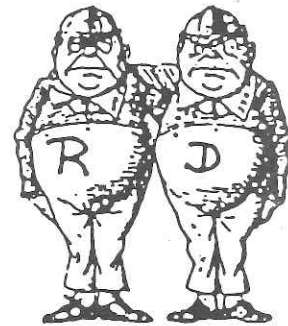


October 1990

# Sandhills Libertarian Gazette

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBERTARIANS IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MIDLANDS

## Fed Up with the Republicans? Had It with the Democrats?



You are not alone! Millions of Americans - including some of your neighbors - are switching to the Libertarian Party this year. The Libertarian Party stands for the American ideals of liberty, tolerance, responsibility, self-government, and voluntary solutions to problems.

For too long, the Republicans and Democrats (the More Government Party) have made our lives miserable. They believe that the government has the right to interfere in the personal and economic affairs of peaceful persons. They see nothing wrong with the government seizing your property, regulating your business, or restricting your personal freedom. Elected officials are acting like public masters, rather than the public servants they are supposed to be. Under the More Government Party, the government is out of control.

Fortunately, the Libertarian Party provides a common-sense alternative. We stand for less government, period. Government's only proper function is to assist us in defending our rights. As long as people are peaceful and respect the rights of others, the government should leave them alone.

Sure, the More Government Party can out-tax, out-spend, and even out-vote us for awhile, but their ideas simply don't work. Individual liberty does work. We know that a free society is both possible and practical, and we are committed to work for liberty for as long as it takes to achieve it.

Your vote can make a difference - when you use it to tell the politicians what you think is right. The Libertarian Party is the only political party that is standing up for you and your rights.

### Libertarian Candidates

#### U.S. SENATE

Bill Griffin (West Columbia)

#### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2nd District - Geb Sommer (Lexington)

#### U.S. SOLICITOR - 15th District

Richard Quillian (Murrells Inlet)

#### STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

John Harllee (Florence)

#### STATE COMPTROLLER GENERAL

David Morris (Lexington)

#### S.C. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dist. 83 - Bill Hamilton (Belvedere)

Dist. 96 - Andrew Amendola (Neeses)

Dist. 98 - Erin Kersting (Summerville)

Dist. 106 - Anne Reaves (Garden City)

#### AIKEN COUNTY COUNCIL

James Cochran (Aiken)

Tim Moultrie (North Augusta)

Johnnie Parker (Aiken)

Blair Watkins (Aiken)

#### HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Denise Jackson (Surfside Beach)

## Support a REAL two-party system!

## Vote Libertarian on November 6

## Free Market Radio

Every weekday at 4 P.M. on WVOC (AM 560), Columbia-area listeners can hear THE FREE MARKET. This program is hosted by Ben Rast, a libertarian investment advisor. Some of the programs will include telephone interviews with nationally-known libertarians such as Ralph Raico (Sept. 28), Dr. Thomas Szasz (Oct. 1), Ted Galen Carpenter (Oct. 12), and Walter Williams (Oct. 19). Please try to listen to Mr. Rast each weekday afternoon. Call in to the program, and let WVOC know how much you appreciate THE FREE MARKET.

Ben Rast can also be heard each Monday shortly after 6:30 P.M. on all S.C. Educational Radio stations.

John Wrisley, a long-time advocate of liberty and the free market, can also be heard on WVOC each weekday from 6 to 9 A.M. He frequently acquaints his listeners with libertarian ideas in a very subtle fashion that, hopefully, will have an impact on area citizens.

## Campaign Update

In his race for State Superintendent of Education, John Harllee is running the most active of the statewide Libertarian campaigns. An educator with 15 years of experience teaching a variety of subjects, Harllee has been critical of public education in S.C. for many years. This summer and fall, he has issued dozens of press releases detailing his proposals for improving the education of our children and teenagers.

It's clear that spending more money on education over the past decade has resulted in poorer reading skills. Harllee asserts that "We do not need to waste more cash from oppressed taxpayers to encourage more stupid and non-educational programs." He calls for using the phonics method to teach reading in the early grades instead of the "look-say" method which encourages dyslexia.

Harllee also opposes the present teacher certification requirements, which prevent teachers from taking enough courses in their area of expertise. This has caused a severe shortage of science and math teachers. College professors should be allowed to come in to teach gifted students when qualified high school teachers are not available.

Harllee says "We need a real choice of education in South Carolina. We need voucher and tax-credit plans, for these give parents more freedom to choose the best schools for their children."

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Call Dick Winchell at 781-5427.

Aiken County's five Libertarian candidates are also quite active in their races for the Aiken County Council and State House Seat 83. They are fighting the Local Option Sales Tax, wasteful government spending, county zoning, and other government violations of individual rights, and they are gaining substantial support for their campaigns.

For a few days, it appeared that Erin Kersting would be the only candidate on the ballot for House Seat 98 in Dorchester County. Her only opponent dropped out as a result of the FBI investigation of legislative corruption. However, the State Election Commission allowed the Republican Party to place another candidate on the ballot for that seat. It's strange: the government makes it harder each year for the Libertarian Party to nominate candidates, yet allows the major parties to stick candidates on the ballot at the drop of a hat!

## Concealed Weapons Reduce Crime

The Second Amendment Foundation reports that permits to carry concealed weapons have reduced Portland's murder rate. According to the group's founder, Alan Gottlieb, "While homicide rose across the country this year, Portland had the second-largest decrease in homicide of any major city."

In 1989, only 17 permits to carry a concealed weapon were issued in Portland, Oregon. However, during the first seven months of 1990, 2,200 such permits were issued. Homicide has fallen 33 percent in the first half of 1990 compared to the first half of 1989.

"This goes to prove that guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens are not a cause of crime," Gottlieb continued. "They are a deterrent. Research by Gary Kleck of Florida State University shows that law-abiding citizens thwart 645,000 crimes a year with handguns. This effect is currently being demonstrated in Portland."

"Contrast the experience of Portland with that of Baltimore, which recently banned 'Saturday Night Specials.' Baltimore has seen homicides increase more than 9 percent in the first six months of this year over that same period last year."

"New York City, which virtually bans the possession of handguns by law-abiding citizens, has seen a 45 percent increase in homicide this year. In New York, you are nearly three times more likely to be murdered than die in an automobile accident."

"The people who apply for permits to carry a concealed weapon are not criminals, and they never will be criminals. They have a legitimate reason for carrying a concealed weapon, and I think the people of Portland can be grateful the city has seen fit to increase the number of permits in the hands of law-abiding citizens, in accordance with a new state law passed in 1989."



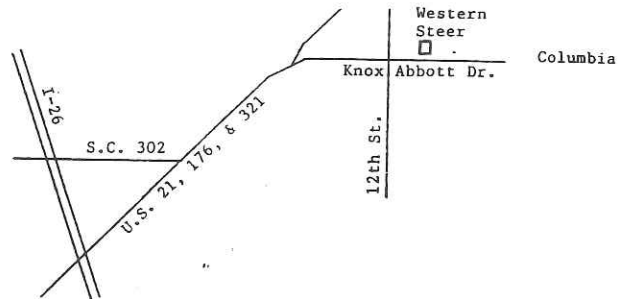
The cuneiform inscription above is the earliest known written appearance of the word "freedom" (ama-gi) or liberty. It is copied from a clay cone that dates back to about 2300 B.C. This cone was excavated by the French at the site of Lagash, an ancient Sumerian city-state located in Mesopotamia.



# *You are invited to a special meeting.*



DATE: Monday, October 8  
PLACE: Western Steer Family Steakhouse  
1000 Knox Abbott Dr.  
Cayce  
TIME: Supper at 7 P.M.  
Please go through the line.  
Meeting starts at 7:40.



## PLEASE COME MEET THE CANDIDATES, AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Several of our candidates will be at the meeting to answer questions and to explain their views. If you haven't yet been to one of our meetings, this is the one to come to!

Another purpose of the meeting is to finalize plans for the Libertarian booth at the State Fair (October 11-21). The fair booth is one of our most important projects. Many persons now active in the Libertarian Party first learned about us at the fair booth. We need money and volunteers in order to make this year's booth more exciting than ever. Working at the booth is fun, and you get a free pass to get through the gate into the fair! Please send a contribution to help with fair booth expenses. If you want to help but can't attend the meeting, call George Miles (254-4949) as soon as possible.

We hope to see you on October 8. If we eat supper there, we get the room free, so please come at 7 and eat with us!

YES! I would like to contribute to the success of the fair booth and help advance the cause of Liberty.

Enclosed is my contribution of: ☐\$25 ☐\$10 ☐Other\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Libertarian Party Fair Booth Fund  
P.O. Box 2297  
West Columbia, S.C. 29171

## Editorial

## Vote Against the Local Option Sales Tax

On November 6, S.C. voters will have an opportunity to make a decision that will directly affect the economic future of the state. The Local Option Sales Tax (L.O.S.T.), also referred to by Libertarians as the Local Unnecessary Sales Tax (L.U.S.T.), comes up for a referendum vote in each county. It is important for this tax increase to be defeated.

Make no mistake about it - we are talking about a large tax increase - about \$300 million per year. Nobody seriously believes that property taxes will be permanently lowered - they will keep going up in future years.

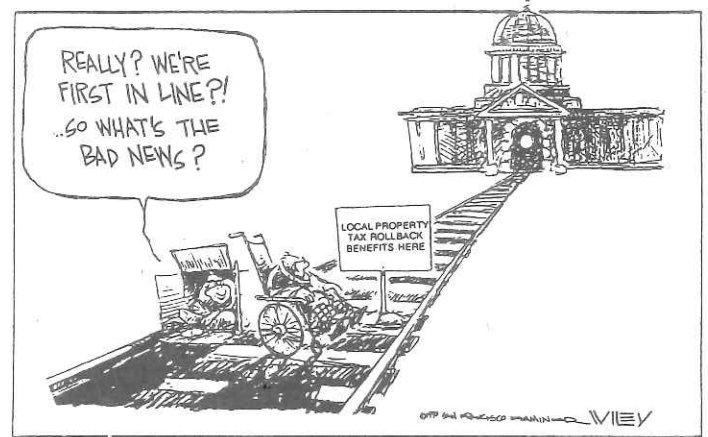
There are many ways in which higher sales taxes will hurt the citizens of South Carolina. Some of these will be listed below, but first one must realize that local governments don't need any more of our money. They are already taking too much of it and are wasting a lot of what they take. When I run low on money, I must cut back on expenditures. If I could vote myself more money, I wouldn't be nearly as careful spending it.

For many years, the Reason Foundation and other libertarian groups have pointed out that local governments can save money while at the same time improving the quality of services. By opening up municipal services to the free market, privatization can allow open competition in a variety of areas, including firefighting, waste disposal, schools, utilities, and even a few areas of law enforcement. This has worked in other areas, and there is no reason why it can't work here. County councils aren't interested in trying privatization, so the voters need to cut their allowance to make them consider and investigate reasonable alternatives.

The L.O.S.T. will take money from the poor and give it to the rich. John Harillee has referred to persons who want to raise sales taxes as "robbing hoods." Poor persons, minorities, and the elderly will be hit hard by higher sales taxes but not get much of a property tax reduction. The elderly already get a homestead exemption on property taxes, so L.O.S.T. will simply be a tax increase for them.



Hood — He takes from the poor and gives to the rich!



When filling out federal income tax forms, many persons deduct property taxes, but sales taxes are not deductible. Therefore, if sales taxes go up and property taxes go down, these persons will be forced to send more money to Washington, D.C. for no good reason. They will have less money left to spend locally. This unnecessary flow of money out of the state will hurt the local economy. It just makes no sense to raise nondeductible taxes.

Raising sales taxes during a recession will have a devastating impact on small businesses. It's no secret that small businesses provide most of the new jobs in South Carolina. Their sales will be hurt by both the recession and the higher sales taxes. These small businesses will cut down on jobs, and unemployment will be much worse than it would be without higher taxes. This will also cut down on local government revenues, forcing them to raise property taxes even further. We will thus have the worst of both worlds - higher sales and property taxes!

The cost of simply administering the new tax will be about \$3 million per year. Thus we will be wasting millions of dollars on a new bureaucracy that isn't needed.

South Carolina's state and local tax burden is the highest in the southeast. Economic figures prove that states with the highest taxes had the slowest economic growth during the past several years. We don't need to make a bad situation worse!

Citizens need to be aware of what will really happen if they listen to the misguided advice of those government officials who want more of our money to waste.

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Resistance to tyrants is  
obedience to God.

*Thomas Jefferson*

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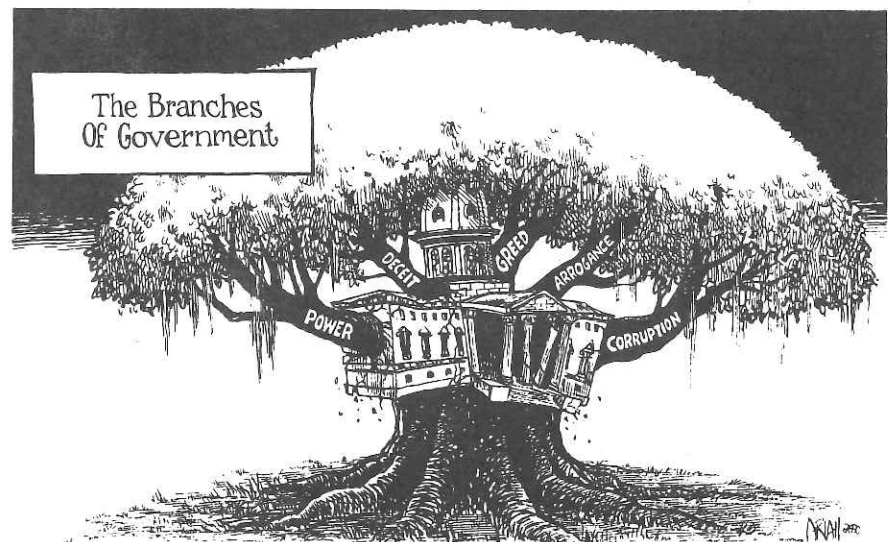


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The SANDHILLS LIBERTARIAN GAZETTE salutes Mr. Robert  
Ariail for another excellent political cartoon.  
It is reprinted with permission from Robert Ariail,  
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