

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle®



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September 2004

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## Kuester fights back against GOP attack



■ Ed Thompson, Tom Kuester and LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik relax following a recent fundraiser in Wisconsin.

## Badnarik launches 'Project New Mexico'

The Michael Badnarik for President campaign spent the first two weeks of August in New Mexico testing a novel strategy that, if successful, could lay the groundwork for the remainder of the campaign, aides say.

"The strategy involves choosing a swing state in a relatively inexpensive media market, such as New Mexico," said campaign manager Fred Collins. "The plan is to poll before we go in, run a blizzard of TV and radio ads, then poll again — with a goal of getting Badnarik's poll numbers high enough that he starts getting included in major national polls.

"If that happens, the sky's the limit for this campaign."

The campaign commissioned a Rasmussen poll — conducted Aug. 4 — which asked, "If the Presidential election were held today, would you vote for Republican George W. Bush, Democrat John F. Kerry, or Libertarian Michael Badnarik?"

On that question, Badnarik received 5 percent, with Bush getting 43 percent and Kerry getting 48 percent, said Steve Gordon, communications director for the campaign.

The campaign ran 218 television and 383 radio ads statewide from Aug. 5 to Aug. 13, at a cost of about \$65,000.

The TV ads appeared on political shows including "Larry King

Live," "The O'Reilly Factor," "Hannity & Colmes," "Face the Nation" and "Meet the Press," as well as on MTV, VH1, C-NBC, the History Channel and local network news affiliate stations.

The campaign was expected to poll again on August 15, shortly after *LP News* went to press.

"Data from Project New Mexico should give us a better idea of how effective these ads are and how widely we should broadcast them up until Election Day," Gordon said.

In response to questions on the first poll, 67 percent said they had heard of the LP before, and 28 percent said they had heard of "Libertarian candidate for president Michael Badnarik."

"One of the key things I'm interested in is how far his name recognition has gone up," Gordon said. "We want to see what worked and what didn't, and how we can proceed with a coherent, effective strategy for the rest of the campaign."

At an Aug. 13 press conference that wrapped up the New Mexico visit, Badnarik got extensive television coverage, Gordon said — adding that the story ran on television stations throughout the state.

### Debates proposed

In another new campaign strategy, the Badnarik team is trying to

See **DEBATES** Page 10

When Ed Thompson ran for governor of Wisconsin on the Libertarian Party ticket in 2002, he took close to 11 percent of the votes, including about 32 percent of the vote in the state's 50<sup>th</sup> District.

Now there's a Libertarian running for the state assembly in District 50, and incumbent Republican Sheryl Albers is running scared.

Tom Kuester is the only Libertarian among the four candidates opposing Albers in the quest for the assembly seat — there are two other Republicans and a Democrat, as well — and he is the only one to have been singled out for an attack by the Republicans on Albers's behalf.

The GOP saw two years ago that the district's voters are willing to vote Libertarian, and that's reason enough to file a frivolous complaint against Kuester with the state elec-

tion board.

The complaint, filed July 9, claims — among other things — that the Kuester misused a word on his Web site.

Albers authored the state's Smart Growth legislation, which has since become law, and Kuester said he would work to repeal it. The Republicans made much of Kuester's use of the word "bill," saying in the complaint that "a bill cannot be repealed, only laws can be repealed."

Kuester quickly responded with a press release pointing out that the Republicans were trying to silence him in any way possible — up to complaining about a word choice on a Web site. The story was picked up by every newspaper in the district, making front page headlines in two of them. It also provided a note of humor for news broadcasts on the *Wisconsin Radio Network*.

Kuester's Internet campaign site

points out that "state politicians receive fat pensions, inflated salaries, extravagant expense accounts" and other tax-funded items, and says that "politicians are supposed to be public servants, not hogs at the trough."

The Republicans slammed Kuester for this as well, saying in their complaint that he had made baseless accusations against their candidate.

As an editorialist with the *Tomah Journal* newspaper pointed out, Kuester's Web site and other campaign materials are critical of the state's politicians, but his words are "protected free speech ... no matter what the Republican Party of Wisconsin thinks."

The editorialist said that the Republican complaint is "astounding for its contempt of the First Amendment," and that there were no grounds for threatening Kuester

See **KUESTER** Page 4

## Buttrick seeks to retain Superior Court seat

John Buttrick, the Libertarian Arizona Superior Court Judge appointed to the bench in 2001, announced recently that he has filed to run for retention as a judge in November. He was appointed in May 2001 by then-Governor Jane Hull, and must now run to continue as a judge.

He filed the paperwork on Aug. 5, and voters in Maricopa County — which includes Phoenix and Scottsdale — will vote whether to retain him for a full four-year term. If he fails to garner over 50 percent of the vote, his term will expire in January 2005.

When he was appointed, Buttrick became the first known registered Libertarian ever to be appointed to a court of general jurisdiction, and his Libertarian membership was — and remains — no secret throughout the state: He ran for governor of Arizona in 1994 and for the state legislature in 1998, both times as a Libertarian.

In the latter race he was endorsed by the state's largest newspaper, *The Arizona Republic*, over both a Democrat and a Republican.

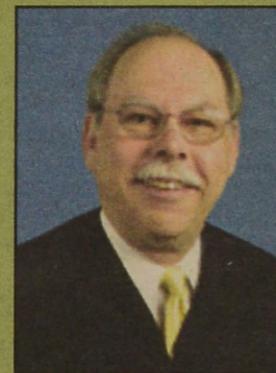
He said he fully expects to be endorsed by that paper again, and that voters will agree that he should keep the job.

"I hope my performance has shown that Libertarians can perform judicial duties as competently as members of other political parties," Buttrick said. "Once that is fully understood, perhaps we will experience more appointments to appropriate posts."

Buttrick's ability to carry out his job responsibilities was directly attacked shortly after his appointment — with lawyers in several cases asking that he be removed from their cases, arguing that he was "biased" because of his Libertarian beliefs.

The challenges went all the way to the state Supreme Court but were all defeated.

"It is much easier to be appointed as a Republi-



■ John Buttrick

can, Democrat or Independent," Buttrick said, noting that the governor selected him for the appointment over 35 other candidates — all of whom were Republicans and Democrats.

"In fact, many people urged me to change my registration to make it easier to be appointed. I refused to do that as a matter of principle. And it is even more difficult to be appointed if you have run as a non-major party candidate. The governor and her staff were extremely nervous about appointing me because of my earlier political activity."

But the non-partisan Judicial Performance Review Committee believes he has done the job he was appointed to do; in July, the committee unanimously agreed he has met all of the criteria to be retained as a judge.

Their review of his performance included "an extensive analysis of both my work over the last three years and the anonymous written comments of litigants, witnesses, lawyers and jurors who appeared in front of me," Buttrick said.

Buttrick is well-known in national Libertarian circles as well; he was an at-large member of the Libertarian National Committee from 1997 to 2000, and served on the national LP Platform Committee three times, including chairing that committee in 1998 and 2000.

See **JUDGE** Page 2

## NEWS BRIEFS

### MN LP treasurer admits theft, chair says

The treasurer of the Minnesota LP admitted in mid-August to stealing several thousand dollars from the party's bank accounts, according to state Chair Ron Helwig, who noted that she has resigned her position and given up her LP membership.

The theft came to light when the party got an eviction notice from the owner of LP headquarters, who said the rent hadn't been paid in three months, Helwig said.

Treasurer Jill Wilkinson had held the position for a little over a year. Her husband, Colin Wilkinson, was a member of the state executive committee and has also resigned. He showed up at an executive committee meeting Aug. 9 and read his wife's statement in which she admitted her guilt, Helwig said. He also agreed to pay back the money, at \$400 per month, and has already paid the \$3,000 in past-due rent, so the LP won't be evicted.

Because Jill Wilkinson was the primary person responsible for the party's funds and no one else knew how much was in the account, it's hard to know how much disappeared, Helwig said, estimating that \$7,000 to \$15,000 is missing.

A police report was filed, and the matter is still under investigation, he added.

According to an article published in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Jill Wilkinson says her daughter and members of a gang have been extorting money from her with threats of violence.

"Her daughter had apparently beaten her up before," Helwig said. "According to her story, there were other gang members involved, and they were threatening to kill Colin."

### FEC to investigate debate commission

A federal judge ruled Aug. 12 that the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) may have violated federal election laws by refusing to allow third-party candidates into the debate halls to watch the presidential debates in 2000.

U.S. District Judge Henry H. Kennedy Jr. ordered the Federal Election Commission to open a full investigation into whether the debate commission acted in a partisan manner.

Ralph Nader, Pat Buchanan and representatives of the Green, Constitution and Natural Law parties filed a lawsuit claiming that the debate commission is partisan toward Republican and Democrat candidates and should not be allowed to sponsor the debates. The FEC dismissed the complaint.

Kennedy based his ruling on the plaintiffs' allegations that the CPD was founded by the two major parties, that most of the commission's directors are prominent Democrats and Republicans, and that the commission's conduct shows it to be a partisan organization.

If the group is found to be partisan, it could be barred from sponsoring the presidential debates — into which only candidates who can show 15 percent support in polls have been allowed.

### Librarians face-off with Ashcroft

Libertarians sometimes make a joking point of differentiating between "libertarian" and "librarian," noting that people occasionally confuse the two words.

Case in point: One state party office recently reported receiving a phone call from a retired librarian who thought she was calling the local "Librarian Party." Apparently she thought it was a social club for off-duty library workers.

All joking aside, however, the American Library Association (ALA) was forced to take on a libertarian role in late July when Attorney General John Ashcroft ordered the association (including all affiliated libraries) to destroy copies of federal laws on asset forfeiture.

Two of the five documents that were supposed to be removed from libraries and destroyed are federal statutes that include information on how citizens can retrieve items that have been confiscated by the government during an investigation, ALA President-Elect Michael Gorman said.

The Department of Justice claimed that the materials are "training materials and other materials that the Department of Justice staff did not feel were appropriate for external use."

Destroying copies of these materials would have made the documents available only to people with access to law offices or law libraries, Gorman noted.

The Department of Justice later rescinded its order, backing down before the ALA's submission of a Freedom of Information Act request for the materials, which have been in the public domain for four years, Gorman said.

## LNC members volunteer at LP HQ

Two Libertarian National Committee members — BetteRose Ryan and Tony Ryan — visited LP headquarters in Washington, D.C., for two full weeks in July, volunteering their time to make more efficient use of storage space.

"The Ryans completely got on top of an important project," said LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen. "It was great to have them in the office. They collected, sorted, cataloged, and created a database for all of our archived media materials, such as VHS tapes and audiocassettes."

"Now these materials are efficiently stored and can be located easily. This is a valuable archive project, as many of those tapes have historic value."

Communications Director George Getz agreed. "BetteRose and Tony Ryan are both down-to-earth people who are a pleasure to have around. We all appreciate how they treated us in such a collegial manner."

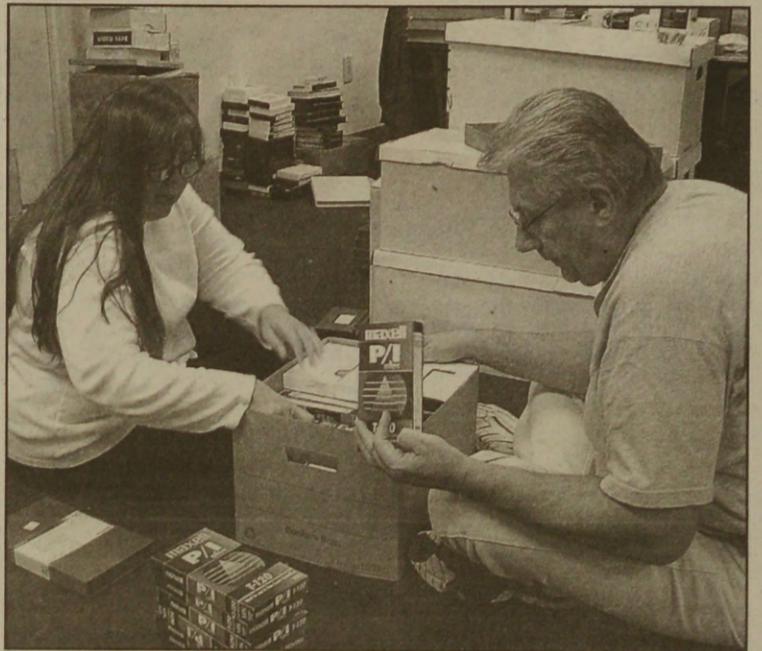
Tony Ryan, who is in his first term as an alternate representative to the LNC from the 5 West region, said he and BetteRose (both of whom are retired) decided to spend some of their time helping out at headquarters, and called Seehusen to see what was needed.

"We organized the media library, and cleared out a storage room, trying to make better use of the space and save money for the party," he said.

As they went through the boxes of old LP materials, they found "some good training tapes for candidates, stuff about Libertarian ideals and history, and lots of tapes — audio and video — of past national conventions," he added.

"There is also some interesting one-inch video tape and what appears to be the sub-library of Harry Browne. There's enough material here to make a really good educational video, a video history of the Libertarian Party from Roger MacBride, in 1976, on."

"We've got a ton of material, including interviews when candidates were on the air, reel-to-reel tapes, ads that were on television, all kinds of stuff," BetteRose Ryan said. "It wouldn't be cheap, but it would be a great project for some-



one to take on."

Tony Ryan retired from the Denver Police Department in June 2003 after 36 years on the force. They now live in South Dakota. Before they moved away from Colorado, Tony was on the Colorado LP board. He is now an at-large member of the South Dakota board.

BetteRose is in her third term on the LNC as an at-large representative. She served from 1998 to 2000, then again from 2002 to 2004, and was re-elected at the national convention in Atlanta this May. She was formerly a regional representative in the Colorado LP, and is a past chair of the Colorado LP.

## Judge hopes to retain seat

*Continued from Page 1*

He said he has very much enjoyed his career shift. Formerly, he was a litigation attorney with a major Phoenix law firm.

"I've had the experience of serving on civil, criminal and family court rotations thus far; they have all been challenging and fascinating," he noted.

Buttrick has one major regret, however.

"Applicable judicial ethics rules in Arizona mandate an almost complete curtailment of political activity," he said.

While he can contribute to a political organization — he makes a monthly pledge contribution to the Libertarian Party — he cannot state an endorsement of any political party or candidate.

"I particularly missed the national convention this year, but I

will say only that I'm thrilled to be on the same ballot as Michael Badnarik," the LP's presidential candidate, Buttrick said.

Buttrick has decided not to accept any monetary contributions to his retention campaign.

"I believe I have all the resources I need to win this election," he said. "Moreover, I understand that everyone's ability to contribute is limited. There are other more important elections for Libertarians to contribute to in 2004."

Of course, he can't comment as to which campaigns any Libertarians should contribute to.

Buttrick encourages other Libertarian candidates for public office to hold fast to their party affiliation. His appointment has demonstrated that the Libertarian political label is not necessarily an obstacle for party members seeking public office.

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**The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."**

# Vermont party says 'no' to Republican seeking LP nod

Jack McMullen, a Republican who recently joined the Libertarian Party in Vermont — and who was seeking the LP's nomination for U.S. Senate for that state — has been denied the nomination.

McMullen is also seeking the Republican nomination for the Senate seat, a factor which contributed to the decision by the Vermont LP's state committee.

"Jack is a thoughtful and sincere candidate," VTLP Chair Brendan Kinney said after the July 21 meeting where McMullen made his case to the committee. "He took a risk in going for our nomination, and he worked hard to demonstrate common threads between our political ideologies."

But after a detailed presentation by McMullen and an hour of frank discussion, the committee remained unconvinced McMullen should carry the Libertarian banner this fall.

"At the end of the day, our state committee felt that there were insurmountable differences between the Republican and Libertarian ideologies," Kinney said.

While McMullen's fiscally conservative orientation and support of Second Amendment rights were applauded, the committee expressed disappointment in McMullen's reluctance to take a stand against the Bush Administration's "pre-emptive war" doctrine and the Patriot Act, he added.

The Libertarian Party and its

presidential candidate, Michael Badnarik, strenuously oppose pre-emptive war and the Patriot Act, which has greatly expanded government authority to spy on American citizens with few checks against abuse.

Although the VTLP has until September to nominate a candidate for U.S. Senate, it is unlikely to do so, Kinney said.

"We are focusing our efforts on our gubernatorial candidate, Hardy Machia, and on a number of candidates who are making bids for seats in the state legislature. We wish Jack well in the primary and in the general election. He will make an excellent representative for the Vermont Republican Party."

## FSP: Working for liberty in our lifetime

The Free State Project is picking up speed as Libertarians and other freedom-minded people move to a small state where they hope to make a big difference.

New Hampshire was chosen last fall as the destination for thousands of small-government advocates who are promising to move in by 2011 and try to "staunch the onslaught of socialism."

An estimated 300 to 350 Free Staters (or Porcupines, as they call themselves) attended the group's first semi-official gathering in New Hampshire June 24-27 — the Porcupine Freedom Festival — which provided an opportunity for people who haven't committed to the project to check out the state and meet some of the Free Staters, said Amanda Phillips, president of the FSP.

FSP's goal is to get 20,000 Americans to commit to moving to the state and work through the political process to establish a more libertarian government.

"We had about 250 members in New Hampshire before this state was chosen, and we've had about 50 move in since then," Phillips said.

Bill Alleman — a resident of New Hampshire since 1988 — estimated a significantly higher number: "My guess would be that we have about 300 people who have moved into New Hampshire because of the Free State Project, not including the pioneers who were already here."

New Hampshire was selected because it already has lower taxes than most states (there is no state income tax or sales tax), because it allows more personal liberty than most states, and because many people in the state have a pro-small-government mentality, Alleman said.

The state also has few gun laws and the nation's eighth-lowest marijuana arrest rate.

People who move to New Hamp-

shire from other states will enjoy a higher level of freedom than they are accustomed to, Alleman said.

Governor Craig Benson, a Republican, has said publicly that he supports the Porcupines' goals. And this spring, Benson formed a new Task Force for Government Efficiency, which is suggesting ways state offices could operate more efficiently. Of the eight members on the task force, seven are Free Staters — including state LP Chair John Babiarz and Phillips, even though Phillips still lives in Massachusetts.

John



Barnes, an FSP member and vice chair of the LPNH's second district, said he is convinced that the project is "the best thing that ever happened to the LPNH."

That said, the FSP and the LPNH are experiencing "growing pains," he added.

An example of the growing pains is "The Grafton Incident," as some newspapers have dubbed a recent uproar in Grafton — a town of 1,200 that was selected as the possible site of a Free Town Project.

A group of people began talking about setting up a microcosm of the FSP in this small town by moving in approximately 200 activists. The townspeople became understand-

ably concerned, to the point that about 200 of them showed up for a town meeting to argue with FSP and LP representatives.

"Some people promoting the Free Town Project were making outrageous statements about how we were going to take over the town and allow prostitution, and people reading this were understandably alarmed," Barnes noted.

Since the town meeting — at which leaders of the FSP and the LPNH "acquitted themselves extremely well, given that they were taking a beating from the crowd," Barnes said — the rhetoric surrounding a potential Free Town Project has cooled somewhat, Barnes said, adding that the Free Town Project has been disbanded.

Now the challenge will be to promote the project in a way that characterizes the FSP as "political refugees from socialist states," Barnes said.

Porcupines moving to the state need to make it clear that they're moving to New Hampshire "to be left alone, not to change things," Barnes said.

"New Englanders in general — and New Hampshireites in particular — are very stubborn. They're very suspicious of flatlanders moving in from out of state."

And he has some sage advice for FSP immigrants: "When you move here, the first thing you want to do is become a good citizen in the eyes of your neighbors."

"Get involved in the community. Help out with a church charity. Start a business or get a good job. Above all, listen to people. After you've been here for a while and have proven that you're willing to help and that you're primarily interested in freedom, people will begin to listen to you."

"Put politics aside for a while, and enjoy yourself."

## POLITICS 2004

### Libertarian terror and a Libertarian Bush?

■ One problem with being a Libertarian is that people sometimes use the word in an unknowing way, as did a promo piece for *Thank You, President Bush*, a book released by a new publishing house. The publishers claim the book is the "definitive rebuttal" to anti-Bush media that have recently appeared, and claim that "conservative and libertarian policy makers and scholars" got together to "analyze every aspect of George W. Bush's presidency and make the compelling case that he deserves another term in office."

■ If you haven't seen the animated movie that shows President Bush and John Kerry singing insults to each other to the tune of Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land," you've missed one of the funniest cartoons in recent history.



■ JibJab's Kerry and Bush

It even-handedly skewers both major party presidential candidates — having them refer to each other as "liberal wiener" and "right-wing nut job." The satiric piece has appeared — in edited form — on many TV news programs and talk shows, and the Web site where it premiered was swamped by masses of people waiting to see the full version produced by brothers Gregg and Evan Spiridellis of JibJab. The music publisher that owns the copyright to Guthrie's tune is now threatening to sue the brothers, claiming the piece has "damaged" the song. You can see it at [www.JibJab.com](http://www.JibJab.com).

■ A 23-year-old pizza delivery man in Gilbert, Ariz., decided recently to run for sheriff of Maricopa County, reportedly reaching this decision while serving a stint in jail, stemming from a 2003 arrest for DUI and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is running as a Libertarian; he said he joined the LP because it required the smallest number of signatures.

■ LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik will address the 2004 National Property Rights Conference on Sept. 11 in Sandusky, Ohio. The three-day conference will bring together many organizations that work to keep — and improve — private property rights.

■ Republican leaders in Washington State were happy to have a contender for state auditor when they accepted Will Baker as an 11th-hour candidate — until they found out he had been jailed at least 19 times since 1992 for various infractions. Party leaders tried to remove Baker as a candidate, but state election officials denied the request, saying such a move would require court action. Earlier, Baker had approached Washington State LP officials, who politely declined to endorse him for a congressional race.



■ Cronkite

■ In an Aug. 8 column, 60-year journalism veteran Walter Cronkite — who for 19 years anchored the CBS Evening News — noted that the War on Drugs is "a war on families" and decried the fact that much of the nation is victimized by the "disastrous war on drugs." He called for long-overdue reform of the nation's drug policy, pointing to the "awful tales of tragedy and shocking injustice" and calling it an "almost mindlessly draconian system."

■ A member of Congress from Florida, Katherine Harris, announced in a recent speech that a terrorist plot had been uncovered in Carmel, Ind. This came as a surprise to officials in Indiana, who said they had no information about such a plot. And it provided fodder for an editorial cartoonist who depicted Carmel Mayor James Brainard under his desk. The punch line: Brainard wonders in the cartoon whether the actual threat might be from the LP. A last-minute Libertarian candidate in 2003 managed to get more than 25 percent of the vote in a run against Brainard — reportedly shaking Brainard up quite a bit, says Mark Rutherford, chairman of the LP of Indiana.

■ Don Bernau, chair of the LP of Milwaukee, is running for Congress in District 1 in Wisconsin. He is also on the Wisconsin LP executive committee. He is opposing Republican incumbent U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan. "I'm a common guy," Bernau said, pointing out that he doesn't particularly want to be a politician, but he feels compelled to help get the nation on the right track. "I work on cars. I don't wear a suit. [But] I feel like this is a priority. Our country is in trouble."

## THE ISSUES

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** "The Issues" highlights recent Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of LP press releases, send a message to [announcerequest@lp.org](mailto:announcerequest@lp.org) with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line.

### Politicians gouge American drivers

**A**ngry about sky-high gasoline prices? Blame the politicians whose federal fuel tax has raised the cost by 18 cents a gallon. "Uncle Sam is a greedy price gouger, and each American driver is one of his victims," LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik says. "Ending the federal fuel tax would save consumers billions of dollars and stimulate the economy in the process."

As oil prices rocketed to a record \$45 a barrel in mid-August and many experts predicted that prices at the pump would soon follow suit, analysts pointed to several causes for the crisis, including tight world supplies, political crises in Iraq, Venezuela and Russia, and even impending hurricanes.

But politicians are the overlooked culprits in the debate over higher gas prices.

"Congressional Republicans and Democrats have socked the American people with an 18.4 cent-per-gallon tax on fuel," Badnarik said. "Since neither President George Bush nor Senator John Kerry has opposed this tax, they're accomplices in this highway robbery."

Want to reduce gas prices even further? Then abolish state fuel taxes, which average 24 cents a gallon.

"According to the American Petroleum Institute, Americans pay a total of \$72 billion a year in fuel taxes, which works out to \$385 for every licensed driver and \$660 for every family," Badnarik noted.

### Democrats should pay convention costs

**I**n light of a surprising new poll showing that 62 percent of Americans oppose taxpayer-funded conventions, Libertarians say the Democratic Party should immediately reimburse taxpayers for the \$40 million cost of staging their Boston event.

"Let's hope the American people love this convention, because they paid for it," says LP National Chair Mike Dixon. "There's something terribly wrong when two rich guys running for office can force ordinary Americans to pay for their televised advertising campaign."

Between the \$14.5 million that the D's and R's have each received from the Federal Election Commission to finance their conventions and the estimated \$25 million in security costs that each will incur, taxpayers must foot the bill for nearly \$40 million for each event.

Dixon pointed out that according to a recent Rasmussen survey which asked whether tax money should be spent "to stage the Democrat and Republican national presidential nominating conventions," an overwhelming majority of 62 percent said no, 24 percent said yes and 14 percent weren't sure.

The LP proposed two alternatives: Let corporate sponsors and other donors, who already gave a record \$103.5 million to the two major parties' host committees, pick up the entire tab, or make Kerry and Edwards pay the \$40 million personally.

"Kerry's personal fortune is estimated at \$60 million, and Edwards is a multi-millionaire trial lawyer, so both can afford it," Dixon noted.

### Prevent terrorism: Bring troops home

**T**he July 22 report by the September 11 commission is missing one obvious way the U.S. government could reduce the chance of another terrorist attack, LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik said: Quit meddling in foreign nations.

"The intelligence reform needed most right now is a more intelligent foreign policy," Badnarik said. "Pulling U.S. troops out of nations where they don't belong would make America much safer than appointing a thousand new intelligence czars."

The report by the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States notes that the government missed up to 10 opportunities to unravel the September 11 plot because of bureaucratic bungling among 15 U.S. intelligence agencies. It recommends creating a new multi-agency center to fight terrorism; appointing a single director of national intelligence; and strengthening congressional oversight of intelligence agencies.

But those who authored the 600-page report chose to overlook the simplest way to protect America, Badnarik said: Adopt a foreign policy of neutrality and non-intervention.

"Most Americans would be shocked to learn that U.S. troops are deployed in more than 100 nations around the globe," he added.

"Putting U.S. troops in volatile, anti-American regions such as the Middle East makes them tempting targets for terrorists.

"When will politicians learn that the best way to protect Americans at home is to quit making enemies abroad?"

## Giving to liberty Maine Libertarian makes pledge in daughter's name

By Jessica Neno Wilson  
LP SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

**C**harles Jacques had a 50/50 chance of giving his daughter the most beautiful name in the world — Liberty. But his wife won the coin toss and their newborn daughter ended up being named Isabella Grace, a lovely name in itself.

However, as a consolation prize for Isabella, her father joined the LP's Liberty Pledge program — and started pledging to the Maine LP as well.

"My decision to join the pledge program was my gift to my newborn daughter — a concrete step that I took to ensure that I was doing something, in some small way, to give her the gift of a truly free society," he said.

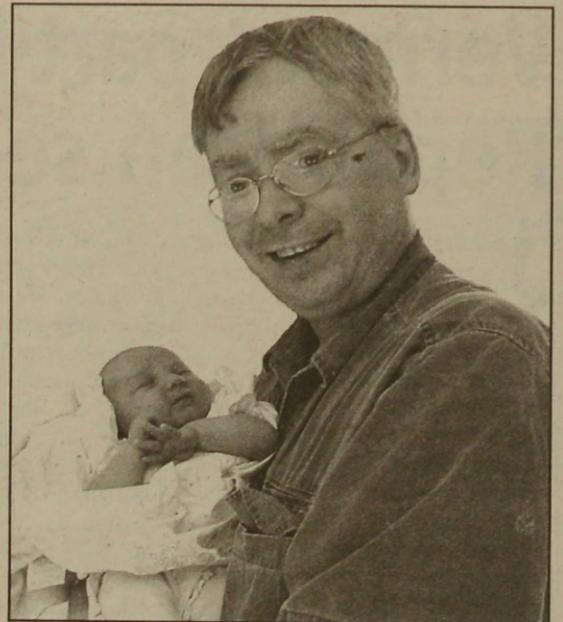
A member of the LP since 1994, Jacques' relationship with the LP goes back to 1977, when he argued with his high school teacher about the morality of taxation and was asked whether he was "one of those

Libertarians." He then wrote to the party requesting information and found that he was, indeed, a Libertarian.

Jacques got involved, was elected state chair of Maine the following year, and helped organize the Ed Clark for President campaign in 1980. He is currently considering running for municipal or statewide office in 2005 or 2006.

He also assisted with ballot access efforts in Maine this year and says that now that they have achieved it, "I swear we're never going to lose it again."

"The LP has struggled to gain momentum because too many of us are like me: We get all fired up for liberty only when elections roll around, then next election I'm disappointed because the LP somehow



isn't bigger, stronger, and better organized. I have come to realize that if I want Libertarianism to be a real force in politics and actually have an impact on my life and the lives of my children, I have to stop treating it like an optional endeavor."

Jacques distilled his motivation for all he does and has done to support the Party down to two words, "Freedom matters!"

He then added, "I may not have been able to name my daughter Liberty, but I still hope to give her the gift of it."

## Kuester beats back GOP attack

Continued from Page 1  
with fines and jail time.

"It's sad that the Republicans compromised the principle of free speech simply to harass an opposition candidate," the *Tomah Journal* continued. "Kuester actually engaged in understatement when he called the complaint 'frivolous.' A better description: shameful."

The state Elections Board apparently agreed with the papers who covered the story: The board dismissed the complaint, with their legal counsel saying such frivolous complaints are an "abuse" of the system.

And Kuester's campaign continues to pick up steam, says Jeremy Keil, the Libertarian National Committee representative from Wisconsin.

"Tom consistently has twice the number of volunteers as the incumbent at the parades he's done in the district," Keil noted. "I think this shows that Libertarians can effectively compete in local races, even in the areas where we generally fall behind: money and volunteers."

Kuester is a well-known figure in the district. He owns three restaurants there, his children and grandchildren all work for him, and he is being backed by Ed Thompson — another restaurateur who has demonstrated that he can get people to support his cause.

"I've been in business for 40 years here, so I'm fairly well known," Kuester said. "And Thompson has certainly been an inspira-

tion for me, because of his honesty and his willingness to work for good government.

"I'm planning to win this thing. I'm spending every day on the road, working it."

With the donations that have come in, the campaign plans to unveil radio and newspaper ads following the Sept. 14 primary election, says Barb Schibly, Kuester's campaign manager — a doctor who is taking a break from practicing preventive medicine to help with the campaign.

"Our main issue is property rights," Schibly said. "Our Republican opponent is an author of the Smart Growth bill, which gives unelected people the right to establish zoning for property — taking that right away from local governments — and to confiscate property that isn't in compliance with that zoning."

"Even people who think taxes are necessary to pay for schools, or for other government programs, are leaning against the Smart Growth law. Nobody is willing to give up their property rights."

Even incumbent Albers is willing to say she's pro-property rights, despite her record as a major proponent of the Smart Growth campaign.

"She now has an ad on the radio, saying she's a big proponent of property rights," Schibly said. "We have a debate coming up on Aug. 26 — actually more of a question-and-answer session for all of the

candidates — and we plan to hit her really hard with the fact that now she's saying something that is completely contradicted by her track record."

There has apparently been a shift in sentiment away from Albers, as evidenced on the street level by signs along the roads, Kuester said.

"I've noticed that a lot of her signs are coming down; she had gotten them up, and now they're coming back down," he said. "And people are calling me every day. They're absolutely disgusted with the way Wisconsin is being run, and they're discovering that it doesn't matter who gets elected to office, if it's a Republican or a Democrat."

Albers has been in office since a 1991 special election, often running unopposed for re-election, and she is the only candidate Kuester has his eye on.

"This race is definitely between the two of us," he said. "The other Republican who is actively campaigning might do really well in the primary, just because people are so disgusted with her. She could be taken off the ballot in the primary."

"Albers certainly has a track record I can pound on, but it doesn't make any difference to me who the Republican is."

And the upcoming forum will give Kuester a chance to tell voters the truth — which they haven't gotten from his opponent.

"I can't wait to meet her face to face on Aug. 26 to publicly call her bluff," he said.

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**TALKING POINTS**

# Democrats, donkeys, sperm donor/father and GOP rip-offs

## ■ Yawn-a-thon

Broadcast networks are continuing their trend of scaling back their convention coverage. ... Networks will air their Sunday shows and evening news from the convention sites, but live coverage will be limited to only an hour per night.

Among the major broadcast networks, only PBS and some selected local ABC affiliates are airing live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of each night of the convention.

Citing the fact that so little news is made at conventions anymore, the three commercial broadcast networks generally are preferring to air most of their normal menu of prime-time fare.

C-SPAN will air the most complete, gavel-to-gavel convention coverage, not only at the Republican and Democratic sites but at the Green and Reform party conventions as well. It also covered the Libertarian Party convention.

—JEFF DUFOUR  
*TheHill.com*  
July 26, 2004

## ■ The mayor's an ass

No elephants need apply. The unincorporated area of Florissant, Colo., on Saturday re-elected Paco Bell, a donkey, as its mayor, and it wasn't even close.

Two of the four candidates didn't show up. It's all part of the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Heritage Days in the town be-

tween Divide and Lake George on Colorado Highway 24.

Residents like to poke fun at the political process, and they do it by electing a donkey as mayor. Paco Bell won re-election against two no shows and a white donkey named Birdie.

—ASSOCIATED PRESS  
*Washington Post Express*  
July 27, 2004

## ■ Black sheep?

"It's now being reported that John Edwards' younger brother, Wesley, turned himself in to the state of Colorado for a warrant relating to a 1993 DUI arrest. ... This proves Edwards is presidential. Have you noticed that most presidents have embarrassing brothers? Bill Clinton had Roger Clinton; Jimmy Carter had his brother, Billy Carter. You know the embarrassing brother in the Bush family? George."

—JAY LENO  
*The Tonight Show*  
July 28, 2004

## ■ Curve ball

"John Kerry threw out the first pitch in tonight's Yankees/Red Sox game. The pitch went left then right, then right, then left, then right again, and finally landed on the fence."

—CRAIG KILBORN  
*Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn*  
July 25, 2004

## ■ Highway robbery

Lately, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and House Majority Leader Tom DeLay have been touting the substantial job growth they claim will occur if Congress would

just spend an extra \$280 billion or more in federal taxpayer money on proposed transportation projects. In a February press release, Frist states the 2004 transportation bill would "create 47,500 new jobs" for each \$1 billion spent. In a March press release, DeLay was even more ambitious: Citing the same figure, he couched the issue in terms of the federal government's attempt at "kicking the economy into high-gear. ... This is a jobs bill, pure and simple."

The problem with all of this is that it is wrong. Government spending won't actually create any "new" private-sector jobs. To spend money on anything, the government has to first tax that money out of the economy or borrow it from the capital markets. While supporters of a government project will argue that it creates employment for some, they fail to mention that the taxes or debt — a form of future taxes — will inhibit employment of others. As Bastiat wrote, "public spending is always a substitute for private spending," which "adds nothing to the lot of the working class taken as a whole."

When politicians say that highway spending will create new jobs, taxpayers need to remember that the fuel taxes used to finance that spending have already taken a chunk of productive capital out of the economy.

The truth is that increased government spending on highways usually only guarantees new jobs for bureaucrats. That's not the type of jobs program that the U.S. economy needs.

—STEPHEN SLIVINSKI  
*TechCentralStation.com*  
July 27, 2004

## ■ Affirmative action

Those sympathetic to affirmative action [in college admissions] assume that it offers concrete benefits to disadvantaged students. They hope that preferences will narrow our nation's painful racial divide

along such metrics as income, literacy, homeownership and health.

But affirmative action in this sense is a myth. Admissions preferences do not offer practical empowerment to struggling citizens. They do not bridge society's racial chasms. They do not address real social problems.

For one thing, affirmative action does not send more minorities to college. Most four-year colleges and universities in America are not selective; they take anyone with a standard high school education and a Pell grant. This means that race-based preferences are relevant only to the 20-30 percent of American colleges that enjoy substantially more applicants than places.

The reason that more minority students don't get college degrees has nothing to do with competitive admissions policies. The truth is that most minority students leave high school without the minimum credentials necessary to attend any four-year school, selective or not.

Freshmen must be "college ready" at virtually all four-year colleges. This means that students must be literate, must have a high school diploma, and must have taken certain minimum coursework. Overwhelmingly, minority students are not college ready. Dr. Jay Greene of the Manhattan Institute found that only 20 percent of black students and 16 percent of Hispanic students leave high school with these basic requirements.

Minority under-representation in college is the direct result of the public schools' failure to prepare minority students. It is a failure that affirmative action does not remedy — college-ready minorities already attend college just as often as their white counterparts.

Racial preferences can't send more minority students to college and don't raise the incomes of those they move around, but they do reinforce a harmful myth: the myth that credentials, not skills, are the key to success.

—MARIE GRYPHON  
*FoxNews.com*  
July 14, 2004

## ■ Don't threaten us

By withdrawing militarily from Iraq, the United States will be broadcasting to the world — in particular the Arab and Muslim worlds — that the United States has no plans to take control of Middle East oil or to otherwise impose its will on the region's populace.

Such a message will seriously undermine the terrorists' most effective recruitment tactics. It will also undermine the terrorists' tor-

ture claims that their acts of violence against heroic Iraqis who have willingly cooperated with coalition forces somehow serve the interests of Iraqis. Such claims were always tenuous: They would be absurd on their face in the absence of a foreign occupation force seen as thwarting the wishes of the Iraqi people.

The jihadis will certainly claim that a U.S. military withdrawal from Iraq represents a victory for their side. But ... the removal of U.S. troops would not, and must not, signal that the United States has chosen to ignore events in Iraq. Instead, the withdrawal must be coupled with a clear and unequivocal message to the people of Iraq: do not threaten us; do not support anti-American terrorists; do not develop weapons of mass destruction. If you do, we will be back.

—CHRISTOPHER PREBLE  
*Cato Daily Commentary*  
August 4, 2004

## ■ Contradictions

Transportation Security Administration acting chief David Stone testified before Congress that Delta, Continental, America West, Jet Blue and Frontier airlines, as well as airline reservation centers Sabre and Galileo International, gave the TSA passenger data including home phone numbers, Social Security numbers and health information. Stone said the companies didn't notify passengers the information was being given to the government or seek their permission. That contradicts previous sworn testimony from TSA officials as well as statements from airline officials.

—CHARLES OLIVER  
*Reason Online*  
July 21, 2004

## ■ Locked up

Weeks the Patriot Act allowed the government this year to delay the ACLU's announcement of a suit over the Act itself: 3.

Seconds it took a Maryland consultant last winter to pick a Diebold voting machine's lock and remove its memory card: 10.

—HARPER'S INDEX  
*Harper's Magazine*  
July 2004

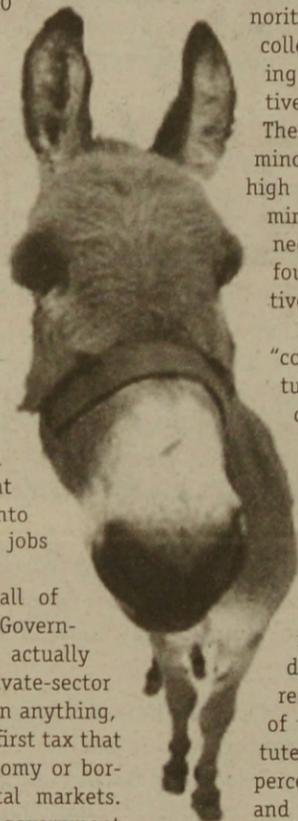
## ■ U.S.-exported ban

A lone Galway pub has thrown down the gauntlet to the Irish government over its three-month-old ban on workplace smoking — by inviting customers to rebel and light up.

"We're taking a stand," declared Ciaran Levanzin, co-owner of the Fibber Magee's pub in the central Eyre Square of Galway, where ashtrays returned to tables Tuesday and customers were encouraged to puff away.

It marked the first deliberate effort by any of Ireland's more than 10,000 pubs to defy the ban.

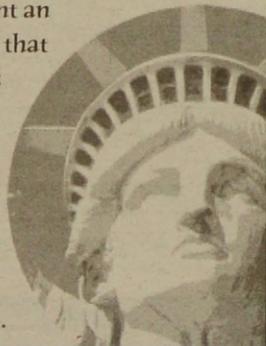
As RTE, Ireland's state broadcasters, reported live outside the pub Tuesday night that the place was "absolutely crammed with drink-



**"Tyranny is always better organized than freedom."**

—CHARLES PEGUY, FRENCH PHILOSOPHER (1873-1914)

That's not all: It's got more people working for it, too. And it's better funded. That's where you come in. If you want America to someday live up to its noble libertarian ideals, the Libertarian Party needs to be able to mount an effective challenge to the political parties that are more interested in pushing us towards tyranny than towards liberty. How can you help? By naming the LP in your will or insurance policy. For a private discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Mark Nelson at (563) 344-0013. Or e-mail him at: [treasurer@lp.org](mailto:treasurer@lp.org), and include "Planned Giving" in the subject line.



ers and smokers," a huge roar of approval could be heard from the crowd inside watching the news.

Levanzin said he had already been obliged to lay off a third of his workers since the ban came into force. He said more than half of the pub's previous customers had been smokers.

"Why do this? Because we're going out of business. We might as well go out with a puff of smoke," he said.

Health Minister Michael Martin led the push for the ban [which] was modeled on similar measures imposed in California, New York City and more than a dozen other U.S. cities. Toronto soon followed with a smoking ban in bars that kicked in June 1.

—SHAWN POGATCHNIK  
Associated Press  
July 7, 2004

### ■ Unsafe sex

As if the threat of unwanted pregnancy, AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases were not enough, a court in Pennsylvania has given men another reason to keep a close check on their reproductive engines.

A three-judge panel on a state appeals court has ruled Joel McKiernan, who donated sperm to a former girlfriend so she could have a baby, is liable for child support.

McKiernan claimed to have a verbal agreement with the mother, Ivonne Ferguson, stating he would not be obligated to pay support.

Ferguson's attorney said there was never any evidence of the apparent agreement between her and McKiernan, so it came down to his word against hers. Although verbal contracts can be legally binding, the courts ruled in Ferguson's favor.

Whether the donor in this particular case should be financially responsible is not the issue. But if applied in other cases, this ruling could impact an entire medical industry.

Our hope is other courts will consider the unique circumstances of this particular case and not use it as a precedent for other, more traditional, cases of sperm or egg donation.

—LANCASTER (OHIO) EAGLE-GAZETTE  
August 4, 2004

### ■ Put it on our tab

Kerry won't raise middle-class taxes; in fact he said he will reduce the middle-class tax burden. With that tax cut — and by repealing the tax cut on the evil rich — he will pay for socialized medicine, free drugs for seniors, free college for all, and a chicken in every pot.

Even the friendly crowd on the convention floor looked skeptical. People all over America started searching the Constitution for the phrase, "It's every American's right to have health care on the public dole."

If anyone finds it please let me know where in the Constitution that can be found. Maybe it's sandwiched in between the right to free speech and the right to bear arms and has

gone unnoticed all these years.

—BARBARA J. STOCK  
MensNewsDaily.com  
August 1, 2004

### ■ Obey or get out!

Washington once seemed benign. It was the capital of a magnificent country that had promulgated freedom and defeated the Nazis and was defending the world from communism. Not all of this stood up to analysis, but at least Washington wasn't the enemy. It managed di-

plomacy and the military and ran the post office. Otherwise it pretty much left people alone.

Not now. People no longer live as they like, by standards and habits that seem right to them, within reasonable laws. We live as Washington tells us. The government tells us who to hire, who to sell our houses to, whether we can have the 10 Commandments on a courthouse wall or a Christmas display on the town square, what names we can call each other without going to jail, whether our daughters have to

tell us before having an abortion....

Today the government regards me if not as an enemy, then as a suspect. I begin to reciprocate. Once at airports I got a smile and a "Welcome back." Now, going or coming, I encounter unfriendly police, semi-strip searches, and questions about things that are none of the government's business. It is Washington's business to determine at the border that I am a citizen, and perhaps that I am not a wanted criminal. It has no other business.

Or didn't. Now I must be watched,

and I am watched. Now the immigration official slides my passport through a reader, and looks at a screen carefully placed so that I can't see it. Everywhere the cameras go in, the databases breed, and the FBI reads my e-mail. Yes, I know they are just doing their jobs. Yes, I know it's because of terrorism. I don't care.

I can obey, or I can leave. I cannot like it. That is beyond me.

—FRED REED  
LewRockwell.com  
July 15, 2004

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**AFFILIATE NEWS**

# Primaries, food taxes, protests and fighting eminent domain

■ **COLORADO**

## Food tax repeal on November ballot

Libertarians on the Smaller Government Committee in Fort Collins, Colo., have successfully placed the gradual repeal of the town's sales tax on groceries on the November ballot.

More than 7,200 signatures were submitted for the citizen initiative, well more than the 3,902 necessary to qualify the proposal. And on July 21, the proposal's sponsors — Mark and Mary Brophy — were informed that the signatures were approved.

The proposed ordinance calls for the sales tax on food to be reduced by thirds over three years — from 2.25 percent to 1.5 percent, then to 0.75 percent — until it is eliminated altogether in the fourth year.

The city council had two options, neither of which is to simply ignore the citizen initiative: They can accept the proposed ordinance as written or they can place it on the ballot in November. The council has advanced proposals in recent years requesting voters to increase taxes, but no tax cut has ever been offered.

"Mayor Ray Martinez has stated his opposition to the tax cut and I expect the other members of the city council to unanimously follow his call for continued expansion of government," said Mark Brophy, chairman of the Smaller Government Committee.

"We are pleased to offer the citizens of Fort Collins — for the

first time — the opportunity to reduce the size of government via lower taxes. We believe the voters will embrace our proposal as a welcome change."

Fort Collins is one of the few large cities in Colorado that levies a grocery food tax. The state does not levy such a tax.

Libertarians in Littleton, Colo., successfully assembled a tri-partisan coalition of Libertarians, Republicans and Democrats against a similarly recalcitrant city council to repeal their grocery tax last year. The Fort Collins petitioners' experience during the signature drive leads the sponsors to foresee similar broad support for eliminating the grocery tax in their city.

The grocery food tax annually contributes \$5.7 million to the city's general fund of \$90 million, funding most city activities except for schools (which are financed by property and state taxes) and those activities supported by user fees, such as utilities.

■ **COLORADO**

## Libertarians compete in first LP primary

Libertarians have made history and many in the Colorado LP feel it's a case of "good news-bad news." On Tuesday, August 10, two Libertarians went head to head on the first primary ballot to include third party candidates.

In Colorado's Senate District 17, Libertarians Bo Shaffer and Dwight K. Harding competed in the party's first state-sponsored primary, with Shaffer emerging as the victor.

Colorado LP Chair Norm Olsen expressed the sentiments of many Libertarians across the state when he said, "Colorado Libertarians are both pleased and dismayed to have participated in the first real primary in the Libertarian Party's history."

The LPCO hosts its own primary every spring at its annual convention. But, for better or worse, the new laws put into effect by House Bill 1142 forced the LPCO to send their Senate District 17 candidates to Colorado's state-funded primary ballot.

"Colorado Libertarians are dismayed that the final selection of our candidate ... had to be done at taxpayer expense," Olsen lamented. "This is now required by law, a law which the party vigorously opposed.

"Nevertheless, Colorado Libertarians recognize that we will benefit from the additional notoriety and publicity which this event will

generate. We are pleased that our strength and numbers have progressed to the point where our participation in the primary is required. We are also thankful that we live in Colorado, the most progressive state in the Union with regard to third party ballot access issues."

While it's good news that third parties are being recognized at every level in the election cycle in Colorado, it's still bad news that all taxpayers are forced to foot the bill for LP candidates to be included in this primary, Olsen added.

■ **FLORIDA**

## Setback for tax fight in Brevard County

Despite opposition from the Libertarian Party and a host of other low-tax advocates, the county commission in Brevard County, Florida, voted Aug. 10 that all new homes built in the county will be subject to a \$4,445 "impact fee" to pay for schools there. Condominiums and manufactured homes will be hit with smaller fees.

Two members of the five-member commission voted against the proposal, with one saying she agreed with the idea of fees but thought they were too high, and another saying he's unconvinced the school board needs the money.

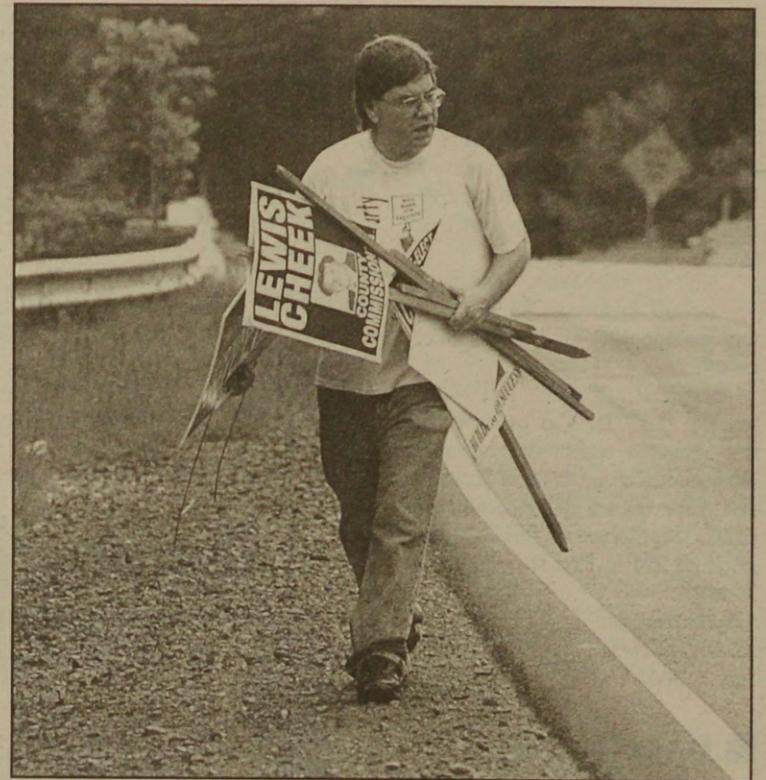
The Libertarian Party of Brevard County certainly agrees and has been struggling to convince the commissioners that the money already received by the school board has been wasted.

"Until they prove that they are not wasting the money they are getting now (which we know they are), they shouldn't be given one dime in new funding sources," said Bruce Wechsler, chairman of the Brevard County LP.

The school board has had a "tremendous increase in funding" recently through higher property tax revenues, increased state funding, and "other bonus funds they are receiving," Wechsler said. "As usual, they are crying 'more, more!' without showing us what they are doing with the money already pouring in.

"According to their own figures, the student population has grown at an annual rate of 1.27 percent over the last five years, and operating revenue has grown 5.2 percent annually over the last five years. That doesn't sound like a lack of funding to me; it sounds like a lack of priorities."

Some area residents noted that the new fees will likely put an end to the building boom enjoyed in Bre-



■ Sean Haugh, an LP candidate for North Carolina state house, recently instigated a citywide clean-up of political signs in Durham, N.C. See related story on page 13.

vard County in recent years — also pointing out that the fees will not constitute a "tax on newcomers," as proponents of the fees claimed.

Statistics provided by local construction companies and the homebuilders association proved that 65 to 70 percent of all new homes in Brevard are purchased or built by existing residents, Wechsler noted.

"Our only hope is that someone will have the money and the fortitude to sue the county as is being done in Osceola County by the Florida Homebuilders Association," Wechsler said, listing several reasons why the very concept of an "education impact fee" is ludicrous.

"We have a 'transportation impact fee' now," he said. "Where are the roads they should have built with that? Will this building boom continue? Probably not, and adding another \$4,400 to the cost [of a home] will end it sooner. Is there really such an 'impact' on the schools from a new home, when all the other taxes are being paid?"

Libertarians and others who are concerned about the growth of taxes "must keep up the fight" until tax-raising politicians in Brevard County, Florida, and throughout the United States "are finally forced to accept their role as stewards of our money," he added.

■ **INDIANA**

## Gividen at 14 percent in on-line poll

In mid-July, an independent market research firm in Indianapolis asked registered voters across Indiana who they planned to vote for in the November gubernatorial election. The poll revealed that 40.9 percent of Hoosier voters are undecided, with an on-line poll later showing that the LP's Kenn Gividen would receive 14 percent of the vote.

The first poll — known as the Hoosier Poll and paid for by Market Research Informatics — showed Republican Mitch Daniels receiving 32 percent of the vote and incumbent Democrat Joe Kernan receiving 26 percent — hardly a mandate for either candidate.

Even those registered with one of the two major parties aren't eager to vote for their parties' candidates: Only 57 percent of Republicans and 57 percent of Democrats said they planned to vote for their respective parties' candidates.

In the second poll, conducted online by Indianapolis's ABC affiliate WRTV, the top three candidates — Daniels, Kernan and Libertarian Kenn Gividen — were listed in alphabetical order.

This poll provided very different results, with 14 percent of Indiana voters selecting Gividen to be Indiana's next governor. Daniels trailed Kernan by a slim margin, receiving 42 percent to the incumbent's 43 percent.

Asked about these results, Gividen acknowledged that online polls are unscientific, but he considers the results to be very significant — and a reflection of the Hoosier State's voter dissatisfaction.

The Gividen campaign did not encourage Libertarians to participate in the poll and has invested very little money in advertising, but the Libertarian Party is gathering even more recognition — and probable votes in November — than Gividen expected.

"A 41 percent undecided vote added to a 14 percent support base lends itself to a recipe for victory in November," he said, noting that the undecided vote reveals extensive dissatisfaction with the Republican and Democrat candidate.

As undecided voters become more familiar with his managed government approach, they will

### Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)

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Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)

Click on: Organization  
Click on: National Committee  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
See: Special Features (left side)  
Click on: Renew

likely vote Libertarian in November, he said. Gividen is calling for an end to property taxes in the state, massive school reforms including making every school a charter school, and many other steps toward a smaller (and more efficient) state government.

In a race where more than a third of major party voters are undecided (36 percent of Republicans and 37 percent of Democrats), the Libertarian candidate should garner enough votes from disaffected voters to make a name for himself in Indiana. Gividen may even stand a chance to really astonish his more entrenched opponents.

A reporter for the Richmond, Ind., newspaper noted in a recent story, "Gividen recognizes the odds of him winning the governor position are a lot slimmer than someone from the Democratic or Republican parties, but he is optimistic."

As Gividen said, he has no better chance to be elected than did Jesse Ventura (who was elected governor of Minnesota as an Independent) or Susan Bell, the Libertarian judge in Hagerstown, Ind.

In other words, there is a chance — especially given that such a large percentage of voters haven't yet decided who they'll vote for.

"Hoosiers want smaller, more responsive government," Gividen says. "And that's a message the Republicans and Democrats aren't getting."

Elaine Badnarik, mother of Libertarian Party presidential candidate Michael Badnarik, is running for lieutenant governor of Indiana as Gividen's running mate.

■ NEW YORK

**Libertarians to protest, permit or not**

The Libertarian Party of Manhattan has been conspicuously planning an unofficial, unauthorized protest of the war in Iraq, to be held on the Great Lawn at New York's Central Park during the Republican National Convention.

Another group that had requested permission to hold a protest — United for Peace and Justice — has repeatedly been refused permission.

With the New York City Parks Department's most recent refusal to grant a permit to UFPJ, activist sentiment has shifted "irreversibly" toward the Manhattan LP's "unauthorized" protest on Aug. 29, declared Jim Lesczynski, chair of the LP affiliate.

"UFPJ finally acknowledged this week that activists aren't sheep and won't be herded," said Lesczynski, who in June proposed the unauthorized protest. "Individual members of their coalition have made it clear that they're joining the Libertarians on the Great Lawn, permit or not."

Word of the protest, which will unofficially begin at noon on Aug. 29, has spread through the Internet and other grassroots communications channels — as well as an article in the *New York Times* that discussed the Libertarians' plans.

Lesczynski said the protest

has become just as much about the Bloomberg Administration's transgressions against the First Amendment as it is about the national Republican Party's support for the Iraq war and the Patriot Act, which the Libertarians vehemently oppose.

■ NEW YORK

**Eminent domain being fought in Flowerfields**

Long Island Libertarian leader Richard Cooper, vice chair of the LP of New York and Nassau County chair, has spoken out — on behalf of Nassau and Suffolk Libertarians — against SUNY-Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny's plans to condemn an area known as Flowerfields, where the university hopes to build two high-tech centers.

Flowerfields, which straddles Stony Brook and St. James, is owned by Gyrodyne Corporation of America, which operates an industrial park there as well as a vast open field that is used for various public events.

Gyrodyne wants to develop a golf course and housing at the site, but the State University of New York-Stony Brook thinks they have more right to the property than the current owner.

"Once again, the state is being called upon to condemn private property and turn it over to others in the name of a public purpose," Cooper said. "We reject this aggrandizement by SUNY-Stony Brook, which sits on a vast campus."

"The proposed centers seem to be fronts for particular firms. These high-tech centers should be funded by the corporations they benefit, not the taxpayer. Libertarians oppose such corporate welfare. If [the university or the corporations] want to acquire land, they should buy it from voluntary sellers in the marketplace at the market price."

This isn't the first time Cooper and the New York Libertarians have pinpointed abuses of eminent domain in New York. They have also fought the seizure by the Town of North Hempstead of the building site of St. Luke's Pentecostal Church; IKEA furniture and Mayor Idoni's designs on the City Park neighborhood of New Rochelle; the *New York Times* headquarters' eminent domain scheme that Cooper calls "Time\$cam"; and the proposed New York Nets basketball arena in Brooklyn.

"The State should defend private property rights, not assault them," Cooper said. "Without property rights no one has property values."

In New York, however, eminent domain abuse is all too common, he added — noting that he recently appeared on a Long Island radio show hosted by a Libertarian to draw attention to the Flowerfields issue.

"Eminent domain in New York is like an accelerated death penalty for property rights," Cooper said. "Ultimately, they will probably lose their property to SUNY, but hopefully they will be able to get a more market-based price for it."

■ OHIO

**Libertarians oppose school board secrecy**

The school board in Pickerington, Ohio — a Columbus suburb of about 11,000 residents — voted this week to put a \$52 million bond issue on this November's ballot, ignoring local voters' obvious desire to keep such spending down.

Voters in Pickerington have rejected three of the last four such bond issues, including a similar one for "only" \$27 million that was brought to the vote two years ago, according to Robert Butler, executive director of the Libertarian Party of Ohio.

Only one member of the school board voiced his opposition when the board voted secretly — without giving public notice or allowing for public input — to call for the new bond.

"Homeowners are already paying \$1,232 in taxes for a \$100,000 home" in Pickerington, Butler said. "If this bond measure passes, they will be forced to pay an additional \$119."

"That may not sound like much, but there are residents on fixed incomes who can not afford it, especially our senior citizens."

Asked why the board "needs" \$52 million only two years after the voters turned down a bond just a little over half that size, board president Gail Oakes said they now have a "better plan" to spend the money.

"I'm no government official, but it seems a 'better plan' would do more and cost less," Butler noted. "Oh, and better plans are always made in public, [not in secret]."

■ PENNSYLVANIA

**LP given thumbs-up by political Web site**

The LP was given an 'up' arrow by the pundits at [PoliticsPA.com](http://PoliticsPA.com), Pennsylvania's most widely read political Web site. The site's weekly "Up and Down" list in recognition of the Pennsylvania LP's successful ballot access efforts.

The site also noted that the LPPA's filing "went largely unreported," which LPPA leadership said wasn't surprising.

"Year after year, Libertarians have consistently provided the Department of State with nominating documents and petitions in excellent condition," said LPPA Chair David Jahn. "That we're on the ballot once again apparently comes as no surprise to anyone."

They also noted that they expected no challenge to the LP's petition signatures.

"All our candidates have comfortable margins, when it comes to total signatures, to withstand a challenge," said Russ Diamond, who is a candidate in both the 101st State House and the 17th Congressional campaigns. "Any potential challengers would only be wasting time and campaign resources."

The LPPA turned in over 44,000 signatures to satisfy the state's requirement of 25,691 from qualified electors across Pennsylvania. More than 2,600 were turned in on Diamond's behalf for the congressional race; only 1,020 were required.

"With ballot access out of the way, Libertarians can now challenge both Republicans and Democrats on the issues that are important to Pennsylvanians," Diamond said. "I'm

anxious to get down to the business at hand."

■ TEXAS

**Secretary of state verifies ballot access**

The Texas secretary of state has confirmed that the Libertarian Party of Texas earned ballot access state-wide, qualifying their entire slate of candidates for the November ballot — including presidential candidate Michael Badnarik of Austin.

As a third party, Libertarians were required to submit a petition with 45,540 signatures of registered voters who had not voted in either of the Republican and Democrat primaries. According to Secretary of State Geoff Connor, the state LP gathered 82,458 valid signatures during the 75-day period starting March 9.

Professional paid petitioners from other states — including Alaska, Illinois and California — were brought in to help with the signature collection, and the LP turned in its signatures on May 24.

The Secretary of State's Office confirmed July 21 that the drive was a success.

"This was an exceptional effort by our volunteers and state leadership," Libertarian Party State Chair Patrick Dixon said.

The Libertarian Party now will have a candidate on the ballot for every U.S. congressional district in the state of Texas — except for that currently held by Rep. Ron Paul, a former Libertarian Party candidate for president who is often referred to as the LP's favorite Republican because of his consistently pro-Constitution stance.

DEMOCRATS  
&  
REPUBLICANS  
BOTH SUCK!  
think LIBERTARIAN.com © 2004

## Debates with Green Party proposed

Continued from Page 1

set up debates between Badnarik and Green Party presidential candidate David Cobb, according to Donald Meinshausen, the Libertarian campaign's debate coordinator.

Cobb has agreed to a series of debates, which could become a centerpiece of this campaign.

"These debates would not be held to win over adherents from the Green Party or other parties, but to win over undecided people who would be attracted to an open debate," Meinshausen said. "Americans are tired of cowardly, canned, limited debates between the two major parties."

The Greens are "being attacked by the liberals as spoilers" in the same way Badnarik is viewed as a spoiler for Bush, Meinshausen said. "In the Greens, we find an honorable opposition. I believe they will find a growing respect for us as we offer a principled, friendly contrast to their views — and both of our groups will gain increased exposure."

The first in this series of debates

has been tentatively scheduled for Aug. 31 in New York; arrangements were still in progress at press time.

Meinshausen said he hopes the debates will have one major impact: "We can show the media through these debates that they heard more ideas discussed in a radical — yet rational — way by the Libertarians and the Greens than they heard in debates between Republicans and Democrats."

### Ballot access

Badnarik still has a good chance of getting on the ballot in at 49 or 50 states, according to *Ballot Access News* editor Richard Winger.

"I think there's a 75 percent chance or better that we'll be on in 49 states; there's probably only a 1-in-3 chance that the Libertarian Party will be on the ballot in Oklahoma, but there's still a chance," he added.

"In the August issue of *Ballot Access News*, I show that the Libertarian Party is on the ballot in 31 states, but those are only the states

where the government has already said we're on the ballot."

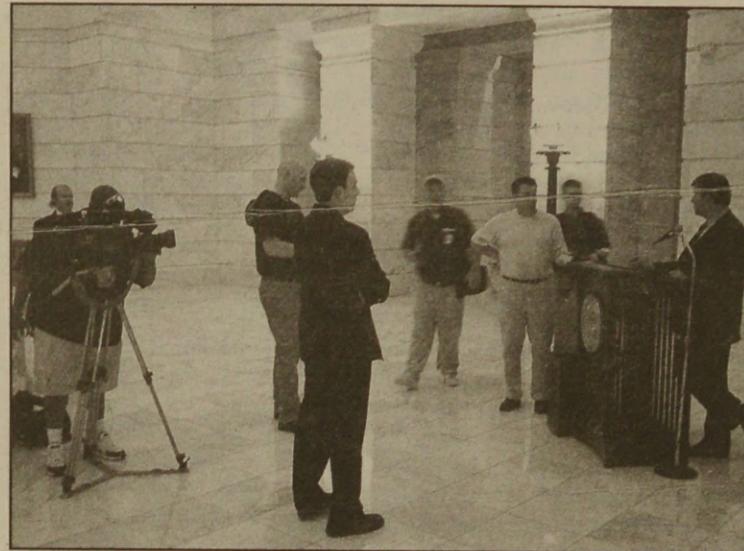
On July 29, Libertarians in Arkansas turned in 1,200 petition signatures in hopes of getting Badnarik on the November ballot.

Arkansas is one of several states where the LP has "done all the work that needs to be done and the petitions have been turned in, and we're just waiting for verification," Winger said.

In Oklahoma, Libertarian petitioners fell short, turning in only 26,462 signatures when 51,781 were needed — in part because the deadline for submitting signatures was moved up 30 days from previous years, from May 31 to May 1, state LP officials said.

The LP filed a lawsuit seeking an injunction that would put the party on the ballot. Though a state Superior Court judge didn't issue the injunction, the LP is still trying to get on the ballot.

"What we would like to do is go back to the same judge ... and present him with further evidence as to



■ Michael Badnarik speaks to reporters at a press conference in the Arkansas Capitol building immediately before turning petition signatures in to the secretary of state. (Photo by Jon Airheart)

why the LP should be granted access," Winger said.

"One of the key things that's happened since the hearing was that election law was changed in Louisiana, making Oklahoma the only state that still requires a third party to get signatures from 5 percent of the state's voters to get on

the ballot."

The LP also wants to show the judge that Badnarik will be on the ballot in most other states, which could certainly help convince the judge — and if he still refuses to issue the injunction, the LP will probably appeal to the state Supreme Court, Winger said.

# 2004 LP Ballot Access: We're nearly there!

Dear Libertarians,

The petition drives for our presidential ticket in 2004 are about over. As I write this on August 10, 2004, it appears that our presidential ticket will be on everywhere in the U.S., except possibly Oklahoma. We will need to win a court injunction for the Badnarik/Campagna ticket to be on the ballot there.

Yet, to be on the ballot in 49 states plus DC is an incredible accomplishment of which we can all be proud. Without your volunteer work, your contributions and the ever-diligent work of our paid petitioners, we would only be on the ballot in 30-something states. Nobody else can match us in this regard. The Libertarian Party has again shown that it is truly America's Third Party.

**We're still wrapping up the petition drives in Alabama, Kentucky and North Dakota, and we still need funds to pay the petitioners for these drives.**

### Oklahoma and Ohio Update:

At our Oklahoma lawsuit hearing, we were not granted a temporary injunction to put us on the ballot. This result was expected, and we are taking our case to a higher state court. We remain very hopeful that we will win this lawsuit, get on the ballot in Oklahoma and strike a blow for better ballot access laws in the future there.

**In Ohio, we are awaiting a decision by a federal judge in our lawsuit against the secretary of state.** However, we have completed an independent presidential petition in the unlikely event that we lose that lawsuit, so Badnarik/Campagna will be on the ballot in Ohio regardless of the outcome of the court decision.

We're fighting outrageous ballot access laws — and succeeding in petition drives. But we can't keep this moving forward without your generous financial support.

**Please send a check ASAP to the Libertarian Party Ballot Access Fund, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037, or contribute to the Ballot Access Fund via the LP's Web site, [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org). Thank you very much. With your help NOW, every American will have a Libertarian (or several) on their ballot in 2004.**

*Bill Redpath*  
William Redpath

LNC Ballot Access Coordinator

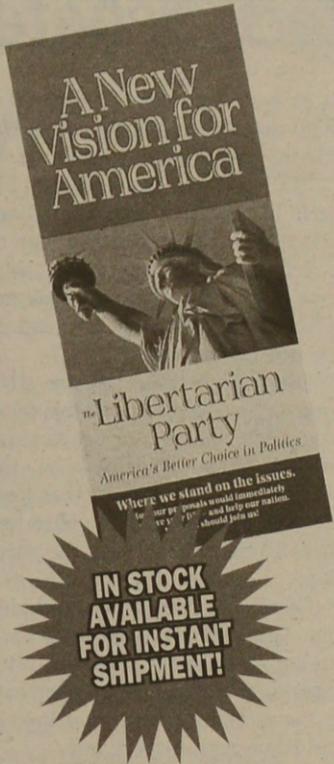
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"A New Vision for America" is a 24-page, full-color outreach brochure ... a prospecting tool that presents our vision for America in a positive, upbeat manner. And it's loaded with gorgeous photographs of Libertarians in action. "A New Vision for America" takes a warm, human approach – telling true stories that illustrate Libertarian principles. Instead of focusing on how bad the Republicans and Democrats are, we gently ask readers to imagine a better America – an America of prosperity, tolerance, and freedom.

This pocket-sized (8.5" by 4") booklet fits easily in a pocket or purse, and is perfect for handing out at state fairs, politically homeless booths and other outreach events. Order your "New Vision for America" brochures today! Smaller orders are priced at **\$25 per 100**. (LP pays shipping.)



## LP Literature & Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners – unlike the Republican Party, which constantly sells them out. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending – and points out that the federal government spends more than \$1 million every five seconds. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

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■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2003: 2-page-LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-2003) and a comprehensive two-page bibliography (featuring more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

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■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

■ **Don't Blame Me ... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **Buttons**  
**Cost:** \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US

## Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. Includes everything from creating a campaign timeline, deciding on issues, raising money, working with volunteers, dealing with the media, and organizing a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) effort. A must read for every Libertarian candidate – state, local, or federal! **Cost:** \$3.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3.5" DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party – Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. **Cost:** \$3 for set

## Banners

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White lettering on bold blue background. The first line says: "Libertarian Party." The second line says: "800-ELECT-US." Perfect for local Libertarian Party meetings, state or county conventions, Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booths, etc. **Cost:** \$40 each

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_____	_____	Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____	_____	Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	_____	<del>OUT OF STOCK</del> Brochure: "Guns/America's Gun Owners"
_____	_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____	_____	Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
_____	_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	_____	"Million Dollar Bill" Literature
<b>■ Bumper Stickers</b>		
_____	_____	Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
_____	_____	I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
_____	_____	<del>OUT OF STOCK</del> ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
_____	_____	Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

### Banners

\_\_\_\_\_ "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5' w)  
Second line says: "1-800-ELECT-US"

### Tools for Campaigning

\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian Political Action Booklet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Statue of Liberty logo master  
\_\_\_\_\_ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk  
\_\_\_\_\_ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party – Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

### Books for Sale

\_\_\_\_\_ **Why Government Doesn't Work**  
By Harry Browne  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Libertarianism In One Lesson**  
By David Bergland

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\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian  
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# Judge Jim Gray locked out of League of Women Voters' debate



■ Supporters of California Superior Court Judge Jim Gray protest outside the League of Women Voters' debate conducted Aug. 10 in Los Angeles. Gray, who is running for U.S. Senate, was the only actively campaigning candidate in his race to be excluded from the debate.

California Superior Court Judge Jim Gray, who is running for U.S. Senate on the Libertarian Party ticket, on Aug. 2 filed a request with another Superior Court judge to prohibit the League of Women Voters from holding an Aug. 10 debate if he was not included.

Only the incumbent senator — Democrat Barbara Boxer — and Re-

publican Bill Jones were invited to take part in the debate at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. The League's said that only political parties that received 10 percent or more of the vote in the last election would be allowed to participate.

The temporary restraining order was not issued as Gray requested, and the debate took place as

planned. However, there were at least 80 Libertarian protesters outside the venue, and Gray said Aug. 11 that he has been encouraged by the response.

The street corners near the museum were crowded with Gray supporters, who included "people from all walks of life — people from the Islamic-American community, Green

Party folks, people from National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, and of course Libertarians," he said. "Some were older, some were younger. Some were in sandals, others in ties. People were carrying signs and pointing out that there was intolerance in the Museum of Tolerance."

"It was discouraging, but also reinvigorating," he said. "We got closer to being a part of a major debate than any Libertarian candidate in my knowledge. Had we been included, we would have seen a major bump in the polls. We're going to try harder to gain more legitimacy so we can be a part of the next debate."

The biggest loss stemming from Gray's being kept out of the debate was to the voters, he noted.

"They had a pro forma, rather boring debate of politics. In my view it was a sad day for democracy, and pretty much everyone lost. The voters were cheated in that they didn't get a real look at politics, and the LP was frozen out."

Although Gray's request for a temporary restraining order to keep the League of Women Voters' debate from being held was turned down, he said he thinks "people will see it as a legitimate, reasonable request. This was something we had to do, because it was right."

And the event led to a large amount of media coverage for Gray's campaign.

"I myself was the subject of about 10 different interviews, including KCAL news, NBC News, a station out of San Francisco, three fairly substantial radio stations in the area, and Fox News," he said.

"And Paul Moyers, the local anchor for NBC News, told Bruce Cohen, one of our major supporters here, we should have been in the debate, that the debate would have been more appropriate if this campaign had been a part of that debate."

Gray is on unpaid leave of absence for a year as he campaigns for the U.S. Senate seat.

Because "there are only three serious candidates that have a headquarters, a paid staff and are engaged in organized fundraising," there was no reason not to allow all three — Gray, Boxer and Jones — in the debate, Gray said in his request for the temporary restraining order.

"Few organizations succeed in doing the right thing in our world like the League of Women Voters, but this non-partisan group that tells the world it believes in a full and open discussion of issues" saw

fit to keep Gray out of the debate, Gray campaign manager Julia El-Haj said in a recent press release.

"This arbitrary barrier has no basis in history or federal regulation, except that it is sufficiently high to exclude third-party candidates who have yet to enjoy the full-scale national media coverage accorded to the two-party duopoly."

Gray's declaration to the state court says: "To my knowledge there have been numbers of debates, including those sponsored by the League of Women Voters, that have included candidates that polled less than 10 percent before the election.

"Recently, these have included Tom Cox and Jesse Ventura, each having polled about 8 percent, with a margin of error of about 4 percent, in the races for governor of Oregon and Minnesota, respectively."

Similarly, a Rasmussen Reports poll conducted in early August — which Gray said he neither directed nor controlled — a full 8 percent of likely California voters would vote for Gray as the Libertarian candidate, with a margin of error of +/- 4.5 percent.

The margin of error indicates that as many as 12.5 percent of voters could be planning to vote for him, Gray explained to the court, enclosing a copy of the poll results.

In a later question in the poll, Gray's support grew as high as 18 percent after his stance on the issues was explained.

The League of Women Voters "has challenged our poll by saying that it was not 'neutral' because it was commissioned by our campaign," Gray said.

"However, the 'neutral' polls today run by organizations like the *Los Angeles Times*, the Field Poll, etc., mention my opponents by name, but do not include my name in the question. So from a practical standpoint, it is not possible for me to be rated."

The Rasmussen Reports poll revealed that 68 percent of voters in the area believe that Gray should be included in the televised debate — the same number who noted in a separate poll (conducted in the upper Midwest) that Libertarian Party presidential candidate Michael Badnarik should be included in the presidential debates.

"If we want to revitalize the democratic process, we need to make our voices heard now," El-Haj noted.

"Without the intervention of an informed public, there is no chance to open the 2004 debates beyond the two major parties."

Gray is the only candidate in his race who actively opposes the Patriot Act, who wants to require all federal agencies to justify their existence every five years or be disbanded, and who acknowledges that the War on Drugs is not working.

For more information about the campaign, go to [www.JudgeJim.com](http://www.JudgeJim.com).

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✓ **ACTION SHOTS:** Even if it's only one person, get photos of that person doing something — even laughing. If you've got a group, show them interacting, working on a project, talking to each other — anything other than lining them up and having them smile for the camera or sitting around a half-cleared dining table looking at each other over the scattered remains of a dinner meeting.

✓ **FOCUS:** If you have an activity with 10 or 15 people, don't try to work all of them into the photo unless it's absolutely necessary. Focus on people doing things and on the people who are important to the story you're trying to tell.

✓ **SEND IN A VARIETY:** If you take 12 photos and don't know which one is appropriate, feel free to send them all.

✓ **SEND IN AS MANY AS YOU CAN:** We can always use pictures!

Questions? Contact Daniel Cloud at (202) 333-0008, ext. 226, or by e-mail at [editor@hq.lp.org](mailto:editor@hq.lp.org).

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# Sean Haugh: Cleaning up the dirty business of politics

What started as a simple cleanup project and an exercise in frugality — collecting old political signs from the roadside, trashing the placards and re-using the posts for Libertarian Party candidate signs — has become a political campaign strategy for a North Carolina Libertarian candidate.

Sean Haugh, the LP's candidate for North Carolina State House District 30 Representative, is a member of his neighborhood association in Durham.

He decided to stop on his way home one day and pick up signs left on the side of the road following the July 20 primary election. Heavy rain in the area had turned many of the signs to litter, so Haugh started collecting them, leaving behind the ones from people running in the November general election.

"I'm a member of the neighborhood association group, which is linked with Partners Against Crime, a very positive, very effective group that also gets into beautification, having a positive impact on all our neighbors," he said.

Haugh, who is also executive director of the LP of North Carolina, sent an e-mail to a list of hundreds of residents in nearby neighborhoods, announcing that he intended to clean up the signs.

He also offered to "pick up all that stuff and recycle it" if others collected the signs.

His efforts did not go unnoticed: The collection resulted in stories in the local paper and on the ABC affiliate TV station's evening news program, with the Libertarian Party's name connected with the cleanup effort.

In turn, this inspired — or shamed — other candidates into picking up their own signs, and an event was scheduled for July 31, at which several "candidates and former candidates" turned out to collect many more around the city of Durham — furthering the cleanup.

Although other candidates are now involved, the media reports are still focusing on Haugh's work (he

collected 239 of the signs) and his opposition to seven-term incumbent Democrat Paul Luebke.

"I've just been getting insane publicity for this," he said. "I wasn't expecting all this, but I certainly have no problem with it. It's really a media bonanza, and it's tying in very well with my state House of Representatives campaign. It shows Libertarians are willing to work, a positive example of how taking personal responsibility can

have positive effects for the entire community."

Haugh has invited candidates to reclaim their campaign signs if they wish to reuse them. He says this is helping to open the doors of communication with candidates from other parties.

In some ways the ensuing togetherness is "even better than the cleanup effort," he said. "All of the candidates are agreeing now to get together after the election,

whether they won or lost, and do something positive. Durham is a very politically polarized city, and this is one way to get them together to do something positive."

Haugh admits his intent wasn't entirely altruistic.

"What initially led me to do it was getting wire hangers for our political signs, to save money. But it's one of those activities that kills several birds with the same stone.

"The vast majority of people who

weigh in on this issue agree with me these signs are useful in election time, but they're garbage as soon as the election is over. The publicity has been fantastic, and I'm more than willing to make the most of it."

And the event went well enough that "some of us who turned out for the cleanup are planning to try to make a tradition out of it, for the first Saturday after every election," he noted.

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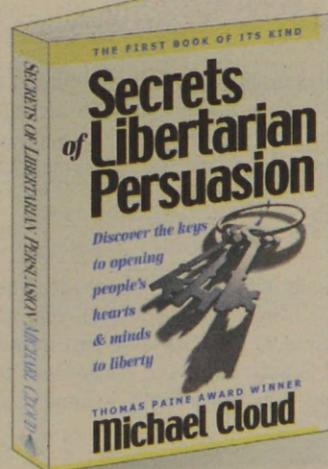
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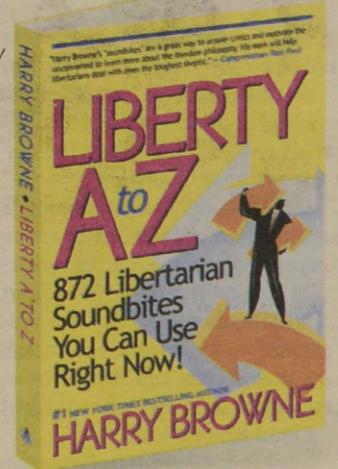
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## THE REVIEW

# Preaching to the masses

■ *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*, by Michael Cloud. The Advocate for Self-Government. 240 pages, soft-cover, \$15. Available at [www.TheAdvocates.org](http://www.TheAdvocates.org).

Reviewed by **J. Daniel Cloud**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

I must preface this book review by noting that I am not Michael Cloud's son, brother, nephew, cousin or other close relation. The Clouds have been on this continent for 300-odd years, and Michael and I probably have some common Quaker blood, but that's it.

That said, I would have no problem if someone, someday, accuses me of being Michael Cloud's "offspring," as long as they're comparing my (hopefully) growing ability to communicate libertarian ideas to his. *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion* is a wonderful addition to the genre of communication and persuasive theory.

This is one book that I wish my college "interpersonal communications" teacher had forced me to read — had it existed 10 years ago and had said professor not been a near-inept hack teaching a mostly worthless class.

As Cloud emphasizes many times in this new book, the word "libertarian" has "liberty" as its root; a major component of persuading people to subscribe to libertarianism is showing them that they are already fans of liberty.

With that in mind, a few snippets:

"Smart libertarian prospecting means using persuasive tools and techniques when and where and with whom they are most likely to pay off," Cloud writes.

On how to get "horses" to drink after you've led them to the libertarian "water": "Don't quench their thirst with a fire hose. Don't make them drink more than they want. There's nothing wrong with the horses. There's nothing wrong with the water. To persuade we must master the subject of thirst."

"Advocate, do not negate. Affirm what we will do, not what we will not. Say what we do believe. Not what we do not."

"If what you're doing doesn't work, do something else. If who you're talking to isn't working out, talk to someone else. Some people succeed by reinventing the wheel. Most people fail by reinventing the flat tire."

"If our conversations are drenched in bitterness, frustration and anger, who will we attract and who will we repel? Does this mean that libertarians need to be back-slapping, glad-handing, grinning idiots? Not unless these are the kind of people we want to attract! Why not be bright, courteous and interested? Why not be articulate and well-informed? Why not be a living brochure for libertarianism?"

As you may have noticed, Cloud tends to laud positive, constructive, uplifting messages as the epitome of persuasiveness. And he's probably right: Remember the old saying, "You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar?"

However, he also leaves room for using your target's feelings of negativism, hopelessness or anger toward government programs as a jumping-off point for a conversation about liberty and libertarianism.

In a chapter named "Evangelist or Church Preacher?" Cloud notes that there are essentially two types of preachers in the Libertarian "church" — those who exhort and uplift and shepherd the Libertarians themselves, and those who evangelize, reaching out to the "unconverted" with messages of libertarian peace.

Cloud himself is both.

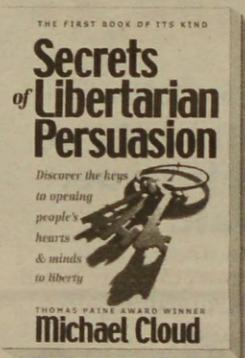
*Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion* is a manifestation of his "church preacher" side, as he seeks to help other Libertarians learn how to effectively communicate the message of liberty. But through the book, he uses his wins and losses in preaching liberty to help those of us who don't have his experience.

At times, his preaching to the converted takes the tone of a self-help book, which is essentially what he has produced. This is a book to help Libertarians attempting to spread the love of liberty — and the information that libertarianism is the best way to support liberty.

I'm generally no fan of feel-good, self-help books or other "inspirational" literature, but in the case of this book I must make an exception. Because it's ultimately about helping others, not just ourselves.

If you want to understand why your attempts at libertarian discussion often fall on deaf ears, give this book a read.

And if you don't already publicly espouse the benefits of liberty to non-Libertarians, you should definitely read *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*. It will make you want to practice what Cloud preaches.



## THE PULSE

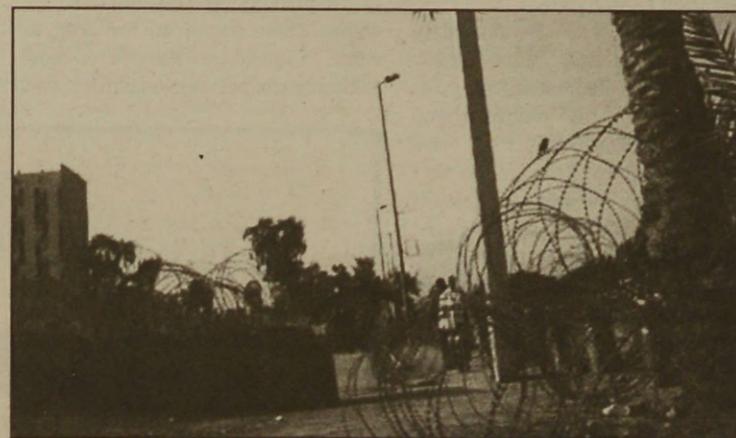
# How should U.S. forces leave Iraq?

This month's **Pulse** question — the last appearance of this column in its current manifestation — asked *LP News* readers how the United States should exit Iraq. Whether or not Libertarians support the war in Iraq, our nation's leaders invaded that country. Is it, then, our government's responsibility to clean up and restructure the nation now that Saddam Hussein is out of power?

Most who responded to this question replied in the affirmative, with some variation on a common theme: We invaded them, destroyed the nation, and should fix what we damaged before leaving.

Several said "we" don't owe them anything, since it was our leaders who decided to attack, and the politicians who decided to attack Iraq and dismantle that country's government should be personally held financially responsible for rebuilding Iraq. Others said that it should be up to charitable people in the United States and other nations to decide whether to contribute to rebuilding Iraq.

Here's what a few readers had to say:



■ Part of downtown Baghdad in January 2004.

■ Whether you think America was right or wrong in eliminating the Iraqi government of Saddam Hussein, the United States did it, and we must accept that fact.

American integrity has been assailed around the world. It is in our interest to demonstrate that the U.S. is committed to our ideals of insuring an opportunity for people to live in peace. America has taken on a responsibility. We would be remiss if we did not apply ourselves to completion of what we began.

Leaving Iraq to fend for itself following the U.S. intervention would create a political vacuum and chaos. We may not be able to guarantee the success of freedom in Iraq, but we can live up to our commitment of doing our very best. We can't give freedom to the Iraqi people. What we must do is give the Iraqi people the opportunity to seize freedom for themselves. Since we undertook this war, we must accept the responsibility of doing our utmost to put a stable government in place of the tyrant we deposed. We must perform this duty as rapidly as possible and be done within the year.

—KEN DONNELLY, Dunnellon, Florida

■ The U.S. government should immediately leave Iraq, along with every other foreign country it has occupied and hassled. "We" can't be held liable for all the damage the government has done throughout the world, because such damage is probably more than our GDP.

If Americans want to donate to the Iraqi people, it should be up to them as individuals. All administration officials and legislators who supported this terrible war should be bankrupted and made to work the rest of their lives to help cover the costs. It's called restitution.

—ANTHONY GREGORY, Berkeley, California

■ The Iraq war has been waged by a cabal of Republicrats led by Bush, in a scheme supposedly representing a collective choice.

In the unlikely event that that cabal wanted my individual opinion about how best to quit Iraq, I'd say something like: "Go out of business, tomorrow. Dissolve all your institutions and relinquish your hold upon all your alleged assets. Announce that the war is over, and wish good luck to those you told to kill in your name. Use your own fortunes to compensate your victims. Go home, read some Rothbard, and try to let me never hear of you again."

—JIM DAVIES, Newbury, New Hampshire

■ Unfortunately, our nation does owe the Iraqi people. We invaded their country and turned it upside down. To cut and run would be irresponsible. It is our nation's duty to clean up the mess we created. Since it now appears that CIA intelligence (or lack thereof) played a large part in our government's bad decision to go to war, at the very least we ought to send George Tenet and his minions to the front lines. Thousands of innocent lives have been lost because incompetent bureaucrats — none of whom will be held accountable — once again failed the American people.

—STEVE CASON, Bean Station, Tennessee

■ When World War I ended, the Allied nations put punishing sanctions on Germany. This made Germans angry and resentful and led, inevitably, to the rise of Hitler and to World War II. The Allies learned from their mistake.

When World War II ended, the Allied nations — mainly the United States — rebuilt the nations of Germany, Japan and Italy, and turned them into democratic, peaceful nations. This took some years to accomplish, but it was done.

Using the knowledge gained from that experience, the United States can and should do the same for Iraq, no matter how long it takes. Otherwise, Iraq will continue to be undemocratic and will be prey to a new dictatorial, warlike government takeover. And that would mean that the war — and the lives lost in the war — would have been in vain.

Worse, we'll end up in a war with Iraq again.

And next time, it won't be only Iraq's citizens the new dictatorship will initiate the use of force against. They'll probably initiate the use of force against the U.S. also, for revenge. Who can predict how many bombs or airplanes they'll drop on U.S. territory?

—SAMUEL A. SHAFFE, Winter Haven, Florida

# Longtime employees leave LP HQ

Two longtime employees at the Libertarian Party's national headquarters in Washington, D.C., have left the office to pursue other opportunities.

Dianne Pilcher, affiliate services coordinator since July 2000, left in July, and Ananda Creager, a part-time administrative assistant since 1999, is starting a full-time student teaching position.



■ Pilcher

Before coming to the national office, Pilcher was active in several state LP affiliates, primarily Florida and Texas. While in Florida, she organized a membership drive that brought in 107 new members. She also ran for the state house, earning 8 percent in a three-way race, and served as state chair and newsletter editor.

In Texas, she and other key Libertarians led a petition drive that secured ballot access for Texas Libertarian candidates in 1986.

Pilcher says it was "an honor and a privilege to work at HQ, and it was almost always fun. Working with [recently deceased former political director] Ron Crickenberger was an inspiration for me, and [communications director] George Getz kept us all laughing."

Executive Director Joe Seehusen said, "The first time I called LP headquarters, I was delighted by the friendly voice that answered the phone. She was helpful, she was courteous, and I thought, 'if this person is representing this organization, it's an organization I want to be a part of.' That person turned out to be Dianne Pilcher.

"She had a fierce commitment to providing high quality service. She cared."

Getz called Pilcher "one of the hardest workers we've ever had here at LP HQ, and one of the most dedicated Libertarians I've ever met. We're all going to miss the way she kept the office humming right

along. "Fortunately, her replacement, Sam New, is a very sharp young guy who seems to be catching on quickly."

New, a May 2004 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., earned his BA in international studies.

"Sam brings the enthusiasm of a new college graduate to his post with the LP," Seehusen said. "He's

full of energy. Before he was even offered the job, he came and volunteered. He wanted to sit right down and start taking phone calls."

Ananda Creager began working for the LP just after



■ Creager

graduating from high school. Her father, who had been volunteering at headquarters, heard that the LP was looking for interns, and "volunteered" her for the position, she said.

"I was supposed to be here for the summer only, working part time, but I ended up staying for five years," said Creager, who continued working at the national office throughout her college career.

"Ananda has been a quiet, positive force in the office," Seehusen said. "She is a know-it-all, in the best sense of the word. She has

done everything in operations, and she literally knows everything there is to know."

Creager will graduate in December from the University of Maryland with a BS in elementary education.

Getz said, "Ananda's warm, sunny personality will really be missed. I like to joke that she can't really be leaving us to accept a teaching position, since she still looks like she's 17!"

"But now she's graduating from college and moving on, and we all wish her the best."

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As a statewide candidate in 2002, Tom pulled 5% of the vote in a race decided by 1%. With *some of the best name recognition in Oregon's political arena*, Tom Cox can win for state representative and bring Libertarian principles to "The Left Coast!" A professional campaign team has been established for this race.

Campaign Manager Richard Burke, also Executive Director of the LP of Oregon and former Gubernatorial candidate in 1998, has run fifteen winning Libertarian campaigns. His media consultant Ken Montone has worked on two winning campaigns for U.S. Senate.

### Vulnerable opponent.

The incumbent against whom Tom is running barely won in her fiscally conservative district, touting "fiscal conservative values". With vote after vote, she showed her true colors by *voting for the largest tax increase in the state's history*. She is vulnerable and the field is open to someone with real answers.

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Tom Cox is uniquely qualified to address the central issue of

this race – principle. His background and broad experience are simply unmatched by any other candidate. Tom has worked for IBM Global Services as a management consultant, and has *consulted on four continents over the past decade*. Simply put, he is a critical thinker and often his "outside-the-box" strategies are copied and implemented by others.

### Bottom line

Tom is a leader. In his race for Governor, he was the only candidate to have a detailed budget, a *38-page plan for cutting taxes, cutting wasteful spending and fully funding vital services*. In his bid for State Representative this year, Tom has outlined his Five Elements of Agency Reform, based on proven strategies that have shrunk government – not just slowed its growth – and collected numerous endorsements from fiscally conservative groups and individuals.

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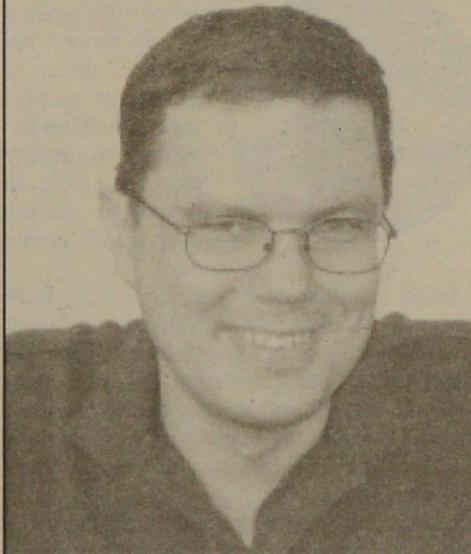
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THE FORUM

# The immigration plank: Responses from LP News readers

In the August edition of LP News, LNC representative George Squires explained that the immigration plank of the LP Platform is one of the party's most difficult and controversial — "both for our candidates who are dealing with a post-9/11 America, and for our members, who recognize that our current position of purely open borders is philosophically inadequate."

This plank is considered by many as oversimplified, particularly along the southern border with Mexico "from Texas to California [where] the position is regarded as unrealistic."

Squires asked: "How then to balance the needs of security with the needs of the free market?" And he introduced proposed replacement wording for the immigration plank.

"This draft version of a proposed replacement for the immigration plank is by no means presented as finished, but as an attempt at balancing the conflicting issues of security, free markets, welfare abuse and the ideology of private property," he said, inviting the LP membership to contribute suggestions to the proposed wording, via this Web site: [www.LP.org/issues/platformdebate](http://www.LP.org/issues/platformdebate).

Here again is the wording Squires proposed, followed by three responses penned by LP News readers.

## I.18 Immigration (Proposed)

### ■ Issue:

The closed but porous border restricts the labor pool, forcing employers to hire illegal workers, while leaving those workers unaccountable to the law. A completely open

border allows foreign criminals, carriers of communicable diseases, terrorists and other threats to individual Americans to enter the country unchecked. The current guaranteed access to the welfare system by illegal aliens acts as a magnet for freeloaders to enter the country at the expense of working Americans. Allowing unchecked immigration into our country removes the incentive of foreign nationals to address the problems in their own countries which drove them to emigrate in the first place.

### ■ Principle:

Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human and financial capital across national borders, while protection of the lives, rights and property of our citizens demands awareness and control over entry of foreign nationals who pose a threat to security, health and property. If public property is illegitimate and to be abolished then immigration must be accomplished without trespass.

### ■ Solution:

Borders must be controlled and immigration must be regulated, neither fully open nor fully closed. It should be open to those who have gainful employment waiting or who are sponsored by someone here who will be responsible for them. Documenting the entry of individuals must include screening for health, criminal background, sponsorship by an individual citizen and other concerns, including threats to national security. While this may be administered by government, it must be implemented by private

sector security companies.

### ■ Transition:

Programs such as the now-regular amnesties must be abolished as they fortify the existing problematic system. Border security must be upgraded to be able to handle the volume of attempts at illegal border crossing and stop the often murderous activities of "coyotes." Citizenship must be made and enforced as a requirement for obtaining welfare. Immigration must include screening for health, criminal background, international security concerns, gainful employment and financial solvency.

I appreciate the efforts to make the LP plank more user-friendly, but the proposed immigration plank goes way beyond making the concepts concise and easy to understand.

It shifts our message itself from immigration-friendly to immigration-hostile. Just compare these sentences from your proposed rewrite to the current plank:

Current: "Contrary to stereotypes, there is no evidence that immigrants come to this country to receive welfare."

Proposed: "The current guaranteed access to the welfare system by illegal aliens acts as a magnet for freeloaders to enter the country at the expense of working Americans."

Even more outrageous:

Current: "Thomas Jefferson emphasized this basic part of the American heritage, taking note of 'the natural right which all men

have of relinquishing the country in which birth or other accident may have thrown them, and seeking subsistence and happiness wheresoever they may be able, and hope to find them."

Proposed: "It should be open to those who have gainful employment waiting or who are sponsored by someone here who will be responsible for them."

Since when does the Libertarian Party, the party of individual responsibility, claim that one adult must be responsible for another adult's economic well being?

The Declaration of Independence says "that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

The right to pursue happiness is unalienable. It is not a privilege granted by the state on the condition of a sponsor.

I could cite other examples where the proposed plank makes us sound more like intolerant conservatives than tolerant libertarians.

The current plank on immigration written by Michael Tanner is a gem.

Please apply the spirit of it to the proposed plank. I rather like the new format for the planks, but your proposal goes way past form and alters the substance to the detriment of our ideals.

—STAN WARFORD  
Malibu, California

It's a question of sovereignty. You either believe that the individual is sovereign or that the nation-state is sovereign.

If you believe that the individual is sovereign, you are a libertarian. You have a problem with any government that doesn't recognize individual sovereignty and you see borders for what they are — imaginary lines created by politicians to determine which group of thugs has jurisdiction over your life and property. You understand that human rights are universal and that a free market in human migration is

a natural right.

If you believe that the nation state is sovereign, you are a statist. You have accepted in principle the "divine right of kings" to rule, borders are important to you, and any subsequent discussion of the form of government is reduced to mere mechanics.

In my sovereignty-of-the-individual view, those crossing international borders do not have the right to trespass on private property. As to the "public thoroughfare," all travelers have a common-law right of egress.

From a practical point of view, we have a welfare problem, a crime problem, and a terrorism problem — not an immigration problem.

Stop welfare to non-citizens as a transitional step to ending the welfare state; put criminals in jail; infiltrate terrorist organizations and quit butting into other peoples' business around the world, and the real problems diminish.

—JOSEPH KNIGHT  
Former New Mexico LP state chair

I take serious issue with some of the wording in the new immigration plank as presented in the LP News.

While I agree that it may be necessary to screen immigrants for criminal records and possibly disease, if a non-invasive method of doing so can be found, I think it is detrimental to the cause of liberty to require possible immigrants to already have a job secured or have someone vouch for them.

Many of these people want to find jobs, and expecting them to already have friends or employers in the States is unrealistic and unfair. As Michael Tanner explains on the article posted on the LP Web site, immigrants are on welfare at a lower rate than the rest of America.

Employment and knowing citizens should not be a pre-requisite for having your liberties protected. Rights are not by invitation only.

—ADAM ROBERTS  
Prairie Grove, Arizona

# Is the United States becoming a communist nation?

Even a casual study of recent American history shows that the Democrats have utterly dominated the past 100 years, in terms of getting their agenda realized through federal government policy; most of their policies have been implemented.

By Eddy Johnson

I don't intend to waste much ink describing the apparent failure of the Republican Party to oppose or repeal these policies.

However, I will accuse the Republicans of aiding and abetting their alleged philosophical enemies in the long-running attempt to push life in the United States in a socialist — even communist — direction.

Does that sound too extremist for you?

Consider how many of the following 10 policies have become a reality in the United States, and how many others are gradually being adopted by the Democrat- and Republican-controlled government:

1. Abolition of private property.
2. Heavy progressive income tax.
3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance.
4. Confiscation of property of all emigrants and rebels.
5. Central bank.
6. Government control of communication and transportation.
7. Government ownership of factories and agriculture.
8. Government control of labor.
9. Corporate farms, regional planning.
10. Government control of educa-

tion.

If you were "educated" by a government school as I was, you probably didn't recognize those as the 10 planks of Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto. It's not difficult to realize that many of those planks have been made — to varying degrees — public policy in our nation.

These problems can only be addressed by Congress. Do you even know who your representative is? Have you ever given a moment to scrutinize his or her voting record? Are they voting in your best interest? Are they representing you? It is your responsibility to hold that person accountable for obeying their oath of office, which as I recall has

something to do with upholding the Constitution.

My vote will not be based on the so-called "war on terror," because I know a Libertarian government would use the military to literally guard the nation, as opposed to making enemies for us around the world.

Consider this quote from Noah Webster: "I apprehend no danger to our country, from a foreign foe. ... Our destruction, should it come at all, will be from another quarter. From the inattention of the people to the concerns of their government."

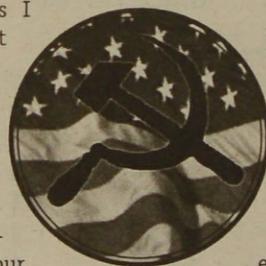
"I fear that they may place too implicit a confidence in their public

servants, and fail properly to scrutinize their conduct; that in this way they may be made the dupes of designing men, and become the instruments of their own undoing."

It took me a decade to realize the Republican Party was not worthy of my vote, that it is an instrument in our undoing.

Fortunately, it took me a lot less time to discover that there is a party — the Libertarian Party — that recognizes and reveres the wisdom of the founding fathers, and recognizes that peace and prosperity can only be realized by re-enforcing the constitutional limits which they placed on our federal government.

■ About the author: Eddy Johnson of Gwinnett County, Ga., has been involved at the county LP level for three years.



**THE VOLUNTEER**

# How to counter Republican propaganda

**E**lection season is upon us again and as usual the Republicans will be telling us that they are the party of less government and lower taxes — all the while growing social spending and government much worse than the Democrats.

How can we let people know that the Libertarian Party is the only party that really wants to get government out of your pocket?

**By Mark Selzer**

First, arm yourself with facts. Many articles in print and online have documented the increases in social spending that came after the supposed "small government" Republicans took over. *Cato*, *Reason* magazine and the Brookings Institute have all published extensive documentation of this.

You may wish to duplicate some of these articles — to give to your Republican friends, distribute at Republican conventions and post on right wing and conservative e-mail lists and blogs.

"But what about the Bush tax cuts?" you may hear. George Bush has actually increased the tax bill

of every American family by about \$5,000 per person, per year for the next 10 years. What we have is a deferred tax increase or — more precisely — deficit spending.

Deficit spending is not a tax cut. Decreasing the cost of government and then charging people less for it is a tax cut.

The Republicans borrow money from imaginary workers of the future and give it away now, increasing social spending at nearly three times the rate the Democrats did.

If Republicans think that borrowing money and giving it away is such a good idea, why don't they do it with their own money?

Imagine if all the lavishly paid Republicans went to banks and put their own property up as collateral to borrow as much as they could and then gave it away. This would add up to a significant amount of money and — unlike the current batch of Republican borrowing — when this scheme fails to help the economy, they would be the ones who have to repay the loans, instead of the American taxpayer.

Some Republicans or conservatives may actually acknowledge that spending on social programs is

way up under Republicans, but they want to stay in that party because they support the war in Iraq.

In response, you may try pointing out that it is not really a war but rather an expansion of foreign aid — that this so-called war has just served to put everyone in Iraq and Afghanistan on some form of U.S. welfare. Is the solution to terrorism to put everyone in Iraq and Afghanistan on welfare?

A good example: Bush wanted to spend \$500 million on a new hospital in Iraq.

The Democrats opposed it because they said it was too expensive. What has happened in the Republican Party, when it takes the Democrats to complain about the expense of big government?

Republicans seem now to be approving all the things they said they were against when the Democrats were more in control.

They said they were against "Hillary-Care" but since they took charge they have approved much of it, via the prescription drug benefits.

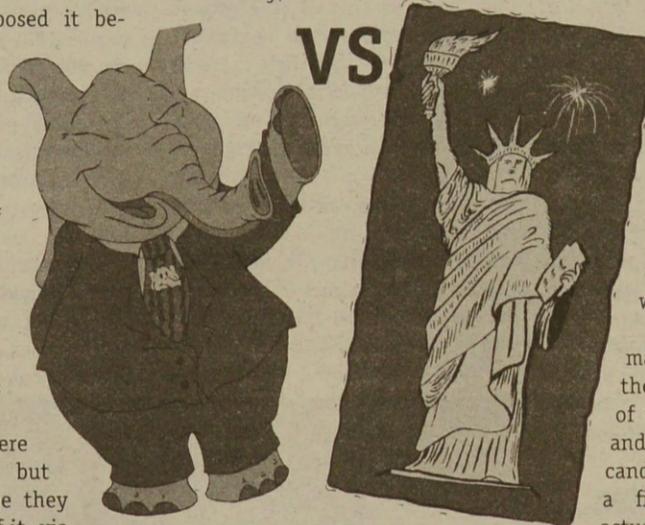
In some ways, it seems the Republicans were opposed to these things earlier because they didn't want the Democrats to get credit: They wanted to wait until they could get credit for passing it. They asked the American people to give them the power to stop the Democrats in the Congress, and now that

they have the power, they have become Super-Democrats.

You may get some Republicans to agree with you on all these issues, then have them maintain that Bush is better regarding Second Amendment rights.

If so, you can point out that Bush still does not want to arm pilots — as was done long ago in Israel to prevent any 9/11-like terror attacks there. Bush also supports the Clinton gun ban and has said he will sign it.

Finally,



you may still have someone who agrees with you on all these issues regarding George W. Bush, but who still wants to vote Republican because of that party's opposition to gay marriage.

You may want to point out that this would give the government a back door to start regulating religious ceremonies and what those

ceremonies mean. Remind them that those who like Bush's interpretation of marriage may not like the version that comes from the next Democrat elected.

The Constitution gives you the freedom of religion, the right to interpret Christianity — or any other religion — in your own way.

If the Republicans succeed in getting some interpretation of marriage passed, then it will be politicians who define marriage — and not you in your own home or church.

You may also wish to remind them that Kerry also opposes gay marriage.

The Democrats and Republicans are very close regarding both economic issues and — in cases like this — social issues, so if they're going to vote on just that one issue, they may as well vote Democrat.

On the other hand, you may be able to convince them to vote against both of the two major parties — and in favor of a Libertarian candidate who actually is a fiscal conservative, who actually believes in the freedom of religion (and religious ceremonies), who strongly supports Second Amendment rights, and who actually would cut government spending and taxes.

**■ About the author:** Mark Selzer, southern vice chair of the California LP, hosts a public access TV show, "The Libertarian Alternative."

## JOIN US ON SEPTEMBER 23 FOR TWO AMAZING EVENTS



George Clowes



Scott Hodge



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Lee Walker



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John Fund



Dave Padden



Joseph Bast



Tim Dorsey

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**ABOUT THE FORUM**

The Emerging Issues Forum is a day-long conference featuring panel presentations by 25 public policy experts from the nation's leading free-market think tanks and advocacy groups. The focus is on anticipating issues and ideas that will play major roles in domestic public policy debates in 2005 and beyond.

**TICKETS**

- Single tickets - Members \$56; \$60 at the door
- Single tickets - Nonmembers \$70; \$75 at the door
- Reserved Tables - Members (Seat 10) \$800
- Reserved Tables - Nonmembers (Seat 10) \$1,000

**TIME & LOCATION**

Thursday, September 23, 2004  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
(registration at 9:30 a.m.)  
Includes buffet lunch  
  
The Art Institute of Chicago  
111 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois  
(enter 230 South Columbus Drive)

### The Heartland Institute 20th Anniversary Benefit Dinner

**ABOUT THE BENEFIT**

The Heartland Institute is celebrating its twentieth anniversary with a reception and dinner on Thursday, September 23, in the Grand Ballroom of the Chicago Hilton Hotel, 720 South Michigan Avenue. We hope you will join us!

**TICKETS**

- Single tickets - Members \$70 before Sept. 1; \$100 after Sept. 1; \$125 at the door
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- Reserved Tables (Seat 10)
 

Platinum	\$10,000	Gold	\$7,500
Silver	\$5,000	Reserved	\$2,500

**TIME & LOCATION**

Thursday, September 23, 2004  
5:30 pm to 10:00 pm  
  
Chicago Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois  
  
For hotel reservations  
call 312/922-4400

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# Smoke and mirrors: Fighting government-fed forest fires

By Russell Cox

On August 4, federal and state agencies battled 199 wild fires in the United States, fires that burned 9,657 acres that day, according to the National Interagency Fire Center's daily report. In the first seven months of 2004, 48,778 wild fires burned more than 5.5 million acres in the United States.

An average of 54,458 fires per year for the past 10 years — with an average of 2.5 million acres per year going up in smoke — illustrates what residents in fire-ravaged areas of the country know all too well, that wildfire is a serious problem.

Much of this devastation could be prevented, but not in the way associated with Smokey the Bear's slogan: "Only you can prevent forest fires."

**DETERIORATING forest health will continue until management of these lands is wrested from the bureaucrats.**

Fire is a natural phenomenon necessary for the health of a forest. But after a 1910 fire burned 20 million acres, the government started trying to extinguish every fire.

Suppressing every fire only invites more devastating fires later on; the accumulation of underbrush will eventually burn, and a larger stock of tinder leads even the larger, healthier trees — that would have been spared by small fires — to be consumed. Periodic fires are nature's way of clearing the brush.

But instead of allowing this natural system to function, the government prevents small, healthy fires, allowing forests to become veritable powder kegs waiting for ignition.

Actually, Smokey's words were correct — individuals can help prevent massive fires — but the bear's campaign was used to forward the federal land management ideal of 100 percent fire suppression.

Over the years, federal and state agencies became better and better at putting out fires, allowing forests to grow progressively thicker — and more dangerous.

"People expect natural landscapes to be enduring and unchanging, and that's almost never true," William Tweed, Sequoia National Park's chief naturalist, says in a story in the May 2002 ScienCentralNews. "Sooner or later this is all going to burn."

In the summer of 2000, more than 8 million acres of wild land burned, at a cost of \$1.3 billion. And in 2002,

federal officials estimated that wild fires cost up to \$15 million per day.

Leon Neuenschwander, a fire ecologist at the University of Idaho, warned in a 2000 article that the Forest Service's policy of suppressing almost all fire is a particularly destructive technique — and other experts have preached the same message.

Yes, there is a solution to the issue — but it would take power away from the government, so the Forest Service doesn't want to hear it.

Russell Cox, a 13-year Libertarian, lives just a few miles from the site of a recent fire in Arizona. His experience with that fire, and the reactions of bureaucrats in the region, are detailed below. The photo below was taken from his home.

—LP News Editor J. Daniel Cloud

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

most expensive portion of the observatory complex. The telescope received the first of two 27-foot, 18-ton mirrors in October 2003. It was successfully installed in April and the second mirror is scheduled to be installed next year. When completed, the mirrors — which cost \$22 million by themselves — will comprise the central component of the world's most powerful telescope.

I watched the fire progress day by day, at times getting as close as three miles to my home. I had to marvel at the irony that the ca-

has run roughshod over western "public" lands for the past 100 years issuing hundreds of rules, edicts, restrictions and permit requirements, without the approval of the people who pay for the upkeep of the forests? Would it be the Bureau of Land Management bureaucracy, whose primary goal seems to be to top the USFS in its egregious attempt to render western lands virtually inaccessible to the very people who supposedly own the land? Or would it be the Republican bureaucracy which seems to have forgotten that it controlled Congress for the past ten years while our western forests have suffered possibly their worst period of deterioration in history?

Politicians like Congressman Renzi like to blame circumstances on a faceless bureaucracy — or on environmentalists — but are loathe to examine specifics when it may lead back to themselves.

Regarding the suggestion that government decisions led to the fire, Renzi said: "There will be action re-

And there is only one thing that I know of that is as certain as death, taxes, and grazing fees, and that is, if you keep accumulating brush it will burn — and the more brush the hotter the fire."

Fast-forward 50 years, and it's apparent the same destructive policies continue, only now we've had 83 years to grow the brush to kindle monstrous fires. When a fire starts today, it's as likely to burn hundreds of thousands of acres as it is to burn hundreds.

In addition to unprecedented fire activity, today's western forests are also plagued by drought and bark beetle infestation, but in actuality these are tentacles of the same beast. Due to almost 100 years of fire suppression policies, forested areas that receive enough rain to support 40 or 50 trees per acre now bristle with 1,000 or more trees per acre. These water-starved trees are certainly not healthy and are susceptible to fire and destructive beetle infestations. When a drought period arrives — which it inevitably will — conditions are that much worse, with many trees dying just from lack of water.

My family was hiking on Mt. Graham just one week before the Nuttall Complex fire, and we were shocked to see the number of dead Ponderosa Pines in this area of the Coronado National Forest. The difference from just one year earlier was noticeable, and the likelihood of a substantial forest fire was obvious.

All three of the candidates vying for Arizona's Congressional District 1 — a sprawling district the size of Illinois — agree that Arizona's forests are in poor health. In fact, Democratic candidate Paul Babbitt's Web site bluntly states: "A hundred years of failed management policies have left our forests vulnerable to bark beetle infestation, forest fires and drought."

Libertarian candidate John Crockett says, "We — the people who live in and near the forest — have known for decades that the western forests were being mismanaged. I remember my dad talking about it in the '60s. The policy of 100 percent fire suppression has left the forest floor covered in flammable materials that would have been periodically burned off under more naturally managed scenarios."

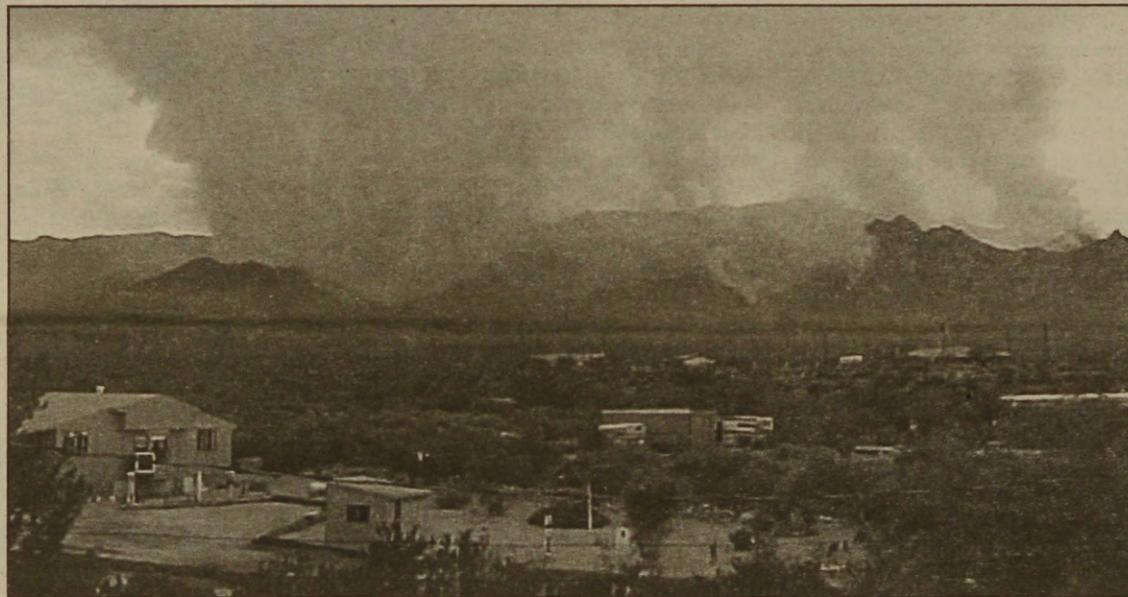
Renzi is a sitting congressman so he has to be more diplomatic. He stumps the district, simultaneously praising the efforts of the forest managers and saying that the forests are in a disastrous condition.

Both Babbitt and Renzi, after acknowledging the forests' pitiful condition, advocate more control by the entity that has made a mess of it — the federal government.

What about a more sensible approach: giving credence to the people who live in and around the forests, instead of relying solely on the input of environmental groups?

Congressman Renzi is a vocal backer of President Bush's Healthy Forest Initiative and continues to promise drastic changes under the

See **FIRE** Page 22



Some of the dramatic news coverage of the Nuttall Complex Fire that raged in southeastern Arizona for most of July showed a roiling black wall of smoke approaching the Mt. Graham International Observatory. It was this coverage that drew much national attention to what was really just a medium-sized fire, a regular occurrence during Arizona's fire season.

At roughly 30,000 acres, the Nuttall Complex fire wasn't even the largest fire in Arizona at the time. It was less than one-third the size of the Willow fire in Central Arizona which started just a few days prior to the Nuttall Complex Fire and ultimately destroyed 119,000 acres. And it was just a baby compared to the Rodeo-Chediski fire which laid waste to 462,000 acres in 2002.

The Nuttall Complex fire was in the spotlight because the Pinaleno Mountains, where the fire raged, is home to the "endangered" Mt. Graham Red Squirrel, numerous radio and microwave towers, a patch of mountain cabins, and, of course, the \$300 million observatory.

The national news coverage on the observatory showed the smoke billowing towards the 10-story building housing the Large Binocular Telescope, the most recent and

tastrophe-in-the-making involved smoke and mirrors — while Arizona politicians employed smoke-and-mirror tactics to avoid the question of why such destructive forest fires are happening in the first place.

Mt. Graham remained obscured by a shroud of smoke when Arizona District 1 Congressman, Republican Rick Renzi, visited Safford — the closest town to the fire — to discuss the effects of the fire with area cabin owners.

After a closed meeting with about 100 Mt. Graham cabin owners, Renzi made what has to be this fire season's most obvious understatement: He said they're "looking at being able to relieve some of the bureaucracy they're dealing with in cutting some of the trees."

Sure, but which bureaucracy?

Would it be the public lands bureaucracy put in place by the Democrats — who Republicans used to blame for forest woes — while they controlled Congress for 50 years? Would it be the legal bureaucracy which was spawned by the whorish relationship between the environmentalists and the federal court system, who the Republicans currently blame for forest woes?

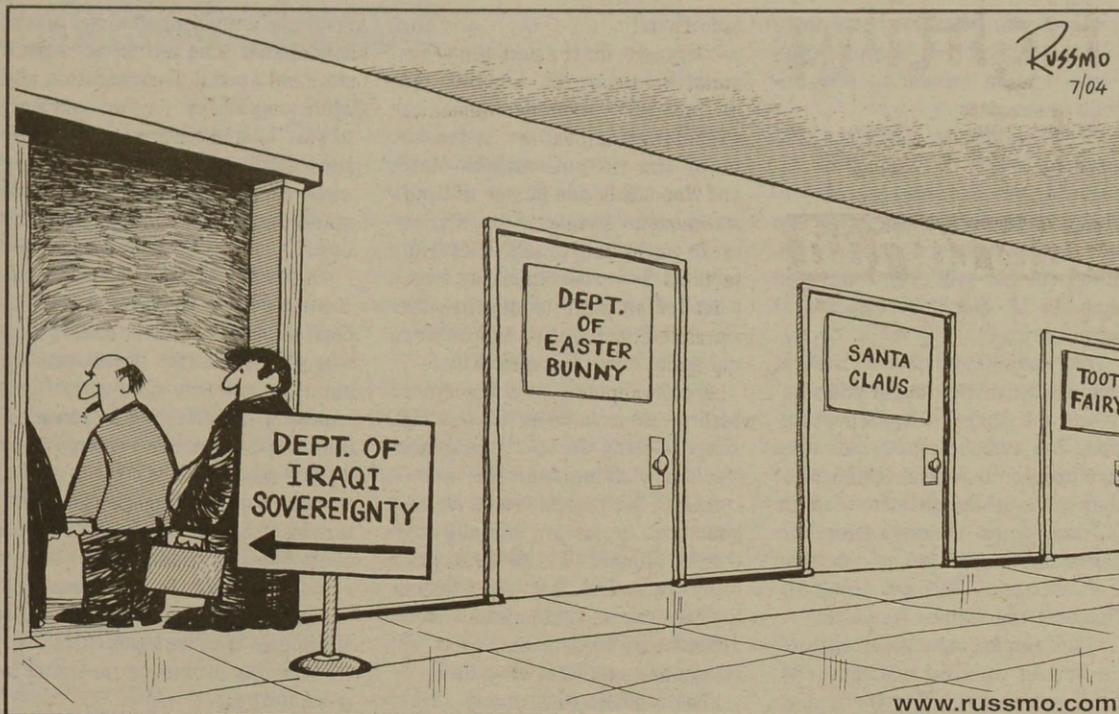
Would it be the United States Forest Service bureaucracy, which

ports, there will be a debriefing, and there will be lessons learned."

Uh-huh, right. After every major forest fire all one needs to do is visit the good Congressman's website — or the USFS's — to read the admissions of errors and the lessons learned. Sure. Smoke and mirrors.

You can't really blame Renzi for not wanting to be questioned; after all, he and his cohorts in Congress are in charge of our forests — they make the laws and control the purse strings — and they're doing a lousy job of ensuring the long-term viability of our forests. And it's been going on for a long time.

In his book *Looking Through The Smoke*, author and rancher Jinx Pyle reprints a 1956 letter which ran in a small-town Arizona newspaper. The writer — an aging cowboy who had worked, lived and observed the forested areas of Central Arizona since 1901 — tries to explain the results of 100 percent fire suppression policies: "What do you use to start a fire outside? Why, little sticks — brush! Does one bush burn hotter than two bushes? No, to get a really hot fire you need a lot of brush, and man have they got it... In fact as I see it, the Forest Service has been studiously cultivating and protecting that brush for 35 years.



## THE MAILBOX

### ■ Intervention

Libertarian opposition to military intervention should not be read as a pacifist document. In defending free trade, we need to defend property from piracy. If we don't, then we will invite a global government to take over such responsibility upon itself, and it will do so poorly.

Many, if not most Libertarians, assume the attacks of 9/11 were strictly a political response to American foreign policy. I would agree — if the World Trade Center had not been targeted. The destruction of the World Trade Center was a sectarian, racist, ethnicity-based attack on the United States carried out by Arab Islamic extremists.

Profiling can be justified to a degree, depending on the nature of the attack. If a cross burns in the yard of a black family, it would make very little sense to search for a black criminal. If a woman is raped, it would make very little sense to search for a female criminal.

Libertarians oppose military intervention, but support free trade which invites cultural intervention — which the Islamic extremists hate just as much if not more than the military intervention. Free trade is a form of foreign entanglement that has grown over the centuries with better transportation methods and better communications.

The United States had free trade with Kuwait until Saddam pirated it. How can we support free trade if we sit back and let our trading partners be conquered?

Sanctions against Iraq, enforced by the U.S. military based in numerous Persian Gulf countries, were tried, caused great misery and ultimately failed as well as stoked the fires for the 9/11 attacks. A coalition of nations prevented the Unit-

ed States from removing Saddam when he should have been removed either by arrest or military action a long time ago.

—ANDREW L SULLIVAN  
Omaha, Nebraska

### ■ Liberty for slobs

"The Volunteer" article ["Clean up your act with Liberty tweezers"] in the July 2004 *LP News* is nicely humorous and no doubt also offers good advice.

However, if Libertarians believe in freedom, liberty, rights, and the value of human diversity, that ought to include (in my opinion) the freedom, liberty and right to be a slob and/or a weirdo.

—SAMUEL A. SHAFFE  
Winter Haven, Florida

**How CAN WE**  
.....  
**support free trade if**  
.....  
**we sit back and**  
.....  
**let our trading**  
.....  
**partners be**  
.....  
**conquered?**  
.....

—ANDREW SULLIVAN

### ■ Gradual revolution?

After 26 years of objectivism, libertarianism and U.S. political history, I'm convinced that we are so far away from the middle ground of the Constitution, that gradualism will not work. Any significant yet partial libertarian change will cause enough "unfair" pain for some that the resulting media hype will stop

and potentially reverse libertarian progress.

Libertarianism is a revolution. During the 1992 Libertarian convention in San Diego, I and other Libertarians formed the James Madison Society. One of its products was a 133-page federally oriented Libertarian platform entitled "The Madison Platform." We asked every federal agency for their constitutional justification. All federal agencies were dissolved, privatized or kept with or without modification according to their constitutional justification.

Rather than update the Madison Platform, [Libertarian-Resources.com](http://Libertarian-Resources.com) includes a description of a "Libertarian Omnibus Bill" (LOB) and a method for its development. Like the Madison Platform, it would delineate all the changes Libertarians would make to the federal government and its statutes, as well as the moral and practical rationale for each change, the ramifications of each change and the mitigation of those ramifications.

The LOB would comprehensively describe the implementation of the Libertarian Platform. It would be a Web-enabled searchable database of answers to all those questions about the Libertarian Platform and "what ifs" that candidates must repeatedly address — if they have the time and expertise. It would be a public litmus test for all federal candidates, regardless of Party. It would be the basis for a Libertarian presidential acceptance speech that could be published on the Internet long before there is a viable Libertarian presidential candidate to speak it.

A LOB could be similarly developed and used for each state in the Union to solicit public support for Libertarianism as a practical plan rather than a philosophy or platform. If the national LP will endorse

## THE EDITOR

# Tell us your story!

A few weeks ago I was contacted by a Libertarian candidate for office who wanted to know why he had read nothing about his race in the pages of *LP News*. I had to tell him that I hadn't heard anything about his candidacy.

After talking to him for a while, I realized that while he was an interesting person and a potentially viable candidate — reaching out to his hopeful constituents as well as any Libertarian office-seekers and better than some — his encouraging story would never have appeared in this paper had he not brought himself to my attention.

His candidacy wasn't on the outdated state LP Web site, he had been too busy reaching out to potential voters to bother contacting the LP headquarters, and the news that he was running had not registered on my own (admittedly limited) radar screen.

In situations like this one, there is little I can do until someone contacts me, and I told this candidate so. He pointed out that it's not his responsibility to let me know the details of his race.

True enough: It's not a candidate's responsibility to inform me of anything.

However, any candidate who hopes to get *LP News* coverage should understand that our resources in putting together this newspaper are limited; the *LP News* is not the *Associated Press*, with multitudinous paid correspondents in the far-flung regions of America and beyond.

As editor of this paper, I rely to a great extent on information from the state, local and college affiliates of the LP. In some ways, I have an unpaid staff of thousands — and my "research staff" is roughly equivalent to my readership.

If you know of a particularly exciting Libertarian event or candidate that warrants a mention in *LP News*, don't assume that we at party headquarters already know about it and are ignoring the news. If you put out a press release about an event, pass that information along to us, so we can spread the word.

Is every item sent to *LP News* going to make it into these pages? No, probably not.

But will I be able to do a more thorough job of reporting the news of the Libertarian Party if I get submissions and information from a wide variety of sources across the nation?

Absolutely.

A few years ago, a survey of *LP News* readers revealed that a majority of readers would like to read more success stories — stories about Libertarians who are elected or appointed to public office and have been able to put libertarian principles to work in their various areas of responsibility.

That situation hasn't changed. If the letters and phone calls I get are any indication, people still want to read more stories about how libertarianism works in practice.

There are several hundred Libertarians in office right now, and many of them have never had an opportunity to have their stories in these pages. Some of them — consider Jim Mueller, the town administrator in Middleton, Wisc., who was profiled in the August issue — have had libertarian successes in their various realms.

But unless someone tells those stories, few in the Libertarian Party will ever become aware that their fellow members are seeing such success. And what better place to see the stories than in a paper called the *Libertarian Party News*?

Do you know of a Libertarian in office who has been able to put libertarian principles into action by cutting taxes, eliminating laws or otherwise helping Americans regain a little liberty? Are you personally doing so?

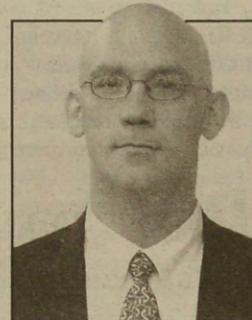
Consider this an invitation to contact me and give me the details. Drop me a line via e-mail, or pick up the phone and give me a call.

The stated purpose of the Libertarian Party — our mission statement — is "to move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

So how are we doing in that quest? It's great to tell the stories of candidates for public office and how they plan to effect change in the political arena. I personally love both writing and reading such stories.

But what about those who have already made it into office? We believe libertarianism works, and readers of this paper want to see the proof.

Tell us your story.



**By J. Daniel Cloud**

LP NEWS EDITOR

## THE MAILBOX

LOBs, I will implement the Internet infrastructure for their development.

—BILL HOLMES  
Carlsbad, California

### Welfare debate

The article "End Welfare" [Re: July 2004 LP News] makes a convoluted case that Libertarians should make welfare for individuals among the last programs abolished if "Libertopia" is ever established. The author argues that "corporate welfare" should be abolished first, with individual welfare phased out slowly.

Not only is the author's line of argument erroneous insofar as his argument underestimates the number (and quality) of solutions available in the free market, but he does not differentiate between a welfare system run by the federal government (unconstitutional) and one run by the states (constitutional).

Although private solutions such as individual insurance policies against unemployment and economic distress could be combined with private charity to soften the harshness of the free market, even welfare systems run by individual states would be dramatic improvements over the current system.

However, rather than engaging in endless debates over policy questions and whether an individual candidate is "Libertarian enough," the party's first priority must be to engage in grassroots politics and electing its candidates.

Libertarians can and will disagree about specific policies and that is what research organizations like the Cato Institute are for. But winning elections must be the number one priority of the Libertarian Party.

—PAUL J. GESSING  
Alexandria, Virginia

### Hybrid car owner

As a long-time libertarian, and new owner of the 2004 Toyota Prius, I have to take issue with your op-

ed piece. [Re: Libertarian Solution, August 2004 LP News]

I routinely get greater than 50 mpg from my Prius. It's not as good as the EPA estimates, but I didn't expect it to be. I mean these are EPA estimates, right?

The Prius ... gets much better mileage than my other Honda Accords. Before buying the Prius, we test drove the Hybrid Honda Civic. I was not at all impressed. The Prius is a better (and more expensive) car.

Now, with regard to government subsidies, it's true that there is a federal tax credit and in Maryland an exemption from sales tax. These were real incentives when making the decision to buy the car. However, Maryland has terminated the tax exemption, effective July 1. I don't think federal government subsidies are necessary either. The Prius is very popular. Toyota cannot make them fast enough.

As far as I can tell, the hybrid technology (except for durability, which remains to be seen) really works, at least for me. My trips to the gas pump to buy \$2-per-gallon gas have gone down, and my gas bills with it.

I think in your zeal to make the government policies look bad, you've inadvertently criticized a fine vehicle.

—BRUCE VORIS  
Elkridge, Maryland

### Four-issue platform

The purpose of the Libertarian Party is to get votes and elect candidates. In order to do that, we first have to ask which libertarian ideas will meet with general approval. I propose four issues, in order of emphasis, which will meet with approval by many Americans, perhaps most.

■ **Constitutionality of legislation:** Since Homeland Security legislation, there is a great outrage over the invasion of individual rights.

■ **Term limits:** In several states, term limits have been quite successful in reining in government.

■ **Taxes:** Always a libertarian issue. The lower the better. Perhaps flat tax or fair tax could be an issue.

■ **Legalize medical marijuana:** The public is ready for this. Soft pedal our stand on other drugs.

Millions will back us on these issues. Let's try to be voter friendly.

—ED ANDERSON  
Naples, New York

### Fanatic fringe

I read with great dismay the guest commentary written by Bill Shaw in the August issue of LP News. As long as thinking like his exists within the party, we will always be a fanatic fringe, never to poll more than one or two percent in a presidential election.

I have spoken with far too many Libertarians who apparently prefer that the party stays a tiny cabal that gets some sort of perverse en-

joyment out of excoriating anybody who doesn't toe the line and then mopes around wondering why nobody like us.

Why is it that Mr. Shaw and others cannot tell the difference between de-emphasizing, and reversing position on an issue? No one who supports de-emphasizing the drug issue has ever even insinuated that the LP should become ardent drug warriors.

We simply understand that at this point, telling people you want to end the drug war is political suicide. The average citizen has been conditioned to such an extent that they envision a nightmare scenario of "drug stores" on every street corner selling heroin to their children if a Libertarian becomes president. This does not help us win votes.

Here is a far more likely scenario for ending the drug war: Focus on fiscal restraint, ending the income tax, shutting down the IRS. These are positions most people would roar their approval for. Then, one day, when the federal government is spending a few percent of its current budget, and thousands of programs and departments have simply withered away, we will have won the drug war without ever firing a shot.

—ANTHONY DLUGOS  
Cleveland, Ohio

### Beyond borders

How ironic to read Bill Shaw's "Don't take 'liberty' out of Libertarian," then six pages later see the LP thinking of removing Liberty from our immigration plank.

This issue seems quite simple to me. I live in Tacoma, Wash. If I get in my car and head south, I cross a "border" at the city limits. I know there is a border because in my rear-view mirror I see a "Welcome to Tacoma" sign. A few miles further south I cross the "border" between Pierce County and Thurston County; again, just some road-signs indicate this. Further south still, I cross the Columbia River, where I see a sign saying "Welcome to Oregon."

But, if I get to the Rio Grande, apparently, we suddenly need armed border guards, barbed wire, random car searches, and passport inspections.

There are good economic and social reasons why we do not import into Washington State, Pierce County, or Tacoma the indicators of border found at the edge of America. And, I can discern no reason why the compelling logic of free borders governing the north side of Texas suddenly changes along the south side of Texas. For that matter, why does the logic behind Washington's free and open border with Oregon change completely if I stop looking south (toward the Columbia River) and instead look north across the Straits of Juan de Fuca (separating Washington State from Canada)?

I have been to Canada, and those people seem as friendly as folk who've moved into my neighborhood from Sacramento, Chicago or Philadelphia. So why have gates keeping some out of Tacoma, but

not others?

Once we start "justifying" impressive borders on the east side of America's eastern states, the west side of our western states, the south side of our southern states and the north side of our northern states, then people with an interest in controlling others will rapidly seize on these walls to justify fences patrolled by guards along the other sides of all our states, and between our various counties and cities.

We should treat all of the various borders we encounter in the U.S. alike. Treating the Columbia, Mississippi and Missouri rivers like we now treat the Rio Grande would at least be logical. Or, we can logically treat the Rio Grande like we treat these other rivers. But, it is completely illogical to treat these various rivers differently. Borders are, after all, simply so many lines on maps.

The problem with giving all our borders the same treatment as the Rio Grande is it will, in short order, remove all Liberty from our society. We will all be compelled to regularly "produce our papers," and each state, county, city and neighborhood will become an island walled up against so-called "outsiders."

That is — quite obviously — the polar opposite of the libertarian society we profess to seek. Let's put the Liberty back in our immigration plank.

—J. MILLS  
Candidate for U.S. Senate  
Tacoma, Washington

### Not Jesse Ventura

I have seen Jesse Ventura's name advanced several times as a potential future LP Presidential candidate. I understand the potential value from his name recognition, but Ventura is no libertarian.

Governor Ventura's legacy was to stick the taxpayers of Minnesota with the bill for a light rail project that many of us did not want and is now way over budget. He is a typical big-spending politician.

—KORY SANDOZ  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Northern aggression

In response to the spate of letters advocating the acceptability of using the Confederate flag, I feel a born and bred Yankee might have something to say. The justification letters very properly indicate that candidates have a "right" to display the symbol. No complaints there — Nazis also have a "right" to display swastikas. The letters also very properly indicate that CSA soldiers were in fact freedom fighters — I agree and call the Civil War the War of Northern Aggression along with most good libertarians.

But none of this is pertinent to the issue at hand. Using the letter writer's own statistics, 32 percent of black Americans find the use of that flag offensive, as do 10 percent of all Americans. (The statistics seem low but I do live in the Washington-to-Boston corridor where the numbers would presumably be much higher.)

Those who find the use of the Confederate flag offensive associate it with racial discrimination and white supremacy — two concepts which libertarians eschew. Why alienate these people unnecessarily when we can choose other symbols which do not mis-convey our intentions?

One can certainly "blame" the average guy on the street in NYC or Boston for not understanding history as well as we libertarians do but that will only give us self-satisfaction, not effective communication. We have a hard enough time making our positions clear to others without complicating our presentation by trying to justify the use of a controversial symbol.

So let's stick to our ideas and our policy views and avoid the use of symbols that are easily misunderstood by the people we are trying to reach out to.

Avoid using the symbol unless you are fairly certain that the vast majority of your audience already shares your perceptions and does not need to have a lengthy explanation on why the use of the Confederate flag is actually appropriate.

—LEE NASON  
New Bedford, Massachusetts

### Outsourcing jobs

The Libertarian Party says that in regards to outsourcing or off-shoring, companies are trying to cut costs. What Americans should be saying is why companies are better off not doing this.

Case in point: Last year my job was out-sourced. I am a computer professional. I was out of the field for 11 months. Then I got a call from a company that had outsourced its computer department to India. A year later, it returned to the USA. Why? Poor service.

Employees quit after only months of employment to start their own businesses. We have to emphasize these facts when looking for work.

Another point, companies have the right to move wherever they want. But why should they get tax breaks for doing this?

—KEN MITCHELL  
North Canton, Ohio

### Keep 'The Pulse'

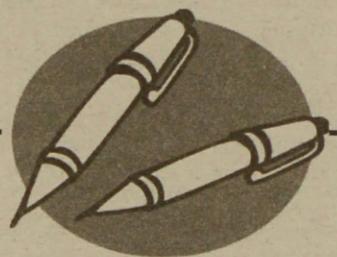
Please keep "The Pulse"!! Even though responses were low, it was a great way to get small sound bites of how our membership is thinking.

—MARK MATTHEWS  
Newport News, Virginia

[Editor's note: As explained in the August 2004 issue of LP News, **The Pulse** column will end after this edition. However, input from members continues to be strongly encouraged, whether in letters, as news articles or opinion columns.]

### Government lies

While reading "Energy Saving Technology or Pseudo-Environmental Lies," I realized that the government's pursuit of Martha Stewart for supposedly lying about a non-crime



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is in striking contrast to the EPA's propaganda machine and the President's reasons for invading Iraq — more fine examples (yawn) of big government non-solutions.

I can hardly believe we pay almost half our income in taxes and the average American doesn't ever wonder about that big sucking sound coming from Washington. As my home-schooled children enter the adult world, they are continually asking me why Americans tolerate this travesty.

—RETTA FONTANA  
Rochester, Michigan

**Immigration plank**

I'm glad the Party is considering revising the immigration plank as it was inconsistent with other positions taken by the Party. Those Party members who favor unrestricted immigration should read the article, "On Free Immigration and Forced Integration," by Hans-Hermann Hoppe, which can be found at [www.lewrockwell.com](http://www.lewrockwell.com).

—RICHARD D. FUERLE  
Grand Island, New York

**Ethanol and hybrids**

I enjoyed your article about ethanol and hybrid cars, "Energy-saving technology or pseudo-environmentalism?" [RE: August 2004 LP News, "Libertarian Solutions"] Your information on ethanol was excellent, but you missed the mark on your criticism of hybrid vehicles.

Hybrids do not get the EPA mileage under real world conditions, but neither do other automobiles. The mileage tests are done under controlled conditions and are only useful in comparing cars, not estimating real world mileage.

Hybrids perhaps take more advantage of this discrepancy because the gas engines run until the motor is warmed up so very short trips do not see a huge increase in mileage. Only after the car is warmed up do the mileage benefits kick in. Mileage is strongly affected by driver behavior, hills, stoplights and temperature.

I can't comment on Honda's Civic. For our Prius my wife gets around 46 MPG, and I get 40 MPG. In winter when it gets below zero our mileage is even worse. Also the EPA tests are done with a single passenger in the car. We often drive friends around and our mileage suffers.

But we have been saving quite a bit of money on gas and are happy with our purchase. Considering we have driven our car for over a year and have had absolutely no maintenance problems, we will probably hold onto our Prius for some time. It is a very well-made car. Of course the government subsidy influenced our spending decision, but it was not a major factor in our purchase. Was it the right decision? Will we save \$5,000? Only time will tell.

Yes, the EPA, the regulations, and government interference are

evil, but we bought the car because I like parking the car under electric power (it's just COOL for a science geek like me), and my wife likes the low emissions and the head room. My only complaint is that the car doesn't have an electric override so I can cruise around all electric.

I understand that some people hate hybrids on principle and peg me as a socialist because I drive one. They would be wrong considering I oppose federal and state welfare programs, social security and education.

Thanks again for your excellent article. Ethanol is a huge waste of land, time and energy. If your article helps eliminate those programs, it will be worth turning off a few luddites to our great little Toyota Prius.

—ROBERT J. CREIGHTON  
Madison, Wisconsin

**Immigration, again**

Interesting parallels can be drawn between our government's failed War on Drugs and its war on immigration:

In both cases, the underlying 'crime' is essentially victimless, particularly so in the case of immigration. Immigration prohibition

is very much like drug prohibition in that many or most of the evils connected with it are a result of the laws, not the immigrants or drugs themselves.

In both cases, government restrictions have led to large black markets, including profitable industries that smuggle people and goods across the border. The U.S. has lost control of its borders. This is a grave threat to national security.

Both have pushed large numbers of people underground. Our immigration policies have led to a pool of about 7 million or so undocumented people in this nation. We have no idea who or where they are. This too is a threat to national security at a time when we know terrorists seek to enter and disappear.

Both policies encourage tremendous fraud, bribery, forgery and "looking the other way."

In both cases, many right-wing conservatives call for more enforcement of the status quo as the solution! "If we really got serious and enforced our laws, these policies would work!" the right-wingers claim.

We are libertarians because we see through this faulty logic on both issues. The LP needs to preserve its classical liberal soul, even as we invite more and more right-wingers into the party.

—PHILIP BLUMEL  
Lake Worth, Florida

**Support for Israel**

I am alarmed by the appearance of items in the LP News that can be interpreted as anti-Semitic. I find three more of these entries in the August 2004 issue of the periodical. While I am not Jewish, I believe that I must protest these violations of Liberation principles, as I identify them.

One, in the "Talking Points" section of LP News it is noted with dismay that the main reason Muslim terrorists in the Middle East hate the U.S. is our federal government's "blind support for Israel." The thinly veiled insinuation here is that to reduce Arabs' loathing of the U.S., it is necessary for our country to allow Arabs to massacre the Jewish population in Israel.

Two, the "Politics 2004" section applauds the fact that the LP candidate for the U.S. Senate from California announced he is "beginning to understand their [Muslim Americans'] struggle, and I feel honored that I can help." What Jim Gray either forgets or ignores is that almost 100 percent of American-Muslims believe our federal government provides "blind support for Israel."

Three, in the "Affiliate News" section Libertarian National Committee member Jeremy Keil is quoted with approval as remarking that the LP "can help empower the Muslim community [in Wisconsin] through the

political process."

Keil agrees with the notion that the LP must assume the task of "changing the way they [Muslim Americans] are viewed in America." In short, Keil implies that widespread irrational hatred for Israel by Muslim Americans is a justified reaction on their part.

—PATRICK GROFF  
San Diego, California

[Editor's Note: Muslim Americans are, by definition, Muslims in America. They are not "Muslim terrorists in the Middle East." They are not Arabs massacring "the Jewish population in Israel." And, they don't even necessarily hate Israel. How are we to know what "almost 100 percent of American Muslims" believe?

As for the LP News being anti-Semitic, support of one group's right to live peacefully in America is not a statement of hatred toward another group.

Concerning the "Talking Points" reference, and the suggestion that it violates Libertarian principles: Our country has no call to get involved in any way with either side "massacring" the other, in any nation other than our own.

That's what the Libertarian concept of non-intervention is all about. Besides, criticism of Israel is not anti-Semitic, just as criticism of the American government is not degrading to the American people.]



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# Fire disasters can be prevented — but not by bureaucrats

Continued from Page 18

legislation which Renzi says was designed to “streamline the regulatory burden” in managing the forests.

But the backers of this initiative don’t talk about the lack of accountability on the part of the current forest managers. Will any overpaid, inept forest managers be fired? Will any of the hundreds of laws limiting use of forested lands be removed or opened up to veto by local residents? Will we ever see the Forest Service stop patrolling for cigarette smokers and, instead, park their green pickups and start cleaning up underbrush? Not likely.

Simply limiting the lawsuits of environmentalists will not solve the problem of unhealthy, fire-prone forests. It is the 100-year-old public

lands bureaucracy that Renzi refers to — and is part of — that creates the greatest “regulatory burden.”

Long before the environmental groups had any political clout, ranchers, loggers, hunters and hikers were battling senseless edicts spewing forth from Washington bureaucrats, some of whom had never set foot in a western forest. Even when I was a kid, families with no way to heat their homes except with wood were being cited for removing dead and decaying wood from an already overgrown forest.

And now we’re supposed to expect this same management team to fix things? It’s like hiring the Enron management team to run Wall Street.

The system of limiting access in

the forest where the Nuttall Complex Fire occurred illustrates how the arbitrary system of “forest management from a distance” works.

Take, for example, the much ballyhooed Mt. Graham Red Squirrel habitat. It encompasses approximately 9,000 acres at the very top of the mountain — now cordoned off to the common people (i.e. taxpayers).

Is it irritating that I cannot take my kids to the 10,720-foot peak of Mt. Graham simply because environmentalists want to protect the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel? You bet! However, the fact that the Forest Service blocks access to hundreds of thousands of acres for most of the year in the very same forest is an even greater irritation to me.

Each year access to the higher reaches of the range is blocked off for winter — mid-November through mid-April, whether there’s snow present or not. Then, if it’s a particularly dangerous fire season — and it usually is — access may be blocked for another couple of months.

And to rub salt in the wounds, we have to stand by and watch as groups that have lobbying power — such as the Mt. Graham International Observatory consortium — are allowed what most taxpayers are denied: access to the top of the mountain.

It’s amazing how Congress and the USFS can somehow “handle” the big, bad environmentalists and place four or five buildings right in the middle of the red squirrel habitat when they put their minds to it. However, when the peasants want to simply hike through the area, the very same bureaucrats tell us they have “no choice” but to deny access due to environmentalist legal action. Smoke and mirrors.

This kind of nonsense — and deteriorating forest health — will continue until management of these lands is wrested from the bureaucrats in Washington and returned to local control by people with a vested interest.

Renzi is right about “bureaucracy” being the problem. And the federal “public lands” bureaucracy — which controls 57 percent of the land in Arizona — is the big boy on the block in fire country.

Libertarian Crockett believes he has the answer to reining in the federal bureaucracy: Simply end federal control of the “national” forests.

The answer, he said, lies in following the U.S. Constitution, which grants no right to the federal government to be in the public lands business; hence, national forest lands should become the responsibility of the individual states.

“Locally, we would have managed the forests quite differently than have the geniuses in Washington,” Crockett said. “Local management of these lands would have insured that our forests were not places where more than eight inches of pitch-laden tinder cover millions of acres of Arizona. The input

of timber and ranching interests, in particular, would have insured that the forests were managed to provide long term viability. Burned acreage isn’t conducive to grazing, logging, recreation or any other common use of the forests.”

And he’s not the only one thinking along these lines.

In an article in *Arizona Farm Bureau News* last year, Neil Schneider echoed the sentiment of most of rural Arizona when he said, “It is time to return to managing the forests with appropriate logging, grazing and controlled burning.”

Two years ago a proposal of setting up competing forest plans was submitted to a number of congressmen. The proposal involved letting a number of different entities be responsible for 100,000 acre sections of land. The suggestion was submitted by Dan Adams, a retired executive who, as part of a volunteer organization, travels to various countries teaching free-market business principals.

This proposal never saw the light of day, of course. Things don’t work that way in a huge federal bureaucracy. Just like you don’t see any substantial forest clean-up efforts after years of promises.

Wouldn’t it be nice if the federal bureaucracy was eliminated as Crockett suggests so we could begin these kinds of competing plans? It would happen as a natural course of events as every state took local — and more accountable — control of their lands and each formulated their own forest plans. We could then see which one works best.

It would sure beat the current system of smoke and mirrors.

■ **About the author:** Russell Cox, AKA “Russmo,” has seen his political cartoons published in more than 50 newspapers in six countries. You see his work each month in LP News.



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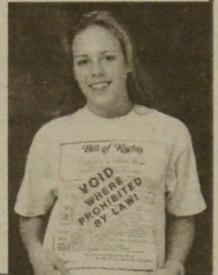
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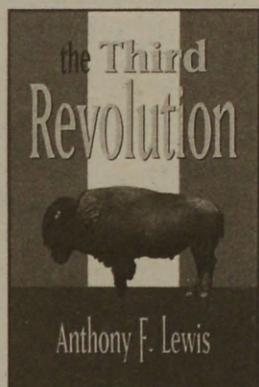
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**UPCOMING**



■ Cloud

**August 28-29, 2004**

**"Art of Libertarian Persuasion" Seminar,** Hampton Inn, Natick, Massachusetts. Sponsored by the Advocates for Self-Government. Speakers include Michael Cloud (author, *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*), Harry Browne (two-time LP presidential candidate), Sharon Harris (president, Advocates for Self-Government), Carla Howell (2002 LP candidate for Massachusetts governor), and Bill Winter (communications director, Advocates for Self-Government). For information or to register, call: (800) 932-1776. Or visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org/seminars.htm](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/seminars.htm).

**September 18, 2004**

**Foreign Policy Debate,** San Francisco, California. Sponsored by Fight for Liberty. Ivan Eland of the Independent Institute and Tim Starr of Fight for Liberty will debate: "What is the proper foreign policy for a free society." For information, contact [JeanieKennedy@hotmail.com](mailto:JeanieKennedy@hotmail.com).

**September 23, 2004**

**Heartland Institute 20th Anniversary Benefit Dinner,** at the Chicago Hilton Hotel. Featuring speakers Conrad Meier, Lee Walker, Robert Novak, John Fund, Dave Padden, Joseph Bast and Tim Dorsey. For more information, call (312) 377-4000 or go to [www.heartland.org](http://www.heartland.org).



■ Novak

**October 2, 2004**

**New Hampshire State LP Convention,** Concord Country Club, Concord, New Hampshire. Luncheon speaker Fred Bramante, chairman of New Hampshire state board of education. Dinner keynote speaker Mary Ruwart, author of *Healing our World* and *Short Answers to Tough Questions*. For more information or to register, call 1-800-559-LPNH; e-mail Rhonda Keiper at [treasurer@lpmh.org](mailto:treasurer@lpmh.org); or go to [www.lpmh.org](http://www.lpmh.org).



■ Ruwart

**October 9-10, 2004**

**Freedom Summit 2004,** Phoenix, Arizona, at the Best Western Grace Inn at Ahwatukee. An annual seminar "dedicated to promoting and advancing human freedom." Speakers to include author Alan Bock; Don Boudreaux of George Mason University; investor and author Doug Casey; author Jim Peron; Justin Raimondo of the Ludwig von Mises Institute; Dr. Mary Ruwart; pro-Second Amendment rights activist Claire Wolfe; and others. For more information, go to [www.freedomsummit.com](http://www.freedomsummit.com).

**October 28-31, 2004**

**Cato University Fall Weekend Seminar,** "Arguments for Liberty: How to Defend Individual Rights and Limited Government," Le Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Canada. Sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include Tom Palmer (director, Cato University), Don Boudreaux (Department of Economics, George Mason University), and Robert A. Sirico (Acton Institute). For information, visit: [www.cato-university.org](http://www.cato-university.org).

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**FIRST WORD**



"...The Libertarians could be in better shape this year than at any time since 1980, when their presidential candidate got nearly 1 million votes. The party's platform, which revolves around curbing government, could appeal to fiscal conservatives disillusioned with spiralling spending. It is pro-choice and dislikes laws governing sex between adults; it generally favours immigration, opposes the Iraq war and abhors the Patriot Act. It could draw a number of Republicans who have either become disillusioned with the war and the neo-conservatives, or who never liked them in the first place."

— THE ECONOMIST, June 3, 2004