin, Editor

**Registrations:** Registrations totals are the most fundamental measure of each party's relative size and importance. And the registrations database identifies individual Libertarians, enabling party activists to economically solicit dues paying members, volunteers, and donations for project financing. So increasing registrations should be a prime goal of the LPSCC. And because of fluctuations of over 10% in total registrations when the Registrar of Voters purges the county database, registrations as a percentage of total county registrations is both more accurate and is not hard to calculate.

**Public Familiarity:** A very important supporting goal, which is a prerequisite of gaining new LP registrants, is growth of public familiarity with the party name and its principles. It is known that 1 of 6 members of the public already think Libertarian, but nearly 90% of them aren't aware that the LP shares their views. Recognition of the LP name and knowledge of its views must be built up by various methods of publicity and outreach, and by providing easily obtained LP information to inquirers whose curiosity has been aroused by publicity and outreach (which our web sites do very well nowadays). Measurement of effectiveness of different forms of publicity - such as how many viewer/listener minutes (radio/TV/cable) and reader-column-inches (print publications) we manage to achieve each year - may be too costly and difficult for us to consider. For electronic media publicity we might ask Libertarians to tune in to a particular news or talk show regularly and estimate the seconds or minutes of LPSCC publicity. For written publicity we might ask Libertarians to commit to regularly scanning their local papers and notify the Publicity Committee of the column inches with LPSCC publicity. Or, as a measure of all LP publicity (not just locally generated publicity) we could just regularly poll about 100 members of the public - say quarterly - to see what percentage are aware of the LP, and what percentage know what it stands for. The latter, it seems to me, is the least difficult. So it is what I think we should do. We'd just need to enlist about 10 volunteers to undertake about twice a year. My experience is that reaching 10 people by phone and asking them these two simple questions - 1. What are the political parties? and 2. What does the LP stand for? takes about 2 hours; so it's not an inordinate burden to ask volunteers to do twice a year, to assess how well our publicity efforts are working. What do you think? ■

### (Annual Meeting - Continued from previous page)

and Mike Bearden being elected by acclamation. The Chair, the LPC rep, and elected public office holders such as John Mehaffey are automatically authorized as delegates, so the LPSCC total delegate count will be 16 - just one less than the Orange County contingent of 17.

In order to maximize the LPSCC's potential representation at the upcoming 2002 LPC convention on Presidents weekend (Feb. 16 - 17), a motion was passed authorizing all qualified members of the LPSCC to be alternates and to allow the delegates to determine the order of seating of these alternates at the LPC convention.



Members rise as meeting adjourns

Cocktails began at 6:30 pm and dinner at 7 pm. The meeting was well organized by Chair Ray Strong assisted by Zander Collier and Jon Hugdahl, plus dinner organizer Scott Lieberman, and went at a brisk pace. Official business opened at 7:40 pm and closed at 9:08 pm, but many stimulating conversations among guests went on both before dinner and after the meeting both in the foyer and outside in the parking lot. ■



Darnell and Rako listening attentively to proceedings

Editor's Note:

Had a Libertarian outreach experience? Converted someone?

Write about it to the editor! email or phone - see at right

US mail: 651 Princeton Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Officers:

Table listing officers and their contact information: Chairman (Ray Strong), Vice Chairman (open), Secretary (Joe Dehn), Treasurer (Jon Hugdahl), Membership (Steve Prestrelski), Campaign (Dennis Umphress), Publicity (Ed Allison), Fundraising (open), Activities (Zander Collier), Newsletter (Marv Rudin), Local Organizing (Laura Stewart), State ExCom Rep (Mark Hinkle), Alt ExCom Rep (Joe Dehn).

Table listing committee members: Judicial Committee (Bill White, Kennita Watson, Elizabeth Brierly).

This is the publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit political organization.

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY



of Santa Clara County

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Application

- o \$25 Basic
o \$100 Sustaining
o \$250 Sponsor
o \$500 Patron
o \$1000 Life

Plus an additional contribution to the LPSCC:

- o Monthly pledge
o One-time donation

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:

- o Check payable to: Libertarian Party
o VISA or MasterCard or Discovery or E-Gold (circle one)

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

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