

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN

WINTER 1981-82



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Libertarians Win in South Carolina

Congratulations to Mike Carruth of Landrum, S.C.! Mike was elected to the Landrum City Council in November, receiving 42.2% of the vote in a 3-way race. Carruth, 27, is the second Libertarian to be elected in South Carolina this year. Last May, former state chairman Marshall Danenberg was elected to a seat on the Elgin City Council. Several others have announced plans to run for city councils or state legislature in 1982.

AROUND THE STATE.....

Portions of SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN have appeared in the New Jersey, and North Carolina LP newsletters, as well as the Southern Libertarian Messenger... If you would like to organize your county for next years convention, contact state secretary John Harlee as soon as possible....It looks like the next LP presidential nominating convention will be held in NEW YORK in 1983....Greenville County libertarians Ron Holland and Scott Russell attended the National Committee for Monetary Reform convention in New Orleans in November. Ayn Rand and former SC Governor John West were among the speakers....Libertarian State Rep. Dick Randolph of Alaska was quoted in a recent wire story about Alaska that was printed in the GREENVILLE NEWS. Randolph is

running for Governor in 1982.... Circulation for the first two issues of SCL averaged over 950 copies each.. ..if you'd like to help SCL and your own business, place an ad in next month's issue. Contact the editor for ad rates.....Greenville City Council has passed another restrictive ordinance controlling taxi cabs that operate in the city. One proposed section, which did not pass, said no vehicle over 5 years old could be used as a cab, unless it was originally manufactured as a cab (i.e. a Checker)this years S.C. Income Tax return will have a place where taxpayers can "check off" a \$1 to \$5 contribution to the states "non-game Wildlife & Natural Areas fund to preserve bald eagles and other endangered species"....your editor recently attended a taping of the Phil Donahue Show in Chicago, but was unable to participate because of his involvement with the production company's parent corporation. He can be seen in the audience, however, biting his tongue and gritting his teeth. The topic--- WELFARE, FOOD STAMPS & PUBLIC ASSISTANCE!!!..... if you have a video cassette recorder, you'll want to know the SCLP has 2 films available for loan in both Beta & VHS formats. It's also available in 3/4" U-Matic format commonly used by schools and broadcasters.

NEED ANSWERS ???

Want to learn more about the
LIBERTARIAN PARTY ?

Write for a comprehensive
Q & A brochure. It's
available on request from
THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN PARTY.



Letters To The Editor

Dr. David Morris of Cayce has been active on the old type-writer again. Here are 2 Letters-to-the-Editor that were printed in the Columbia Record, and The State.

"Postal Service Needs Competition"

The recent increase in postal rates illustrates the consequences of governmental interference in the lives of individuals. The U.S. Postal Service is a government-supported monopoly. In fact, it is a coercive monopoly, since competition is entirely illegal as far as first class mail is concerned.

It is against the law for anyone other than the U.S. Postal Service to put anything into your mail box, even though you own it and paid for it. It is clear that the U.S. Government does not want to allow *laissez-faire* capitalism to work without interference, for this would break up the present monopolistic system.

Ms. Pat Brennan of Rochester, N.Y., gained national recognition in 1978 when she and her husband went into competition with the U.S. Postal Service. They were able to deliver mail more rapidly and at a lower cost than the post office, and their business thrived until the Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision forcing them to close down.

In the delivery of parcels, private initiative is free to operate. The United Parcel Service, which delivers more large packages than the Postal Service, offers lower rates and faster deliveries. If the same were true for first class mail, service would be better and rates would be lower.

It is clear that the solution to the present problem is to allow the free market to operate, for only if individual businesses are free to compete with each other without government interference can services be offered at reasonable prices.

DAVID MORRIS, M.D.

Cayce

S.C. Blue Laws Enforce One Religion's Beliefs

I enjoyed reading your recent thorough review of the controversies surrounding the Sunday blue laws. Unfortunately, none of the articles drew attention to the most cogent reason for opposing these laws. The blue laws directly violate the basic principles of religious freedom upon which this nation was founded.

These authoritarian laws discriminate against those individuals who celebrate the Sabbath on days other than Sunday. Governments have no right to favor any one religious group over any other groups, but that is exactly what these laws do — they make life more difficult for Jewish persons, Seventh-day Adventists and others whose religious practices do not conform to those of the majority.

I am a church-going Christian, but I do not believe in forcing others to adhere to my religious beliefs and practices. Whether an individual chooses to conduct commerce on Sunday is a matter for the individual to decide — not the government. No government should interfere with the right of any person to lead his own life, as long as that person avoids violating the rights of others.

At present, the only political organization opposing the blue laws is the Libertarian party. As long as such arbitrary and discriminatory laws exist, nobody can really be justified in claiming that we live in a free society.

DAVID MORRIS

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William S. Brooks, Jr.
2433 Craig Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29204

October 27, 1981

Dear Tom,

Response to the S. C. Libertarian Party exhibit at the 1981 State Fair in Columbia was excellent, due in large part to our ongoing petition to abolish the Blue Laws. As the only political party in total opposition to the Blue Laws, we encountered only minor resistance from the public. In fact, most people went away with a new positive feeling about the Libertarian Party and its campaign against repressive government. (We now have over 4000 signatures on the petition and plan to top 5000 by year's end through distribution at other events.)

Sales of libertarian tee-shirts, buttons, literature, and bumper stickers came to \$230.

Those who helped run the booth during the 10-day, 120-hour event should be congratulated and recognized for their contribution of time to the party. They are:

Steve Vanderveldes
Shelley Vanderveldes
Marshall Danenburg
John Harllee
David Morris
Ron Holland
Diane Holland
John Sarkis
Graham Mitchell

Lee Bowie
Pam Peridowski
Ward Hammond
Ward's brother
Robert Brazell
Dick Hamblin
Betty Brooks
Lee Muller

Thank you,

Bill Brooks, Jr.

Bill Brooks, Jr.
Co-Chairman, 1981 State Fair Committee



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The Libertarian Party

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

BY DAVID MORRIS, M.D.

The protection of children's rights is an important issue which has not received nearly as much attention as it deserves. The oppression of children throughout the world, both by parents and by governments, is so thoroughly accepted that it is used as the model for justifying all other forms of oppression, such as the oppression of women and the oppression of patients in mental institutions.

Since children are more vulnerable than adults to abuse at the hands of authority, they need special constitutional protections. As Dr. Peter Breggin says so eloquently in a recent issue of *The Libertarian Review*, "A society whose children are raised without respect for their rights is a society whose children will grow up without a commitment to or understanding of rights in general."

The 1980 Platform of the Libertarian party does not give this issue an adequate amount of consideration. It is not enough simply to claim that children have the same rights as adults. Following this paragraph is the text of a proposed replacement to the children's rights plank. Unfortunately, this decent proposal, written by Mr. I. Dean Ahmad of Bethesda, Maryland, was not adopted by the platform committee at this year's national convention. I believe that the implementation of this proposal should be given a high priority at the next national convention.

David Morris, M. D.
West Columbia, S.C.

Children are human beings at an immature stage of development. They are entitled to all the rights of human beings, but due to their immaturity, require a guardian to administer those rights. The proper guardians of a child (generally the parents) have accepted the responsibility of raising the child to its maturity, to the stage in which the child can live independently, and have been accepted in that role by the

child. These guardians and not the government are the proper trustees of the child's rights. A child always has the right to pass judgement on the competence of his (or her) guardians if the trust is abused in any manner, including actions generally termed child abuse. Government, or any other third party, may aid children in escaping or ending such abuse. A child always has the right of establishing his maturity and assuming the administration of his own rights by ending his dependency on parents or guardians and assuming all the responsibilities of adulthood.

1982 CONVENTION PROCEDURE

PART 2

BY JOHN HARLLEE, SEC. SCLP

Part 1 appeared in the October issue of *SCL*.

If you are a candidate, there are papers that have to be filed with the state ethics committee, including one that must be filed immediately when you are nominated, or before. If you run for congress or U.S. Senate, there is federal paperwork as well.

The state convention is held in Columbia (by law, and that means within the city limits) during the first 15 days of April in even years. The convention goes through electing temporary and permanent convention officers - which goes back to the days before loudspeakers and tape recorders - elects state chairman and vice chairman, and nominates candidates for the legislature, state-wide offices, and Congress. It also adopts a platform. For the last few years we have simply re-adopted the 1977 platform without changes, but if anyone wants to work on a revision, the time to start working on it is now. There is also a resolutions committee which offers resolutions concerning matters of current interest (this is largely for publicity) and a rules committee which deals with the agenda of the convention business meeting; a credentials committee which checks to see how many counties are represented and by whom; and a planning committee which arranges the meeting place, meals, and guest speaker (the last 3 make very brief reports).

Following the convention business session, it is necessary to hold a brief meeting of the state executive committee, which consists of the chairman, vice chairman, and one representative of each county that is organized - theoretically 48 members, which is the reason for getting

them to meet while as many as possible are already in one place. They must proceed to elect the secretary, the treasurer (as required by the state) and also the three other state officers that are in the by-laws: finance director, publicity director and membership director. All these are non-voting members of the state executive committee (unless they happen to be a voting member as a county representative). All this has to be reported to the state elections commission, and to the Secretary of State, and all candidates nominated have to file reports with the state ethics committee immediately. Our by-laws require that candidates must accept the nomination (and we have had both candidates and officers refuse the nomination and election respectively) and since these papers must be filed immediately, this means that any candidate must be at the state convention or must file any necessary paperwork in advance. There used to be a grace period which we do not have any more.

It is absolutely necessary to go through all these requirements to keep our ballot status, which took so much time and work to acquire. Of the 6 parties in South Carolina, 2 are effectively moribund (United Citizens and American) and it is entirely possible that efforts to eliminate minor parties may be made by the legislature. The Democratic Party has come out in support of changes in the election laws which would remove the other 5 parties from the ballot. The second reason for scrupulous adherence to the election laws is the possibility of some other group - claiming to be the South Carolina Libertarian Party - trying to take over our slot on the ballot. You may think this is a remote possibility, but it would save the expense of getting 10,000 signatures, as John Anderson's supporters were unable to do. Furthermore, when the Republicans were no larger than we are now, before 1956, there were 2 South Carolina Republican Parties running competing candidates for presidential electors in the 1930's and 1940's, and fought like cats and dogs over postmasterships and delegates to the national conventions.

Finally we need as extensive a grass roots organization as possible to provide credibility in the eyes of the media and the public, and to provide support for our local, state and national candidates.

John T. Harlee
Secretary, SCLP

The Federal Government is planning a crackdown on men who fail to register for the draft. The Justice Department is asking Congress to allow it to use Social Security records. "Justice" also plans to publicize any trials & convictions in an effort to scare others into registering. During Regan's campaign, he said he opposed peacetime registration & draft, but he has done nothing to stop it. Experts predict no draft for another 2 years, or so. The most likely date is...ta-dah!...1984.

A newspaper is not for just reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it.

— Mark Twain

the Southern Libertarian
Messenger



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Taxes and Spending

Taxation violates individual rights and is an economic burden most people cannot afford. Today's oppressive levels of taxation are enforced by the IRS, which systematically harasses peaceful citizens, ignoring due process and the Bill of Rights.

Libertarians are working at all levels of government, and at the grassroots, to remove the tax burden from Americans. Taxes and federal spending can be cut significantly and rapidly, with tremendous benefits. Other political parties debate how much taxes and spending should increase, and their tax "cuts," when they occur, are really only cuts in the rate at which taxes increase. Libertarians are not satisfied with phony "cuts" in taxing and spending, but rather believe that taxes are a kind of legalized theft which can and should be slashed immediately, and abolished as soon as possible.

Due to the holidays, extensive business related travel by your editor, and other factors, there was no November issue of South Carolina Libertarian. Due to the high cost of printing and postage, this may be the last issue of SCL you will receive unless you subscribe (\$4) or join the party (\$15) or otherwise contribute. SCL will now be published quarterly, at least. More often, when possible. SCLP members remember...now is the time to renew your membership.

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual; namely, (1) the right to life - accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action - accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property - accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders, and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

- FEBRUARY 6 12 noon, front steps of your county court house. Precinct meetings & election of precinct officers. *
- MARCH 6 12 noon, front steps of your county court house. County convention. Election of county officers & delegates to state convention. Nomination of local candidates. *

* See John Harllee's article in the October 1981 issue of SCL for details on how to hold these meetings, or call John, or State Chair Tom Waldenfels, for details.

FEBRUARY 13 Columbia Area Libertarian discussion group. Call Dr. David Morris at 791-0540 for details.

WEDNESDAY's 7:30 p.m. USC chapter of Students for a Libertarian Society, Russell House, USC. Call Steve Vandetvelde at 254-8771

APRIL 17 10 a.m.-4 p.m. DRAFT COUNCILING SEMINAR Columbia. Call Steve Vandetvelde at 254-8771 for details, or write him at P.O. Box 88573, Columbia 29225

APRIL 3-4 TENTATIVE DATE ONLY !!! Keep informed. State Convention in Columbia. See part 2 of John Harllee's article in this edition. See you there.

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIANS.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____
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() I want to do volunteer work for the Libertarian candidates.

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