



The Liberty Pledge

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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!

Libertarian Party Debt Paid! At long last and with considerable effort and sacrifice, our debt to vendors and individuals has been paid. This was accomplished by reducing Headquarters personnel and expenses and by asking those who have supported us in the past to pay it off once and for all. As of the end of July, we had outstanding bills of \$6,340.15, down from well over \$150,000 of a year ago. We have sufficient pledges to pay off the old debt and to cover current expenses.

We have developed strict financial controls out of this hardship. We are determined **never again** will we permit a debt that impedes the progress of our Party. Your continuous and generous support is the backbone of our Party's ability to carry out new programs and to light the lamp of freedom wherever we can.

GENE BURNS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION! The leading candidate for our Party's Presidential nomination, Gene Burns, will be interviewed on C-SPAN on Thursday, August 25 from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. If you receive C-SPAN live, there will be an opportunity to call in or you may just sit back and enjoy our finest raconteur. A public access cable station devoted primarily to national politics, C-SPAN is doing a series on Presidential candidates. You might wish to throw a few tough questions at your John Glenns, Walter Mondales, etc. and then give Gene the same ones to lend a little continuity to C-SPAN's examination of the leading Presidential candidates.

Convention News: Our Fourth Presidential Nominating Convention will launch our 1984 campaigns. Campaign '84 Chair, Jim McKeown(NY), and his Committee will officially get Campaign '84 underway with our Kickoff Luncheon on Friday, September 2 at the Sheraton Centre Hotel. Your special invitation is enclosed. If you are not going to the convention, you might just want to make a contribution at this time.

For most conventioners the nomination of our Presidential Candidate on Saturday morning, September 3, the acceptance speech immediately following the nomination on the floor of the convention, and the Saturday night banquet featuring entertainment, an address by the nominee, and dancing will highlight their convention experience.

HEADQUARTERS HAPPENINGS: We are grateful for your support and also for those who came in to help us in July. They are Susan Van Dyke(VA), Sabrina Youdim(TX), Al Knight(MD), Ed Jowett(NY), Jim Hedbor(VT), Bryan Coupal(MD), Jim Lewis(CT), and David Saum(VA). We have distributed more literature from this office in 1983 than we did during the entire 1980 Clark campaign.

See you in New York.

Honey

OPINIONS

Bareback horsewoman's message exposes onlooker to naked truth

by Mike Boyce

Last Friday I went downtown to photograph a 20th Century Lady Godiva. The original Lady Godiva, the 11th Century wife of the Lord of Coventry, shunned her clothing and rode bare-back through the market place after her husband agreed to lift an oppressive tax he had imposed on the townspeople if she made the ride. Unfortunately, no tax lift was promised for last Friday's ride. The caper was staged by local Libertarians to draw attention to the oppressive nature of all taxation. I couldn't help but think what radical extremists these Libertarians are, displaying such signs as "Taxation is Extortion" and "Taxation is Theft." But after some careful thought, I realized how thorough my social conditioning had been. In fact the group I was so quick to label as "radical extremists" were really opening my eyes to the truth.

"Extortion" is defined: Obtaining money, information, etc. by coercion or intimidation. "Theft" is defined as the taking of property by force or against the will of the owner. How do

you define taxation?

Isn't it true most American's pay their taxes because of the penalty for not paying? Isn't jail and loss of all property and rights for tax evasion really coercion and intimidation? By definition, if I don't want to pay my taxes and am forced to, taxation becomes theft. Theft is theft, whether committed by individuals or groups, such as government.

Some argue that taxes are necessary to support services which can only be provided by government. Hogwash! Do our streets lie knee deep in garbage if the city does not provide for its removal? No! But you argue, muggers and rapists would roam at will without tax supported police; that trains and buses would cease to exist without governmental assistance. But ask yourself why men and women would be so foolish as to allow such services to cease without government intervention.

Do men run naked in the street because the pants industry is privately run? Do we forget to report to our jobs because government does not provide us with alarm clocks? Of

course not.

It is ridiculous to assert that rational people would fail to voluntarily support services they need if they were not forced to. It's just as ridiculous and immoral to force people to support any service just

because one man or group of men think they know what is best for everyone.

Thank you Lady Godiva and Libertarians for opening my eyes, not only to a beautiful bare body, but also to the naked truth!



Mike Boyce joined the Libertarian Party on June 6, 1983.