



LPC Monthly

The Libertarian Party of California - Official Monthly Newsletter



January 2002

Volume II Issue 1



DON'T LET IT HAPPEN



From the Chair

How much is a volunteer worth for one day's work? How about \$200,000 over the next ten years?

In November, the City Clerk of Bellflower threw out our petition to reduce utility taxes on a legal technicality that wasn't even our fault. In the past, we might have just sulked and gone home with our tails between our legs, wallowing in self-pity. Of course, people know I don't like doing business that way.

Instead, we let the City Clerk know that it was going to be very painful to treat us that way. We submitted a new, stronger initiative designed to return even more money to the taxpayers.

And on December 8, twenty-five people spent the better part of the day gathering enough signatures to qualify this new measure. This initiative is estimated to reduce taxes by around \$500,000 per year every year from now on. So, doing the math, as I'm often inclined to do, we take \$500,000, multiply it by ten years and divide it by 25 volunteers. That's \$200,000 per volunteer. Not bad for a day's work!

How is the city government of Bellflower responding to us? They're trying to pass their own ordinance that will reduce utility taxes only a tiny amount, if at all.

Think about this for a minute. For years our movement has been playing defense, reacting to what the government does. Now, we are on the offensive and they are reacting to us. Doesn't that feel a lot better?

We can definitely do more. We have other cities targeted for tax reductions and we need your help.

If you'd like to also work a day to deprive a city, perhaps yours, of \$200,000 in ill-gotten tax dollars, call Executive Director David Molony today at 818-782-8400.

For less than \$10,000, you can help our partisan candidates bring hundreds of new enthusiastic Libertarians into our movement.

Can you imagine turning our partisan candidates into a sales force for Liberty going after thousands of intelligent young people in colleges and universities all over the country?

We sure can.

We're putting together a program for our partisan candidates to make presentations in front of college political science classes about libertarianism.

While making presentations on our philosophy, candidates will be telling students that they can earn a \$5,000 scholarship towards college costs if they write the winning essay on libertarianism. Names and addresses of willing participants will be submitted to the national party, who will send scholarship applications and a recommended Libertarian reading list. Candidates and the party will followup to answer questions and encourage them to apply.

The winning student will get a \$5,000 scholarship and the candidate who recruits that student will get a \$2,000 award.

If we can get just 400 students to apply nationwide, that's only \$25 per student. Talk about value for the money.

And if you're willing to underwrite this project, we will name the scholarship after you.

If this sounds like a worthwhile project to you, please call Executive Director David Molony today at 818-782-8400.

— Aaron Starr, CPA
Chairman
Libertarian Party of California
starrcpa@pacbell.net

STOP THROWING MONEY AT CDC

By Michelle Malkin

Dr. David Satcher, the nation's lame duck surgeon general, wants taxpayers to cough up more money for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This irrelevant bureaucrat's last-ditch money grab is one of the more distasteful examples of exploiting the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks for institutional gain.

At a medical conference on bioterrorism in San Francisco this week, Satcher — a Clinton-appointed holdover who leaves office in February — blasted the CDC's research facilities as a national disgrace. He whined about an electricity blackout that left the Atlanta-based CDC labs without power during the early days of the anthrax attacks. The country, Satcher told the media, should be "ashamed of the condition of the laboratories." He then promoted a bipartisan proposal by Sens. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., and Bill Frist, R-Tenn., to boost the CDC coffers by \$3.2 billion.

Neither Congress nor the public should fall for Satcher's poorhouse rhetoric. The CDC's overall annual budget is nearly \$4 billion — and growing every year. Over the past decade, the agency has abandoned its primary focus on infectious diseases and instead splurged on kiddie condom ads, "anti-bullying" lessons, anti-smoking propaganda, gender inequity awareness, anti-gun junk science, public relations campaigns against politically incorrect "social" diseases (such as TV violence), and other Big Brother behavior modification programs that treat individual vices — personal lifestyle choices — as germs to be eradicated.



Michelle Malkin

Moreover, unlike most government agencies, the CDC has its own high-powered private benefactors pressing Congress for increased funding. The "Friends of CDC" is an Atlanta-based group of deep-pocketed corporations, including the Home Depot Inc., BellSouth Corp., Delta Air Lines Inc., and United Parcel Service Inc., which each pitched in \$5,000 to form a lobbying group for the agency. That campaign helped secure more than \$100 million more in federal funds this year for CDC building upgrades and repairs.

Nevertheless, Satcher and public health officials continue to carp about the labs' crumbling infrastructure — leaky roofs, termite-infested floors, broken air conditioners, overcrowded offices, and dilapidated refrigerators.

Who's to blame? It's "the fault of the nation, not the fault of the CDC," Satcher complained.

Perhaps Satcher has been too busy teaching kindergarteners about birth control to read the government's own reviews of how the CDC squanders public funds. A report issued earlier this year by the U.S. General Accounting Office and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP concluded that the CDC's financial management staff was largely "incompetent" and that its managers had "little or no accounting experience."

The review was ordered after a whistleblower exposed how CDC essentially lied to Congress about where it spent federal funds set aside for chronic fatigue syndrome. About half of the \$22.7 million appropriated for the vaguely-defined malady was spent on other research or could not be accounted for by the CDC.

Shortly after apologizing for that fiasco, the CDC admitted "misdirecting" up to \$7.5 million earmarked each year since 1993 for research on the deadly hantavirus. Some went to CDC officials studying a viral outbreak in Malaysia. The rest of the diverted funds, as one official confessed, were almost impossible to trace because of CDC bookkeeping practices. And soon after that, a congressional panel chaired by Rep. Thomas Bliley, R-Va., expanded its probe of the CDC to examine the dubious handling of some \$13 million in public funds to seek out 4 million people thought to be infected by hepatitis C.

"There appears to be a diversion of funds and, on the surface, that seems to be a pattern at CDC," noted Pete Sheffield, a spokesman for Bliley. Congress should think twice before giving in to Dr. Satcher and his public health cronies begging for money under the guise of combating terrorism. Throwing more money at the blame-mongers, book-cookers and blind spenders at the CDC will only make the problem worse. **LPC**

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Cover Story and Convention

Libertarians. It feels like all other Americans are ready to give up constitutional guarantees, and the Libertarian Party alone is concerned about the constitution. Yes, there are individuals who are speaking out against our erosion of constitutional rights, but it seems that only one organized party continuously guards our cherished freedoms - the Libertarian Party.

Libertarians. We realize the importance of participation in the public process. If we want to champion our way of life, we must champion our activism.

Libertarians. The ONE time we can come together and be activists with others Libertarians across the Golden State is at our annual convention. Hundreds of Libertarians will be converging in Santa Maria on President's Day Weekend (February 15 - 18). If you have never attended a convention, this year would be a good time.

CONVENTION. Do you want our Constitution to be a casualty in the 9/11 Terrorist Attack? Our participation at the convention is a way to meet other Libertarians up and down the state and connect with other Libertarians statewide.

CONVENTION. A fantastic array of Libertarian speakers - Congressman Ron Paul, Ward Connerly,

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Success Stories

Shasta County Chair Pete Bret

*The LPC Monthly will be presenting a different success story every month or two. This will give members a chance to learn from others' successes. We will try to focus on **how** and **why** certain events are successful.*

“**S**hasta County districts are larger than South Carolina,” says Shasta County Chair Pete Bret. When Pete Bret began as Chair one year ago, there were six or seven active members. In less than a year, he has succeeded in:



Pete and Bua Bret

- bringing participation in Shasta County from six or seven participants to almost 30 (four- to five-fold increase);
- filling every single partisan race with a Libertarian candidate (every one of them qualified by gathering Libertarian signatures);
- finding Shasta Libertarians to answer phones for their local PBS station on December 15, 2001;
- persuading Libertarians to drive down from Siskiyou County to join Pete's Party events.
- running The Libertarian Alternative videotapes every Sunday on their public access television.

According to Pete, the Shasta Party is “a lot more active.” We'd say so! (He plans to grow his party even more next year.)

So how did he do that?

Personal Responsibility to Members' Time

Before Pete started as Chair, he said “meetings would start and end whenever. People hate this.” Most of us have incredibly busy lives. We need to coordinate with family and friends and cannot tolerate much fiddle-faddle. Before Pete started as Chair, members and guests could not plan their evening. As a direct consequence, meetings were poorly attended.

Pete says the key to the success of his party is planning and discipline. He keeps to a strict time schedule. He starts and stops meetings on time, and is very disciplined about sticking to the agenda - he never

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Executive Director Report

All You Want To Know

A **New Year.** We all need to work extra hard this year to increase liberty. I plan on helping 10 to 15 cities reduce their energy tax. I plan to help regions in recruiting candidates for non-partisan elections. I plan to get a current photograph of me to put in this column and on the website (this will be the toughest challenge, no doubt...). What are you going to accomplish?

Plan Ahead

Tax Day Protests

April 15th Tax Day Protests is the largest event for Libertarians nationwide. If you hate paying taxes, please start promoting participation for April 15, 2002. Please promote Tax Day protests in your newsletters in February, March and April, so we can have maximum participation. The time to work on this is now, not on April 10th. Please see our website today and prepar in advance:

Tax Protest Day Assistance: <http://www.ca.lp.org/lpc-tax-day.html>

San Francisco / Gay Pride Parade - Saturday and Sunday, June 29 & 30, 2002

One of the largest events in California is the San Francisco / Gay Pride Parade.

San Francisco is always the top tourist destination spot in the world (according to Travel magazine). What better way to spend a weekend than to motor up to Frisco (as LPC Office Manager Lynda Kay says). Please visit the Libertarian Party of San Francisco website at www.lpsf.org to find out more about this event.

Elections 2002

Have you ever complained about elected officials? Think you can do a better job? Run in 2002. There are thousands of offices available. Some go unfilled because **NO ONE RUNS FOR OFFICE**. No

(continued on page 5)

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herein do not necessarily repre-
sent official party positions unless
indicated. All submissions are
subject to editing.*

Deadline: 1st day of every month.

News from National

LNC Meets in DC

By Joe Dehn, Regional Representative

The Libertarian National Committee met 8-9 December 2001 in Washington, DC.

The Chair commented briefly on current events and thanked various activists for their efforts.

The Treasurer presented an analysis of recent trends with respect to the reserve, revenue levels, and membership levels. New language was adopted for policies relating to budgeting, limits on accounts payable, and the new definition for the reserve (replacing the previous reserve policy).



Joe Dehn

Regional representatives gave brief reports on the states in their regions.

The Director provided updates on finances, membership, and fundraising, and explained the structure of the proposed budget.

The Political Director reported on topics relating to campaigns, including recent election successes, ballot access, and candidate recruiting. New policy language was adopted clarifying the job of the Political Director and modifying the conditions under which staff can be involved in supporting candidates.

The Communications Director reported on media activity, especially relating to the terrorism/war issues, and on some possible improvements in LP News. The Press Secretary reported on interesting interactions with the media.

Appointments were made to the Bylaws Committee and the Platform Committee for the 2002 convention. Mark Nelson was appointed interim chair of the Bylaws Committee. Mike Dixon was appointed interim chair of the Platform Committee. Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee was postponed to the next meeting.

An adjustment was made to the policy language relating to publication of contact information in LP News.

The policy prohibiting LNC members from being registered with

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TAX DAY PROTEST

Start Planning Now

April 15th of every year is the biggest event nationwide for Libertarians. According to the Tax Foundation (www.taxfoundation.org), the Tax Freedom Day last year was May 3, 2001. This means if you took all your money to pay your tax bill starting on January 1, you would need to work until May 3 to pay all Federal, State, and Local taxes before you made one dollar for yourself.

We should remember that in contemporary Washingtonian English, a tax cut does not mean a true cut in your taxes. It means only that your tax increases will be less than what the Treasury Department had planned for them to be. Any proposal to decrease future increases in taxes is called a tax cut. Any proposal to reduce proposed increases in spending is called a spending cut. Yet taxes are not cut. Nor is spending. Debates over so-called cuts are simply talkathons over how much to pare back projected increases in taxes and spending. This reflects a political bias for spending money rather than returning it to taxpayers and explains why genuine tax reductions are never discussed.

Even the serfs of the Middle Ages attained tax freedom by the first of April. It is too bad that Bob Hope and Bing Crosby stopped making their famous "Road to ..." movies. Perhaps we could have anticipated a sequel entitled "The Road to Serfdom," although I'm not sure how that would have been made into a comedy.

Richard E. Wagner, Ph.D.
Holbart Harris Professor of Economics
George Mason University

How do you plan and organize your own Tax Day Protest?

Visit the following site:

Tax Protest Day Assistance: <http://www.ca.lp.org/lpc-tax-day.html>

As you read this first issue of the new year, ALL of your money, right now, is paid out in taxes until May 3rd of this year. Every bit of money you work for this week - the government took all of it. Please show up to your local tax protest on April 15. Please help organize your local tax protest. Write it into your DayTimer™ or PalmPilot™.

Unless you like paying taxes.

LPC

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TRIAL AND ERROR

By Jacob Sullum

For criticizing President Bush's order authorizing military tribunals, I've been called "nuts," "high," "hateful," a "crybaby," and, perhaps worst of all, "left-wing." But many readers disagreed with me in more polite terms, and they raised points that are worth addressing.

The most common sentiment, which has also been expressed by Vice President Cheney and other public officials, was that terrorists simply "don't deserve" due process. One variation of this argument is that al Qaeda is at war with civilization, including modern standards of justice, and its members should not be allowed to benefit from the institutions they seek to destroy.



Jacob Sullum

The principle here is debatable: It's rather like saying that neo-Nazis don't deserve freedom of speech because if they ever came to power they would censor those who disagreed with them. But the main mistake lies in assuming that anyone

accused of terrorism must be guilty.

As the Cato Institute's Timothy Lynch noted in recent congressional testimony, the argument against civil trials for suspected terrorists is circular. "We are told that a prisoner is not entitled to trial by jury because he is an unlawful combatant," he said. "The prisoner denies the charge and demands his constitutional rights so that he can establish his innocence. The government responds by diverting the case to a military tribunal."

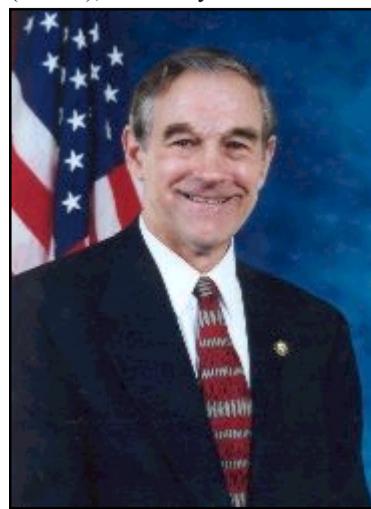
If we're going to take it for granted that anyone the president thinks might be connected to al Qaeda is a vile, vicious murderer, there's no need for any sort of trial. Put a bullet in his head and be done with it.

But if we allow for the possibility that someone suspected of

(continued page 6)

Cover Story and Convention *(continued from page 2)*

Norm Vroman (Mendocino District Attorney, Stephen Baskerville, Ph.D. (family court expert), Elias Israel (Massachusetts Chair), Bob Burg (author), and many more.



Congressman Ron Paul

CONVENTION. Massachusetts State Chair Elias Israel will be a special guest at our Grand Banquet dinner. Elias will regale us with the marvelous successes enjoyed in Massachusetts. Through hard work and diligence, the well-known LPM members Carla Howell and Michael Cloud gathered enough signatures last month to put an initiative on the ballot to *eliminate income taxes in Taxachusetts!*

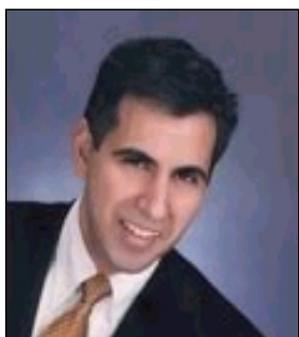
CONVENTION. Make your reservations NOW.

WHY? Freedom. Liberty. Constitution. New friendships made. Old friendships rekindled. Educational opportunities. Tickets and rooms might not be available unless you order right now. Really.

LPC

CONVENTION. In November 2001, the Libertarian Party of California prepared and sent the most popular letter ever. It had overwhelming support and we were inundated with responses. The letter: we asked all California Libertarians to sign their name to a petition supporting House Bills H.R. 3074 and H.R. 3076. They were written by Congressman Ron Paul, our keynote speaker.

CONVENTION. Have you ever thought of running for office but were not sure how? We will have special candidate training sessions.



Massachusetts Chair Elias Israel

Executive Director *(continued from page 3)*

Dems, Republicans, Greens. Nobody. This office is then filled by appointment, without a voice from the people. We need people to contribute a small amount of time. Just fill out the paperwork and run.

Some people fear that a campaign or office takes too much time. In most cases, all that is required is for you to file. Please help us in our efforts to increase liberty.

You matter. Run.

To find out about running for office, contact me today at director@ca.lp.org or 818-782-8400.

(Regional Chairs and Election Chairs - please contact me. Let's get 500 Libertarians on the ballot this year. We can do this - together!)

Contributions

I have always found Libertarians to be most generous. Members are always ready to contribute to the cause of Liberty. We contribute in a variety of ways: Time, In-Kind, Financial.

Time — Time is the **most** valuable member contribution. Attending meetings and events, running for office, and participating as a chair or officer are examples of time contributions.

We recognize some Libertarian members are just too busy with business, or family, or life, or other circumstances, and cannot spare any time. In these cases, there are other ways to help promote liberty:

In-Kind — Another valuable way Libertarians can contribute is through contributions of material, or in-kind, contributions. Libertarian members can contribute computers, office space, office supplies, & equipment.

Financial — Of course, financial support is always needed. There are always things that only money can solve. For example, if we need to send a letter to Atlanta, Georgia, it might not be the best use of volunteer time to have someone walk to Atlanta in order to save the money.

Super Contributors — Super Contributors contribute their time, materials, **and** financial help. A great many Libertarians are Super Contributors. They run for office, attend meetings, donate material, and give financial help to the cause. Thank you very much if you do all of these things.

Remember, **all** non-profit organizations depend on contributions. Time, materials, financial. Please contact me if you would like to contribute in any manner or if you have any questions on how you can help.

Contributions are the core of Libertarian philosophy. We believe we should all voluntarily give our time, talents, and money to organizations. It is such a dearly held principle; the Libertarian Party refuses all federal monies — all other parties grab it.

We will be sending out many letters this year seeking your help - time, in-kind, and financial. If you can help, we appreciate it.

Talent Project

Along the lines of **contributing** to Liberty... Over the next several months, we will be sending out a questionnaire. This questionnaire will ask a variety of questions: your skills, hobbies, talents, occupation, and more. In February or March, we will include the questionnaire in this newspaper (back inside page), on our website, and in our mailings.

Of course, the questionnaire is entirely voluntary. Of course. However, we hope you choose to share your talents and skills with the party. Are you a computer programmer? A writer? A lawyer? A carpenter? A salesperson? All of your talents and skills are incredibly important to the cause of liberty.

As Executive Director, when I meet someone in person, they usually tell me what they do, their interests, how they want to help. I then call on them for help. Realistically, I cannot talk to all 6,000 of you personally. Please take the time to fill out the questionnaire. This way, we can spread out the work between many people.

(All information will ONLY be used for the Libertarian Party of California. It will not be shared or sold and we will keep it in strict confidence.)

2002 LPC State Convention

I'm looking forward to our State Convention. Santa Maria will be a fantastic location! Please make sure you go to the back page and either send in the order form or call to reserve your place. Please make sure you introduce yourself to me at the Convention.

Working together we can make a difference!

LPC

— David Molony
Executive Director
Libertarian Party of California

Cal-opinions Be Heard.

Here is your chance to have your opinions heard. Every month, we will be printing a question for you to offer your opinion. We want as many opinions and viewpoints as possible, so please keep your answers short. The nature of this column is to hear from as many Libertarians as possible. Please feel free to submit question ideas.

On September 11, in the midst of all these changes and projects, the United States of America suffered an attack. Now that we all have more perspective on the event, our first question for this column solicits your response. We have limited space, and we only can accept a few sentences for this publication.

Please submit your answers (email only, sorry) to:
cal-opinions@ca.lp.org

“What is your opinion or view on the World Trade Center attack?”

(Please respond by February 1, 2002)

LPC

Jacob Sullum (continued from page 5)

complicity with terrorism might actually be innocent, we need some sort of procedure for determining whether he really did what the government says he did. The controversy over military tribunals is about what that procedure should involve — a question that has nothing to do with how we feel about terrorism.

The point is not that FBI agents or prosecutors are liars but that they're fallible. They may be wrong even though they have a good-faith belief that a defendant is guilty. In the current atmosphere, with law enforcement officials under tremendous pressure to find the perpetrators of past attacks and prevent future ones, such mistakes are especially likely.

In thinking about military tribunals, people tend to imagine Osama bin Laden himself on trial. Already convinced of his guilt, they are not terribly concerned about making sure that he enjoys all the benefits of due process.

Imagine, instead, some guy you've never heard of, a U.S. resident from a Middle Eastern country who is picked up because he happened to attend the same mosque as a member of al Qaeda. Before this man is imprisoned or executed, anyone who cares about justice will want some assurance that he really is a terrorist.

It's not clear exactly how much assurance the president's tribunals will give us, because the government seems to be making up the rules as it goes along. The president's order empowers the secretary of defense to issue “rules for the conduct of the proceedings of military commissions, including pretrial, trial, and post-trial procedures, modes of proof, issuance of process, and qualifications of attorneys.”

Some defenders of the tribunal plan see criticism as an insult to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which governs courts-martial and, they argue, has a proven record of fairness. But the trials authorized by the President Bush are not governed by this code, and they will bear little resemblance to a conventional court-martial.

The president's order allows secret proceedings in which the defendant might not be allowed to choose his attorney (that's up to the secretary of defense), with conviction and sentencing by a two-thirds vote of the tribunal, based on a standard of proof that remains unclear. Judgments will be reviewed only by the president or the secretary of defense, with defendants barred from seeking “any remedy” in a civil court. The executive branch alone will arrest, prosecute, judge and condemn each suspect.

The UCMJ, by contrast, requires a public trial with counsel chosen by the defendant, proof beyond a reasonable doubt, a unanimous vote for a death sentence, and review by the Supreme Court as well as military appeals courts. So no matter how admirable the UCMJ is, there's plenty of reason to doubt that the government will deliver the “full and fair trial” the president's order ostensibly guarantees.

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Success Stories (continued from page 3)

goes over the time allotted.

Meetings

The Shasta Libertarian Party meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at 5:30 pm sharp at Lulu's Restaurant in Redding. The meetings are divided into two parts. The business meeting is from 5:30pm to 6:00 pm. The social meeting is next. Speakers are presented from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Pete always schedules two speakers, each speaking for 15 - 20 minutes. Pete does not allow speakers to go over this amount of time, because this is generally the audiences' preference.

Pete lines up two speakers in case one cannot make it. He has a backup plan for those who have generously given up a free evening. This is followed by a Question and Answer period.

Tone and Ambiance

Pete says, “No one is going to want to come to a meeting where everyone is sitting around complaining, pissing and moaning that the government sucks.” We need to add something positive to participants' lives.

The tone of the meetings is incredibly important. Here are Pete's goals for setting the tone:

Entertainment / Information / Interest - Entertain people. Not everyone will like the same ‘type’ of things, so try to vary topics, even if you personally might not be too crazy about the topic. Variety is the spice of a party's life. Make it fun.

Participation - “Some people want to talk all the time, and some talk none of the time. When the people who never talk start talking, it's usually much better than those who talk all the time,” Pete relayed. Try to solicit opinions from those who are quiet. Sometimes it is difficult when you have someone who is obnoxiously confrontational and drones and rambles on, but as chair, you need to deal with this.

Draw people in from outside the party - Try to choose topics that will draw people from outside of the party. Try to promote your meetings to non-libertarian groups.

Social. Like a party - People are social. Try to keep things fairly light and fun. This does not mean meetings cannot be serious and meaningful. But try not to have ponderous, overbearing, Johnny OneNote meetings.

Sense of Movement

During meetings, it is important that participants feel that we are making progress.

- The party should have goals that each meeting should further. (*Shasta LP goals: #1) Increase membership and participation, 2) Increase LP profile, and 3) Candidates running for all elective offices.*)
- Start and end on time
- The vast majority of attendees compliment Pete NOT on the *content* of the meetings, but on how they move. That they start and end on time. “People have to be home at a certain time. People HATE being bogged down and having no focus,” says Pete.
- Be a responsible Libertarian. “If you are a member, know what you are going to say. Don't ramble. We're all too busy in this world.”
- Have a printed agenda available.

Planning

Location - Pete thoroughly and meticulously plans his meetings. He located a great venue called Lulu's Restaurant. It's a coffee shop, bar, restaurant, meeting room. It is in the center of town.

Speakers - Pete lines up his speakers 6 months up front. He publishes all events for the next six months in the LP newsletter.

Promotion - Promotion is easy when speakers are lined up six months in advance. It leaves time to contact local newspapers, promote in their LP regional newsletter, word of mouth, and other promotional methods.

All of the precautions, thoughtfulness and planning shows a great deal of personal responsibility and commitment to his job of Chair of the Shasta County region and to the Libertarian Party of California.

Thank you and great job, Pete!

LPC

“...There is no nation on earth powerful enough to accomplish our overthrow. Our destruction, should it ever come at all, will be from another quarter. From the inattention of the people to the concerns of their government, from their carelessness and negligence.”

Daniel Webster

another party was repealed. The justification for this change was that if we are to have such a prohibition it should be in the bylaws, but I voted to keep it in place as an LNC policy in the meantime.

The General Counsel was reappointed for another year.

The minutes of the August and October meetings were approved with some corrections.

The staff was directed to study a possible revision to the Unified Membership Program, with elements including an increase of the minimum dues to \$29, increased payout to the

affiliates for renewing members, and differing payouts for new members depending on whether the affiliate brings in the initial dues.

Other issues to be studied include household memberships, student memberships, and direct funding of affiliate support activities in place of the higher payouts to affiliates for larger contributors.

There was extensive discussion of the strategic plan, including apparent differences in priorities as seen by the LNC vs. the general membership. After some adjustments to the list of "metrics" and "monitors", the final plan was adopted by a vote of 11 to

3. Although I support many of the items included in the plan, I voted against adoption of the plan as a whole because I think too many aspects are incomplete and not in line with the expectations that have been set for it. The "champions" of various strategies and metrics spoke briefly about their plans.

There was extensive discussion of the 2002 budget, topics including whether revenue estimates are too optimistic, the possibility of adopting a 3-month budget, and the priorities of various spending plans. In the end, the budget as proposed by staff was adopted with minor modifica-

tions. The budget anticipates total revenue of about \$3.4 million, and spending about \$550,000 on direct mail prospecting, \$200,000 on the "drug war focus" strategy, and \$75,000 on the "branding" strategy.

I proposed a resolution in support of a foreign policy of non-intervention, but it received little support from other LNC members.

Other items briefly discussed included: the possibility of making better use of subcommittees, questions about rental of the mailing list by the Browne campaign in 1996, renewal programs, better statistics relating

to membership retention for members recruited in different ways, a review of office "customer service" functions, online access to the national database by affiliates, possible changes to the structure and/or rules of the Executive Committee, and offering budget information to contributors.

The next meeting is scheduled for 16-17 March 2002 in the Denver area.

[Note: This is a summary of the meeting and not a complete record of business. For more information about this meeting, visit: <http://archive.lp.org/lnc/lnc20011208.html>]

LPC

MEMBER BENEFIT SURVEY

Dear Libertarians,

The Libertarian Party of California is adding benefits for you. We will be looking to use our collective numbers in order to get volume discounts (economies of scale). We will attract benefits designed for Libertarians. We are seeking to offer a complete range of benefits for your selection. Treasurer Lori Adasiewicz and I have been working hard to put together unique offers for all of us. Currently, we are working in conjunction with **Landmark Healthcare**, an alternative medicine company. **Landmark Healthcare** is creating a program custom-made for the Libertarian Party of California. Please return the following questionnaire to: **14547 Titus Street, Suite 214, Panorama City, CA 91402**. Alternatively, please contact us by email at office@ca.lp.org so we can send the electronic version to you for you to complete and return.

Sincerely,
David Molony
Executive Director
Libertarian Party of California

Landmark's mission is to inspire a balanced life by supporting personal health, well-being and growth.

*Landmark Healthcare is a national leader in providing Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) programs, and currently specializes in administering chiropractic, acupuncture, massage, nutrition, and other alternative care therapies and wellness programs. Our goal is to tailor CAM products to fit your individual needs. We thank you for your time and appreciate your input. Please send this questionnaire back to: **14547 Titus Street, Suite 214, Panorama City, CA 91402**.*

1.) Have you used any CAM services before? Yes No How important are the following products to your personal well-being? (Check appropriate box.)

| Used? | | Interested? | CAM PRODUCTS | VERY | SOMEWHAT | NOT AT ALL |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chiropractic | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHIROPRACTIC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Acupuncture | <input type="checkbox"/> | ACUPUNCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Massage therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> | SMOKING CESSATION | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Herbs/Nutritional counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> | HERBS / NUTRITIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Weight management | <input type="checkbox"/> | WEIGHT MANAGEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Smoking cessation | <input type="checkbox"/> | FITNESS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Fitness club memberships | <input type="checkbox"/> | MASSAGE THERAPY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

2.) Would you be interested if it was combined with dental or optical insurance? Yes No

3.) Do your medical benefits currently include CAM products? Yes No
If yes, which CAM products are included? _____

4.) If the Libertarian Party offered CAM benefits would you be interested in purchasing them?
 Yes

If yes, how much would you be willing to pay monthly for CAM?
\$10/\$15 \$15/\$20 \$20/\$25 \$25/\$30 Other _____

No
If no, why not? _____

CONTRIBUTION CORNER

Libertarians - Are you seeking ways to help our cause of Liberty? Here are ways to help:

Volunteer Time

LPC Headquarters (San Fernando Valley, California)

- Data Entry
- Telephone help
- Press releases
- Newspaper layout
- Bookkeeping
- Auto Mechanic



We all need to offer liberty a helping hand.

Financial

- \$70,000 Operation Breakthrough
Help 500 candidates run for office in California in 2002
- \$10,000 Operation: Energy Tax Revolt!
Reduce energy taxes in 170+ California cities
- \$ 7,000 Scholarship Fund

Please contact Executive Director David Molony at director@ca.lp.org or call him directly at 818-782-8400. 



The California Convention

Convention 2002

"RESTORING AMERICAN LIBERTY"

(<http://www.sblp.org/convention.html>)

February 15-18, 2002

Santa Maria Inn
801 South Broadway
Santa Maria, California

Convention Price: \$288.00
(*Hotel extra.*)

Banquets Only: \$200

Full Package includes:

- All Provided Meals
- Video Tape of Convention
- Speakers
- Saturday Banquet
- Sunday Banquet

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____

E-Mail _____

I am interested in child-care: Names & ages:

___ **Visa** ___ **MasterCard** ___ **AmEx**

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____



HOTEL INFORMATION (through January 15, 2002)

Santa Maria Inn (www.santamariainn.com)

Make separate reservations directly with hotel.

Reservations: (800) 462-4276 Fax: (805) 928-0418

Please SPECIFY **Libertarian Convention**.

Original Room: \$ 78/night

New Tower: \$ 98/night

Jr. Suite Tower: \$ 122/night

Grand Ste. Tower: \$ 177/night (only 9 available)

ORDER NOW: Prices good through January 15, 2002

Rooms not reserved by then will be released to the general public.

*(There are several other large conventions that weekend - rooms may not be available. **ORDER NOW.**)*

MAIL TO/CHECK PAYABLE TO:

LPC STATE CONVENTION 2002

c/o William Wagener

P.O. Box 7522

Santa Maria, CA. 93456

bjwagener@hotmail.com

Phone: (805) 928-1100

Libertarian Party of California

14547 Titus Street, Suite 214
Panorama City, CA 91402-4935

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Libertarian News From the Past

New Litterbox Emission Standards

Washington, DC. New proposed Federal litterbox emission standards have raised the hackles, tail, fur and whiskers of major feline advocacy groups across the country. The new standard will reduce litterbox gases by 44 percent in the year 2001; 60 percent in 2002, and a whopping 82 percent in 2004. Owners of litterboxes whose users exceed Federal limits could be fined as much as \$200 per day, depending on the number and types of cat in a household (jail sentences may be issued to litterbox-owners who also harbor hamsters, gerbils, and tropical fish).

"Dog poop," says Chester, Chair cat of the Libertarian Litterbox Society, "This stinks of conspiracy and lobbying efforts by big business. We're being used as scapecats. Our own independent studies show that litterboxes actually contribute a fraction of the ozone eating gases that humans emit at work and at home." Moreover, Chester comments, "Even if you only ate half a mouse a day, no feline could possibly comply with the new standards."

Nonetheless, FatCat, lead business correspondent for "The Morning Hairball," comments that the new laws, if passed, could spawn great new opportunities for manufacturers of lactose-free cat food and self-venting litterbox units, and related low-gas/no gas items.

— The Morning Hairball (<http://www.meowmail.com/>)

All the News that's Fit to Spit