

# Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 28, Issue 1, March 2000



## Annual Meeting Report

**Graham Thorsen, LPSCC Publicity Chair.**

The LPSCC executive committee elections held on Wednesday went smoothly with little opposition for any of the candidates. Only the LPSCC Chair position stood in contest between former LPSCC Chair Marvin Rudin and Richard Relph. With a new year ahead of us the LPSCC has elected a fine group of leaders to pave the path to success in obtaining the numbers needed to meet the required registered Libertarian growth percentage in Santa Clara County. A great amount of energy will be spent this year

seeing that publicity and membership increases. Roger Ver, the new Membership Chair, has already shown great enthusiasm in finding new ways to increase registered Libertarians. Our new Campaign chair, Ray Strong, seems to be the perfect person for getting the job done when it comes to campaigning issues. It

will be little time now until we sky rocket as a party. With competent leaders such as Bill Car, our new

Vice Chair, the new millennium promises only success. I, Graham Thorsen, your Publicity Chair, will serve you in bringing the name of this party to all four corners of this county. And who could write an article such as this without mentioning James Aven? James Aven will be our Secretary, he will be taking care of the "who's who" and "what's what". Another issue that was brought up in past years of the LPSCC was fund-raising. How will we bring in a surplus cash flow in order to support our candidates and party activities? We need a person who is capable of finding intelligent ways of bringing cash into the party. That person is Frank Groffie. He will be our Fund Raising Chair into the new year. And who will keep track of our funds in a frugal manner? Such responsibility could only be given to Jon Hugdahl. It will be a person like him that keeps our funds safe and organized. Some might ask, what are we going to do as a party this year? Events? Activities?

With Don Cormier as our Activities Chair there will be many activities for us to do as a party. I believe that his job is paramount in keeping a unified and active party. There is not another person that we as a party would rather represent our ex-com than Tom Spielbauer. Tom, who is our State Ex-Com Representative, will deliver a clear message to the people for whom he represents. Jascha Lee the man who makes this newsletter so invaluable, works day upon day organizing people to put this newsletter together. And as a result we have an excellent system of feedback for our members.

These people are what is going to make this year a year unprecedented in this Party's history. We will dive into the new millennium with passion. This is not just a race in getting better statistics for our party or success in numbers. It is a race to win freedom and liberty for all our fellow Americans. "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." -Declaration of Independence. ■

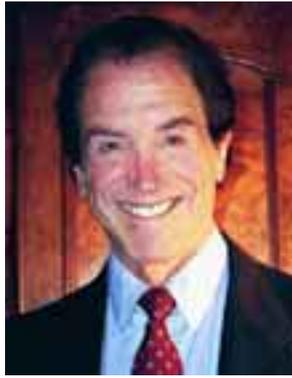


*Chair Marv Rudin addressing attendees at annual meeting*

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# Chair's Column - Let's Get Growing!

**Marv Rundin**

## THE LPSCC ELECTIONS

Thanks to those of you who voted for our Cegap2000 slate of candidates. I'd like to have returned to a less hectic schedule, but without dedicated leadership the risk was high that my Cegap2000 growth plan might die aborning. By next January it should be well established, and I'll be ready to pass the torch to a new chair. Are you interested in picking it up? If so, please call me at 408-736-5626 and let's talk.

## THE LP IS THE FASTEST GROWING PARTY IN SCC!!

Believe it or not, based on our county's latest voter registration figures below the local Libertarian Party has surprisingly been growing much faster percentage-wise than any other party over the past two years at 14%.

During those two years only two categories have increased; and leading those two is the LP. The other category is not a party but "Decline to State". But before we get too carried away with our exalting this good fortune, we should be sobered by the fact that at the present rate it will take many decades to be the size of the two major parties. We must grow much faster!

## CEGAP2000 PLAN

The new updated Cost Effective Growth Action Plan for 2000 (CEGAP2000) is based on what was learned in 1999. It's goal for minimum net growth this year has been reduced to 20% net growth, because we learned that the registrant loss rate is about 66%. So it looks like we'll need to recruit as many as 3000 new members (about 60% of the present 5000+ registrations) this year just to net the 1000 we need to grow by 20%.

## YOUTH MOVEMENT

Despite this daunting task I am far more confident this year. Dynamic young Membership and Publicity Chairs Roger Ver and Graham Thorsen, and the schools and colleges leaders at Presentation High (Monica Silva) and San Jose State (Joel Johnson) will be the nucleus. We have seen at the county fair that young people are measuring Libertarian on our quiz in far greater percentages than the over-40s. Despite government schools' propaganda, many students are consulting the web when getting ready to vote at 18, and are choosing the LP. This year I think we will go all out to register them in big numbers.

## HELP ME PLEASE?

To accomplish our ambitious program I need your help with phone polling. Without market research we've been flying blind. Polling is a key market research tool. We need to know things like



- (a) What percentage of the public know about the LP and how did they learn?
- (b) What caused our registered voters to choose the LP?

If you will help please call me at (408) 736-5626 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ■

*Former Supreme Court Justice Cruz Reynoso endorses libertarian Judicial candidate Thomas Spielbauer. The race for seat 14 is a hot one, with the establishment opponent raising over \$60,000 and media backing. Will liberty prevail? We'll see March 7<sup>th</sup>!*

DATE	DEM	REP	AIP	GRE	LBT	NLP	Pe&F	REF	MISC	DTS
10/9/99	46.50%	31.77%	1.83%	0.66%	0.73%	0.20%	0.44%	0.70%	0.04%	17.14%
10/12/98	46.78%	32.77%	1.82%	0.65%	0.69%	0.20%	0.42%	0.61%	0.08%	15.99%
1yr Oct to Oct	-0.60%	-3.04%	0.64%	1.32%	6.85%	-1.93%	2.57%	14.00%	-44.39%	7.19%
2yrs Oct to Oct	-1.67%	-5.64%	5.94%	8.71%	14.14%	2.46%	7.02%	0.04%	3.08%	16.35%
3 yrs Oct to Oct	-3.01%	-4.80%	3.66%	9.85%	20.61%	13.35%	-6.32%	7.58%	10.35%	19.12%



# Membership Chair Report.

**Roger Ver.**

I would first like to thank the many active Libertarians out there who are working hard to increase party membership. There are many of you out there and you are doing a great job. However our task is far from being complete and there is still a tremendous amount of work left to do. Let's get to work!

## Students Registration Up!

There are a wide variety of outreach projects that I know of that have been going on and I would imagine that there are even more that I don't know about. There are many things that are taking place that should really encourage us all. For example recently myself and Mat Talbot went to Gavilan College located in Gilroy with about 50 Libertarian T-shirts that were ordered from [www.liber-tees.com](http://www.liber-tees.com). We set up a table with all of the usual outreach material provided by national at <http://www.lp.org/hq/products.html>. We displayed a home spun sign that read 'Free T-shirt' along with another sign that read simply 'FREE' We also had on the table about \$15 worth of soda and doughnuts. We figured that this would help attract college students. We were right! The students flocked to the table and at times we couldn't answer all of their questions. We told the students that they could have free doughnuts and/or soda as well as all the free literature they would like. I explained to students (most of whom were very receptive) that I was running for state assembly and that I needed their support. I told them that the reason I was running was because I felt that individuals like you and I know how to run our own lives and spend our own money better than any politician in Washington or Sacramento could spend our money or run out lives for us. This went over extremely well with most of the students and most of them decided to register Libertarian right there. We received over 50 registrations in the

course of about 4.5 hours and at a cost of about \$250. This was a very good deal for me because it saved me approximately \$600 in filing fees. I would much rather spend \$250 on Libertarian T-shirts and doughnuts than have to give even \$50 to a government agency. It was definitely a win win situation.

## Successes at the Santa Clara County Gun Show

I would like to give a big thank you to Dana Albrecht for organizing the Libertarian booth at the Santa Clara County Gun Show. Things went very well at the gun show. Dana and Mat Talbot manned the booth for the entire day Saturday and did a wonderful job collecting approximately 25 new registered Libertarians as well as numerous signatures for the RKBA

petition from Geoff Metcalf of 560 KSFO. On Sunday Mat Talbot and myself manned the booth. We managed to collect about 20 more registered Libertarians and more signatures for the RKBA petition. On both days many Dana Albrecht for Assembly (AD23), Roger Ver for Assembly (AD28), and Thomas Spielbauer for Superior Court Judge (Seat 14) flyers were handed out. I was especially encouraged by the fact that many gun show patrons came by our booth and told us that they were already Libertarians and that we should keep up the good work.

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*"We received over 50 registrations in the course of about 4.5 hours and at a cost of about \$250."*

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## What's Next...

Planned outreach events that are tentatively scheduled for the future include more DMV outreach tables, more T-shirt for registration drives at local colleges and perhaps a Libertarian table at a San Jose rave. If you have any ideas or suggestions for outreach and ways to increase membership do not hesitate to email me at [roger\\_ver@hotmail.com](mailto:roger_ver@hotmail.com) or you can call me personally on my cell phone at (408) 313-1853.

Thank you and keep up the good work, ■

*The next LPC Executive Committee meeting will be March 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> at the San Jose Doubletree hotel.*

*Two libertarian letters to the editor were published in the Mercury news in January: one by national activist Scott Lieberman dealt with the presidential debate commission locking out Third Party candidates, the other by our Chair Marv Rudin extolled people to vote for "Unbuyable Tom Spielbauer" for Judge.*

# Libertarians Gain Ground on College Radio

by David Scott.

Libertarian points of view are rarely heard in the media, but one courageous local radio talk show host has made a commitment to providing a forum for these views to be heard. The show is "Naked Radio", and it can be heard on KSJS, the San Jose State University radio station, every Thursday evening. The host, Arquimedes Garcia, has turned the third Thursday of every month into "Libertarian Night" featuring LPSC Chairman Marvin Rudin and other guests.



*Arquimedes, host of the SJSU Naked Radio Talk Show*

Surprisingly, Garcia is

not a Libertarian. The outspoken host has said that he doesn't consider himself a liberal or a Democrat either, but one would be hard pressed to arrive at a different conclusion after listening to his opening monologue in which he routinely supports gun control and praises President Clinton.

On previous Libertarian Nights, guests have been able to discuss a wide range of topics, often inspired by Garcia's comments during his opening monologue. Superior court judicial candidate Thomas Spielbauer discussed his campaign to have the public defender be an elected office. LPSC newsletter editor Jascha Lee focussed on gun-related issues, and force-versus-persuasion philosophy. And party activist Joel Johnson appeared on the show to promote the new San Jose State Libertarian organization he leads. Joel said, "We've talked of everything from guns, drugs, and taxes to political apathy, big media, and big business."

Of course, presenting revolutionary ideas is never easy. Guests must not only deal with the host and his sympathetic callers, but also with Naked Radio's broadcast engineer, who is known only as "The Duck Lady", possibly for her fondness of playing duck-quacking noises to celebrate every first-time caller. Her opinions typically promote socialistic politics, which has the positive side

effect of making the Libertarian comments seem more reasonable, but can also create a challenging environment for the guests.

During the January 20th show the situation was made even more difficult by the repeated prank phone calls of a disgruntled Southerner upset with the host's opinion that the Confederate flag is offensive and should not be flown over state capital buildings. The Duck Lady (who also answers the telephone) was so upset by the harassment that she took the phone off the hook so listeners could not call in for much of the show. "It didn't help that some ignorant red neck was calling in every few minutes and cussing at her. I wouldn't be surprised if she linked my topic to his type of person," said Jascha Lee, who had a difficult time discussing gun rights with her. "She was very hostile towards the subject".

Another obstacle is the friendly, though often heated, rivalry that has formed between host Arquimedes Garcia and LPSC Chair Marvin Rudin. The host has developed a habit of interrupting Rudin every time Rudin attempts to speak. It is almost humorous how Garcia constantly erects strawman

arguments based on the first half of a sentence Rudin was never allowed to finish. "If only he'd allow me to speak without constantly interrupting!" said Rudin. Garcia's

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*"Arquimedes intentionally tries to give his guests a hard time to make for good political discussion. I would have it no other way."*

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*Thomas Spielbauer and Marv Rudin getting ready for the show*

tactics may be an attempt to encourage passionate debate, according to Joel Johnson. "Arquimedes intentionally tries to give his guests a hard time to make for good political discussion. I would have it no other way." All of the guests interviewed said that despite the situation, they would be willing to appear on the show again.

Apparently the Libertarian message is getting out to the public and is having an impact on the show's audience. Garcia says that the number of libertarian-leaning calls on non-Libertarian Nights has been steadily increasing. This makes for an exciting opportunity. "Appearing on a non-Libertarian, usually leftist-hosted, university show gives me and my Libertarian guests a chance to bring our view to prospects we don't normally reach," said Rudin. As future guests, Rudin hopes to bring senatorial candidate Gail Lightfoot and other local candidates.

"Libertarian Night" on "Naked Radio" can be



*Joel Johnson and Thomas Spielbauer*

heard on the third Thursday of every month from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on KSJS 90.5 FM. The next two Libertarian Nights are March 16<sup>th</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup>. You can also hear a webcast of the show at [www.ksjs.org](http://www.ksjs.org). Libertarians are encouraged to call the program at (408) 924-KSJS (924-5757) and give their support. ■

## Libertarian positions on the issues.

Vote LIBERTARIAN on March 7<sup>th</sup>!

Gail Lightfoot	US Senate	Jack Hickey	State Senate (SD13)		
Howard Mora	Congress (CD13)	Gordan Sachtjen	State Senate (SD15)	Roger Ver	Assembly (AD28)
Joe Dehn	Congress (CD14)	Mark Werlwas	Assembly (AD20)	Thomas Spielbauer	Supier Court Judge Seat 14
Ed Wimmers	Congress (CD15)	Dana Albrecht	Assembly (AD23)		
Dennis Umphress	Congress (CD16)	Ray Strong	Assembly (AD24)		

YES on Proposition 1A "Gambling"

NO on Proposition 12 "Bond: Parks, Water and Coastal Protection Act"

NO on Proposition 13 "Bond: Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act"

NO on Proposition 14 "Bond: California Reading & Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000"

NO on Proposition 15 "Bond: Forensic Laboratories"

NO on Proposition 16 "Bond: Veterans' Homes"

YES on Proposition 17 "Lotteries: Charitable Raffles"

NO on Proposition 19 "Peace Officers"

NO on Proposition 20 "California State Lottery: Cardenas Textbook Act of 2000"

NO on Proposition 21 "Juvenile Crime. Initiative Statute."

NO on Proposition 22 "Definition of Marriage."

YES on Proposition 23 "'None of the Above' Ballot Option. Initiative Statute."

NO on Proposition 25 "Election Campaigns. Contributions and Spending Limits. Public Financing. Disclosures. Initiative Statute."

NO on Proposition 26 "School Facilities. Bonds. Local Majority Vote. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute."

YES on Proposition 27 "Elections. Term Limits Declarations for Congressional Candidates. Initiative Statute."

YES on Proposition 28 "Repeal of Additional Tobacco Surtax Enacted by Proposition 10. Initiative Statute."

NO on Proposition 29 "1998 Indian Gaming Compacts. Referendum Statute."

The LP of California has taken no position on Propositions 18, 30, and 31.



# SJSU Libertarians Mobilize for Action

by Joel Johnson.

After three semesters of work to launch a campus libertarian group at San Jose State University, the SJSU Libertarians have finally become a reality. Now, the group is ready for

that at which they are aimed — action!

The newly-formed, five-member-strong SJSU Libertarians held their first meeting of the semester on Thursday, February 3, to plan events to stir up the SJSU community. And, so far, after revamping the website ([www.sjsu.edu/orgs/libertarians/](http://www.sjsu.edu/orgs/libertarians/)), there are already three projects in the works.

The first project is to maintain a continuous advertising blitz of the SJSU campus. Since flyers tend to disappear fast and frequently from campus billboards and buildings, the SJSU Libertarians plan to keep a healthy stock of advertising and issue-oriented flyers handy to post routinely around the campus, hoping to gain as much attention and recruits as possible. And, we are pleased



to report, that after only one day of posting flyers, we have already increased our membership by almost 20% (with the addition of one new member)!

The second project in-the-works is an event focused upon gun policy and the Second Amendment. Sometime around mid-semester, the SJSU Libertarians plan to run a week-long booth to introduce students to the libertarian approach to gun rights. The group also hopes to bring representatives of the local NRA to campus to possibly speak in more detail about the danger of increased gun control.

Thirdly, the SJSU Libertarians plan to help advertise local libertarian candidates for the upcoming primary elections. Any and all candidates are encouraged to

contact Joel W. Johnson ([jwjohnson@netmagic.net](mailto:jwjohnson@netmagic.net)) for advertisements around the campus and possible opportunities to make speeches.

In all, it looks like it will be a promising semester for the SJSU Libertarians, and we look forward to reporting on some of our successes next month. ■

## Candidate Profile - Donna Courtright

by Donna Courtright

I would like to encourage the Libertarian voters in the 24th Assembly race to take a look at voting for me in the primary on March 7th since Ray Strong will be unchallenged in the primary.

I am currently serving as the president of Silicon Valley Taxpayers, Inc. and have just received the endorsement of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. I was the NRA and GOC endorsed candidate for the '98 race and I expect to receive their endorsement this time, as well. I believe that all facets of our government (federal, state and local) are far too expensive, expansive and intrusive.

Let's work together to ensure that, in the November general election, we have a Republican on the ballot who most closely matches the Libertarian principles.

Please support this winning strategy for liberty. ■

**Donna Courtright can be reached at: (408) 402-0524**

*Donna has graciously invited us to submit a story to the Taxpayers Newsletter. Thanks Donna!*

**Officers:**

Chairman	Marv Rudin	(408) 736-5626	rudin@lpty.org
Vice Chairman	Bill Carr	(408) 507-2300	william_r_carr@yahoo.com
Secretary	James Aven	(408) 436-7992	james@AvenEstate.com
Treasurer	Jon Hugdahl	(650) 965-3744	jon@NoMoreTax.com
Membership	Roger Ver	(408) 313-1853	roger_ver@hotmail.com
Campaign	Ray Strong	(408) 268-8466	hrstrong@hotmail.com
Publicity	Graham Thorsen	(408) 517-0571	dolfbardo@hotmail.com
Fundraising	Frank Groffie	(408) 935-9652	fgroffie@aol.com
Activities	Don Cormier	(408) 296-7264	saintfond@usa.net
Newsletter	Jascha Lee	(408) 267-6740	jascha@sebastian.com
State ExCom Rep	Thomas Spielbauer	(408) 279-3336	thomas@spielbauer.com
Alt ExCom Rep	(The Chair has ruled that this position is not authorized by the By-Laws)		
Judicial Committee	Paul Rako	Richard Relph	Allen Rice
	paul@rako.com	richard@netgate.net	puffed3@aol.com

*Do you have something to say? Submit a newsletter article!*  
*lpnews@sebastian.com*

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For further information, call (408) 243-2711. Or see our web page at <http://www.sc.ca.lp.org>.

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



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**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**

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

**Plus an additional contribution to the LPSCC:**

- Monthly pledge .....
- One-time donation .....

**Total:** .....

**Payment Method:**

Check payable to:  
**Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County**

VISA or MasterCard (circle one)

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

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

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

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

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*REMEMBER TO VOTE  
LIBERTARIAN ON MARCH 7TH!*

*CANIDIDATES LISTED ON  
PAGE 5.*



*Full house for our annual meeting.*



*Lively debate at the LPSCC convention.*



*Having trouble wading through the issues? Help is listed below..*

<http://www.lp.org>  
<http://www.lpty.org/prop>  
<http://www.sc.ca.lp.org>  
<http://www.lp.org/lp-cand-pres.html>

*See Page 5 for  
Libertarian  
positions on the  
issues.*

*For National Convention Delegate information see:*

<http://www.ca.lp.org/conv/2000/elections-natdel.html>