



CAPITAL DISTRICT LIBERTARIAN NEWS

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DON DAVIS RECEIVES VOTES FROM 23.5% OF CHARLTON VOTERS

by
George R. Wager

Don Davis received votes from 23.5% of the voters in his campaign for Charlton Town Council. The race for two council seats pitted Don against two Republicans.

Don took his campaign to every household in the town through direct mail and continued with door-to-door campaigning, a follow-up mailing, and telephone calls to about 25% of the households the weekend before the election.

The Davis brochure was a six-part flyer. The text began, "Donald Davis, Libertarian Candidate for Town Council, understands what happens when traditional politicians get their hands on new sources of revenue - THEY FIND NEW WAYS TO SPEND IT!"

The follow-up letter, sent out a week before the election, commented upon the one-party control of local government within the town. The letter appealed to the voters, regardless of party affiliation, to vote for Davis so that he might take an independent voice to the council and "question policy in both town and county government which will bring a fresh approach and new ideas to the many problems facing us in the next few years."

The vote total was:

Paul St. John	999
Damasita Miner	931
Donald H. Davis	294

An analysis of the voting by Bill McMillen, who served as Don's campaign manager, suggested that as many as 100 people voted only for Don, and that many may not have voted for any other candidates or propositions.

Though somewhat disappointed by the results, Don commented that he did receive 29 times the vote total of the 1984 Libertarian Party presidential candidate. He also spoke about the possibilities of future campaigns within the Town of Charlton.

For those involved, the election provided experience in many aspects of campaigning: petitioning, fund raising, public contacts, literature development, telephoning, and poll-watching.

Don will share his campaign experiences at the next chapter meeting, to be held December 11th.

ROCHESTER AREA LIBERTARIAN RECEIVES 22% OF VOTE

by
James E. Phillips

Ernie Phillips of Wayne County, near Rochester, received 22% of the vote in the contest for Williamson Town Supervisor. The winning candidate, the incumbent Republican, received 51% of the vote, while the Conservative, a former supervisor, received 27% of the vote. Phillips came in second in three of the five election districts.

In 1981, when Phillips sought the same office, he received 25% of the vote against Democratic and Republican opposition, running third in all five districts.

In his campaign, Phillips asked voters "to change the 'what' we ask of government." Phillips ran numerous ads in the form of letters in the weekly WILLIAMSON SUN. His ads analyzed various problems of society and "explored the uselessness and counter-productiveness of government programs which instead of delivering what they promise, leave us worse off than before." One of these ads is reprinted elsewhere in this publication.

NEW STATE PARTY OFFICE IN ALBANY

The Libertarian Party of New York is opening an Albany office in January. At a state committee meeting this past summer, it was decided that certain advantages and prestige could be gained from locating the state party headquarters in proximity to two of our major problems as free citizens: the New York State Legislature and Mario Cuomo.

During the upcoming year, it is anticipated that the office will be used for coordinating the activities of the party's gubernatorial and other state-wide and legislative candidates from various parts of the state.

The office, which will be located near the downtown or midtown business district, will need volunteers to staff it for four hours each work day, and several evenings. Details will be discussed at the upcoming chapter meeting, December 11th.

STATUS OF THE NATIONAL LP

by
William P. McMillen

The National Committee of the Libertarian Party will be meeting in Houston the weekend of December 6-8. As New York's regional representative, I will be attending and participating in the meeting, which will review issues including the financial position of the national party, the results of the 1985 campaigns throughout the country, ballot access projects, national membership and the operations of the LP NEWS.

The financial position of the national party has not been good. The party has committed itself to several long-term contracts and leases, and has been operating from a deficit position for quite some time. Recent changes in the administration of the party, including the April resignation of the National Chair, the appointment of a replacement, the appointment of a new National Director and the election of Jim Turney as the new National Chair have left members somewhat uncertain as to the direction and future of the party.

This uncertainty has been increased by the non-publication (since last spring) of the party's newspaper, the LP NEWS. The suspension of publication has been due in part to the decision by party officials to address the party debt, which from July 1 to October 4 has been cut by \$46,600.

The importance of the role that the LP NEWS plays in communicating news about party activities around the country is subject to discussion and disagreement. Publication is promised for the near future.

A report on this meeting will be printed at the chapter meeting Wednesday, December 11th.

REPRINT OF POLITICAL AD IN THE WILLIAMSON SUN, 9/26/85

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I have not yet shared with you why, specifically, you should want less government. This will be a start.

We are a community of some 11 churches and most of us accept in theory that "as we sow, so shall we reap." Not as many people, though, recognize as a matter of course that the essence of government is that it is organized force. In theory then, the use of force as an instrument of policy should bring its own negative rewards. Let us see what really happens when we use government to satisfy our emotional desires and wants.

We are a farming community and all must be aware through the news about the terrible plight of the farmer this spring, especially grain farmers who have received the most government help. Their land values had fallen, which had eroded their ability to raise production money. How did they get to this point?

For many years, government had supported grain prices -- in effect, paid farmers to produce. This seemed so good that even college professors could see no end to foreign sales (subsidized with your tax dollars). Still our surplus rose and the present administration tried PIK (payment in kind grain) to reduce the money drain and lower supplies. This resulted in agricultural suppliers going broke. The bidding up of land prices continued as did producing for the government. Then came the effect of wringing inflation out of prices, and the value of the dollar went up. Foreign corn sales dropped precipitously and land prices followed. These results of government help were worse than simply burning billions of your tax dollars. One year the corn program alone cost about 20 billion dollars.

Why do we never seem to learn that the above is always the result of using government? Apparently, the immediate satisfying of greed is just too strong.

I remember a Rochester chief of police lamenting how easy it was to sell stolen TV sets and his suggesting that the buyers were no less guilty than the thieves. Government programs -- no matter how they appeal to our hearts and soft heads -- are really designed for lawyers, politicians, and thieves. If we want better government, we must pay more attention to what we ask of government and less to personalities. Throwing the bums out may just get us worse bums.

My candidacy is your opportunity to vote for less use of government. I did not enter the race to be in a personality contest. My next ad will concern another part of the economy -- same results.

Ernest Phillips

Libertarian Candidate
for Williamson Town Supervisor

PLATFORM OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

Reprinted here is the first of three segments of the Platform of the Libertarian Party of New York, adopted in convention April 10, 1983:

Preamble

The Libertarian Party of New York, whose object is the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits, affirms the following principles:

- that each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty and justly acquired property;
- that no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of force or fraud against another;
- that individuals are entitled to choose their own life-styles so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the lives of others;
- that the only moral purpose of government is the preservation and protection of individual rights;
- that the voluntary exchange of goods and services is essential for a free and prosperous society of individuals of diverse beliefs.

I. Crime

Recognizing the right of individuals to be free from the initiation of force by others, we hold that such initiation of force must be prohibited. We therefore advocate effective laws prohibiting violations of individual rights, such as murder, rape, kidnapping, assault and robbery.

We oppose the initiation of force against individuals engaging in consensual activities. We therefore favor the repeal of all "victimless crime" laws. Specifically, we call for:

(1) the repeal of all laws against the sale, possession, manufacture or use of drugs. In addition to protecting the rights of people who decide to use drugs, this will reduce the exorbitant drug prices of the black market, thus reducing real crime which is now committed by drug addicts to pay these black market prices;

(2) the repeal of all laws regulating or prohibiting gambling;

(3) the repeal of all laws regarding consensual sexual relations, including prostitution and solicitation, and the cessation of state and local oppression and harassment of homosexual men and women, that they, at last, be accorded their full rights as individuals;

(4) the repeal of all laws regulating or prohibiting the production, distribution, sale, possession or use of sexually explicit material, independent of "socially redeeming value" or compliance with "community standards;"

(5) the repeal of all laws regulating the production, sale and use of alcoholic beverages, and an end to the restriction of liquor sales through licensure. Repeal of such laws would eliminate identifying as criminals those who did not commit acts of aggression against others.

We note that such repeals would unclog the overburdened court calendar, free police resources to concentrate on real crime, and alleviate the overcrowding in the prison system. Repeal of laws against consensual activities would eliminate the huge profits organized crime reaps from prohibited activities.

II. Rights of the Victim of a Crime

We support restitution for the victim, to the fullest degree possible, at the expense of the criminal or wrongdoer.

III. The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

We advocate full recognition and respect for the right to keep and bear arms and other means of self-defense.

We oppose all laws restricting the manufacture, sale, transfer or ownership of weapons, and all attempts at licensing the owners and registering the weapons.

LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR TO BE CHOSEN IN ALBANY

The 1986 New York State Convention that will select the party's gubernatorial candidate and other statewide candidates for office will be held in Albany this coming April.

Candidates will also be chosen for the positions of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, and United States Senator.

In addition to selection of candidates, amendments to the state party platform and the governing bylaws will be discussed and considered. There will also be election of state party officials.

A December 11th meeting of the Capital District chapter will establish a convention committee to begin the process of obtaining a site and arranging for speakers.

Many organizational positions for the convention must be filled, including the handling of hotel arrangements, convention booklet and brochure, press relations, publicity, convention program, etc.

All interested persons are invited and encouraged to participate in the planning and direction of this convention.

LIBERTARIANS OBTAIN COVERAGE ON JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

State Chair William P. McMillen appeared on WMHT's LIVE LINE program on Monday, November 4th, to discuss the implications of this year's Proposal Number 1, a measure to increase the funding authority of the New York State Job Development Authority. The Agency grants low-interest loans, ostensibly to businesses that would not otherwise receive loans through private investment channels.

McMillen questioned the need for any such program, the Authority's ability to apply any sound criteria for determining who gets the loans, and objected to that feature of the proposal which guarantees to the purchasers of JDA bonds that their investment will be protected by the taxing authority of the State of New York.

Proposal Number 1 had no known opponents; yet, in the final weeks before the election, the Commerce Department and Job Development Authority launched a major campaign advocating its passage, perhaps feeling that voter apathy and ignorance might cause its defeat.

As a result of this promotional campaign, several members of the news media contacted the Libertarian Party to determine its position on the proposal. McMillen stated that the Libertarian Party is opposed to government intervention in the economy, and likened the Job Development Authority to a "traffic cop determining which businesses make it through the intersection." As expected, Job Development Authority President Robert Dormer disagreed with this simile.

The story went out over the UPI wire service, and was carried by additional newspapers in the state. This prompted two calls from radio stations in Binghamton and Ogdensburg that resulted in interviews, as well as the invitation to appear on the LIVE LINE program.

The proposal did pass. McMillen commented afterwards that "we were outspent, and they used our funds to do it!"

CONVERSATION OVERHEARD IN A DREAM.

By
George R. Wager

- Ayn Rand: I see the free face of god, and I raise this god over the earth, this god whom men have sought since men came into being, this god who will grant them joy and peace and pride. This god, this one word: "I."
- William E. Henley: I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul.
- Emma Goldman: The individual is the true reality of life.
- Von Goethe: ...he alone is great and happy who requires neither to command nor to obey to secure his being of some importance in the world.
- Henrik Ibsen: The strongest man in the world is he who stands most alone.
- Henry David Thoreau: Moreover, any man more right than his neighbors constitutes a majority of one already.
- Henry Steele Commager: A free society cherishes non-conformity.
- Howard Mumford Jones: Persecution is the first law of society because it is always easier to suppress criticism than to meet it.
- Adolph Hitler: All propaganda must be so popular and on such an intellectual level, that even the most stupid of those towards whom it is directed will understand it.
- Albert Einstein: Never do anything against conscience even if the state demands it.
- Paul Joseph Goebbels: It is the absolute right of the State to supervise the formation of public opinion.
- George Orwell: If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.
- Alex. De Tocqueville: Than politics the American citizen knows no higher profession -- for it is the most lucrative.
- Benjamin Franklin: Sell not virtue to purchase wealth, nor liberty to purchase power.
- Huey P. Long: Share the wealth.
- Karl Marx: A heavy progressive income tax...
- Theodore Roosevelt: I believe in a graduated income tax on big fortunes...
- John Marshall: That the power to tax involves the power to destroy...
- Grover Cleveland: Though the people support the government, the government should not support the people.
- Voltaire: In general, the art of government consists in taking as much money as possible from one class of citizens and to give it to the other.
- William Graham Sumner: The state, it cannot be too often repeated, does nothing and can give nothing which it does not take from somebody.
- Karl Marx: ...centralization of credit in the hands of the State...
- Andrew Jackson: I am one of those who do not believe that a national debt is a national blessing...
- John Maynard Keynes: Capitalism...is not just...
- W. Churchill: The inherent vice of Capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent vice of Socialism is the equal sharing of misery.
- Alexis De Tocqueville: Americans are so enamored of equality that they would rather be equal in slavery than unequal in freedom.
- Huey P. Long: If Fascism comes to America it would be on a program of Americanism.
- H.L. Menchken: The progress of humanity, far from being the result of government, has been made entirely without its aid and in the face of its constant and bitter opposition.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson: ...the historian will see that trade was the principle of Liberty; that trade planted America...
- G. Bernard Shaw: We learn from history that we learn nothing from history.
- Mark Twain: The history of the race, and each individual's experience, are thick with evidence that a truth is not hard to kill and that a lie told well is immortal.
- Aristotle: Truth...is the work of anything intellectual.
(T)emperance and courage then, are destroyed by excess and defect, and preserved by the mean.
- Barry Goldwater: I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice! And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue. (Written by Karl Hess.)
- William Lloyd Garrison: I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice. On this subject I do not wish to think, or speak, or write with moderation.
- Plato: The rulers of the state are the only ones who would have the privilege of lying...for the good of the state.

Richard M. Nixon: When a president does it then it is not illegal.

Demonax: Probably all laws are useless; for good men do not want laws at all, and bad men are made no better by them.

Leo N. Tolstoy: "Greatness," it seems, excludes the standards of right and wrong, there is no atrocity for which a "great" man can be blamed.

Mao Zedong: Politics is war carried out without bloodshed, and war is politics carried out with bloodshed.

Niccolo Machiavelli: Politics has no relation to morals.

Herbert Spencer: Government is essentially immoral.

Peter Kropotkin: The word state is identical with the word war.

Otto Von Bismarck: Not by speeches and majority decisions will the greatest problem of the time be decided...but by Blood and Iron.

Alfred Adler: It is easier to fight for principles than to live up to them.

Immanuel Kant: Act only on that maxim through which you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law.

Clarence Darrow: You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free.

Karl Marx: Free education for all children in public schools.

Horace Mann: The common school is the greatest discovery ever made by man.

Bertrand Russell: The teacher should love his children better than his State or his Church; otherwise he is not an ideal teacher.

Joseph Stalin: Education is a weapon, whose effect depends on who holds it in his hands and at whom it is aimed.

Richelieu: If you give me six sentences written by the most innocent of men, I will find something in them with which to hang him.

R. Kipling: Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind.

E. Burke: The people never give up their liberties; but under some delusion.

William Godwin: The pretense of collective wisdom is the most palpable of all impostures.

H.L. Mencken: Government, in its very essence, is opposed to all increase in knowledge.

Georg Hegel: Talk of this kind is due to wholly uneducated, crude and superficial ideas.

Martin Bormann: Every educated person is a future enemy.

Benito Mussolini: The masses have little time to think.

Ambrose Bierce: I think that I think, therefore I think that I am...

Thomas Jefferson: Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error.

J.J. Rousseau: (T)he people is never corrupted, but it is often deceived.

Auberon Herbert: There never yet has been a great system sustained by force under which all the best faculties of men have not slowly withered.

Learned Hand: Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it.

Ernest Hemingway: Just as the earth will never die, neither will those who have been free return to slavery.

Frederick Douglass: I know of no rights of race superior to the rights of man.

Lysander Spooner: All restraints upon man's natural liberty...are of the nature of slavery, and differ from each other only in degree.

John Locke: (T)o have only the law of nature for his rule.

David Hume: (A) government of Laws not of Man.

Max Stirner: The State calls its own violence law.

Oliver Wendell Holmes: Every opinion tends to become a law.

Pierre Joseph Proudhon: To be governed is to have every opinion, every transaction, every movement noted, registered, counted, rated, stamped...

Louis D. Brandeis: The makers of the Constitution sought to protect Americans...as against the government, the right to be let alone...

Alexander Hamilton: Justice is the end of government.

Robespierre: Terror is nought but prompt, severe inflexible justice...

John Stuart Mill: That the only purpose for which power can be rightly exercised...against his will, is to prevent harm to others.

Percy Bysshe Shelley: Man who man would be,/ Must rule the empire of himself! in it/ Must be supreme, establishing his throne/ On vanquished will, quelling the anarchy/ Of hopes and fears, being himself alone.

Alexander Pope: Know then thyself; presume not God to scan; the proper study of mankind is man.

Susan B. Anthony: Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.

Thomas Paine: Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

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