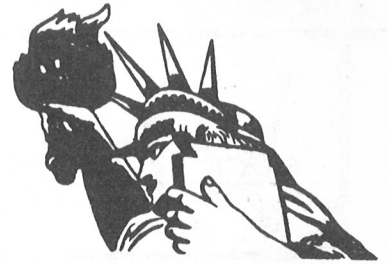


# The South Carolina LIBERTARIAN



VOL. XI

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

NO. I

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## RON PAUL - LIBERTARIAN FOR PRESIDENT '88

Q: If you were to receive the Libertarian Party nomination, what themes would you stress in your campaign?

A: Sound money, the free market, a non-interventionist foreign policy, our Bill of Rights, and the insanity of big deficit government. I would also talk about governmental causes of crime, such as drug prohibition.

The Bill of Rights will be a particularly appropriate theme at a time when many constitutional anniversaries are approaching. And it will distinguish a Libertarian campaign from liberals and conservatives, who seek to restrict, for example, the right to keep and bear arms or the right to financial privacy.

Of course, I can't predict now what the specific issues will be on the public agenda in 1988 nor which ones a Libertarian candidate might want to introduce. But I am sure these themes will apply.

In all my campaigns, I found tremendous support for our libertarian ideals: individual liberty, free markets, sound money, a non-interventionist foreign policy,

*-continued on page three-*

## THE INITIATIVE AND SO.CAR.

The Initiative Resource Center located in Washington, D.C., and headed by David Schmidt, 30, is as its name suggests a resource center for information concerning the initiative, referendum, and recall process in the United States.

"The major thing we are trying to do," says Schmidt, "is promote lawmaking by popular vote. It's something that can be done already in 23 states and hundreds of local jurisdictions.

"For many years the initiative and referendum was unknown and unused except in the West Coast states. Then in the 1970's it was rediscovered by activists. But there is a lot more that can be done. There are still a lot of places where initiatives are rare, and a lot of states where people are fighting to put the initiative and referendum into their state constitutions.

"The reason that we are promoting the use of this process is that we think it is a way for a small group of initiators to put up an issue out into the public arena. A small number of individuals can have a greater impact with an initiative petition than they can supporting a political candidate.

"I'm sure many people would want to debate me on this. But what I've found through my extensive studies is this: If you run one or two people for the legislature and they get elected, you still probably won't get your favorite proposal passed. Whereas with a similar effort, you could get an initiative on the ballot and win."

In South Carolina there are no provisions for statewide initiative, referendum, or recall. However, on the local level all

*-continued on page four-*





# COMMENTS

*By Terry V. Mitchell,*

*National Libertarian Party National Director*

Lots of good things are happening here at the National Office and as Director, I'd like to take this opportunity to give you a quick overview of recent developments.

An operation like the one we have relies heavily on its computer, mail processing equipment and duplicating capabilities.

\*The National L.P. has just purchased a state-of-the-art photocopy machine that, if properly used, will last us well into the 1990's.

\*Our mail room equipment has been completely overhauled and are working to their maximum potential.

\*The Data General Computer which contains our database has just gone through a thorough servicing and reformatting; we expect to see immediate and long term improvements due to increased capacity, streamlined data organization and operational reliability.

\*Our recently donated micro computer is just about to come on line. We have the accounting software we need to automate our in-house bookkeeping tremendously over what we had before. (This computer will also make it possible for the state L.P.'s with similar computers to utilize the National Office for what are called Merge/Purge operations prior to mailings. This is a very valuable service.

We're doing pretty well financially (if I say so myself). In December and January we retired nearly \$8,000 in outstanding debts; virtually eliminating the '84 ballot drive debts! Not many of these debts were paid off at full value; I negotiated most of them down by 30 to 50 percent. Not a bad bit of "horse-trading."

The fundraising for the computer generated membership cards went very well and it looks like we'll be bringing them into service sometime in March.

All in all it looks very bright for 1987 and I believe we're well on our way to having a strong membership and credibility building phase, leading to what many feel will be the best convention in the Libertarian Party's history.

## SCLP PHONE FUND

The South Carolina Libertarian Party has initiated a special fund that will enable the state party to obtain and operate a WATTS line that will be listed in several phone books across the state. It has been estimated that such a phone will cost in the neighborhood of \$2500 - this figure includes the installation of the WATTS line, a phone, an answering machine, and enough funds to cover the operation for approximately one year. In the past we have found that people have had a hard time finding out information concerning the SCLP, our actions and activities, as well contacting us about information that would have benefited the party. The SCLP ExCom has set a date of October 1st as the deadline for raising the needed capital. We need your help in reaching our objective - please send a check to the SCLP Phone Fund today!

## DECENTRALIZE!

Non-Violent Radical  
Decentralist Strategy.

Carol Moore, editor  
\$3.00/4 issues. Sample \$1.00  
Box 106, 632 Cloverdale,  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

## LIBERTY IN THE LIBRARIES

A project of the SCLP ExCom to put books in public and school libraries across S.C. has gotten underway with Bill Griffin acting a chair of the committee with John Harllee of Florence and John B. Heaton of Aiken helping out. The object of the committees action is to place copies of LIBERTARIANISM IN ONE LESSON by David Bergland and LIBERTY RECLAIMED by Jim Lewis in various libraries in South Carolina. If you would like for your local library to receive these books please let us know as soon as possible, or if you would like to help with the project contact us at 803/755-9304. In the Charleston area Ms Joan DiGiovanni is acting co-ordinator. For this project to be a success we need your participation.

Total

MINIMUM ORDER \$2.00



# STOP CITY - COUNTY TAX BILL

We, the undersigned citizens of the state of South Carolina, are opposed to the Local Government Finance Act, which would authorize cities and counties to impose new taxes on their citizens.

CITY - ZIP

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be from a notebook or a set of legal pads. The lines are dark gray or black. The paper has a slightly textured appearance. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

South Carolina Libertarian Party  
Post Office Box 50643  
Columbia, S. C. 29250

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES '87

The State Legislature is back in session. Last year the Local Government Financing Act (or as we prefer to call it: The City-County Tax Bill) went down to defeat, partially due to the Libertarian Party's statewide petition drive and partially due to the fact that it was an election year. It has already been brought back up this year. This act will undoubtedly raise taxes - something our new Republican governor said he would never do (sounds like ray-gun ... zap!). We intend to oppose this legislation and have already prepared petitions opposing the bill.

Another major issue is Annexation Laws. Do they need to be weakened so that local cities and towns may bring in areas at the whim of their town councils? We think not!

We are also concerned that thousands of state tax dollars are spent each year so that major agencies and departments can have "legislative liaisons" who lobby the state Legislature for larger budgets for their state agency. South Carolina has no law specifically banning or permitting such lobbying. This is a practice that the Legislature should fix.

On a brighter note it does seem that the Legislature will be improving (?) the state Freedom of Information Act so that local as well as state government bodies will be further restricted as to holding 'secret' meetings.

Also, keep an eye out for the Helmet and Seatbelt Laws which are bound to resurface.

After the State of the State address it seems that what needs to be done in South  
-continued on page four-

RON PAUL *con't from page one*

and limits on government power. An effective Libertarian presidential campaign can consolidate our strength - I mean the strength of the Libertarian Party as an organization - educate more Americans about our ideals, and help push policy and debate in the right direction. It would serve a historic purpose, and give the American people a free choice, not an interventionist echo.

###

DR. RON PAUL is a former member of Congress from Texas, he served four terms as a Republican representative and is widely known for his libertarian stands on many issues. As of this printing he is scheduled to announce for the Libertarian Party presidential nomination on February 17th.

- ☐ \$15 Basic    ☐ \$20 Sustaining    ☐ 100 Patron  
☐ \$250 Associate-Life    ☐ \$1000 Life Benefactor

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 \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

\*Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

\*Optional, Federal Election Commission requires we ask.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

The South Carolina Libertarian Party was certified as an official political party by the South Carolina State Election Commission in January, 1979. South Carolina law requires that all members of a political party in South Carolina hold valid South Carolina voter registration certificates.

I am registered to vote in \_\_\_\_\_ County, S.C.  
Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check this box if you prefer your membership or contribution NOT be recognized in the party newsletter.

☐ Check this box if you prefer NOT to have your name given to other libertarian organizations.

**SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY**  
P.O. BOX 50643    COLUMBIA, S.C. 29250

INITIATIVE *con't from page one*

266 cities allow initiatives and referenda on ordinances, by petition of 15% of the registered voters (SC Code, Sec. 5-17-10, 5-17-20). There is no provision for recall, nor are initiative charter amendments possible, since cities do not have home rule charters, according to Bob Lyon of the South Carolina Municipal Association. All counties allow initiatives and referendum on ordinances, by petition of 15% of the registered voters (SC Code, Sec. 4-9-210 and 4-9-230). As in cities, there is no recall or initiative charter amendment procedure.

The South Carolina Libertarian Party has prepared a pamphlet entitled INITIATIVE, RECALL, AND REFERENDUM: A PRIMER, and has on hand information concerning these important issues. If you would like to know more about how we can bring direct democracy to South Carolina or if you would like a copy of the pamphlet, please feel free to contact us.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES *con't from pg. three*

is to decentralize the government to its lowest common denominator - the individual. We need to allow people in South Carolina a voice in their own affairs - not a larger voice for government bodies but a voice for local democracy. Would it not be a grand experiment if the people of this state were allowed to vote on taxes, or toxic waste dumps, or other important issues through referendums, to oppose unjust political actions through the recall of their

elected representatives, or even to originate legislation through the initiative process?

Together we can make South Carolina a great place to live and work. Join us in the experiment of a lifetime - Local people seeking local solutions to local problems!

The National  
LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
for more information call free  
1-800-686-1776

## CENTRAL AMERICA INFORMATION WEEK

MARCH 29 through APRIL 5

The Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization - South Carolina Campaign has a number of resource persons available to speak and meet with groups around the state. They need help in arranging events for these people to speak at. The aim of this campaign is to update folks, on a people-to-people basis, on the current situation in Central America. These resource people will also explore ways in which we can respond to the needs of the people of Central America. This sharing is envisioned as taking place in house meetings, church gatherings, classrooms, assemblies, radio and TV shows, interviews with the printed media, and wherever concerned people get together in your community. If you are concerned with peace and justice issues in Central America call 803/799-3640.

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# SCLP