

# Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 29, Issue 8, September 2001



Mayor John Mehaffey will Speak and MC

## YOU'RE INVITED TO A BANQUET!

Libertarian Mayor John Mehaffey Of Saratoga To MC And Speak Along With Three Other Local Leaders At Our Fall Meeting And Banquet At Original Joes

by Zander Collier

The Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County will be holding its Third Quarter meeting on Saturday, October 20th, 2001 at Original Joe's Restaurant in San Jose. You are warmly invited. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. The evening will begin with speakers and dinner and will carry through until 10:00pm with the

conclusion of quarterly party business. Original Joe's is open until 1:30am so any new acquaintances made in the course of the evening can be

solidified by socializing after the official end of the meeting at 10:00pm.

The Agenda for the evening is as follows:

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Cocktails or soft drinks and Meet-and-Greet with your local party members.

6:00pm – 8:00pm: Dinner and Speakers.

■ John Mehaffey, Mayor of Saratoga, Emcee and Speaker, "The Benefits of Libertarians in Office"

■ Travis Jones, Local Organizing Chair, "Local LP Efforts & The \$40 Million Orchard School Bond"

■ Larry Hevia, Owner of Tico's Tacos, member of "40 Sites", "Winning The Fight Against San Jose's Redevelopment Agency"

■ Ray Strong, Santa Clara LP Chair, "The False Dilemma: Freedom or Security?"

8:00pm – 10:00pm: Party Business, led by Party Chair Ray Strong. Reports from Party Chairs, policy/direction proposals and associated voting.

Dinner choices are as follows:

- Cross Rib Roast Au Jus
- Veal Scallopine
- Chicken Sec Saute with Mushrooms
- Salmon or Halibut, Grilled or Baked with Lemon

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Travis Jones will speak



Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County  
P.O. Box 60171  
Sunnyvale, CA  
94088-0171  
Tel: (408) 243-2711  
<http://www.sc.ca.lp.org>



Banquet will be at Original Joe's - 301 S. 1st St. San Jose

## LIBERTARIANS WRITE/SIGN ANTI-BOND ARGUMENTS

### Opposing Orchard School District Boondoggles Gets Party Valuable Publicity

Reported by Marv Rudin

The campaign to defeat Measure E - the \$40 Million bond issuance for the Orchard School District in San Jose - led by Libertarian officers Mark Hinkle and Travis Jones as reported in last months SCL News (see <http://www/lpty.org/scnews> - August 2001) continued in September. As reported last month, a law suit was being contemplated by Hinkle, Jones, and others in response to the proponents rebuttal which falsely alleged that the argument against the bonds was a copy of LP anti-bond arguments used all over the state of California, and that only LP members signed it. But after preparing a Writ of Mandamus designed to force the

(Continued on page 3)

# SEPTEMBER PARTY BUSINESS

## Review Finances, Assign Collier Lit Manager, Plan Meetings, OpConn Mailer, Orchard Anti-Bond Committee & Web Site And Possible Lawsuit

Reported by Marv Rudin

Our LPSCC ExCom met on Saturday 9/1/01 at the conference room of the San Jose Rosegarden branch library in San Jose. Present were Chair Ray Strong and Vice Chair Joe Dehn, and Officers and Committee Chairs Dennis Umphress, Jon Hugdahl, Zander Collier, John Webster, Marv Rudin, Mark Hinkle and Travis Jones. New member Larry Felber attended as a member of the Campaign Committee. Topics for discussion were financial status, future internal party meetings, "Operation Connect" internal party mailings, assigning responsibility and funding for outreach materials, recruiting of 2001 and 2002 election candidates, and a proposed law suit arising out of Libertarian ballot arguments against the \$40 Million Orchard School bonds election (Measure E).



The "usual suspects" plus newcomer Larry Felber (at upper right)

Financially, the party is in good shape, said Treasurer Jon Hugdahl, especially after being repaid the \$4000 loan to the LPC.

On the LPSCC October CC meeting and proposed LPC gubernatorial Candidate Debate, Publicity Chair

Zander Collier, who accepted an assignment to try to organize the meeting as a major media attention getter, reported that C-SPAN isn't interested in covering the debate. Zander said that the meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 20th, at Original Joe's restaurant, that the room is available from 4 - 11 PM, with no deposit required, and that there is a choice of dinners starting at \$27.50. John Mahaffey may act as the Master of Ceremonies.

Regarding the LPSCC's January Convention date and format, it is scheduled for Thursday, January 10th, at the Hong Fu restaurant in Cupertino, as proposed by Scott Lieberman at the July 26th Excom meeting.

Probably because Speakers Bureau meetings, which are scheduled two months per quarter on the 2nd Thursday, have had no members wanting to practice speeches, the Excom decided to change the name from "Speakers Bureau meetings" to "Monthly discussion group". The position of meeting Manager is still open (Rose Wiegley has resigned from that role).

Operation Connect which was created to facilitate candidate petition signature gathering, to recruit more dues paying members from the registered Libertarians, and to enlist county Libertarians in the campaign process and make them aware that the party is active, was reviewed and discussed.

Treasurer John Hugdahl reported that the initial mailing to dues paying members raised \$915.00 through 8/31/01, of the \$3600 allocated for the planned petition mailing to nearly all 5000+ county registered Libertarians in October. Larry Felber said he'd be working on developing a single sided in-lieu-of petition form for the ROV approval.

Publicity Chair Zander Collier accepted assignment as the outreach materials coordinator, who can order consumable items on an as needed basis, and a \$2,400 budget was authorized.

It was reported by the Chair that we missed having any candidates for the November election, and we will now concentrate on filling the Congressional, Assembly and Senate candidate positions in that order.

On Measure E, Larry Felber said he had started researching paperwork requirements to form a No on E committee. Joe Dehn proposed and was authorized up to \$300 to reserve the domain names "VoteNoOn\_." ("\_" for A through J). The cost is \$14 per name when at least 10 each are reserved.



From different view and Webster where Collier was

### As we go to press, these districts still need LP candidates:

- AD20 - approx Milpitas (rest in Alameda County)
- AD23 - about half of San Jose on both sides of US101
- AD24 - includes Campbell and Saratoga as well as parts of San Jose and Santa Clara
- AD28 - Gilroy and eastern part of the county (rest in counties to the south)
- CD11 - mostly in San Joaquin County

Surely we have some members who could take on one of these? For maps of these Assembly districts see:

<http://www.assembly.ca.gov/committee/c7/asmfinal/>

# MISS LIBERTY IS A LOCAL LIBERTARIAN GUY!

## LPSCC Member Jon Osborne Reviews Movies For Their Libertarian Message

Reported by Marv Rudin

In 1996, local Libertarian Jon Osborne of Palo Alto was looking to find information on movies with a



Jon Osborne AKA "Miss Liberty"

Libertarian message, and not finding a source of such information decided to make it a hobby. Now, five years later he is "Miss Liberty," with his reviews featured quarterly in the Advocates for Self

Government newsletter, author of a book of

Libertarian movie reviews ("Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video: Movies for the Libertarian

Millennium"), publisher of a weekly e-newsletter on libertarian film and TV, and web master of the definitive Libertarian movie review web site, <http://www.missliberty.com>.

Interviewed recently, Jon said "I realized that a lot of movies have libertarian themes, and that the visual arts, movies and television, have become the dominant media through which people adopt values, form opinions, and gather information about the world. The average person watches literally hundreds of films for every book read. Hopefully, by identifying libertarian-themed films, what I'm doing will help to promote them." ■



### (Continued from page1, Orchard School Bonds fight)

proponents to drop the offending statement from their rebuttal, Hinkle discovered there is a significant risk of financial loss if a suit is filed. He said: "After significant discussions with Ed Teyssier, Chair of the San Diego LP, I've decided to drop the idea of pursuing a lawsuit. There are a number of factors involved with this decision.

1. We really needed someone in the Orchard School district to become the plaintiff and that didn't happen.
2. The San Diego LP has been through this process before. They've won some and lost one. It's the one that they lost that concerns me. Had we failed in our lawsuit, the defendants could, and probably would, ask for attorney fees. That could be significant and it would be the liability of the person who become the plaintiff. That's a risk, ..... it could wipe out our entire bank account. Probably not a good risk, given the gain we hoped to achieve .....
3. Ed Teyssier also discussed our case with their attorney and they both concluded we didn't have a real strong case. ...."

The two non-Libertarian residents of the Orchard School District who signed the ballot arguments with Libertarians were asked to help form and lead a No on Measure E Committee, but declined saying they were mothers and workers and too busy, plus they were sure the adverse publicity would do the job (despite the new 55% requirement to pass). So the Libertarians involved, who don't live in the district have decided not to go further with No on E.

But good publicity will still be gained from three Libertarians signing the ballot argument against Measure E and the rebuttal versus the proponents rebuttal with their party officer titles. The rebuttal to counter the proponents rebuttal on the ballot will read as follows: **"No on Measure E:**

**As stated by those who favor this measure, local businesses will also be taxed for this bond measure. From where will this money be taken? It will be taken from our pockets through higher prices and additional strain on local businesses in our community. Our children will benefit more from us spending this money on them rather than this wasteful bureaucracy spending it on itself. Last year alone Orchard Elementary School received \$6,672 per student. That's \$133,440 per 20-student classroom. We invite you to see where this money goes by visiting <http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us> More space will not improve the quality of education to our students if they do not have the current curriculum lesson books, basic school supplies, and popular student programs. There are still the same problems as in the old school site on Gish road. We need to address and fix the current problems instead of adding more space and busing in more students. We are parents and community members concerned with our children's education being neglected. Let's not reward this negligence with a \$40 million blank check. Will oversight protect us from the district wasting the millions allocated to them by the federal and state government? Shouldn't all the expenses be watched? Well, we are watching and we say **No to Measure E.** Involved Orchard parents, teachers, and community leaders support **No on Measure E.**" ■**



Mark Hinkle

## COLLIER & RUDIN REACH PUBLIC WITH LP MESSAGE BY CASUALLY PASSING OUT LIFE CARDS

reported by Marv Rudin



Zander Collier

Publicity Chair Zander Collier and Newsletter Chair Marv Rudin apparently were the only LPSCC members who reached the general public with Libertarian Party outreach literature in September. Zander reported placing LIFE cards on the drivers door window of cars parked in a downtown San Jose parking garage near his place of work. He said "drivers in that region are an equal mixture of business and technology professionals and workers. I passed out about 250 cards. It took me about 2.5 hours walking through the garage at a leisurely pace. Putting LIFE cards on cars near my place of work was an easy and satisfying way to reach a large number of prime business and technical prospects."

For the 39th successive week, your reporter continued to personally hand out or put at least 20 LIFE cards per week on the drivers side door of cars, with the objective of recruiting new Libertarians and demonstrating to our members that one Libertarian can reach over 1000 strangers per year (amongst whom are likely to be about 160 libertarian leaning individuals), with practically no effort or inconvenience for either himself or the prospect.

The LIFE cards contain a Libertarian quiz containing 20 statements - 10 on social freedoms and 10 on economic freedoms - to let the recipient determine if his views are closer to Libertarian than to the positions of the other parties, plus to request that the prospect register Libertarian if the LP best fits his views, and to point him to the [www.lpty.org](http://www.lpty.org) web site for more information and links to the LP and libertarianism and an information and registration request form. If the reader wants to help the party by passing out LIFE cards, you can get a supply free by emailing a request to [rudin@lpty.org](mailto:rudin@lpty.org) or by attending an LPSCC meeting and asking your reporter for a supply.

In case you are wondering, the word "LIFE" describing the cards is an acronym standing for "Libertarians Informing Folks Efficiently" to highlight the fact that the cards are a very cost and time effective way for Libertarians to put a sufficient message before non-Libertarians to allow the 16% of them who already are thinking libertarian to be aware that the LP views are closest to their own. It is not intended to sell or persuade people who are presently more liberal, conservative, or authoritarian than they are libertarian. The cards contain less information than a letter sized flyer or a pamphlet. But experience has shown that people accept them much easier, probably due to their small size and pocketability, and because they can be placed with their edge under the weatherseal on a driver-side door window while a flyer or pamphlet would have to be put under the windshield wiper, forcing the driver to go to some annoying trouble to remove it. The information on the card is brief and easily read - just enough for the recipient to learn whether he or she is libertarian, and if so, what to do a where to go to join or find out more. ■

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(Continued from page 1)

Butter sauce

Dinner includes Salad, Pasta, Entrée with Vegetables, and Ice Cream. Antipasto also available.

The price for dinner is \$27.50. This is the price as quoted to us from Original Joe's. Please understand that this meeting isn't a fundraiser, but it will cost some money. We feel it's the best way to give you the opportunity to see what your local Libertarian Party is doing, and offer a chance for you to get involved, if you'd like. Dining is not required in order to attend the meeting. However, some caveats exist: Seating is limited. Dues-paying party members will be granted admission prior to those who are simply registered Libertarians. Plus, if you are not a dues-paying member, you are ineligible to vote on party business. Basic (voting) membership is \$25.00 a year.

Attending is a way to meet members of your local party, help guide its direction, and enjoy a meal with fellow Libertarians. Sadly, overflow must be directed to Original Joe's general dining area. We will try to have a few extra meals. They will be available at a slightly higher price, on a first-come first-served basis. Regardless of your intention to attend, we humbly request that you mail in any contribution you can afford to defray the cost of our petition mailing to all 5000+ registered Libertarians. ■

# FOUR AUTHORS JOIN IN AT LTE SUNDAY

## Watson, Furman, Collier, And Rudin Meet At Stoddards To Discuss, Imbibe, Ingest, Read Papers, and Write LTEs

Reported by Marv Rudin

On Sept. 16th, the 3rd Sunday of the month, I arrived a half hour late to find Zander Collier leading the September session of his creation - the monthly LTE Sunday letter-to-editor writing session at Stoddards in the old town district of Sunnyvale. He was flanked by two of the four August letter writers - Kennita Watson, Alan Furman. With the arrival of your reporter, the 2 of 4 became 3 of 4. But disappointingly, no new faces were present in September to add to the camaraderie and letter writing to publicize Libertarianism and the LPSCC.

I asked Zander what he was working on, and being it was just 5 days after the WTC/Pentagon disaster that caused proposals of legislation to restrict Americans' freedom, he had decided to write letters to his federal legislators asking them to restrain themselves, rather than write an LTE. Kennita, and Alan were working on their letters but didn't share the topic or content with me, nor at time of writing this article had they yet submitted them to any newspapers.

I took a look at the headline about the "War on Terrorism" on the SJ Mercury News front page, and having been incensed by the government's failure to anticipate and protect against what happened on Sept. 11th and that its regulations preventing a gun in the cockpit made it easy to hijack the jets, I had little difficulty composing a response that would have fit almost any article about the WTC/Pentagon massacres. My LTE submitted to the SJMN follows:

"I read the headline "Bush: "Get Ready For Long Struggle" in your SJMN Sunday paper today, a statement obviously provoked by the sick, suicidal, terrorist destruction of 5000 people and billions in property damage and cleanup costs. I couldn't help wondering if the frantic retaliatory fever we're now seeing along with the horrendous loss could have been avoided if we had a Libertarian government instead of one run by Democrats and Republicans. Why? Because a Libertarian president, sworn to uphold the Constitution and its 2nd Amendment, surely would have permitted at least the pilot and his engineer to have a gun to protect control of the aircraft.

With one gun in each of the four cockpits at a total cost of about \$1000, and the terrorists having just knives as weapons, they'd never have been able to take over control and use the airliners as massive fire bombs. But of course that wouldn't be PC among gun control advocates, so cockpit security had to be secondary. Now instead of \$1000 for four guns we'll probably be expending hundreds of \$billions and thousands of civilians and soldiers' lives will be lost over the next few years as the "War on Terrorism" escalates into a war of nations.

Pundits now say that the terrorists will find other horrible methods of attacking and killing Americans besides using airliners as bombs. I'm sure they'll try. But if the government experts didn't think of using a measly \$1000 worth of cockpit guns to forestall the Sept. 11 attack, how can we rely on them to protect us from new terrorist schemes? At least if they were allowed to be armed, individual Americans would have a better chance of dealing with terrorists on the spot if they happen to see them attempting to carry out some new form of suicidal mission. And by allowing our citizens to carry arms, the law makers would actually be honoring their oath to uphold the Constitution, for a change.

Marvin B. Rudin, Sunnyvale, 408-738-8204

Not unexpectedly, this letter wasn't published. This fits a pattern I have noted on my past submissions, namely letters that appear likely to make the LP attractive to a broad audience are rejected., while letters with narrow appeal or unlikely to do the LP much good sometimes get published. So why do LTEs? Because the LP is so little known that publicizing its name to provoke curiosity is of some value (As the saying goes, "Bad publicity is better than none"). ■



Alan Furman, Zander, Collier, Kennita Watson posing & writing

**REMINDER**  
**LTE SUNDAY - Oct. 21st**  
Join in and submit your opinions. Meet Zander Collier and other members at the monthly LTE (Letters-To-Editor) Sunday Oct. 21st, 3 pm - 5pm, at Stoddards in downtown Sunnyvale (Murphy at Evelyn). Zander will bring the latest papers for you to read before penning your opinion and giving your advice to other writers.

Did you submit a Letter-To-Editor lately? Please send it to SCL News. Even if unpublished., your fellow members may enjoy and profit from it.

# Announcing: LPSCC Annual Convention

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2002

Time: 6pm No-host Cocktails; 6:30pm (sharp) Dinner; 7:15pm sharp until 9:15pm – Convention Business  
Location: Hong Fu Restaurant 20588 Stevens Creek Blvd (This is in the western portion of the shopping center on the SW corner of Stevens Creek and De Anza.)  
Cupertino, CA

Cost: Until January 8, 2002 \$20 per person; after January 8, 2002 \$25 per person

We request that you attend the dinner so we make our guaranteed number of diners. If you can not arrive until after 7pm, then we request (but do not require) a \$5 donation to help cover our costs. Menu (subject to minor changes):

Hot and Sour Soup, Egg Roll and Spareribs

Family style: Vegetable Deluxe, Lemon Chicken, Mongolian Beef, Beef with Oyster Sauce, Sweet and Sour Prawns, Prawns with Snow Peas, Fried Rice, Steamed Rice, Fortune Cookies.

Make your check out to "Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County"

and mail it to: Libertarian Party c/o Scott Lieberman 3200 Payne Ave, Apt 714 San Jose, CA 95117

## OPINIONS

*Share your thoughts on making our party more successful and advancing the individual freedom with responsibility movement*

### WINNER-TAKE-ALL = GROW FAST OR DIE

by Marv Rudin, Newsletter Chair

As long as American politics is a winner-takes-all process, 3rd parties will be completely shut out of partisan politics. And for known Libertarians, even powerful nonpartisan offices will be very hard to win. Why? Because voters want their vote to count. Although we Libertarians see that there is little difference between the two old parties, most voters

don't see it. Maybe the 25 to 40% of eligible voters who don't vote can see it, and that's why they don't vote, but most people who vote can't see it. They don't want to waste a vote that might keep the worst big party candidate out of power. This is the well known lesser of two evils syndrome that has always frustrated Libertarian candidates. With the old parties continuing to have over 40 times as many registered voters as the LP, making Libertarian electoral success highly improbable, this reluctance to vote Libertarian, even though 16% of the population has a libertarian viewpoint according to the Rasmussen LP-quiz poll taken in 2000, will no doubt continue. {Note: As evidence of this, the Rasmussen poll showed that 2% of the population both knew of the LP and had libertarian views, yet in California, less than 1/3rd of those 2% are registered Libertarian.

So is the situation going to be forever hopeless? Is there any way to change this situation, short of a miracle? Maybe not but I think there is a slight glimmer of hope. But it's a way not easy for Libertarians to accept. What is it? It's this: **SHORT OF A BILL GATES BANKROLLING THE PARTY, I BELIEVE THE ONLY WAY IS GOING TO BE TO DEMONSTRATE A PRACTICAL COST-EFFECTIVE PROCESS THAT PRODUCES BOTH REAL AND RAPID AND CONSISTENT ANNUAL GROWTH OF LP REGISTRATIONS.** By "real" I mean people who score 7,7 or better on the LP quiz, and by "rapid" I mean growth of 20% or more per year, and by "consistent" I mean 20% averaged over at least 4 years to produce a doubling of our numbers. And by a practical cost-effective process, I mean less than a combination of about \$3 and 1 hour of a Libertarian's time per new LP registrant.

At present none of the LP leaders, whether at the national, state, or local level have any program to find a way to get rapid real growth in the number of people identifying themselves as Libertarian ("identifying" because some states don't have party registration so identification must take another form like filling out a web form indicating interest). They aren't even polling the new LP registrants to find out what we did to attract them. They're giving up without even studying possible methods, saying that a program to get new registrants would be impractically costly. We are living in the information revolution, yet sadly, if the party continues on its present path, the information that the LP represents their views WILL NEVER REACH MOST OF THE 16% OF AMERICANS WITH A LIBERTARIAN VIEWPOINT. Unfortunately our party refuses to use bulk e-mail, bulk fax mail, and other inexpensive untraditional methods to inform that 16%. Just imagine where the LP could be if that 16% were fully informed by inexpensive means we can afford, and even 1/3rd of them registers Libertarian. We'd be about 5% instead of 0.5% of the electorate, have 10 times the active members we now have, and the media would have to cover Libertarian candidates even if only as "spoilers" in the many closely contested races between Republicans and Democrats, creating much more curiosity about the LP.

In summary, there are no niche markets in the American winner-take-all political game. A political movement must grow rapidly to be taken seriously, or it will die. Our party must have a well conceived, researched and tested program to achieve rapid growth, or it will never amount to anything but a virtually secret philosophical society. ■



Marvin B. Rudin, Editor

Editor's Note:

Thank you for electing me newsletter chair for 2001. This year, at the end of each issue there will be an opinion section with up to two pages of member notes and letters (including yours - please email so I don't need to type).

Officers:

Table listing officers and their contact information: Chairman (Ray Strong), Vice Chairman (Joe Dehn), Secretary (Dennis Umphress), Treasurer (Jon Hugdahl), Membership (Tony Stemberger), Campaign (Scott Lieberman), Publicity (Zander Collier), Fundraising (Frank Groffie), Activities (John Webster), Newsletter (Marv Rudin), Local Organizing (Travis Jones), State ExCom Rep (Mark Hinkle), Alt ExCom Rep (Joe Dehn).

Judicial Committee Paul Rako Elizabeth Brierly Mary Gingell
paul@rako.com ElizabethB@netgate.net mtg@dehnbase.org

Had a Libertarian outreach experience? Converted someone? Write about it to the editor! email: scl@lpty.org US mail: 651 Princeton Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 or call (408) 736-5626.

This is the publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit political organization.

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY



of Santa Clara County

P.O. Box 60171 Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

Please Print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business).

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Application

- o \$25 Basic
o \$100 Sustaining
o \$250 Sponsor
o \$500 Patron
o \$1000 Life

Plus an additional contribution to the LPSCC:

- o Monthly pledge
o One-time donation

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:

- o Check payable to: Libertarian Party
o VISA or MasterCard or Discovery or E-Gold (circle one)

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Santa Clara  
Libertarian**

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State Central Committee  
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***YOU'RE INVITED TO A BIG  
BANQUET-WITH-SPEAKERS  
MEETING AT ORIGINAL  
JOE'S IN DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE  
SATURDAY NIGHT OCTOBER 20TH***



***NOTICE:***

The Santa Clara Libertarian News comes out monthly electronically. The printed version is published quarterly - at the end of March, June, September, and December. If you want the monthly news emailed to you, put ***"SCL"*** in the subject line and email to ***RUDIN@LPTY.ORG***

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