

The Free Press

January 1996

of New York

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A totally unofficial newspaper of libertarian activities around New York State

Libertarian Party of New York State Committee

Chair: Blay Tarnoff
Vice-Chairs: Dottie-Lou Brokaw
Jim Harris
Secretary: Lloyd Wright
Treasurer: Audrey Capozzi
Past Chair: Gail Bova
At Large: Chris Garvey
Robert Goodman
Eric Gruber
Dave Harnett
Vicki Kirkland

The following local chapters are each entitled to one representative on the State Committee:

Suffolk, Nassau, New York, Queens, Westchester/Rockland, Putnam, Hudson Valley, Capital District, Southern Tier, Genesee Region, Niagara Frontier

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LPNY Going Online

■ State Party Setting Up Web Page

LPNY is in the process of setting up a web page on the Internet. The page, which is still unofficial, was set up by LPNY member Willis Boyce. It has been active since December 12th and has already drawn over 20 visitors.

You can access the page at <http://www.gfr.com/~lpny>. This will take you to a page that currently has seven options. They are:

"98 Counts"

Public Office Holders

Officers

Chapter Meetings

Membership Application

Libertarian Party

Libertarian Party Headquarters

The option "98 Counts" contains the text of the fundraising letter recently sent out by LPNY charman Blay Tarnoff. The option "Public Office Holders" is intended to have a list of all LPNY members currently holding office and a short biography of each. The

only LPNY member who is currently holding public office is Rebecca Turmo-Wilber who is a member of the Town Council in Woodstock. The information on her is being prepared.

The option "Officers" takes you to a page that displays the names, addresses and phone numbers of the officers in LPNY. The option "Chapter Meetings" lists all the local chapters of LPNY along with the date, time and place of local meetings. The option "Membership Application" lists LPNY's objectives, principles and information on how to join the party. The last two options are linked to pages set up by the national LP.

LPNY members with access to the Internet are encouraged to check out the page and offer suggestions. Eighteen other states already have pages set up. They are: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Looking at their pages will give you an idea of some of the things that are possible.

Suffolk OPH Booth

The Suffolk County Libertarian Party conducted an Operation Politically Homeless booth at a gun and knife show on December 8 and 9. LPNY members Blay Tarnoff, Robert Goodman, John

Clifton, Jim Harris, Chris Garvey, Audrey Capozzi-Pappaeliou, Jack Bova and Harry McArdle handed out cards for the World's Smallest Political Quiz and helped respondents calculate their scores. Altogether 185 people took the quiz, and 50

of them left their names to get more information about libertarian ideas. All 50 scored in the libertarian section of the chart. The names have been forwarded to the local organizations in LPNY and to the Advocates for Self-Government.

Schiff, Browne File For New Hampshire Primary

Libertarians Irwin Schiff and Harry Browne were among 45 candidates who filed to run in the New Hampshire presidential

primaries. In addition to these two, 21 Democrats and 22 Republicans also filed. The deadline for filing was December

15. The complete list of all candidates who filed is shown below. Occupations and hometowns are also shown if provided by the candidates.

Libertarians

Harry Browne, Franklin, TN
Irwin Schiff, Las Vega, NV

Democrats

Bill Clinton, Little Rock, AR
Caroline Killeen, retired Catholic nun, Tucson, AZ
Bruce Daniels, professor, Winnipeg, Canada (dual citizenship)
Lyndon LaRouche, Leesburg, VA
Carmen Chimento, Brookline, NH
Vincent Hamm, Golden, CO
Frank Legas, Fullerton, CA
Hubert Patty, Maryville, TN
David Pauling, Temple Terrace, FL
John Safran, Burlington Township, MI
Michael Dass, Washington Crossing, PA
Sal Casamassima, Houston, TX
Pat Paulsen, Tujunga, CA
Robert Drucker, Moon Township, PA
Ted L. Gunderson, Las Vegas, NV
Heather Anne Harder, Crown Point, IN
Stephen Michael, Washington, DC
Ronald W. Spangler, San Diego, CA
Willie Felix Carter, Fort Worth, TX
Osie Thorpe, Washington, DC
Ben J. Tomeo, Nashville, TN

Republicans

Bob Dole, US Senator, Russell, KS
Phil Gramm, US Senator, College Station, TX
Lamar Alexander, former TN governor, Walland, TN
Pat Buchanan, conservative columnist, McLean, VA
Alan Keyes, conservative commentator, Darnerstown, MD
Dick Lugar, US Senator, Indianapolis, IN
Bob Dornan, US Representative, Garden Grove, CA
Steve Forbes, magazine publisher, Bedminster, NJ
Billy Joe Clegg, Baptist minister, Biloxi, MS
Georgiana Doerschuck, unemployed real estate broker, Palm Beach, FL
Michael Levinson, writer, Buffalo, NY
Morry Taylor, businessman, Quincy, IL
Russell Fornwalt, New York, NY
Richard Skillen, Garner, NC
Susan Ducey, Milmont, PA
Charles Collins, Panama City, FL
Gerald J. McManus, Tampa, FL
Tennie Rogers, Tulsa, OK
James D. Griffin, Buffalo, NY
John B. Hurd, Dubin, OH
William Flanagan, Coral Gables, FL
Richard Bosa, mayor, Berlin, NH

Libertarian Show Wins ACE

On November 29th, a libertarian talk show in Ithaca won an ACE award for best talk show in the area. The show entitled "Opinions, Comments and Just Spouting Off" is produced and directed by LPNY member William Kone. Helping out on the show are Mel Gold, Jake MacKinslin and Wilson Kone.

The one hour show is shown on public access channel 13 or 57 whenever space is available for air time. Over 60 shows have been aired so far, and over 35,000 cable subscribers can get the show.

The ACE (for Access Cable Excellence) Award is given out by the Cable Access Staff for whatever show they find worthwhile.

The show also finished second in the "most controversial" category. finishing first in the category was a show called "Nick At Night" which features a 27 year old man named Nick who takes soft core phone sex calls from high school teens.

State Committee to Meet

The State Committee of LPNY will hold its next quarterly meeting on Saturday, March 2 at 11:00 AM at the Sloatsburg service area on the NYS Thruway. The meeting room is on the second floor. Call Lloyd Wright at (914) 339-2613 for more information.

Book Review

Why Government Doesn't Work by Harry Browne

For the hard core libertarian, this book contains nothing new in terms of philosophy. There are some specifics of how Browne would accomplish certain goals if he were elected president, but other than that, it's a quick and easy read, just a rehash of things that we, as libertarians, already know and take for granted.

However, the book's target audience is not the old-timers in the movement but rather people who may not even know that the Libertarian Party exists. Looking at the book from that point of view, it's difficult to judge.

It's a well-written, articulate explanation of the libertarian position on many issues. But many people have written articulate explanations of libertarian positions and still only a small minority of the people in this country have been convinced. Will it be any different? It may.

Browne's advantage is that he is already a best selling author who has had a book hit number 1 on the *New York Times* best seller list. To the average person this could make him more credible than previous writers. It will certainly give him more exposure than previous writers.

I also think the timing of the book is perfect, coming out right at the start of the presidential campaign. If it does make *The Times'* best-seller list, it could get people thinking about libertarian ideas at the same time they're thinking about presidential politics. Browne must have been writing this book right up until press time because it's right up to date in terms of what's going on in the current campaign.

Should you buy this book for yourself? Probably not. But if you've got the dough, buy it and give it to a friend.

CDLP Quest For Office Continues

The Capital District Libertarian Party held its December meeting at the proposed site of its new office. The meeting provided members with the opportunity to conduct an on-site inspection of the proposed premises to see how well it would fit the chapters needs.

The office is located on the second floor of 16 Central Avenue in Albany and is less than half a mile from the state capitol. It measures 27 feet

across the front with a large picture window overlooking the street below. It is 40 feet deep.

This is too big and too expensive for CDLP to handle by itself but other groups may be interested in sharing the space and the costs. ACTA and the NRA are two potential partners.

CDLP member, Tim Boomhower found the space and has been trying to iron out all the details with the landlord and with potential future partners.

1996 Petition Drive Faces Special Problem

This year's presidential petition drive will present an additional problem for LPNY not faced in previous presidential elections. In the past, the LP has nominated its presidential and vice-presidential candidates on Labor Day weekend in the year preceeding the election. This time, however, things are different. This year the candidates will not be nominated until Saturday, July 6th.

The Board of Elections has not yet officially determined the dates for this year's petition drive, but based on past schedules it will almost certainly begin on Tuesday, July 9th. This means that LPNY will have only three days from the time the nominations take place to the time petitioning begins.

Petitioning in New York lasts for only six weeks, so if it begins on July 9th, the petitions will be due at the Board of Elections on August 20th. A minimum of 15,000 signatures are required to get the candidates on the ballot.

Because the petition period in New York is so short, it is imperative that LPNY volunteers are able to get out and begin collecting signatures on the first day possible. Petition forms will probably have to be prepared before the actual candidates are known. The candidates' names will have to left blank and filled in at the last moment.

Appeals Court Reverses Ballot Access Decision

■ Decision Could Have Helped LP; More Appeals Coming

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City reversed a lower court ruling that would have made it easier for Republican candidates to get on the presidential primary ballot in New York state. The decision by the three-member court was handed down on December 21st. It overturned a decision by U.S. District Judge Edward Korman on November 27th.

The case was initiated by Larry Rockefeller, nephew of the late governor. Rockefeller said he would appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I view this as only the second round of a 15 round battle," he said.

Rockefeller had challenged the primary process saying that it violated the equal protection clause of the Fourth Amendment. He was later joined in the suit by Steve Forbes who is attempting to get on the primary ballot next March 7th.

New York State does not provide any way for Republican candidates to get on the primary ballot statewide. To get on the ballot, Republicans must qualify in each of the state's congressional districts. To get on the ballot in a congressional district, a candidate must turn in

petitions with 1,250 signatures or 5% of the registered Republicans in the district whichever number is less.

In most districts candidates need 1,250 signatures, however, in some districts in New York City the number of registered Republicans is extremely small. To get on the ballot in these districts, candidates must fulfill the 5% requirement.

In his November decision, Korman ruled that this was unconstitutional since the signature of a Republican in a district with few Republicans carried greater weight than the signature of a Republican in a district with a lot of Republicans. He ordered the requirement changed to 1.41% of the registered Republicans in a district since this was the average percentage required in a district with a lot of Republicans. Signatures are due January 4.

Queens LP to Meet

The Queens LP will hold its monthly meeting on Saturday, January 13 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Shaheen Restaurant in Jackson Heights (72-09 Broadway near the Roosevelt Ave./74th St. subway stop). The topic will be "A Libertarian New York City: Where to Start?"

For more information, call (718) 670-3270 or (212) 726-1427.