

JAN - 1988

The Liberty Pledge News

Tax Protest Day Coming

Dear Monthly Pledger,

Oh, I'm learning the wonders of volunteers. What would we do without them! The National LP Office simply could not complete the work assigned to us were it not for the time and skills that our volunteers add.

We sent a letter to local Libertarians asking for their help and they've really responded, but even before that we've had area people coming by the office and pitching in. In fact, we've had volunteers from Michigan, Oregon and Pennsylvania as well.

In just the last ten days, we've logged 50 volunteer person-hours. I want to take this opportunity to thank our great volunteers and also to let you know that we're working to be efficient and productive with our limited manpower and resources.

Tax Protest Day is fast approaching and I'm wondering what sort of theme we should have this year. Taxes are always an issue, but we have to capitalize on them. We need to find a way to capture the feelings of frustration that Americans have on April 15th.

We'll need your input and support again this year to make Tax Protest Day a success. This type of event, like Volunteer Day, can gain us positive media and public attention as well as allowing our candidates a chance to speak on the issue. I hope you'll get involved in your area.

Speaking of Volunteer Day, I've included a few articles from the activities in over 25 places. This event, not conceived of until late October, was a big

success thanks to some super activists and the positive feedback that comes from doing something nice. We made our point. Next year will be even better... what with Ron Paul in the White House declaring it a national holiday.

On the back page of this issue of Liberty Pledge News, you'll find an article on the Jim Lewis trial. Jim, who you probably know was the Libertarian candidate for Vice-President in 1984, is on trial for willful failure to file with the IRS. Jim is a great spokesman and boy does he have something to say! We at the National Office wish him all the best.

By the way, our ole buddies at the IRS have a new regulation which requires us to "conspicuously" inform anyone solicited for a contribution that the gift is not tax deductible. Now let's work to inform the politicians and bureaucrats that it won't be long before we don't have to worry about tax deductions because we will have little, if any, taxation.

Yours for liberty,



Paul Jacob
National Director

The Liberty Pledge News is produced monthly for members of the National Libertarian Party's Pledge Program, Independence '88 and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to State Party Chairs and National Committee members in appreciation of their contributions and to make available information on Headquarters activities and Libertarians in the news. Clippings and other items of interest are greatly appreciated.

Libertarian Party Headquarters * 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE * Washington, DC 20003
Can we be of help? Want to raise your pledge? Call 1-800-682-1776.

End of hated draft

Tomorrow marks the 15th anniversary of the all-volunteer Army. At Army recruitment centers around the country, birthday cakes (with 15 candles) will be presented to recruitment officers in this historic celebration of "Volunteer Day."

Consider the symbolic aspects of this libertarian celebration: the replacement of the hated and coercive military draft with voluntary enlistments.

Go back to early 1973. Picture a divided people, torn apart by a costly and unpopular war, forced upon our citizens by lying and unthinking political leaders; all made possible by a harsh form of slavery — the military draft.

Our country needs a strong military to protect it from those who would threaten the individual liberty of each free man and woman. And it's happening today — without force, without coercion.

LEO Z. ALMAN
Squirrel Hill

(The writer is Policy Committee chairman of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania.)

Wednesday, January 27, 1988

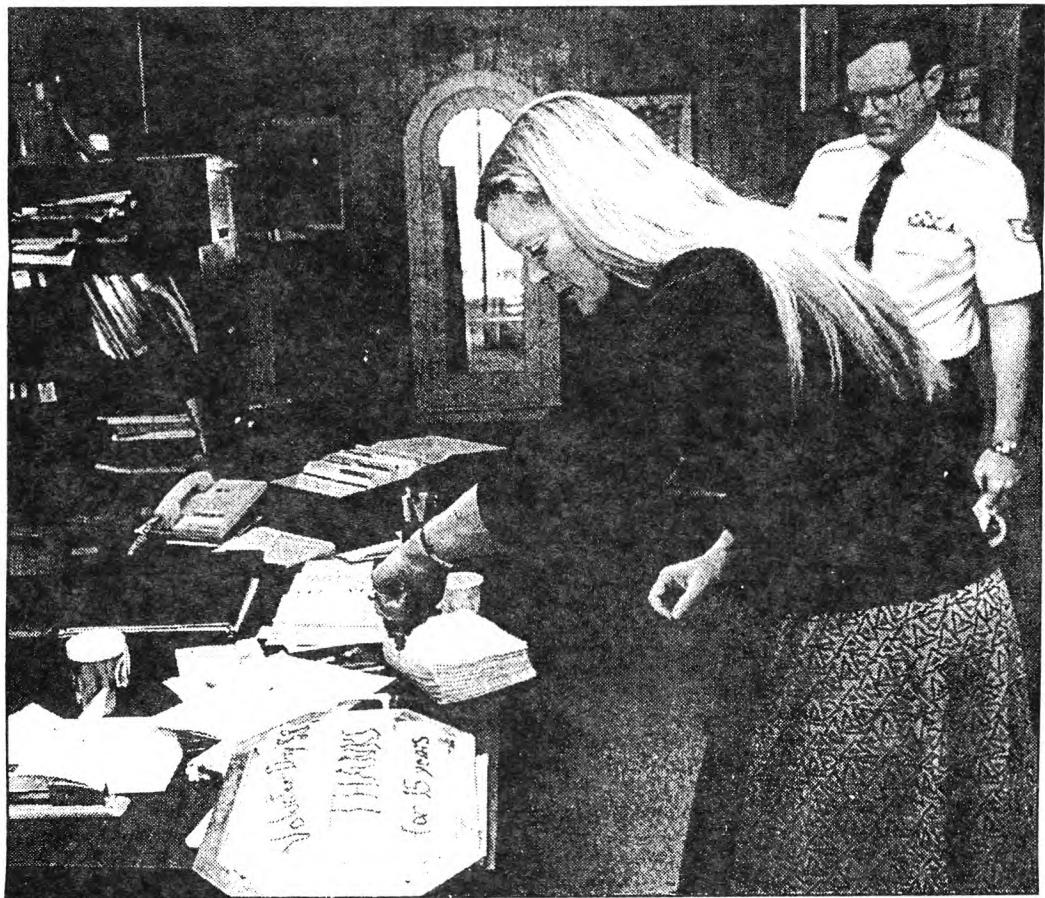
All-Volunteer Observing 15th

Editor, The Opelika-Auburn News:

I would like to remind the readers of the *Opelika-Auburn News* that the all-voluntary military service in the United States is celebrating its 15th birthday today. We, as a country, witnessed the failure of using a military draft during the Vietnam War. The draft combines the worse of a lottery with slavery of the individual. Long live the all-volunteer military service.

One remaining remnant of the draft is draft registration, which is still on the books but which everyone agrees (except the draft registration bureaucrats) is a complete failure and of no military value. President Reagan ran in 1980 on a platform that denounced the draft as being against the values that this country was founded on. With his utter failure to meet most if not all his campaign promises, such as controlling government spending, balancing the budget, and in general to "get government off our backs", it is still in his power to make good on his promise to end draft registration in this his last year as President.

Happy Birthday America
Sincerely yours,
Mark Thornton
Secretary
Lee County Libertarian Party



PETER MORENUS/The Post-Standard

Dottie Brokaw, a member of the National Libertarian Party, cuts a cake she brought Wednesday to the military recruitment office

in Cortland to hail the 1973 change to an all-volunteer military. Staff Sgt. Buck Campbell, the Air Force recruiter is at right.

This Takes the Cake

Libertarians Pay Thank-You Visits to Recruiters

By JOHN S. TONELLO

CORTLAND — Fifteen years ago Wednesday, President Richard Nixon officially ended the armed services draft, and to celebrate, Libertarians around the country delivered cakes to local recruiters.

Paul Jacob, president of the National Libertarian Party, said party members in about 50 cities across the country delivered cakes or other thanks to express their approval of the volunteer ranks.

"It's a way to say thanks and give a cheer for the volunteer army," Jacob said from his Washington office.

In Cortland, Libertarian Dottie Brokaw brought a cake and other refreshments to the recruiters working in their office at 58 Main St. She handed the cake to Sgt. Dale A. Sanford, an Army field recruiter, and expressed her thanks.

Sanford accepted the cake gracefully, but he was a little worried earlier in the day, when Brokaw called him and said she was "bringing over a surprise — when will the most people be there?"

At first he thought Brokaw's surprise might be a terrorist threat, he said.

"These are bad times," he explained.

Sanford said the Department of Defense a short while later issued a memorandum telling recruiters across the country not to fear — the Libertarian thanks were legitimate.

Jacob said that he and other Libertarians support the United States military, but that the party is against Selective Service mandating that men

register for a draft when they turn 18.

"We see it as a meaningless service," he said. "Freedom is better than force."

In 1980, Jacob refused to register for the draft and remained underground, traveling around the county to spread his ideas, he said. In 1984, however, he decided to resurface. Federal Bureau of Investigation agents knocked on his door in Little Rock, Ark., later that year, and Jacob ended up spending five months in jail.

The Libertarian Party is against big government and supports non-violent politics, Jacob said, but it favors a volunteer army because it reflects the public interest.

"We're less apt to fight a 'bad' war such as Vietnam with volunteers," he said.

Sgt. Mark W. Burns at the Cortland office, said the volunteer service is an "unqualified success."

"It's working so well the Defense Department is upping the quality of recruits," he said.

Burns said his Cortland office fills its annual recruiting goals three months ahead of schedule because of plentiful volunteers.

In 1973, when Nixon canceled the draft, it ended an era of draftcard burning and war protest. That atmosphere has changed, Burns noted.

Andrew M. Patterson, 18, a Cortland High School student, plans to go for testing next week, and said he hopes to join the army for a six-year stint.

"I want to earn money for college," Patterson said. "And I want to join for the excitement."

'I'm the voter's alternative,' Libertarian candidate says

By Catherine Liden
FLORIDA TODAY

Ron Paul sees his Libertarian candidacy for president in the same light as John Anderson's campaign as an independent in 1980 — an option for people tired of the political status quo.

The former Texas congressman made his switch from the Republican Party to the Libertarian Party last year because much of the GOP's conservative rhetoric sounded good, but it wasn't being acted on, he said.



PAUL

Paul, 52, was on a campaign swing through Florida on Thursday, trying to drum up support to get about 60,000 signatures to have his name put on the November ballot in Florida. An obstetrician by profession, Paul served in Congress from 1976 to 1984 as a Republican representing

part of Houston — including Johnson Space Center.

The Libertarian Party, which boasts 1.5 million members nationwide, has a civil liberties platform more akin to liberals and an economics policy similar to Reaganomics. The party's beliefs include minimal government, private ownership and wide-scale freedoms.

On virtually all issues, Paul and his party believe big government does more damage than good.

Following are Paul's stands on several issues:

■ **Space spending:** Privatization of space for commercial purposes is desirable, but some government money should be spent to "defend" space. "We should have a knowledge of space for defensive reasons."

While he was representing JSC in Congress, Paul said he voted against the NASA budget appropriation only once.

■ **Defense:** The United States should stop defending foreign countries and bring all its overseas troops home. No funding for the

contras and the end of Selective Service registration are included in Paul's stands.

In addition, only the minimum amount of nuclear weapons necessary for the country's protection should be maintained, he said.

■ **The economy:** The minimum wage should be abolished because it contributes to unemployment, Paul said. His theory: If merchants have to pay someone \$3.35 an hour, they might not hire as many people as they would if they could pay less.

Government spending should be slashed dramatically and the federal income tax eliminated. The government's procedure of buying on credit through the Federal Reserve Bank also should be eliminated.

■ **Welfare:** Social Security should be phased out and catastrophic insurance offered through private insurance companies. Government-subsidized medical and education benefits should be eliminated.

"When government steps in, things get much worse. Once government subsidizes, the prices get higher."

New Haven Register Jan. 8, 1988

Libertarian offers tenets in state visit

Candidate links party
to Jefferson, Henry

By Barbara Steinberger
Register Staff

HARTFORD — What do Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and Andre Marrou have in common?

Marrou, the Libertarian Party's vice presidential candidate, will tell you that many of the nation's founding fathers promoted the same limited-government philosophy that drives him and other members of the modern-day Libertarian Party.

Marrou's name isn't quite up there with Jefferson's and Henry's, but he is hoping to make himself better known by traveling around the country, spreading his party's ideology and picking up some contributions along the way.

On Thursday, he took his campaign to the Capitol and the High School in the Community in New Haven. He was scheduled to hit New Hampshire and Vermont later in the week.

"If Thomas Jefferson came back now, he would be appalled at the size of government," said Marrou, 49, a former Alaska state representative. "I think we are going to do a lot better (in the November election) than anyone thinks we are. We are the only party that takes a firm stand on anything."

That the party takes firm stands may be an understatement. Among other things, Marrou and his running mate, presidential candidate Ron Paul, favor abolition of taxes, military drafts, Medicare, Social Security and anything else that "emphasizes and maximizes government instead of emphasizing and maximizing individual freedoms," he said.

Marrou walked through the Capitol with James Lewis of Old Saybrook, the Libertarians' 1984 vice presidential candidate. Marrou, a real estate broker who lived in Massachusetts for 17 years, wore a gold pin made up of a screw going through the letters IRS.

(cont. next page)

Jury selection to begin today

Old Saybrook Libertarian faces trial in tax case

By CAROLYN FARRAR

An Old Saybrook man active in Libertarian Party politics plans to use the U.S. Constitution as a defense when he goes on trial on charges of failing to pay federal income taxes.

Jury selection is scheduled to begin today in U.S. District Court in New Haven for the trial of James A. Lewis, charged with willful failure to file income-tax returns.

Lewis, a sales representative for a bookbinding company who once ran for the vice presidency and the U.S.

Senate, is charged with three counts of failure to file income-tax returns. He is charged with one count for each of the years 1981, 1982 and 1983.

He admitted that he has not filed income-tax returns since the early 1980s and has not had Social Security withheld from his paycheck since 1984. But in his Libertarian view, Lewis said, income tax is unconstitutional. He wants his trial to test the government's right to impose a direct tax on private citizens, a right that he said is not in the Constitution.

Lewis shares that belief with other

Libertarians. They believe that individuals have the right "to exercise sole dominion over their own lives," according to formal Libertarian principles.

"Show me the section in the Constitution [that empowers government to apply direct, unapportioned tax] and I'll file right now," Lewis said. "The IRS said to me, 'Well, Mr. Lewis, I think we all know we're obliged to file tax returns.'

"I wasn't satisfied with that," he said.

See Old Saybrook, next page

(cont. from
previous page)

Paul and Marrou have yet to get their names on the ballot in Connecticut, but Marrou said he expected to collect enough signatures to reach that goal. He described the signature requirements for third-party candidates as "highly unconstitutional."

"There are no free elections in this country," Marrou said. "The two (major) parties are doing everything they can to suppress our freedom."

So far, he and Paul have enough signatures to appear on the ballots in nearly half of the states, he said.

Continued from previous page

Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas S. Lavine said the trial probably will not begin until next month.

Lavine said each count against Lewis brings with it a maximum one-year prison sentence. Lewis also faces a \$10,000 fine for the first count and a \$25,000 fine for each successive count, Lavine said.

Lewis said he has not calculated how much he would owe, and Lavine said payment of unpaid taxes would not be part of the penalty in a criminal case. The IRS would be responsible for collecting unpaid taxes, Lavine said. IRS officials could not be reached Monday because of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.

Lavine said Lewis also could be liable for prosecution costs. He would not comment further.

Lewis, who will act as his own attorney, said he will focus on two issues: the constitutionality of a direct, unapportioned tax and the right of the jury to determine law.

Lewis said that, according to the Constitution, a direct tax, such as a personal-income tax, can only be imposed for a set amount of revenue, and only after it has been appor-

"Show me the section in the Constitution [that empowers government to apply direct, unapportioned tax] and I'll file right now. . . . The IRS said to me, 'Well, Mr. Lewis, I think we all know we're obliged to file tax returns.'"

James A. Lewis
Faces trial on tax charges



tioned on a per-capita basis.

He said he will offer in his defense court rulings and papers dating back to the 18th century that support his positions on taxes and on his contention that the jury should run the trial. Lewis opposes the practice of the judge explaining the law to the jury when it is sent out to deliberate.

"I am a strict constructionist of the Constitution and I believe it means what it said," Lewis said.

In 1981 Lewis convinced his employer, General Book Binding Co. of Cleveland, that he should not have income tax withheld from his paycheck because it was unconstitutional. In 1984, Lewis said, "I realized, 'Hey, Social Security is still a direct tax.' How did they compel me into a so-called old-age insurance program?" He then convinced his employer to stop withholding Social Security.

Lewis said that he notified the IRS and the Social Security Administration that he had "opted out" of the programs. He said a Social Security representative told him that was not possible.

"I can't help it if they didn't write any provision in there to get out," Lewis said. "I'm out unless you can prove how I'm not out."

He said his employer has not been reached by the IRS or Social Security.

Last year Lewis made an unsuccessful bid for the Libertarian presidential nomination. In 1982 he was the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate, running against Republican incumbent Lowell P. Weicker. In 1984 he was the Libertarian vice presidential candidate, running with presidential contender David Bergland.

Lewis said he was concerned about the prospect of going to prison, saying, "There isn't going to be any leniency here. Nobody wants to go to prison for three years or have that hanging over your head, but it comes down to what you believe in."

"You have to take a stand and you have to take chances," Lewis said. "At least I do."

Unconventional candidate ready to battle Kostmayer

By SEAN LEBOFSKY
Staff Writer

Don Ernsberger likely will be the most unconventional opponent U.S. Rep. Peter Kostmayer, D-8th, will face this year.

The 40-year-old teacher of philosophy and humanities at Council Rock High School in Newtown will announce his candidacy on Jan. 20, saying he wants "to raise the issues that Democrats and Republicans are not real thrilled about facing."

"I don't fit into the normal mold of a normal politician. I don't expect to win because I will

be running as an independent candidate, but, if I did, I certainly wouldn't mind taking a seat in Congress."

Ernsberger doesn't want to be accused of hiding his past, which includes being a draft dodger during the Vietnam War.

"I consciously avoided being drafted, and I am proud of it — I am not bragging about it — but I am being very honest because I thought the war was wrong," he said.

He likes to slip back into the '60s every once in while so he picks up his 12-string acoustic guitar and plays some folk music

by Bob Dylan, Harry Chapin, James Taylor, or Peter, Paul and Mary.

He likes folk songs with philosophical ideas but also can bang out the Rolling Stones on his electric guitar when he's in the mood.

Ernsberger is not concerned with name recognition or spending hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"I would like to provide Bucks County with an independent congressman whose task it is to provide new and innovative ideas," he said. "A congressman's job is not to go to Washington, D.C. with a tin cup and beg for money. All

of my ideas will not be adopted, but at least they will have a chance."

Among those ideas are a plan to balance the budget.

Armed with a master's degree and doctorate credit in American economic history, he says he knows where to slice federal programs.

Some examples include cutting the federal highways program from \$18 billion to \$5 billion; cutting the Army Corps of Engineers projects, which he calls a pork barrel for many congressmen, from \$23 billion to \$10 billion; and cutting the defense budget by \$40 billion.

The reporter
Bucks Co., PA
Jan. 16, 1988