

NEWS

Libertarian Party of California

Official Publication of the Libertarian Party of California — Vol. 3, No. 8, November 1996



1996 Libertarian Party presidential candidate Harry Browne, center, met with earlier banner bearers at the August 28 fundraising dinner in Los Angeles. From left are David Bergland, 1984, and Ed Clark, 1980. Photo by Bob Weber.

Old parties wouldn't debate Browne, others

There was a debate that included presidential candidates other than those of the two old parties, after all. Well, some of them, anyway.

Not the one set up on Oct. 6 by the bi-partisan Commission on Presidential Debates which has refused to recognize qualified third party candidates such as Libertarian Harry Browne. And not the one proposed and put together for Oct. 8 by Brian L. Collar, a Libertarian from Florida. That was cancelled when H. Ross Perot, the Reform Party candidate, did not respond, which resulted in C-Span, CNN and other major media deciding not to cover the event.

The debate featuring alternative presidential candidates was sponsored by George

Mason University Law School and the International Center for Economic Justice. It was held Oct. 7 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. and aired on C-Span. Appearing with Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne were John Hagelin of the Natural Law Party and Howard Philips of the U.S. Taxpayer's Party. Reform Party candidate H. Ross Perot did not accept the invitation.

See Debate - p 7

Keep up the drumbeat

by David Bergland

To Libertarians everywhere. Keep up the great work on Operation Drumbeat. It is working.

On September 24, I accompanied Harry Browne to the set of Politically Incorrect for the taping of that show. As you probably

know, this is a cable show on the Comedy Channel. It is quite popular with younger audiences. (I may not be representative of the older generation, but I think it's great too.)

The format is a host (Bill Maher) and four guests, usually two from the entertainment world and two others. The concept is to discuss current issues with irreverence, wit and even seriousness, where indicated. It's entertainment, but also enlightening, particularly because Maher does a good job of stating things in the way most people would react to or comment about the issues under discussion. Maher and the audiences tend toward the liberal side, at least they usually seem to enjoy bashing Republicans a bit more

See Drumbeat - p. 4

Shirt-pocket guide to LPC Ballot recommendations

PROP. 204 - No	PROP. 212 - No
PROP. 205 - No	PROP. 213 - No
PROP. 206 - No	PROP. 214 - No
PROP. 207 - No position	PROP. 215 - Yes
PROP. 208 - No	PROP. 216 - No
PROP. 209 - Yes	PROP. 217 - No
PROP. 210 - No	PROP. 218 - Yes
PROP. 211 - No	

For a more detailed description of the party's recommendations, see the article on page 3.

Coming events

Nov. 5 — Election Night party at Burbank Holiday Inn. Call LPLAC, 310/204-0612 for more information.

Dec. 14 — LP 25th Anniversary party in Los Angeles. Time and location TBA.



Libertarian Party of California
655 Lewelling Blvd., #362
San Leandro, CA 94579

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Getting It Done With Gail: Exciting times

by Gail Lightfoot

We still get orders!

I have now filled orders for 1,328 postcards and 100 bumper stickers in behalf of the LPC. Gross income totals \$301.60. In addition, I have sold 13 Lady Liberty pins, 37 copies of the *Insight* reprints, two LP flags and four T-shirts. I do not know about orders for flags sent directly to Al Swain or T-shirts sold by Pat Wright.

The Nov 1996 Election brochure is done and in use by our 800# system as well as regions and candidates. Beginning Nov. 6, we will have a single piece with reply form and envelope to send to callers along with this periodical for three months. Call me today if you can distribute these in your neighborhood now at (805)481-3434.

We are trying to compile a list of Radio Talk Show hosts in California who are friendly to Libertarian ideas or candidates. If you or anyone in your region listen to the radio and can give us the names, radio station call letters, addresses, phone and fax numbers we will pass the information on to all the regions and candidates. If anyone is interested in managing such a list to enter updates and changes, let me know.

LPC Financial picture continues improving

The Fundraising letter sent to you in July has realized a grand total as of the end of August of \$9,137 (not deducting the costs). This is an all time record for the LPC including the time when our membership was twice what it is now. Look for another fundraising mailing soon. It is in the mail now.

We now have 108 pledgers giving the LPC \$ 1,550 a month (some give quarterly or semiannually, this figure extrapolates the yearly amount into a monthly figure). My next fundraiser will focus on becoming a pledger. You can expect to keep hearing from me on the subject of money until you plead for mercy or commit to a pledge to the LPC.

Special event planned

Dec 14, 1996. Gala 25th Birthday celebrations nationwide to celebrate the actual beginning of the Libertarian Party on Dec 11, 1971. Look for notices and



Gail Lightfoot

very special invitations to this celebration event. Mark your calendars now.

Get out your mailing list and send this to everyone you know.

Hugh Tax Cuts Now!

Hugh spending Cuts Now!

A Balanced Budget Now!

Vote Libertarian Now!

This fits on a post card. Set the text up 4 on a letter page, have it printed on card stock, cut to post card size and you can mail for \$0.20. Do it Now!

It has been very exciting the past few weeks and promises to be more so as the election nears. I am getting calls every day from students, teachers, reporters and just plain Joe Voter or LP member. Keeping me on my toes answering questions.

Just reading all the many suggestions for press releases and letters to the editor on the Internet is inspiring to me. I hope that you all have plans to hit the streets the weekend before the big day to ask your friends and neighbors to vote for Harry Browne.

Tell them to lead the way.

Spread the news:

The Libertarians are coming!

See you after the election!

Mark your calendar
Saturday, Dec. 14, 1996

An important national event
will be celebrated

More details
from your Regional Chairs

Libertarian Party of California NEWS

The official newspaper of the
Libertarian Party of California.

Opinions and articles contained herein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

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Libertarian Party of California
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LPC News
P. O. Box 598, Pismo Beach, CA 93448
FAX: (805) 481-9083
E-mail: LPCNews@aol.com

Contributing Editor:

Gail Lightfoot, LPC Chair

Contributors to this issue:

David Bergland, Co-chairman, Browne campaign
Erich Miller, Reg. 61
Richard Rider, Reg. 37
Meg and Jack Williams, Reg. 37

Submission deadline for December issue: Nov. 5, 1996

Use this form to renew your membership, to increase your donation or to give a friend

LPC Membership Form

Libertarian Party of California,
655 Lewelling Blvd.,
San Leandro, CA 94579

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____

Please limit access to my:

- phone and/or address
 to party officers and/or candidates

I choose to set my yearly dues at:

- \$25 - Basic membership
(incl. state newspaper)
 \$20 - Newspaper subscription only
 \$50 - Sustaining
 \$_____ More (Must be above basic membership)
 \$35 Household Membership
List all names plainly. Each must sign pledge to vote.
 \$20 Add National Membership (save \$5)
 \$500 Life Membership
 \$_____ Pledge
 Monthly Bimonthly Quarterly
(Note: Renewal dues are waived for members who meet pledge of \$10 or more a month for one year)
 \$_____ Donation (thank you!)

Total \$ _____

Payment by: Check VISA
 MASTERCARD

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

Please print name as it appears on your credit card

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.

To affirm publicly what we believe - and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles - we ask our members to sign this statement with pride.

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 _____

Please note: Non-signers are associate members and cannot vote on Party business.

Ballot measure recommendations

The November 5th ballot will have numerous proposals we oppose because they increase the size and power of government. Luckily there are three propositions that limit government and deserve your **YES** vote. The Libertarian Party of California says, **Please just say Yes to:**

PROP. 209 - The California Civil Rights Initiative (CCRI), to eliminate consideration of race and gender in college admissions, state employment and state contracting. All individuals should be judged on their own merit, not as members of any group. The law should not mention race or gender.

PROP. 215 - Medical Use of Marijuana, to let doctors prescribe marijuana for the terminally ill. Marijuana helps many people in their final days. This was passed by the Legislature, but vetoed by the Governor. Libertarians strongly support the right of people to use marijuana responsibly when they wish, especially those who are truly ill.

PROP. 218 - Voter Approval for Local Government Taxes and Limitations on Fees, Assessments and Charges. This proposal would make it harder for local governments to raise taxes. Libertarians support any bill that would protect taxpayers from politicians.

The Libertarian Party of California opposes propositions that give government more power.

Please say NO to:

PROP. 204 - a \$995 million bond for local Sacramento-area water programs. If Sacramento voters want these projects, they should fund them themselves.

PROP. 205 - a \$700 million bond for county jails and juvenile halls. We don't need more jails, we need fewer non-violent prisoners. If we concentrated on holding only violent felons we'd have a jail surplus.

PROP. 206 - a \$400 million bond for Cal-Vet real estate loans. Why should we duplicate the federal VA loan program?

PROP. 208 and **PROP. 212** - Limitations of Campaign Contributions. Limiting what challengers can raise, and from whom, only makes it hard to defeat incumbents. The problem is not big contributions, it is that government has so many goodies to give that special interest groups swarm in like flies to honey. To limit special-interest influence, limit the size and scope of government.

Just say No (cont.)

PROP. 210 - Minimum Wage Increase (from \$4.25 to \$5.75 per hour). Raising the minimum wage costs jobs: businesses running on the edge can't pay more and will just fold. The wages you pay or accept should not be determined by lawmakers.

PROP. 211 - So-called Retirement Savings and Consumer Protection Act (pensions are already protected under current law). Written by attorneys to make it easier to sue a company whose stock price falls (in a free market, prices fluctuate). This law would encourage frivolous lawsuits.

PROP. 213 - Denies non-economic damages to drunk drivers and uninsured motorists injured in accidents. A jury should decide what damages to award. Often, a particular drunk driver or uninsured motorist is not at fault and deserves no additional penalty.

PROP. 214 and **PROP. 216** - New regulations for health maintenance organizations (HMOs). The government should not be in the health care business.

PROP. 217 - Continuation of Top Income Tax Brackets at 11%. The state income tax should be completely repealed, not extended. Successful people should not be punished: we should let them create new jobs and help the economy by buying goods and services.

We take **NO POSITION** on **PROP. 207** (frivolous lawsuits and excessive attorney fees). Frivolous lawsuits are wrong, but only the client should care if an attorney's fees are excessive.

Share these recommendations with your friends and neighbors.

Nov. meet at 1997 convention site

The next ExCom meeting will be held Nov. 9 at 10:00 am at the Beverly Garland (convention) hotel in Sacramento. Secretary José Castañeda has sent notice of the meeting to all Executive Committee members and to all Regional Chairs.

Chair Gail Lightfoot announced that **agenda** items include:

1. Interviewing, selecting and awarding a contract to provide a monthly **periodical** for the members of the LPC by Allan L. Swain (see Request for Formal Quotation and the minutes of the Sept. 15 meeting);

2. Reviewing, discussing and determining a new method of **Financial Accounting and Reporting** to begin Jan 1, 1997, by Jon Petersen (see minutes of Aug. 3. meeting);

3. Discussing and approving a **Strategic Plan** for the LPC (meetings of Aug. 3 and Sept. 14), by Terry Savage; and

4. **1997 Budget** (see Bylaw 8, Section 5. The Executive

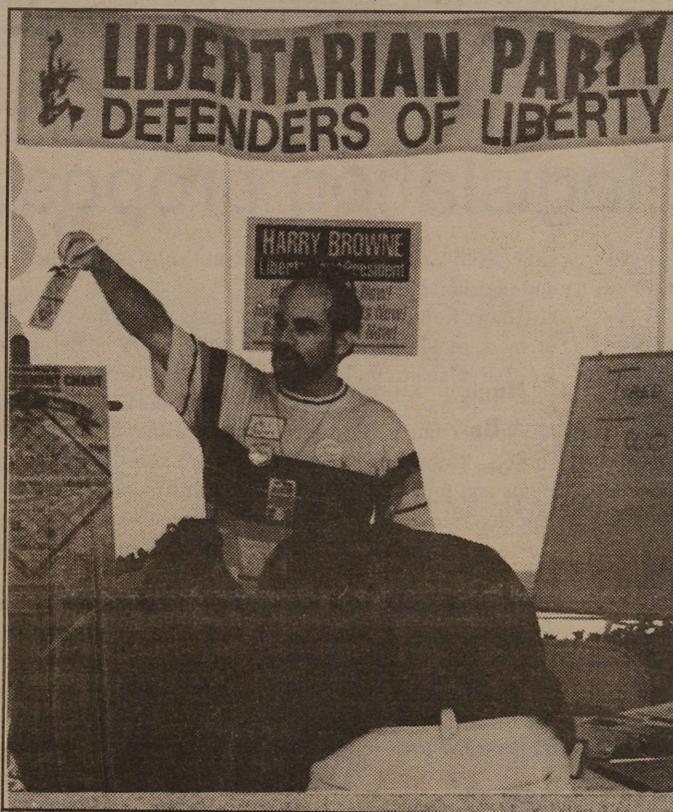
Committee shall cause an annual budget to be projected at its final meeting for the fiscal year for ratification the following year.) by Jon Petersen,

A new style of agenda will be used for this meeting. "It will list the goals and objectives for each portion of the meeting so that we all clearly understand why each item is on the agenda and what we need to accomplish during our time together," Lightfoot said.

Written reports for the meeting are to be in the hands of the ExCom **30 days prior** to the meeting.

No other agenda items will be considered unless a full 10 days is allowed to evaluate the need or a genuine emergency arises in the 5 days prior to the meeting.

Lightfoot added, "A party will be held in the evening with discussion on the outcome of the election a likely topic with the political junkies among us. Join us if you can."



Finding their political position

While an unidentified couple looked for their places in the political spectrum, Philip Baron tried to entice others to take the World's Smallest Political Quiz. Baron, a candidate for the 40th Assembly District, was among the many volunteers from Los Angeles County regions to work the two LPLAC booths at the "Rock The Vote" MTV event held in Burbank in mid-July. LPLAC chair Bob Weber said the booths attracted a lot of attention.

Photo by Erich Miller; Reg. 61.

Report of ExCom's Sept. meet

The third quarterly meeting of the LPC Executive Committee was convened Sept. 15, 1996 at the Region 66 office in Long Beach. After determining that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chair Gail Lightfoot.

As announced earlier, the primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss and approve the Publication Oversight Committee's Request for Formal Quotation for publishing the LPC's state periodical. With no other business being before the committee, the chair turned the meeting over to POC chair Allan L. Swain for discussion of the report and his recommendations.

Earlier, Swain had sent each ExCom member a copy of the Request for Formal Quotation and the Specifications with a request to read them and return any comments or suggestions to him before the meeting. He had revised copies of the documents ready for the members at the meeting. Committee members congratulated Swain on the timeliness, professional appearance and the clear concise language of the documents.

Swain took the committee through the documents paragraph by paragraph so they could clarify the language and specifications further. By 4:00 p.m., the documents had been modified by unanimous consent of those present. Swain said the changes would be merged and final revised documents would be provided to the ExCom members within a few days.

He thanked the committee members for their thoughtful suggestions, and gave particular thanks to San Diego Region 37 representative Dante Ridley for his help in keeping the language short and to the point. Ridley responded that he does that sort of work with the American Automobile Association.

The amended documents were approved for distribution to those individuals or businesses interested in submitting bids to publish the LPC periodical. Swain said he had received requests from four or five individuals and would send them the revised Request for Formal Quotations as soon as he could prepare them. The bidding period will close on Oct. 14. He will then evaluate the bids and make his recommendation to the ExCom by Oct. 28. The new contract will be awarded at the next ExCom meeting on Nov. 9.

No further business being before the committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

Members present were Chair Gail Lightfoot, Secretary José Castañeda, Linda Grau (Orange, Reg. 30), Dante Ridley (San Diego, Reg. 37), Art Hays, Mark Murphy, Allan L. Swain and Jean Taborsky.

Absent were No., Vice Chair Cullene Lang, So. Vice Chair Richard Halvorson, Treasurer Jon Petersen, Terry Savage (East Bay, Reg. 01), Mark Valverde (San Francisco, Reg. 38), Joseph W. Dehn III (Santa Clara, Reg. 43), Ted Brown and alternates Mark Hinkle and Joseph Farina.

Organizing for success — The home stretch

Increasing our vote total on election day is what it's all about —

by Meg and Jack Williams

Get supporters informed and registered. Make sure that **YOU ARE REGISTERED** to vote. Please re-register Libertarian, if your jurisdiction permits that.

Go through your card file (or your mental one) and list all of your friends, relatives, associates and acquaintances and divide them into three categories:

Group 1. Those you believe will vote for Harry Browne and Jo Jorgensen

Group 2. Those whom you believe you have a good chance to persuade to vote your way between now and election day

Group 3. The rest, the 'hard cases'.

Check out all of group one and group two and **BE SURE** that each person is registered to vote. If registered Libertar-

ian, all the better.

Continue to court these two groups with your enthusiasm, your literature and video tapes. This courtship should last right up to election day.

Don't waste much time on group three. It's easier and more effective to find new prospects for groups 1 & 2 than to spend precious resources on group three except for "final don't waste your vote" tactic to be covered later.

Your e-mail correspondents

Don't forget to include people with whom you correspond by e-mail as well as other far away friends and relatives in your list of prospects. We have found that simply forwarding (or snail-mailing) the campaign's press releases and especially the periodic issues of "On The Campaign Trail" to

friends far and near has gained ardent supporters. Even better: get them to subscribe to the campaign's e-mail announcements as you do. Push this with all of groups one and two. Just tell them to send off an e-mail to <announce-request@HarryBrowne96.org> with the word 'subscribe' in the subject line.

The importance of tackling the tasks listed above, now at the beginning of the home stretch, cannot be overemphasized because our actions in the last days before election day and on election day itself, to get out **OUR** vote and only our vote, will be based on accurate assessments of who supports Browne and Jorgensen and who does not.

(The Williams' are San Diego activists and Volunteer Co-ordinators of Harry Browne for President campaign.)

Sunset rule for legislation proposed

"Refresh the Nation" is a proposed amendment whereby all Supreme Court judicial rulings would sunset in ten years times the number of people in the majority, retroactively applied by adding two years for every decade back the decision goes. A similar provision could apply to legislation so that slim majority laws would sunset in two years, large majority rules would last maybe twenty years, and unanimous laws would last 40 years.

This way, proponents say, Congress would have to focus upon the basic foundation of our Constitution for laws and the two centuries of judicial garbage would be cleaned off so that each generation would have a reasonable opportunity to define its own reality from our Constitutional foundation. As it stands, we (and our freedoms) are being slowly tortured to

slow death by incremental socialism led by judicial activism and legislative mobocracy.

Under Refresh the Nation, Congress would have ten years or more of hindsight to judicial activism to come up with legislative solutions for sunsetted judicial decisions. If the rules were supported by all or most legislators, the laws would last longer but still be subject to adjustment and eventual sunset. Mobocracy legislation (where slim majorities take rights and property from slim minorities) would sunset with repeated frequency until one got a legislative group that understood that mobocracy is not the way to lead our nation into the future: The Constitution and its foundation would be revived and highly studied, instead of becoming the dead sea scrolls covered by decades of compost of judicial and legislative activism that is counter to Constitutional premises.

The Refresh rule would provide for incrementally returning to our Constitutional foundation in a controlled and predictable fashion. With each sunseting legislation and judi-

cial ruling, the debate over the intent of the 'Founding Fathers' and Constitution would be taken up by all and the meaning of the pursuit of happiness and liberty would be in the forefront.

Drumbeat — from p.1

than Democrats. Not unusual for Hollywood.

As you might expect, Harry was superb. The audience and other guests were enthusiastic about what he had to say and the most overwhelming agreement was that it was a travesty that he was not included in the presidential debates because the American people should have the opportunity to hear his libertarian message. This came through loud and clear, even from those who expressed some disagreement with his "extreme" message. Guest Jason Alexander (Seinfeld) was very strong in making this point on the air and in a conversation I had with him after the show.

It was also clear that the host and the audience wanted to hear a lot more from Harry than could be touched upon in a half-hour show with three other guests. Maher commented on the air that there had been more requests to have Harry on the show than any other guest, ever. I also spoke with several other staff people connected with the show and every one of them made a similar comment.

So, congratulations to all of you pain-in-the-neck Libertarians who pestered Politically Incorrect to have Harry Browne as a guest. It worked. And it will work again. I am confident that the people who make the decisions would like to have Harry back because he was a very interesting guest. So, let's tell them how great we thought he was and that we want to see more.

Don't stop with Politically Incorrect. Contact any show you think might be suitable for an appearance by Harry Browne. Even if they don't get him between now and the election, they will learn something and perhaps be encouraged to have him or other libertarians on future shows.

(Bergland is co-chairman of the Harry Browne for President campaign. He was LP presidential candidate in 1984.)

Opportunity Knocks

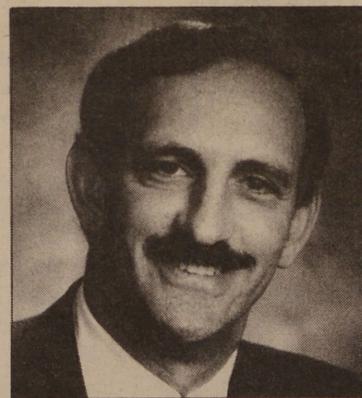
by Richard Rider

On March 26 of this year a dramatic new opportunity for the Libertarian Party of California fell into our laps. With the passage of the "open primary" initiative, a California voter will henceforth be able to vote for any candidate in any party during future primaries, regardless of the voter's party registration. All the registered voters in a given district will receive the same primary (and, of course, general) election ballot.

So why is this change so important to the Libertarian Party? Think about all the people you know who have told you that "I don't register Libertarian because I want to vote in the Republican (or Democrat) primaries." That excuse is no longer valid. Henceforth the only reason for a voter to remain registered Demopublican is if he or she wants to run for office in one of those two parties.

Ironically, the Libertarian Party opposed this initiative, and rightly so. We think the government should not set the standards of eligibility for political parties, a decision that should be left to each party.

But, our opinion notwithstanding, it's time for us to significantly expand the number of registered Libertarians. The growth of the number of Libertarian Party registrants is im-



portant for our credibility with the press and the politicians.

Talk to family members, friends, co-workers and others who have said that they sometimes vote Libertsarian in the general elections, but want to vote in one of the older party's primaries during the spring. Explain to them how they benefit the cause of freedom if they reregister Libertarian.

Re-registering is remarkably easy. You can order voter registration cards "free" from your county Registrar of Voters by phone. A registration form is in essence a postage paid postcard that you can fill out and drop in the mail.

If you have't done it yet, register Libertarian. If you have, start encouraging others to do the same. Let's get our registrations up so the politicians can better see the sentiments of a growing portion of the population who favor a much more limited role for government.

(Rider is a San Diego activist and former candidate for Governor.)

Note: This and other articles talk about registering or re-registering. It is too late to register for this election. Registration deadline this year was midnight, Monday, Oct. 7.

What ingenuity can do

What do you do when you want to promote yourself without spending a lot of money?

If you are Erich Miller of Reg. 61, you create your own rolling sign boards.

Miller is a candidate for the 24th Congressional District.

Photo by E. Miller



Court's decision "painful but proper": Browne

Harry Browne called a federal court's decision not to force the Commission on Presidential Debates to include Ross Perot (and other third party candidates) "painful but proper." The lawsuit argued that the Commission on Presidential Debates used subjective criteria for inclusion in the debates, while the Federal Election Commission (FEC) mandates objective criteria.

He went on to say, "The court's decision was proper because the Commission, for all its links to the government-funded Republican and Democratic parties, is still a private, non-profit organization. It has the right to invite to its debates whomever it wants — or set whatever biased, unfair, subjective criteria it chooses."

But, said Browne, "The decision was painful because the real losers are the voters, who will get a phony debate between Dole and Clinton — two men who fundamentally agree that government should be huge and expensive. It will be a

big-government love fest masquerading as a debate."

Another reason he didn't file a lawsuit, said Browne, is that "It would be hypocritical for a Libertarian to sue to enforce the laws of an agency we want to abolish. Through its regulations, the FEC has stifled political speech and systematically suppressed the growth of third parties. Libertarians would never go to court to argue that FEC regulations need to be enforced more strictly. Suing the Commission would only blur the primary message of my campaign."

Instead of filing lawsuits, Browne said his campaign has challenged Perot to a one-on-one presidential debate, is examining several options for 'alternative' presidential debates, and will keep campaigning around the country "and reaching as many voters as possible."

He was scheduled to appear on CNN with "Larry King Live," immediately after the CPB-sponsored bi-partisan presidential debate.

The wasted vote fallacy

by Richard Rider

The biggest objection by allies to voting Libertarian is not the usual controversial issues we imagine. By far our biggest problem is the "wasted vote" argument — the idea that if you vote for someone who will not win, then the vote does not count. What follows is a suggested method of dealing with this objection.

On big races (larger than city council races) there is one point to remember — you as an individual will NEVER cast the deciding ballot! Hence there is no reason to vote for the lesser evil. I find it ironic that we hear the "wasted vote" argument most in precisely the races where it applies least.

A Presidential race will never be decided by one vote. And if, by some mathematical chance it got that close, it would be decided politically in the courts, in the legislature or in Cook County, Illinois (where I plan to be buried so I can continue to vote after I'm dead and gone).

If you go to the polls to cast the deciding ballot in major races and you value your life, you are making an irrational decision. The chances of dying en route in a car, plane or meteor accident are far greater than the chance of casting the deciding ballot.

We as INDIVIDUALS don't vote to select the winner. As a practical matter, we vote to tell everyone else which choice best represents the direction which we want the country to go. Hence voting lesser evil sends the wrong message.

Remember, if we keep voting the way we have been voting, we will keep getting what we have been getting.

Even if once in your life you missed the chance to cast that mythical deciding ballot, the harm from selecting the wrong person in one election is more than offset by a lifetime of giving voter support to the lesser of two evils rather than standing up for what you believe.

The history of third parties in America is that they serve as the vanguard for new ideas. If they start to draw votes, one or both of the two big parties steal their ideas (that is the one item we welcome politicians to steal from us).

The most successful third party in the 20th century was the Socialist Party. While never winning any significant elections, their small but growing vote totals were a threat to the Democrats. Thus the Democrats, and then later the Republicans, adopted piecemeal every major tenet of the 1916 Socialist Party platform.

We Libertarians are the opposite of the Socialists, but we find their success instructive. The radical ideas about liberty that we started with in 1971 are now being seriously debated or, in some cases, implemented by the other parties. An increasing number of Libertarian votes is indeed noted by the politicians as well as the media.

So rather than waste your vote on Demopublicans, cast a meaningful ballot that clearly says what you believe. Cast a vote for some serious government downsizing. Cast a vote for freedom. It's time to vote Libertarian.

Quotes to be quoted...and credited...by Libertarians

Cogent thoughts to use when talking to non-libertarians

Libertarianism: Adherence to the concepts of the rights of men (mankind) as individuals; supporting the value and virtue of private life and private property through non-violent means. 2. Adjoining political aim or ambition; a belief that order is the product of liberty. 3. A system that believes in removing all political controls over the economy to eliminate poverty and unemployment.

Libertarian: A person who sees a [person] as an individual having merit in [themselves] who does not exist so that [they] can hurt society or other people. . . who is not society's sacrificial victim in any way, shape or form. 2. A believer in [mankind] as. . . Free Being(s) capable of making [their] own decisions and acting reasonably and responsibly in living [their] lives.

Robert LeFevre, *The Libertarian*

I am a believer in Occam's Razor Principle (also known as the Principle of Parsimony), which states: Never multiply explanations or make them more complicated than necessary. An explanation should be as simple and direct as possible. Obviously, Occam's Razor Principle is not popular with people who 'earn' their livings by making simple problems appear complicated, by creating crises that either do not or need not exist, and by talking in abstracts.

Robert J. Ringer,

Restoring the American Dream, p. 7

Though most people would prefer to avoid the issue of economics, the fact is that the economic realities of government functions cannot be fully analyzed without an understanding of certain fundamentals of economics and economic systems. And economics is at the very heart of the human-freedom issue.

Ibid, p. 50

...Ayn Rand long ago proclaimed that money is the root of all good! Surplus wealth stimulates the economy, which is critical to the poorest people in society. The greater the surplus wealth, the greater the chance that those at the lowest of the economic scale will begin to reap benefits.

Ibid, p. 53

Re: The Great Depression - 1929-1940. Capitalism did not fail. As always, it was government controls which caused the economy to fail.

Ibid, p. 63

Self-proclaimed patriots profess a love of "country;" libertarians profess a love of human freedom.

Ibid, p. 275

Government cannot solve your problems because government is the problem.

Ibid, p. 276

...One of the things which would emerge from a restoration of the American Dream would be an increase in Voluntary Charity. When people are free to keep what they earn, a spirit of charity is much more likely to prevail.

Ibid, p. 278

If you would rather be part of the solution than part of the problem, you should ask only one thing of government: To be left alone!

Ibid, p. 281

Compiled by Edward E. Moss, chair, Education Committee



People attending the Region 61 picnic wore a wide variety of T-shirts with libertarian messages. Three examples were modelled by (from left) Richard Boddie with a hemp-leaf and the legend, "End Prohibition Now."

David Nolan sported the Advocates Quiz and Justine Lewis carried Robert Heinlein's observation that 'An armed society is a polite society'.

Photo by Erich Miller.

Reg. 61 celebrates LP's 25th year

San Fernando Valley Region 61 sent out the word to registered Libertarians to come out to a picnic, bring their family and non-libertarian friends, and have fun. Purpose of the late August event, in addition to having fun, said chair Kit Maira, was to celebrate 25 years of hard work and growth of the Libertarian Party.

The picnic drew over a hundred people, including children.

Featured speakers were LP founder David F. Nolan and former U.S. Senator candidate Richard B. Boddie. Also in attendance were a dozen LP candidates and their representatives. Attendees were given an update on the Harry Browne/Jo Jorgensen campaign and urged to sign "Stop the Browne Out" petitions to get the top LP candidate in the presidential debates.

Speeches were not the only feature of the picnic. The youngsters enjoyed face painting, a coloring table and a limbo contest. A live band entertained the crowd with reggae, blues, rock and jazz.

The event culminated with the cutting and serving of a large white blue-trimmed cake topped with the Lady Liberty logo and the inscription Happy Birthday Libertarian Party!

Coordinator Erich Miller, himself a candidate for the 24th Congressional District, called the day "a great success."

Meetings heated on gun control

Johann Opitz, of Santa Clara Reg. 43 reports that San Jose City Council meetings regarding a proposed city gun control ordinance have gotten quite heated. The ordinance under discussion would ban the sale of affordable handguns and mandate the sale of trigger locks with each gun sale. Opponents as well as some councilmembers were upset that San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer limited debate at the last meeting to a total of 15 minutes for both pro and con arguments.

Someone passed around a 3.5" x 2" green card that read:

SAN JOSE HUNTING LICENSE

(Valid Until Revoked By An Armed Citizen.)

The holder of this license is hereby granted permission to prey upon the law-abiding citizens of San Jose.

By action of the Mayor and City Council of San Jose, legal sale of handguns to citizens is BANNED. Criminals of San Jose may continue obtaining their weapons through illegal sources with the knowledge that their victims will no longer have the ability of self-defense.

NOTE: This license is not valid to the LAW ABIDING!

The ordinance passed on a vote of 6 to 5.

Know your State Officers



Chair:

Gail Lightfoot
P. O. Box 598
Pismo Beach, 93448
(805)481-3434
Fax: (805)481-9083
LPCChair@aol.com



Northern Vice Chair:

Cullene M. Lang
10201 Rockingham Dr.
Sacramento, 95827
(916)362-0855
(408)737-9744
Cullene@aol.com

Southern Vice Chair:

Richard H. Halvorson
4402 Kamloop Ave.
San Diego, 92117
(619)273-6328
Fax: (619)272-5445

Treasurer:

Jon Petersen
141 Hays Avenue
San Jose, 95123
(408)229-1726
Fax: (408)972-1515
Jon.Petersen@ctg.com

Secretary:

José Castañeda
10305 Garfield Ave.
Southgate, 90280
(310)862-9152
LPCSec@aol.com

Executive Committee Members

Regional Reps:

01 East Bay
Terry Savage (Reg 43)
(408)920-2193
ZAPTCS@aol.com
30 Orange Cty
Linda Grau
(714)651-1065
(714)835-7234
(714)692-3150(fax)
37 San Diego:
Dante Ridley
(619)220-9250
(619)988-7676 (fax)
dante@GL.com
38 San Francisco
Mark ValVerde
(415)387-8906
(415)255-1906 (Lysander)
(415)864-7506(fax)
71034.2711@compuserve.com
43 Santa Clara:
Joseph W. Dehn III
(415)858-1842
jwd3@dehnbase.fidonet.org

At Large Reps:

Ted Brown
(818)286-7817
Fax(818)286-7837
Ted@mail.idt.net
Art Hays
(310)423-9549
Mark Murphy
(714)891-3449
(714)379-7184
markm@desktop.tyrell.com
Allan L. Swain
(916)472-3086
(916)472-3165
fernals@delphi.com
Jean Taborsky
(310)920-9258 voice or fax
104052.700@compuserve.com

Alternate

At Large Reps:

Mark Hinkle
(408)778-2444
(408) 778-1115(fax)
mark@garlic.com,
Joe Farina
(916)423-4663(h)
(916)685-1392(w)
(916)685-6882 (fax)
johnhenry@saclive.com

OpCom:

Gail Lightfoot,
Jon Petersen, Ted Brown
Mark Murphy, Linda
Grau

Database contractor:

510/352-9469

Inquiry contractor:

415/255-0879



**Election of
Libertarian Party of California
officers and Regional Reps**

will be held in February 1997 at the
Annual Convention in Sacramento.

**Are you a Regional leader interested
in helping the party grow
and improve service to the Regions?**

Submit your name to
LPC Secretary José Castañeda,
10305 Garfield Ave., Southgate, CA 90280
E-mail LPCSec@aol.com.
If you feel you need still more experience,
volunteer your talents in your local Region.
*LPC News will write about prospective
state leaders in the December issue.*

Debate — From p. 1

Neither did Ralph Nader of the Green Party.

Browne appeared on the "Larry King Live" show on Oct. 6, following the Clinton-Dole debate.

In a lawsuit brought by Ross Perot, John Hagelin of the Natural Law Party and the Green Party, a federal court upheld the Commission's discriminatory decision. A few days later, the U.S. Court of Appeals rejected oral arguments.

Articles in LPC News

available for the asking on
e-mail, disk or hard copy.

You can also find *LPC News*
on the LPC Web page

<http://www.lp.org/lp/ca/lpc.html>
and on Libertarian Forum@aol.com

The Libertarian Party did not enter into the lawsuit at Harry Browne's request. (See story, *Painful but proper*, p. 5).

Calling the Commission's action "a blatant attempt to rig this crucial election," Collar conceived, America's '96 Open Debate. It was to have been held Tuesday, Oct. 8, in Clearwater, FL., and was open to all six national Presidential candidates. It was, he said, "the first step toward the revival of America - the land of the free and home of the brave."

The event started as part of the Stop The Browne Out (STBO) rally. Collar called on Internet users across the nation to work with him in identifying and getting the addresses of radio, television and print media and passing them on to him to put into a Web page. Users could then download addresses of media in their area and bombard them with letters of their own, or they could use letters and press releases created by Collar and others.

The STBO rally did not influence the Commission on Presidential Debates or sway the federal judge. However, the combination of the grassroots effort and Browne's clear, concise statements of Libertarian issues and principles in radio and TV interviews brought many of the talk show hosts over to the Libertarian point of view.

Regional Contacts

Reg. 01, East Bay

(Alameda & Contra Costa
Counties)
Chair: Jeffery R. Sommer
Phone: 510/537-3212
Terry.Floyd@cmnsens.fidonet.org

Reg. 03, Gold Country

(Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne)
Chair: Gary Hines
Phone: 209/736-4916
emulvany@mlode.com

Reg. 04, Butte

Contact: Jessica Strock
Phone: 916/891-6172

Reg. 08, Del Norte

Contact: Pat Sherry
Phone: 707/465-1727
e-mail: patrick@nsl.tlk.net

**Reg. 09, El Dorado/
Alpine**

Contact: Fred Rouse
Phone: 916/622-8008

Reg. 10, Central Valley

(Fresno, Madera, Mariposa,
Tulare)
Chair: Pamela Pescosolido
Phone: 209/592-6619
Hourglass@earthlink.net

Reg. 12, Humboldt

Contact: Fred Mangels
Phone: 707/443-6568
FreddyM@sprynet.com

Reg. 13, Imperial

Contact: Martin Castro
Phone: 619/344-7722

Reg. 15, Kern

Chair: Ryan Gifford
Phone: 805/589-8734

Reg. 17, North Coast

(Lake, Mendocino)
Contact: Emil Rossi
Phone: 707/895-3261

Reg. 18, Lassen

Contact: Bonnie Rutherford
Phone: (916)251-6709

Reg. 19, Los Angeles

LP of Los Angeles County
(see Reg. 61 to Reg. 68)
Chair: Bob Weber
Phone: (310)204-0612
10445.3235@compuserve.com

Reg. 20, Modesto

Chair: Ronald A. Payne
Phone: 209/674-7690

Reg. 21, Marin

Contact: Mark Valverde
Phone: 415/255-1906

Reg. 24, Merced

Chair: Art Cassretto
Phone: 209/667-5286

Reg. 26, Inyo/Mono

Chair: Bill Baucum
Phone: 619/878-2288
baucum@panix.com

Reg. 28, Napa

Contact: Bill Crain
Phone: 707/224-5535
Fax: 707/224-6456

Reg. 29, Nevada

Chair: Gary A. Dusseljee
Phone: 916/478-1776

Reg. 30, Orange

Chair: Richard B. Boddie
Phone: (714)540-5053
ter@ix.netcom.com

Reg. 31, Placer

Chair: Priscilla Falconi
Phone: 916/784-1140

Reg. 33, Riverside

Chair: Gene Berkman
Phone: 909/369-8843
freedom@ez2.net

Reg. 34, Sacramento

Chair: Joseph Farina
Phone: (H) 916/423-4663
(W) 916/685-1392
johnhenry@saclive.com

Reg. 35, San Benito

Contact: Steve Gordon
Phone: 408/636-1296
Vote4Librt@aol.com

Reg. 36, San Bernardino

Contact: Edward E. Moss
Phone: 909/986-6677
Ethelm36@aol.com

Reg. 37, San Diego

Contact: Richard Rider,
Office Manager
Phone: 619/530-1776
drider@aol.com

Reg. 38, San Francisco

Contact: Mark Valverde
Phone: 415/255-1906
Dasher@netcom.com

Reg. 39, San Joaquin

Chair: David Morrow
Phone: 209/957-0322

Reg. 40, San Luis Obispo

Chair: Gary Kirkland
Phone: 805/466-2742
gkirkland@thegrid.net

Reg. 41, San Mateo

Chair: Kathleen O'Brien
Phone/Fax: 415/473-0439
102166.537@compuserve.com

Reg. 42, Santa Barbara

Chair: Michael Lamboley
Phone: 805/964-9569
mlamboley@grci.com

Reg. 43, Santa Clara

Chair: David Bonino
Phone: 408/947-0395.
davidb619@aol.com

Reg. 44, Santa Cruz

Chair: Bill Anderson
Phone: 408/476-4773

Reg. 45, Shasta

Chair: Allan L. Swain
Phone: 916/472-3086
femals@delphi.com

Reg. 48, Solano

Chair: Mike Malin
Phone: 707/426-0232

Reg. 49, Sonoma

Contact: Jim Oglesby
Phone: 707/571-7933
Fax: 707/894-1864
lpsnomia@aol.com

Reg. 50, Stanislaus

Chair: Don DeGroat
Phone: 209/527-1493
Voice/Fax: 209/524-1776
EWCHIEF@aol.com

Reg. 51, Sutter/Yuba

Chair: Todd Herman
Phone: (916)673-2208
Fax: (916)755-3044
LPCReg51@aol.com

Reg. 52, Tehama

Chair: Ross Crain
Phone: 916/527-2676

Reg. 56, Ventura

Chair: Bill Brown
Phone: 805/389-3035

Reg. 57, Yolo

Chair: Cullene Lang
Phone: 916/362-0855
Cullene@aol.com

**Reg. 61, San Fernando
Valley**

Chair: Kit Maira
Phone: (Voice or FAX) 818/980-
1233
72037.430@compuserve.com

**Reg. 62, West Los
Angeles**

Contact: Bob Weber
Phone: 310/204-0612
dwire@loop.com

**Reg. 63, Pasadena/
Glendale**

Chair: Dennis Decherd
Phone: 818/949-0595

**Reg. 64, Central Los
Angeles**

Chair: Pam Probst
Phone: 213/257-3207
pprobst@primenet.com

**Reg. 65, Southeast Los
Angeles**

Chair: Rodger Rosie
Phone: 310/865-4089
Fax: 310/866-3191
delii@sc.liberty.com

**Reg. 66, Long Beach/
South Bay**

Chair: Laura McFadden
Phone: 310/490-3840
Reg66Chair@aol.com

**Reg. 67, East San Gabriel
Valley**

Chair: Lee Borton
Phone: 909/599-4974

Reg. 68, Antelope Valley

Contact: Bob Burke
Phone: 805/948-2470

Reg. 69, Mojave

Contact: Dave Fortin
Phone: 619/247-8884

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any changes to
LPC News*

Debate move failed, but effort long lasting

Disappointed that the proposed America '96 Open Debate did not come about on Oct. 8, Brian L. Collar was not discouraged, saying, "We have all brought about the birth of something long lasting."

Collar is the Florida Libertarian and businessman who conceived and organized the idea of setting up a separate debate to which all six presidential candidates were invited. Only Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne, Natural Law Party's John Hagelin and Howard Philips of the U.S. Taxpayer's Party accepted.

Collar went on to say, "Shortly after the November election, I will set out to form a national foundation committed to networking existing 'free election' organizations, every legitimate national party, ballot access and election reform movements into one cooperative, unified and powerful voice."

He made a personal pledge that "If we cannot reform the Commission on Presidential Debates, then we shall replace it. If we cannot gain appropriate network coverage for a legitimate debate between all candidates, then we shall buy it. If we cannot gain the support of members of the House and the Senate, then we shall strive to replace them one at a time. Together, we shall restore America."

Calling it "truly amazing," Collar said that in three weeks the America '96 Open Debate organization had grown to include an e-mail outreach of over 10,000 and a media fax network of over 2,000 recipients. He said he looks forward to continued support and active participation.

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