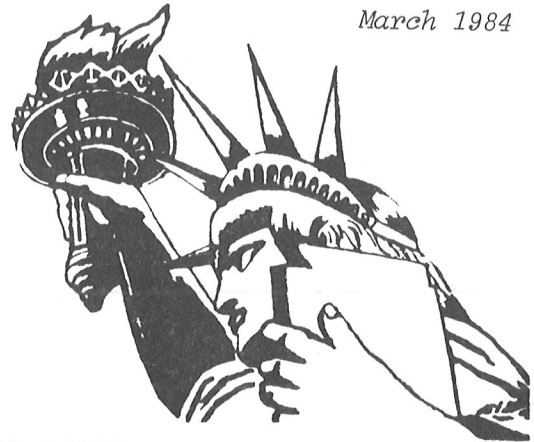


# SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN

March 1984



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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## Bergland to Visit S.C. in April

Libertarian Party Presidential candidate David Bergland is coming to South Carolina April 10-15 and will make appearances in at least three S.C. cities. The highlight of the week will be a speech at the Convention Banquet in Columbia on April 14 (see enclosed registration form for details).

Bergland, an attorney from Costa Mesa, California, was the L. P. Vice-presidential candidate in 1976 (Roger MacBride was the Presidential candidate that year). He is the fourth L. P. Presidential candidate. John Hospers was the first in 1972 and received about 5,000 votes. MacBride and Bergland received 173,000 votes in 1976, and Ed Clark and David Koch received 921,000 votes in 1980 (the first year the L. P. was on the ballot in all 50 states).

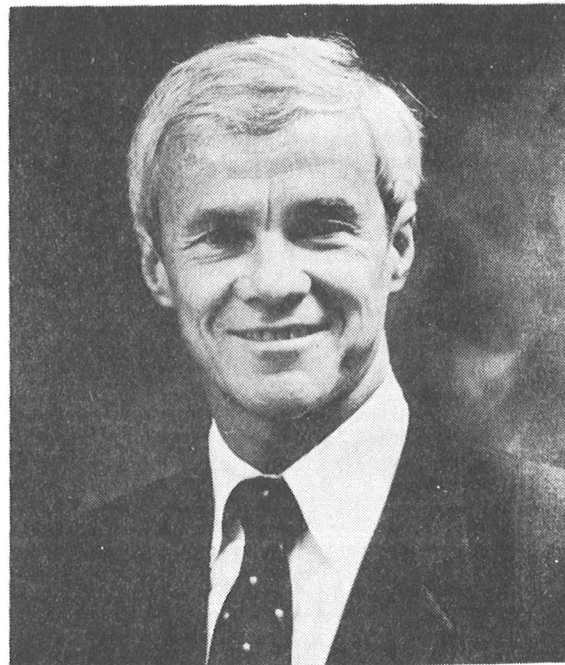
Bergland hopes to top the 1980 vote by a large margin, but the main emphasis of his campaign has been to promote libertarian principles and to help state parties organize at the grass-roots level, not to get any certain number of votes. Since his nomination at the 1983 Convention on September 3 in New York, he has traveled around the country and has appeared in many states. He has already received much more press coverage than Ed Clark did, including appearances on ABC's "Nightline" and CNN's "Crossfire" in January. Along with his running mate Jim Lewis, he plans to travel extensively between now and the November election.

After arriving in Columbia on April 10, Bergland will speak at the University of South Carolina that night at 7:30 in Legare Hall. He will be in Spartanburg on April 11. After breakfast at Pete's Diner, Bergland will speak at the Free Enterprise Festival at Spartanburg Day School. This will probably include several speeches that day and night.

On April 12, Bergland will be in Charleston, where he will probably speak at the College of Charleston at noon in the Physician's Auditorium and at The Citadel at 3:00. Following this, he will travel to Columbia in order to appear on "Carolina Journal" at 7:30 P.M. This program will be broadcast live on all educational television stations in S.C.

Bergland will be on Bill Benton's radio talk show at 10 AM (WSCQ) on April 13. The rest of the day had not been scheduled at the time this newsletter went to press. As mentioned previously, Bergland will speak at the Carolina Inn at the Convention Banquet at noon on April 14. The final event will be an appearance at the Sunday Brunch at Beth Shalom Synagogue on April 15 (see page 6 for details).

Interspersed among these activities will hopefully be many interviews with the news media. All in all, the week promises to be a busy one for Bergland.



David Bergland

Most of these events are open to the general public. Everyone is urged to attend as many events as possible. The complete schedule is on page 6.

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## STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD APRIL 14

The S.C.L.P. will hold its 1984 State Convention on April 14 in the Assembly Ball Room 1 at the Carolina Inn in Columbia. Delegates to the Convention are being selected by each county at their County Conventions this month.

This convention promises to be much more exciting than past conventions, largely because of the appearance of David Bergland. In addition, there will most likely be many more delegates than in past years.

(continued on page 2)

## CONVENTION

(continued from page 1)

Convention registration will start at 9:00 A.M. and will be followed by a busy morning agenda, including debate and approval of party Bylaws and Platform, as well as a speech by S.C.L.P. member Dan Hoertt, who is a member of Libertarian International. The morning session will recess at 11:45 in order to allow everyone to attend the Convention Banquet at noon.

The Convention will reconvene at 1:30 P.M. The first afternoon event will be a speech by guest speaker Michael F. Lowe, Executive Director of Palmetto Alliance, which is a non-profit corporation dedicated to educating the public about safe-energy, anti-nuclear, and environmentalist issues. Most recently, this group has challenged the potential white elephant known as the Piedmont Municipal Power Authority, which is attempting to take over the Catawba plant.

After the guest speaker, the convention will turn to the nomination of candidates for public office in the 1984 elections. At the time this newsletter went to press, only two persons had announced their intentions to seek the party's nomination. William Ray Pike of Spartanburg has announced for the U.S. House of Representatives - 4th Congressional District, and W. Dean Allen of Greer has announced for the U.S. Senate. At this time, neither candidate has an opponent for the nomination, but Allen's candidacy has stirred much controversy within the party. Some party members have expressed outrage over some of Allen's remarks, and his positions on civil liberties are not entirely in agreement with the party Platform (both state and national).

The last convention event will be the election of new S.C.L.P. officers, and the first meeting of the new Executive Committee will be held immediately after the convention.

\* \* \* \* \*

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTS RON HEATON AS PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

At its January 12 meeting, the S.C.L.P. Executive Committee appointed Ron Heaton of Aiken as Publicity Chairman for the S.C.L.P. Heaton's main task will be to send out press releases and to increase the party's visibility to the media. With help from his brother John, Ron has already sent out two press releases, one about public education (criticizing Gov. Riley's plan) and one informing the media about local contacts and the upcoming State Convention. Other press releases will be sent out in early April.

Other ExCom business included the selection of members of the Platform Committee - Steve Vandervelde (chairman), Jan Morris (secretary), David Morris, Dean Allen, and Ron Heaton. John Heaton is chairman of the Convention Committee, which also includes Bill Brooks, Steve Kreisman, and David Morris. Ray Pike, Steve Kreisman, and Ron Heaton comprise the Bylaws Committee, and the Campaign '84 Committee includes Steve Kreisman, John Heaton, Ron Heaton, Steve Vandervelde, and Walter Smith.

The next ExCom meeting will be March 18 (see p. 6).

## YOUTH GROUP BEING FORMED

## A LETTER FROM A YOUNG LIBERTARIAN

Dear Friends of Freedom:

Reading some back issues of a libertarian journal, I came across an article by Sheldon Richman, "Libertarianism vs. Socialism: Choice or Force? The Youth Movement Must Decide!"

It made me realize something: the socialists (of both communist and fascist varieties) all have extensive programs for young people; but we libertarians lack this sort of thing. To make sure that we did lack any youth program, I called several prominent Libertarian Party activists, who confirmed this, and graciously gave me tips on organizing.

So, I intend to organize a libertarian youth movement, starting here in South Carolina. I am convinced that it will grow into a national youth movement that will change the country.

Eventually, the libertarian youth movement will consist of students from junior high school to college undergrads, and will work with the Libertarian Party. Local chapters will be autonomous units, except for a movementwide newsletter and later, perhaps, conferences on the state and national level. The only conditions for membership will be agreement with the L.P. Statement of Principles, and signing the pledge against the initiation of force.

Each chapter will be organized along a simple pattern, and will have its own programs, regular meetings and speakers, and projects. As libertarians, we can expect a lot of diversity and innovation.

We will appreciate any help, of course. We can use money, office supplies, stamps, and other essentials, but we need most of all people to help get us organized. If you can help in any way, drop me a line.

The future is in our hands, if we will grasp it.

Yours truly,

*Brian K. Heape*

Brian K. Heape  
Rt. 1, Box 79  
Elloree, S.C. 29047

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Brian Heape is a high school student who is trying to form a libertarian youth group. It is very important that he succeed in this endeavor, and I urge all freedom-lovers to give Mr. Heape as much help as possible.*

The following article is reprinted with permission from *The Southern Libertarian Messenger* (Rt. 10, Box 52-A, Florence, S.C. 29501 - subscriptions \$5 per year).

## Freedom Isn't Always Popular

by John Harllee

It has come to my attention that a number of unpopular libertarian positions need to be explained in terms in which conservatives can understand them. Let us go back to a basic principle: economic freedom and personal freedom are not separable. This is what is wrong with the "liberals" who want to liberate people without allowing them economic freedom, and the "conservatives" who want to conserve economic, but not personal, freedom. Neither approach works.

**UNIONS:** Many libertarians have a horror of any form of collectivism, including collective bargaining. But to be consistent, if one is going to oppose unions on that principle, one must also call for the abolition of the chamber of commerce, the NAM, and any other association of businessmen. Likewise, all the arguments about labor violence, whether by unions or against unions, are irrelevant; this is a police matter, and would not be nearly so common if the government would enforce the law impartially, as it is supposed to do. The point is that a person has the right to hire an agent to represent him in securing employment; if one person can do it, 2 or more can do it together. This is none of the government's business as long as they don't commit some crime in the process.

**CHILD LABOR:** The child labor laws were enacted mostly during the depression to try to take jobs away from young people and force employers to hire older workers instead. They do not prohibit children from working excessive hours or in dangerous conditions, if the children are working for their parents or guardians. Likewise, they generally do not apply to agricultural labor. What they do accomplish is to prevent children, especially among the urban poor, from getting part-time and summer jobs at which they might learn some real skill. On the other hand, they do not prevent them from getting jobs in the underground economy, often in criminal activities.

**DRUGS:** For purposes of argument, let us say that a drug includes anything you ingest to make you feel better, as opposed to providing nutrition. Some are legal and some are not, and the distinctions are all quite arbitrary. Consider the legal ones: nicotine, which probably kills more people than any other and is highly addictive; alcohol, also highly deadly and one of the leading causes of crimes such as assault and battery; chocolate, a mood-changing agent; refined sugar, a borderline case because it has some food value, but a cause not only of tooth decay but also of blood sugar imbalance; and so on. The whole idea is that the government does not have the right to tell people what drugs they may use, whether it is laetrile for cancer or marijuana for glaucoma or whatever.

**PRIVATIZATION OF ROADS:** Admittedly not one of our more urgent items, there is a reason for it; the reason is that, hard as it is to imagine, this is not a necessary government service. Curiously, the government seems to recognize this, and usually tries to arrange to finance the public roads out of a rough sort of user fee: the gasoline tax. Toll roads are one of several alternatives.

**NUCLEAR POWER:** I suppose you might find an example of an industry that is more a client of the government and enemy of the people, but the only example that comes to mind is weapons manufacturing. The nuclear power industry has committed offenses that boggle the imagination; who else would seek legislation to limit its liability if it should kill a few thousand people, or charge the public with pollution cleanup problems extending to perpetuity? Most industries do get someone else to pay for their polluting. The simple fact is that if you oppose government subsidies for nuclear power, the conclusion is that you are against nuclear power, and the unstated assumption is that nuclear power cannot survive in a free economy. There's one way to find out.

**PORNOGRAPHY:** What is obscene is purely a matter of opinion. In the opinion of the FCC, The King James Version of the Bible is obscene, because it contains certain words, including the rather frank passages that explain all the things that you're not supposed to do. In the 19th century, information on feminine hygiene, without illustrations, was condemned as obscene. The question is not really obscenity, though; it is censorship. The government has no right to tell you what you can read.

**PROSTITUTION:** Suppose that instead of suppressing prostitution, the police came around every week and collected a tax, using the money to finance the enforcement of other laws? This is, in fact, what happens, quite illegally, in many large and small communities. Let us consider the question of victims: yes, there are victims, but they generally got themselves into this knowing that they run a risk of infection. "White slavery" is something that exists solely because prostitution is illegal; victims of this cannot go to court and seek the protection of the peonage laws, because they are acting illegally.

**HOMOSEXUALITY:** This is an excessively emotional issue, largely because many people who are emotionally insecure have a morbid fear of homosexuality, and believe that it is contagious. The technical term for this is homophobia. This attitude is not new; in the 17th century it was witchcraft that people were afraid of. Furthermore, they use children as an excuse, when sexual abuse of children is overwhelmingly heterosexual. The point, however, is that the government has no right to regulate private voluntary sexual conduct.

**GAMBLING:** Yes, there are victims of gambling - not only the gamblers themselves, but their families. It is, however, curious that the government has such solicitude in these cases when nearly 4/5 of the divorced men in America do not pay the child support they are supposed to. Of course, gambling attracts shady characters because it is so regulated or illegal, and of course it is a waste of time and money. But if the government really wants to discourage gambling, it could reduce the regulation of financial markets, and let the gamblers go back to playing the stock market as they did in the 1920s. The point is that if someone, having accumulated money honestly, wants to waste it, it's his money.

Let me return to the main point: economic freedom and personal freedom are largely inseparable. Freedom includes the right of every man to make a fool of himself. Freedom includes the right of people to do things which you may consider sinful, as long as they do not harm innocent bystanders. It will be a great improvement, but it won't be just the way you like it.



*David Bergland is a Southern California attorney and is the 1984 Libertarian Party presidential candidate.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE NEBRASKA SEVEN

*by David Bergland*

Prison is not the happiest place to spend the holidays, but in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, seven fathers spent both Thanksgiving and Christmas in the Cass County Jail - while their wives lived as fugitives in a neighboring state - all for the "crime" of sending their children to a church school which had not been certified by the Nebraska Department of Education. Worse - the men had not been tried and found guilty of any charges. They were imprisoned when they invoked the Fifth Amendment at a court hearing, believing their testimony would later be used against them. Until they break down and agree to waive this Constitutionally protected right, they must remain in jail, where they have already spent nearly three months.

This travesty of justice is no surprise to those who have been following the underlying conflict. State officials and their allies in the educational establishment have been stepping up their opposition to parents seeking alternatives to a government-operated school system. Across the country, parents are increasingly disenchanted with government schools. They are aware of the billions of tax dollars poured into these institutions, while each year graduates emerge less literate and informed than their predecessors. Children are not receiving adequate instruction in such basic skills as reading and arithmetic. They are being engulfed in what the National Commission on Excellence in Education has called "the rising tide of mediocrity." Parents are alarmed, and to save their children from being swept away by this tide, many are removing children from government-operated schools, to teach them at home or in private schools where parents have direct control over subject material.

It is often said, incorrectly, that only the well-to-do can afford to send their children to private schools. But, these new private schools are being established and supported by parents of moderate, even low incomes. As such repudiation of government schools becomes a widespread movement, the educational establishment is panicking.

To inhibit this grass-roots movement, many states have established mandatory certification requirements for schools and teachers which give state authorities the power to prohibit the formation or continuation of any school of which they disapprove. By making it very difficult to operate a private school, the government monopoly on education - and its control over children - is being protected.

Foremost in the new home education-private school movement are Christian fundamentalist parents for whom reading the Bible is of primary importance. They are thus also foremost in challenging the government monopoly over education. When the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its decision outlawing prayer and Bible reading in public schools, many Protestant parents were dismayed - but this ruling did force the issue. Religious observances in tax-supported schools violate the principle of separation of church and state required by the First Amendment to the Constitution.

But the First Amendment not only separates church and state; it also outlaws government interference in the exercise of religion. Yet such interference is taking place in Nebraska.

The church-school parents there take seriously the Biblical injunction to "train up your children in the way they will go..." As they see it, it is not only their right, but their duty to oversee the education of their children - and to be certain they receive thorough instruction in the Bible.

Five years ago, as an expression of their convictions, nine sets of parents in Louisville, Nebraska, formed a school which met in the basement of their church. They were assisted by their pastor, the Rev. Everett Sileven and his daughter, Theresa Schmidt, the school supervisor. There were 29 students enrolled, grades K-12. Emphasis was on the basics: reading, arithmetic, spelling, grammar, etc. - and the Bible, for them, the most basic text of all.

From the school's founding, the Nebraska Department of Education opposed it - refusing to certify it or the teachers, although several had college degrees, and the children consistently scored one to three years above the Nebraska average. The parents and their pastor offered to permit yearly testing on standardized tests to demonstrate that the children were maintaining their high performance level. They refuse, however, to hire state certified teachers who may well hold doctrines contrary to those held by the parents themselves. As long as the students are maintaining certain objective standards, the parents reason that the state has no legitimate interest in the matter.

Nebraska authorities feel otherwise. On several instances, through court order, the church itself was forcibly closed down and padlocked - to be open only Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings for permitted services! On November 23, 1983, a hearing was held at which Everett Sileven and Theresa Schmidt were ordered to show cause why they should not be held in contempt of court if they continued to operate the school. Warrants were issued for the parents, but through an error, only seven couples were subpoenaed. The day of the hearing, the seven fathers appeared, took the Fifth Amendment, and were thrown into jail. The mothers, fearing their children were to be seized and made wards of the court, fled into hiding. Bench warrants were ordered for their arrest.

The Louisville parents are not alone. Six other independent Baptist schools in Nebraska are similarly threatened, and school authorities across the country are watching to see how the courts handle the situation.

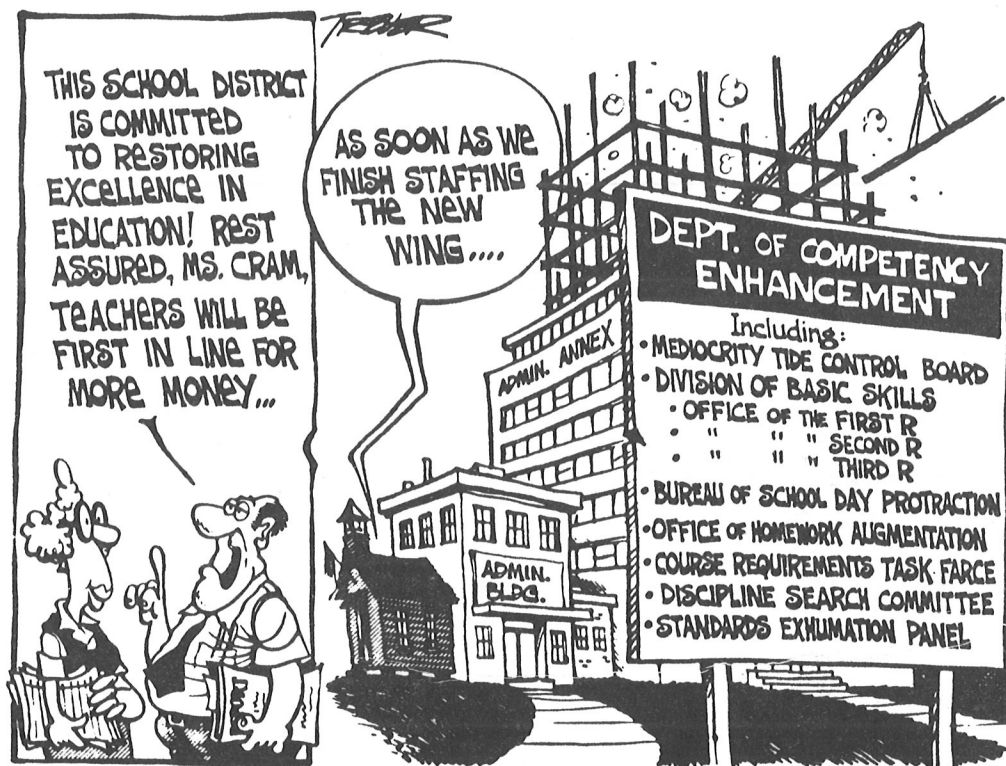
We Libertarians wholeheartedly support the parents and the Rev. Sileven in their courageous and non-violent stand against the arrogant Nebraska government. The argument is not about literacy - but about authority. Who has the ultimate right to decide about the upbringing and education of children: parents or bureaucrats? That is what is at stake. We hold that the right to direct the education of one's children is as important a right as freedom to practice one's religion or exercise free speech - and should be recognized as such.

Centuries ago the great cry was for a separation of church and state - and in this country that was achieved. Libertarians are calling for a similar separation between education and state. In particular, we would repeal mandatory certification requirements as well as all other tax and regulatory roadblocks to the growth and development of private schools or home schooling. A free people requires freedom in education - and separation from the state is critical if education is to be free. Without that crucial separation, government will assert ever increasing control over our lives, and the lives and future of our children.



A REALISTIC VIEW  
OF  
WHAT WILL HAPPEN  
IF  
GOVERNOR RILEY'S  
PLAN TO  
"IMPROVE" EDUCATION  
IS ADOPTED

*Cartoon reprinted with  
permission from The  
Southern Libertarian  
Messenger.*



## LIBERTARIAN LETTER PROJECT

One of the most cost-effective methods of communicating our ideas to the public is through letters-to-the-editor. We are asking Libertarians to write letters to their local newspapers mentioning "libertarianism," "The Libertarian Party," or "David Bergland." We urge you to participate. We will provide you with a periodic newsletter, advice and tips, sample letters, progress reports, etc. All we ask in exchange is that you send at least one (but preferably several) letter(s) to your local newspaper(s), and send us a clipping of any published letter. Please join the effort!

☐ YES, I'll write at least one libertarian letter-to-the-editor.  
Send me more information.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Libertarian Letters  
4250 Yukon Avenue  
Simi Valley, CA 93063

## Military For The Birds?

United Press International

MADRID, Spain

The government has declared carrier pigeons "of special interest for national defense" and ordered special representatives to inspect the birds to ensure they are fit to be drafted into military service.

"Because of the difficulty in detecting and intercepting (carrier pigeons) . . . and because of the danger that their uncontrolled use could represent for national security," a new law stipulates that anyone raising the birds must register with the defense ministry.

According to the recently published royal decree, carrier pigeons are to be considered "for public use and of special interest for national defense."

"In times of war or in case of a partial or total mobilization, the defense ministry may requisition the carrier pigeons in accord with the law of forced expropriation," the law says.

"The same facility will correspond to the interior ministry during a state of alarm or in emergency situations — for grave risks, catastrophe or public calamity."

*The above article is reprinted  
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February 4, 1984 edition of  
The State (Columbia, S.C.).*

# SIMPLIFIED Form 1040

Department of the Infernal Revenue Service

Latest Revision for:  
**1040** Federal Income  
Tax Form

**1984**

Your Name	Your Social Insecurity Number
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<b>Part I</b> How much money did you earn last year? .....	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
<b>Part II</b> Send it in. ....	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 18, Columbia - Executive Committee meeting, 2:00 P.M., 3209 Millwood Avenue.

March 24, Spartanburg - Spartanburg County Convention, 12 Noon, Spartanburg Y.M.C.A.

April 10, Columbia - David Bergland to speak at U.S.C. Legare Hall at 7:30 P.M. Public is invited.

April 11, Spartanburg - Bergland to speak at the Spartanburg Day School Free Enterprise Festival. Contact Ray Pike (582-6807) for details.

April 12, Charleston - Bergland will speak at the College of Charleston at 12 Noon (tentative) and at The Citadel at 3:00 P.M. Contact Walter Smith (571-4563) for details.

April 12, Columbia - Bergland will appear on "Carolina Journal" at 7:30 P.M. This will be broadcast live on all S.C. Educational Television stations.

April 13, Columbia - Bergland will be a guest on Bill Benton's radio talk show at 10:00 A.M. on WSCQ (F.M. 100).

April 14, Columbia - S.C.L.P. State Convention will convene at 9:00 A.M. in the Assembly Ball Room 1 at the Carolina Inn, 937 Assembly Street.

April 14, Columbia - Convention Banquet, 12 Noon, Assembly Ball Room 2, Carolina Inn. David Bergland will be the speaker. The public is invited (advance registration required - see enclosed registration form).

April 15, Columbia - Sunday Brunch at Beth Shalom Synagogue, 5827 N. Trenholm Rd. David Bergland will be the speaker. The public is invited. Breakfast starts at 9:45 A.M. and costs \$2.00. Please call the week before to confirm details.

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN is published by the South Carolina Libertarian Party. Ad rates available on request. Please send all correspondence to the Editor at P.O. Box 2297, West Columbia, S.C. 29171.

**EDITOR:** David Morris  
P.O. Box 2297  
West Columbia, S.C. 29171  
803-796-3161

**S.C.L.P. CHAIRMAN:** Steve Kreisman  
P.O. Box 159  
Clover, S.C. 29710  
704-588-3814

### LOCAL CONTACTS

Aiken: Ron Heaton (663-7927)  
Anderson: Howard Johnson (296-5204)  
Charleston: Walter Smith (571-4563)  
Columbia: Steve Vandervelde (794-3551)  
Florence: John Harllee (669-8345)  
Greenville: Bill McCuen (232-7476)  
Myrtle Beach: Jim Wilson (449-5053)  
Rock Hill: Cliff Ross (327-3337)  
Spartanburg: Ray Pike (582-6807)

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
Post Office Box 50643  
Columbia, S.C. 29250

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