

# The Libertarian Volunteer

A newsletter for LP volunteers, activists, officers, and candidates

## Anatomy of a Victory

### ■ How Bruce Van Buren became the first elected Libertarian in Georgia history

BY RON CRICKENBERGER

**T**he election of Bruce Van Buren to the Avondale Estates City Commission was important for the Libertarian Party on several levels. It showed the Georgia LP, and the media and general public, that you can get elected to local office when you are strongly identified with the Libertarian Party.

Van Buren's election, and the election of DeWayne

Metheny to the Auburn City Council, were the first electoral wins for the Georgia Libertarian Party. They are demonstrations of the LP Campaign Committee's national strategy of developing success stories on the local level, both at winning campaigns and once in office — to form a farm team of Libertarians who will go on to seek higher office.

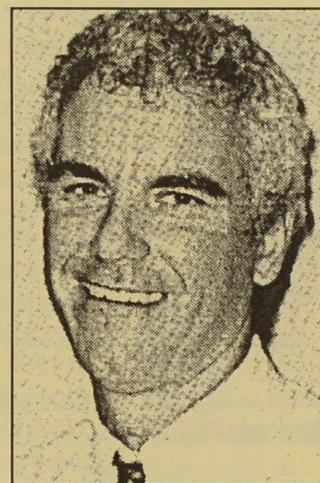
Bruce's election also showed that a few people and a few hundred man-hours of work can have very significant success in

cutting back city hall, and keeping paychecks in taxpayer's pockets rather than in city government coffers.

Bruce's election has *already* had such an effect in Avondale Estates, and he hasn't even taken office yet. I'll tell you more about that success later.

#### The background

**A**s a candidate, Bruce had plenty of attributes. He uses his accounting degree and 15 years of management experience as Director of Information Systems for a large Atlanta-based furniture rental



★ Bruce Van Buren: Elected even though he was "strongly identified with the LP."

company. His family has lived in Atlanta for three generations. His wife Maurie is a noted architectural historian, who

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## LPHQ starts special newsletter targeting "libertarian" radio hosts

**T**he Libertarian Party is growing. We're getting people elected. We're generating positive media coverage. We're *succeeding*.

That's the message the Libertarian Party headquarters hopes to convey to radio talk show hosts with a new monthly

newsletter aimed at America's growing number of libertarian-friendly radio talkmeisters.

Entitled *LibertyTalk*, the newsletter was launched in late December 1995, and is faxed to more than two-dozen radio talk show hosts across the country.

On the list are such popular

libertarian talk show hosts as David Brudnoy (Boston), Jay Severin (New York), Lowell Ponte (nationally syndicated), Gene Burns (San Francisco), "Lionel" (New York), and Irv Homer (Philadelphia).

"There are more radio talk

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## ■ From the Editor

# New Year's resolutions for the '96 Volunteer

It's 1996 . . . a brand-new year, and a brand-new opportunity for the Libertarian Party. But what's a new year without New Year's Resolutions? So, here are my (somewhat belated!) resolutions as editor of the *Libertarian Volunteer*:

1) I will publish six bi-monthly issues this year. In 1995, deadlines for the *Volunteer* slipped because of other urgent projects and a dramatic upsurge in media. The result? Two planned issues "slipped" into oblivion. In 1996, I promise to publish six issues — no matter what!

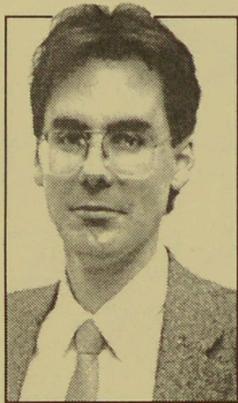
2) I will continue to focus on "what works." I will share more LP success stories, and continue to provide advice from professionals. (For example, look for a big article on media relations in the next issue, based on the advice of one of Washington's leading PR firms.)

3) 1996 is an election year, so I promise a heaping dose of campaign advice and real-life candidate stories. For example, I will attend a *Campaigns & Elections* campaign seminar

in early March — and will share *everything* I learn with you.

4) Finally, I will provide more news from the National LP. Our local, state, and national parties are part of a unified *team*, and a good team stays informed. So, whenever we launch a new project, or set a new goal, I will let you know about it.

**And a final resolution:** I will listen to our readers. Have an idea for a story? A suggestion? A tip you want to share with other Libertarians? Let me know! Working together, and sharing our experiences, we can make 1996 the best ever for the LP. ■



**Bill Winter, Editor**

## ■ From the National Director

# Using the '96 elections to expand the party

The Libertarian Party is unique. It is both a membership organization and a political party. It's not only the largest association of philosophical libertarians in the world, it's also the *only* one that runs candidates for public office. I believe these two features are related. We are the largest membership organization precisely *because* we are the only one that runs candidates for office. And I believe that 1996 will be the year when we finally use both aspects of our organization to greatest effect.

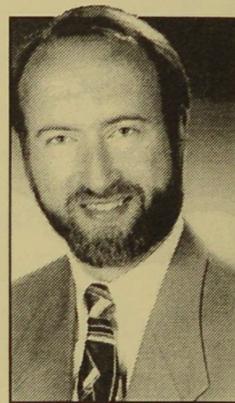
Votes flow from money and money flows from members. The more members we have the more *candidates* we will have — and the more *supporters* there will be to fund those campaigns. And we all know that the more money we have for campaigns the more votes we will get, and the more elections we will win, and the more people we will be able to recruit as members. Each aspect of our organization naturally supports the other.

But what comes naturally can also be enhanced by conscious planning. Every kind of campaign at every level has a natural role to play in the growth of our party. We can enhance that role by focusing on what each kind of campaign is uniquely qualified to do.

Local races help us build up our "Farm Team" of elected Libertarians. These are the people who give us credibility as a viable party. These are the people who will someday win election to state legislatures and eventually Congress. Not everybody wants to run and win and serve, but those who do are laying the foundations for our future Libertarian majority. And the credibility they confer helps us to grow.

Paper candidates are often dismissed as useless, but we have to remember that the simplest investment anyone can make in our party is to cast *one* vote for *one* candidate. The more candidates we have on the ballot, the more small investments will be made. And the more people *vote* for us, the more likely they will be to consider *joining* us. But we must also remember that even paper candidates have to be willing and prepared to answer invitations, questionnaires, and respond to the media. They must be able to explain to the media just where their campaign, simple though it is, stands in the overall strategy — that it is part of our larger membership recruitment efforts, and how that, in turn, will lead to eventual victory.

Others want to run aggressive campaigns for federal office, even though these offices can't be won yet. That's fine. But the focus here should be on acquiring *new members*, not votes. Votes are gone with the wind on election day, while members last. Recruit more members, volunteers, and supporters, and votes will follow. Votes increase as membership increases, not the other way around. ■



**Perry Willis, National Director**

## The Libertarian Volunteer

A newsletter for LP volunteers, activists, officers, and candidates  
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*The Libertarian Volunteer* is a publication of the Libertarian Party, and provides news, political resources, and strategic suggestions for Libertarian volunteers. Permission is granted to reprint articles if credit is given to the author, *The Libertarian Volunteer*, and the Libertarian Party. Letters, comments, articles, and suggestions are welcome! **Editor:** Bill Winter

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# How Republicans hoodwink Libertarians

## Beware of promises by those self-declared "Libertarian-leaning" politicians

BY LAWRENCE M. LUDLOW  
& THOMAS S. TANANA

**H**ow many times have you heard this one? "Republican candidates like me have a lot in common with you Libertarians. In fact, ten years ago I was a Libertarian. I still am, but I run as a Republican. But don't worry. I'm in favor of your agenda."

I wish I had a check for each time such claims turned out to be worthless.

Too many libertarians are salivating to line-up and lend support to these frauds. How? They throw softball questions to them at libertarian supper clubs. They withhold candidates in balance-of-power races where the 5% Libertarian draw can win or lose the race. They send them campaign donations. They volunteer their time while Libertarian Party candidates go begging. And they set up organizations such as the Republican Liberty Caucus (RLC).

Since they've been so active soliciting Libertarians to support their efforts, let's have a look at the fruit of these "libertarian" candidates.

### ■ Steve Baldwin, California Assemblyman (Republican)

Mr. Baldwin was supported by one of the authors of this article. The author had obtained Baldwin's explicit promise to focus on economic freedoms and not push the anti-liberty social agenda of the Right. But his principle agenda since arriving in Sacramento has been attacking publishers of "pornography."

So much for freedom of the press!

Baldwin is an advisor to the Republican Liberty Caucus, was recommended by the RLC, and received RLC PAC money. Once in office, Mr. Baldwin:

★ Promised to support legalization of marijuana for medical uses. He abstained while the measure passed.

★ He authored AB-1952, which criminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana.

★ He authored AB-295, an anti-pornography measure

literature, adult sexual activity, adult sexual conduct, and general (non-child related) electronic sexual material.

★ Voted for AB-1035, a prostitution "thought crime" bill which allows police to arrest people arbitrarily, even if they have committed no crime. The law targets speech and gestures which can be interpreted as possibly related to criminal activity — flagging down cars (calling a cab or asking directions?), passing small packages (an engagement ring perhaps?),

### ■ Gil Ferguson, California Assemblyman (Republican)

Mr. Ferguson is on the RLC's board of advisors and was endorsed by the RLC in September 1993 for his state senate race.

★ The current statute regulating "adult" newspapers sold at newsstands is patterned on Republican Gil Ferguson's 1988 measure (AB-2093). This law prohibits the sale of "adult" material in newsracks without adult supervision or reduced access afforded by special tokens sold only to adults. This creates a cost structure so high that it eliminates curbside newsstands.

### ■ Jan Goldsmith, California Assemblyman (Republican)

★ Previously, as mayor of Poway, he assisted in the condemnation of private property on the city border of Poway and San Diego so that equestrians could enjoy the use of horse trails for their riding pleasure.

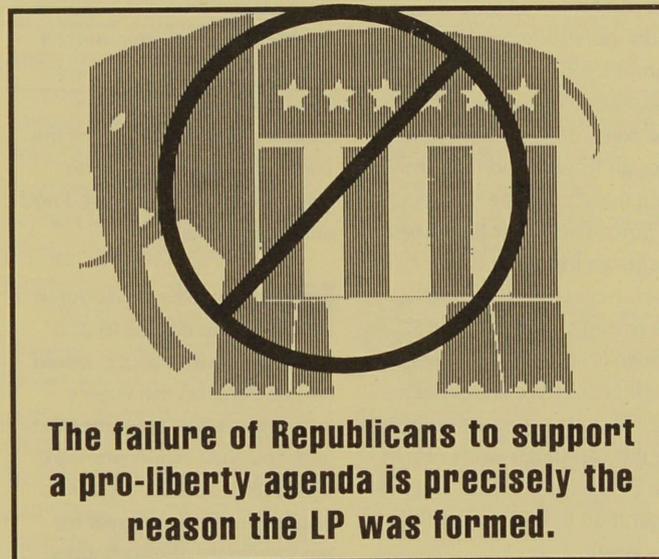
★ He also co-authored a bill that instituted asset forfeiture provisions for cars driven by customers of prostitutes.

★ Like Assemblyman Steve Baldwin, now-Assemblyman Goldsmith voted for the "thought crime" bill (AB-1035).

Interestingly enough, at a Libertarian supper club in San Diego, Mr. Goldsmith charmed the audience with statements about his "longstanding libertarian leanings" and his "four-square support of property rights."

At that meeting, an attempt to bring out his less-than-stellar performance was met by cat-

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dealing with adult sexuality, while peddling it as aimed exclusively at child pornography. You will see much of this "crying wolf"—using children as sheep's clothing — among Republicans, causing one to wonder who exploits children more: Pornographers or Republican conservatives.

★ Authored AB-871, touted as an exclusively child-centered measure, which actually concerns the distribution of sexual

giving hand signals (hailing a neighbor?).

For those who are part of the Christian Right, if you try to evangelize on the street by attempting to stop someone in a car or engage in conversation with passersby, you are subject to criminal arrest under this law. If you are engaging in political discourse in the street, beware. You may spend 72 hours in jail before arraignment with precious little you can do about it.

# Victory in Georgia

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writes columns on historical preservation for the *Washington Post* and *Home* magazine. They have a four-year-old son, Knox.

On a personal level, Bruce is friendly, outgoing, photogenic, and had demonstrated willingness to spend significant amounts of time and money on Libertarian activities. He was at the top of my list of party members to recruit to be a candidate. Bruce was non-committal when I first approached him about running, and it took some of his neighbor's encouragement to get him to take the plunge. I offered to manage Bruce's campaign when he made the commitment to knock on every door in the city, and to run to win.

While Bruce had a lot of positives as a candidate, he also had one of the biggest *negatives* you can have — no history of community involvement. In fact, Bruce's only identification in the community was as "that Libertarian guy," not only from managing the Lt. Governor campaign for Walker Chandler in 1994, but from sending invitations to most of the city for Libertarian outreach events at his home.

**H**aving lived in Avondale for five years, Bruce was considered a newcomer in this tight-knit community. The other four candidates had lived there from 12 years to all their lives. Bruce was in fact attacked late in the campaign both for short-term residence and lack of previous involvement in city affairs.

Avondale Estates has exceptionally high rates of voter registration and voter turnout. 57% turned out in this off-year elec-

tion with only two questions on the ballot. This race elected two city commissioners in a citywide race — the top two vote-getters were the winners. The only other questions on the ballot were an increase in the county sales tax, and an uncontested race for Mayor.

One other factor: The city government had been in some turmoil for a couple of years prior to the election, with mismanagement allegations and a series of resignations by City Commission members.

My main duty as Campaign Manager was to be a real pest and to constantly push Bruce to do more than he originally planned. He initially felt that walking the city and producing one piece of literature would be enough to win, and that anything more might be "too much."

Since I've never heard of a campaign losing by doing *too much* (unless it's too much of the wrong thing), I worked to change Bruce's mind about how much activity we should generate. I also set a goal of organizing the campaign well enough that Bruce would have no duties other than to walk and talk to his constituents.

The core of our campaign strategy was the door-to-door walk. We would not have won without it, and it is certainly the factor that overcame Bruce's lack of community involvement. His personal contact with the voters probably got us the first 350 votes, but it took *everything else we did* to get us the last 80 votes we needed to win.

I convinced Bruce we should use a pre-walk card. This was a simple postcard with Bruce's picture and a short note simply

## AVONDALE ESTATES: RICH & EXCLUSIVE

**A**vondale Estates is a unique city of about 1,200 homes in Atlanta's eastern suburbs. The city was founded in 1927 as Georgia's first "planned community." Its features include an English Tudor village-style downtown area, distinctive architecture throughout the city, and coordinated landscaping. The city is on the National Register of Historic Places, and has the second highest median income of any municipality in the state. This isn't because of great wealth, but simply because there are no poor residents, with the possible exception of one small apartment complex of about 25 units. It's really a beautiful place.

Although most of the areas around the city are low-income, high-crime districts, Avondale has a very low crime rate. One of the first things you learn as a young driver in the Atlanta area is don't speed through Avondale Estates because the police are parked over there behind the bushes and they'll get you. The city doesn't have much of a business tax base, and has one of the highest property tax rates in the state.

saying "I'm your neighbor Bruce Van Buren, I'm running for city commissioner, and I'll be coming by soon to talk to you about our city." We included a graphic of part of the Tudor Village property. The cards were hand-addressed and mailed First Class.

**W**e mailed the cards out in batches of 125 to 200 per week so that Bruce would be knocking on the voter's doors just a few days after they received the card. A pre-walk card serves as both an ice-breaker and a time-saver for the candidate. It also is a big help to the campaign manager since it commits the candidate to visiting a certain number of homes every week. It also builds credibility for the candidate by showing he will do what he says. "Hey, this guy sent me a card saying he was coming by, and then a few days later he actually showed up."

We started the campaign much later than we should have — only about three months before the election. So we used Bruce's first walks as our re-

search phase. We printed a small batch of handout cards for Bruce to distribute as he walked, expecting to change it considerably after we got a better feel for the issues on the minds of the voters.

We chose five simple issues for the card, probably two too many. No tax increase — and we phrased it with those words to voice objection both to the proposed county sales tax increase, and to any increase in city taxes, which we knew at least some of our opposition would be favoring — Revitalize Avondale Estates Business Areas; Preserve the Historic Tudor Village Property; Quality Schools for Our Children; and Get Tough on Violent Criminals.

It turned out that the only significant change was to drop "get tough on violent criminals" from the card. Avondale's low crime rate meant that crime just wasn't an issue, even though it is issue #1 for most of the Atlanta area.

The back of the card featured a family photo, brief bios of Bruce and Maurie, and a one paragraph personal statement.

As Bruce walked, he kept notes on the folks he talked to, including things like their dog's leg was broken, they had a Liberty Bell replica, or were wearing a "legalize pot" tee-shirt.

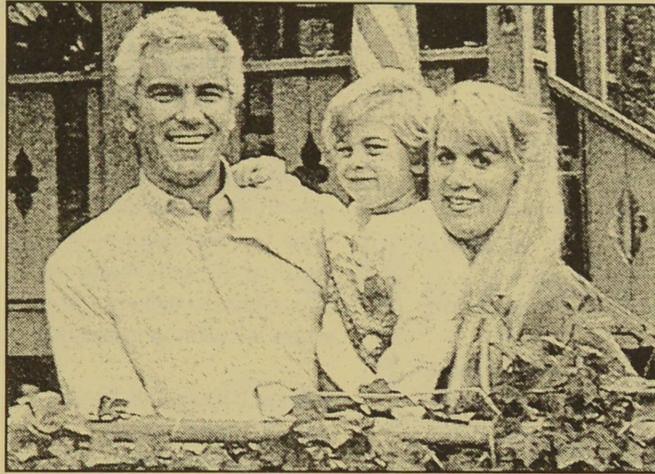
So with the pre-walk card, the hand-out, and the upcoming letter piece that Bruce was planning to send out, we were up to three pieces of literature without Bruce even noticing!

Only two real issues emerged during the campaign: How to restore the historic Tudor village property, and, at the very end of the campaign, the fact that Bruce was a Libertarian.

The Tudor village property in question was one of the original buildings of the city. Once a lovely old theater, the property had been declining for a number of years. The tenant base was so low-rent and transient that the 25,000-square foot property was only generating \$1,500 per year in property taxes.

**T**he Mayor and the City Council favored the city buying the property and renovating it. Estimates ranged from \$2 to \$3 million for the project. Essentially, the Mayor, the City Commission, and the two candidates backed by the current regime wanted to spend \$3 million in taxpayers' money so that they would have a tablecloth restaurant and a puppet show within walking distance of their houses.

One of Bruce's opponents, Howard Osofsky, made this project the center of his campaign. In his campaign literature Osofsky used phrases like "We must take control" and "the city must seize control" — with the word control always in bold for emphasis — pretty scary words to a Libertarian. In fact, when questioned at the candidates forum on how to provide adequate parking for his propos-



★ Bruce, his wife Maurie and son, Knox. The back of his handout card featured this family photo, brief bios of Bruce and Maurie, and a one-paragraph personal statement.

als, Osofsky said "the city must condemn every conceivable piece of property." In literature, Bruce's opponent proposed either a "special assessment" (tax increase) or municipal bonds (read: tax increase) as the only means for financing the Tudor village restoration. Without Bruce entering the race, there is no question this program would have gone through with the full backing of the City Commission.

We had been working since the beginning to identify Bruce as the anti-tax candidate to provide that contrast between Bruce and the opponents. He was the *only* candidate to come out against the county sales tax increase, and the *only one* opposing taxes to restore the Tudor village.

Prior to sending out our main issues letter, we did polling, both to determine where Bruce stood, and to determine which part of our message had the most resonance with the voters. We found that Bruce's position on the county sales tax was not at all important to the voters, so we dropped that. We also found that his position on the Tudor village, when accurately phrased as a choice between

pursuing private investors or enduring more taxes, was a 10-to-1 favorite with the voters, so we quite naturally made that the focus of the letter. We made note of similar government run projects that have failed, emphasized that tax dollars for such a project is an immoral misuse of government power, and pointed out the city itself was initially built as a private, profitable corporation.

**W**e also made sure to specifically ask for a vote in the opening and closing paragraphs of the letter. We hand addressed and mailed the letter First Class to hit about a week and a half before the election.

The last piece of literature we had planned to mail was an



**"Van Buren was the only candidate opposing taxes to restore the Tudor village."**

oversize postcard. We used a large family photo on one size, re-emphasized Bruce's position on taxes and the village restoration, and pointed out that Bruce would be the last name on the ballot. We asked for a vote on each side of the card. We mailed the card First Class to arrive the Saturday before the Tuesday election.

It turned out that another piece of mail hit voters' mailboxes at the same time as our postcard. A "hit piece" was directed at Bruce by a supposedly independent citizen, who just happened to use identical typeface and formatting as one of our opponents.

The piece charged Bruce with a lack of previous involvement in the city, and with being "an active member of the Libertarian Party." They listed a number of LP positions, quoting directly from our literature for some of them. The quote they used to refer to our drug policy could not have explained our position any better, and was taken directly from our brochure "Towards a More Sensible Drug Policy."

Saving the worst for last, the hit piece ended with "the Libertarians even want you to pay for your own medical costs," as if this was even more horrible to them than legal drugs and open borders.

Our polling by the Saturday before the election showed Bruce with a very strong lead over all the candidates, except Mr. Undecided. And the opposition must have had the same idea, since they tried the "hit piece." We did not worry too much about the piece, especially since the person who put it out was not one of the town's most honored citizens. We just continued with the campaign strategy, which at that point

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# Political FYI

**L**ibertarians are IN in 1996 — at least according to an influential newsletter.

The January 1996 issue of *Privacy Newsletter*, a monthly publication addressing privacy issues in the computer age, listed its “privacy-related INs and OUTs for the year.”

**On the IN list:** Libertarians. **On the OUT list:** Republicans and Democrats.

Why did Libertarians make the IN list? LP National Director Perry Willis speculated, “The LP was the only political party to fight proposed new Internet censorship laws, and to speak out against government attempts to restrict private encryption programs. Libertarians have always been in support of privacy, in favor of free speech, and in the forefront of the technological revolution. It’s nice to know that now we’re just IN.”

**E**ver wonder why the U.S. spends so much on “national defense” when it stands alone as the world’s only superpower? *Good question.* According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, America’s \$262 billion annual defense budget is:

- 37% of total global military expenditures.
- Three times as much as any other nation spends.
- \$15 billion per year more than the U.S. spent for defense in 1980, at the height of the Cold War (adjusted for inflation).

Other defense facts:

■ The 15 other NATO countries spend a combined total of only \$150 billion a year on defense. And Japan spends only \$42 billion. By contrast, U.S. taxpayers fork over an estimated \$90 billion a year to subsidize the defense of Europe and Japan.

■ The six “rogue” nations of the world — Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, North Korea, and Cuba — have a combined military budget of only \$5 billion. In other words, the U.S. spends 52 times as much on the military as all its tiny, so-called enemies put together.

**R**oger Erickson from Washington state writes (with apologies to Joe Sobran): “Most modern legislator’s job descriptions could probably fit on a business card. It would read: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. If it stops moving, subsidize it. If it votes, pork it.”

**R**oss Perot is slowly learning the difficulties of running a third party. First, the peppery billionaire saw his Reform Party ballot drives fail in both Ohio and Maine. Now, he’s got a dominatrix running for Congress under his banner.

According to the AP, Mistress Madison, a 32-year-old dominatrix who runs a phone sex service and a “Slave Cave,” filed papers last month to run for Congress as the Reform Party candidate in California’s 49th Congressional District. Her campaign theme? “The United States should stop being submissive and become a dominant nation once again,” she demands.

A Reform Party spokesman tersely declared Mistress Madison “humiliating” and not an “accurate representative” of the party.

# Republican imposters

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calls from the enthralled libertarian audience. He was touted as the most libertarian of our Representatives — and supported without reservation.

## ■ Brian Bilbray. U.S. Representative (Republican)

Mr. Bilbray is on the RLC’s board of advisors.

★ While a member of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, he moved for the condemnation of piece of private property — the front lawn of a resident — for the riding pleasure of affluent equestrians.

Equestrians are required to pay \$10 per year for a green tag for the privilege of riding on these horse trails. Less than 10% of them pay the required fee. Mr. Bilbray was one of this free-loading gentry class of non-paying equestrians.

★ Bilbray wholeheartedly endorses the insane War on Drugs.

## ■ Susan Golding, Mayor of San Diego (Republican)

★ As a member of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, she supported the seizing of private property for use as horse trails.

★ While campaigning for the office of Mayor in San Diego, she repeatedly asserted in public forums: “I’m not a libertarian.” However, when introducing herself to Eric Rittberg, National Director of the RLC, she offered her business card, saying, “I’m a libertarian, too.”

★ Now Mayor Golding is seeking additional subsidies [in the form of city-backed bonds to “upgrade” the local stadium] to the seven-figure salaries of

our overfed Chargers [professional football team].

## The “It’s Not A Key Issue” Syndrome

**I**t’s bad enough when Republicans claim that libertarians are concerned with what they call “trivial” issues — drug legalization, road privatization, legalized prostitution, etc. But it’s even worse when we hear this coming from Libertarians — as if taxes, regulation, guns, and non-drug-related property rights were the only issues worthy of consideration.

The point is, *all* of these issues are worthy to someone, and all of them constitute the fabric of liberty. Liberty is only as strong as its use by the smallest minority against the majority.

And it’s when we try to discriminate between the various liberties that the fabric unravels. We’ve weakened it by pulling out all of the “nonessential” strands — nonessential until there are too few left for it to matter, nonessential until marginal constituencies have been sold down the river and no longer care about the little that’s left. They’ve already lost what was important to them.

When all is said and done, the failure of Republicans to support a pro-liberty agenda — on any issue, whether economic or personal — is precisely the reason the Libertarian Party was formed. Trying to garner bargain-basement credibility by slumming among these unprincipled politicians will only leave Libertarians with egg on their faces. ■

*Reprinted in a slightly edited form from a San Diego Libertarian computer forum.*

# Delegate allocations for the '96 Convention

How many delegates will your state party get at the 1996 National Convention? National LP Secretary John Famularo has released the "official" delegate allocation numbers, and year-end membership figures for all 51 affiliate parties.

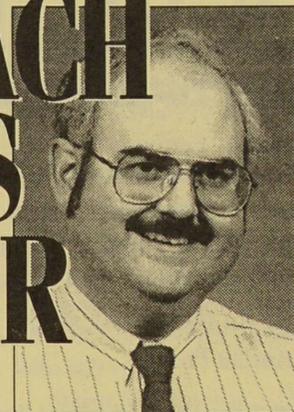
STATE	RANK	DELEGATES	MEMBERS
California	1	112	2,238
Pennsylvania	2	48	955
Texas	3	38	756
Michigan	4	35	686
New York	5	29	564
Florida	6	28	547
Washington	7	25	492
Illinois	8	25	491
New Jersey	9	25	486
Ohio	10	23	451
Colorado	11	22	432
Virginia	12	20	384
Maryland	13	19	368
Massachusetts	14	18	354
Arizona	15	17	322
Georgia	16	16	305
Indiana	17	13	256
Minnesota	18	12	239
Wisconsin	19	12	236
North Carolina	20	12	224
New Hampshire	21	12	221
Missouri	22	11	211
Tennessee	23	10	188
Connecticut	24	9	173
Oregon	25	9	165
Nevada	26	8	153
South Carolina	27	7	139
Kansas	28	7	125
Maine	29	6	117
Alabama	30	6	117
New Mexico	31	6	114
Kentucky	32	6	104
Utah	33	5	94
Louisiana	34	5	87
Dist. of Columbia	35	5	85
Iowa	36	5	85
West Virginia	37	4	72
Oklahoma	38	4	72
Arkansas	39	3	58
Alaska	40	3	57
Delaware	41	3	55
Nebraska	42	3	54
Idaho	43	3	49
Mississippi	44	3	46
Hawaii	45	3	44
Rhode Island	46	2	39
Montana	47	2	39
Vermont	48	2	34
Wyoming	49	2	32
South Dakota	50	2	30
North Dakota	51	1	13
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>706</b>	<b>13,658</b>

Plus, Alaska, Colorado, and New Hampshire each get one additional delegate because the vote cast for Andre Marrou in those states in the 1992 election rounded up to one percent. And 29 additional delegate spots will go to National LP officers, LNC members, and past Presidential and VP candidates. ■

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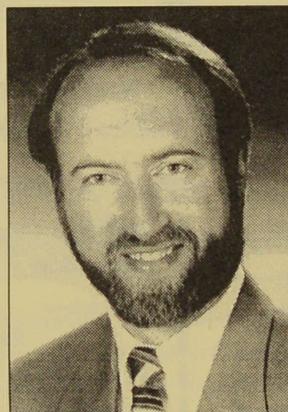
## Go "National" At Your Next State Convention!

# DASBACH WILLIS WINTER

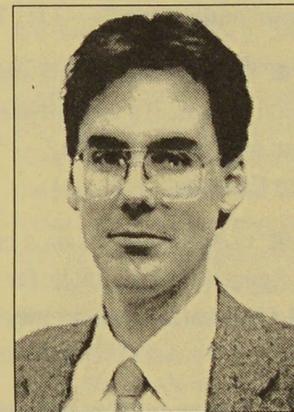


**Want to add a "national" dimension to your next state convention?** Want a progress report on the success of the National LP, or party-building advice? It's easy to book three of the most influential names in the Libertarian Party: just call (202) 333-0008 for scheduling information.

- **STEVE DASBACH**  
**Title:** Chairman, National LP  
**Speech:** "The State of the Libertarian Party: Now and For the Future"  
**Q&A:** Yes  
**Will do local media:** Yes  
**Fee:** Just expenses



- **PERRY WILLIS**  
**Title:** National Director, National LP  
**Speeches:** 1) "Achieving Victory for the LP."  
2) "Why You Should Become a Libertarian" (Introductory speech)  
**Q&A/Local media:** Yes  
**Fee:** Just expenses



- **BILL WINTER**  
**Title:** Communications Director, National LP  
**Speeches:** 1) "How to Build a More Successful LP"  
2) "Ten Signposts to Our Libertarian Future"  
**Q&A/Local media:** Yes  
**Fee:** Just expenses

# New Special Report 'Sells' Libertarian Benefits

**New 20-page booklet is drawing raves as a premier outreach tool**

**T**he praise is pouring in for the LP's new outreach "secret weapon:" A 20-page, magazine-style booklet entitled, "Special Report: An Inside Look at the Libertarian Party."

■ "I found [the Special Report] to be **exceptionally well done**. It was very convincing, easy to read, and inspiring."—R.T., California

■ "Until I received your mailer, I was disinterested in having anything to do with the LP. As a result of the clarity offered in your [Special Report], **I am in full and passionate support of your endeavors**." — J.O., Texas

■ "I'm very impressed with the Special Report. It's **well written and a fine tool to work with**." — W.I., South Carolina

■ "Congratulations on a cracker-jack Special Report. It's by far the **best Libertarian promo piece** I've ever seen." — A.J.D., New Hampshire

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**T**his Special Report is an introduction to the LP, but with a unique twist. Instead of merely outlining our positions, it explains how a Libertarian society would **benefit the reader** — through a 50% increase in take-home pay, a drastic reduction in violent crime, and much more.



explains the philosophical basis of Libertarianism.

■ Discusses our positions on everything from foreign aid, to farm subsidies, to welfare, to the FDA, to the "War on Drugs," to the coming collapse of Social Security.

■ Explains how the LP is **already succeeding politically**.

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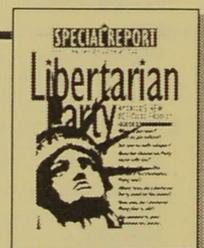
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Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

# Victory in Georgia

➤ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

was to finish our voter identification phone bank. By the end of the campaign we had identified a little over 200 voters who were committed to Bruce — about half the number of votes he ended up receiving.

By contrast, DeWayne Metheny's campaign [in Auburn] had identified twice as many supporters as the votes he eventually got. This difference was due to at least five factors. Metheny was in his second campaign for the same office, and had not identified many supporters from the first run. They also concentrated more on phone work than on door-to-door, and had made several dialings to the entire list, in many cases identifying two or more votes per household.

**W**e were identifying by household only, so we figured that we had at least 300 votes from the 200 households we had identified. We had made two dialings to the entire list, but still had talked to only about half of the households. We called all the identified supporters back the night before the election, even telling them that the weather would be very stormy on election day, so every vote would count even more.

As volunteers had worked through the phone list, we developed a list of voters for Bruce to call personally. I first had him call all the undecided from the phone polling. Also, volunteers who were making advocacy and identification calls would ask undecided voters if they would like Bruce to call them personally.

Sunday morning before the election, we found out that the second hit piece was being dis-

tributed door-to-door, along with pieces of literature from the two main opposition candidates who had been endorsed by the Mayor. This hit piece was signed by someone with some standing in the community, a Martha Randolph Hunt.

Mrs. Hunt had originally qualified to run for the City Commission, but had withdrawn from the race early on. As soon as she withdrew from the race, the Mayor appointed her to the Development Commission. She again attacked Bruce for "a total lack of community involvement," and also his position on

and wrote three short paragraphs of endorsement. We then started rounding up co-signers for the letter, ending up with about 40 names endorsing Bruce as a good man who would do a good job as commissioner.

We were actually aided in securing the endorsements by the fact that the hit piece had been sent. People were calling Bruce in a backlash reaction to the pieces, offering statements of support. We had the letter formatted by 11 am, printed at Kinko's by 3 pm, and by 6 pm on Monday, election eve, volunteers and a few paid kids had distributed the piece to all 1,177 homes in the city.

Election day itself was fairly calm. We got a number of calls thanking us for sending out the

posted until the end of the day in Georgia. In many areas the list of who has voted is posted in the afternoon so known supporters who have not voted can be targeted for a last-minute get out the vote phone call.

**W**hen the final vote was in, Bruce had placed first with 432 out of 932 total votes cast. Our opponent Osofsky, the unlimited government candidate, was elected with a second place showing of 409 votes. Next was the other "status quo" opponent, who had been endorsed by the Mayor. He lost with 389 votes.

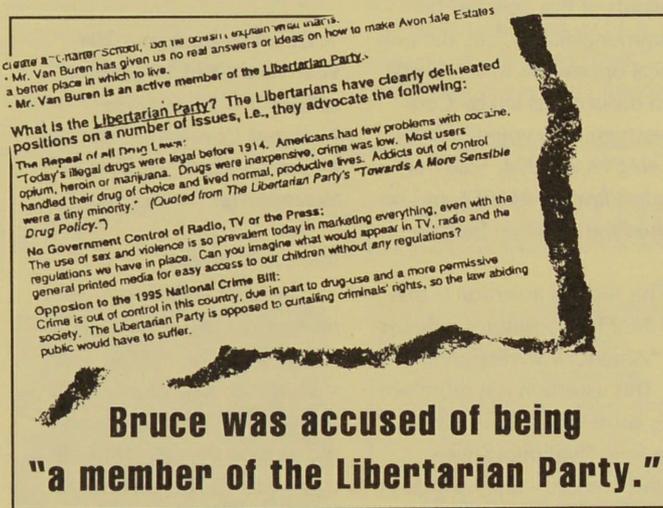
Mayor John Lawson, when told that we beaten his hand-picked boys, said simply, "Well, I'll be damned."

I told you at the beginning that our victory had already had an effect on policy and had already saved the taxpayers money, even though Bruce does not take office until January.

Bruce's election has also forced Osofsky, the mayor, and the rest of the Council to drop any hopes they had of the city buying the Tudor village with tax dollars or bonds, and they have completely given up on the idea. They realize that we woke up the electorate to exactly what their proposals really meant. Osofsky is now doing exactly what we would like for him to be doing — going out and hustling for private investors for the restoration project. What we did saved each household in the city around \$3,000.

And at the first City Commission meeting after the election, they started to talk about how to privatize Avondale's trash pick-up. ■

*Ron Crickenberger is an At-Large member of the Libertarian National Committee, and the Chairman of the LP's Campaign Committee.*



education. This letter was quite harsh in tone.

Bruce was the only candidate to have any negative campaigning directed at him — a sure sign you have your opponents worried. We decided that since the two hit pieces had gone out by independent voters endorsing anybody but Van Buren, we should try to get out an endorsement also.

Sunday afternoon about 5 o'clock we started putting this last piece together. We quickly found a sponsor for the letter,

endorsement letter. We even got a call from Martha Hunt, apologizing for the hit piece she had sent.

In many races, election day activity is critical to success, but Georgia election law and circumstances prevented us from engaging in any meaningful campaigning on election day. State law prohibits campaigning within 150 feet of the outside edge of the polling place. In most precincts this eliminates any effective campaign activity. Also, a list of who has voted is not

# NAFTA & the Libertarian Party

**Libertarians should continue to support NAFTA as a "weak step" towards free trade — and not be swayed by "State's Rights" or Buchanan-style "Nationalism" arguments**

**BY DON ERNSBERGER**

**Editor's Note:** At the *Libertarian National Committee meeting in Washington, DC on December 9-10, 1995*, a resolution was introduced to rescind the National LP's previous endorsement of NAFTA. After discussion, the motion failed unanimously. The following essay from LNC member Don Ernsberger explains why LNC members voted the way they did.

**T**he discussion within the Libertarian Party over the LP's endorsement of the North American Free Trade [NAFTA] legislation very clearly marks the difference between individuals drawn to the Libertarian Party because of their allegiance to concepts of individual personal rights and free voluntary exchange on one hand — and those who base their politics on concepts of "State's Rights" and "Nationalism" on the other.

Two major assertions have arisen in this discussion. The first involves a misunderstanding of the political realities in Washington, DC. The second involves a misunderstanding of fundamental libertarian politics.

The first asserts that NAFTA has led the U.S. government into a policy of providing a bailout to the Mexican currency and banking system.

The idea that NAFTA was the cause of the recent federal government loan guarantees to Mexico ignores the fact that U.S. government involvement with the World Bank and the

International Monetary Agencies have been a continuous aspect of American foreign policy since the end of World War Two. A policy, by the way, which the Libertarian Party has long attacked. As a party, we urge withdrawal from all such international finance agencies.

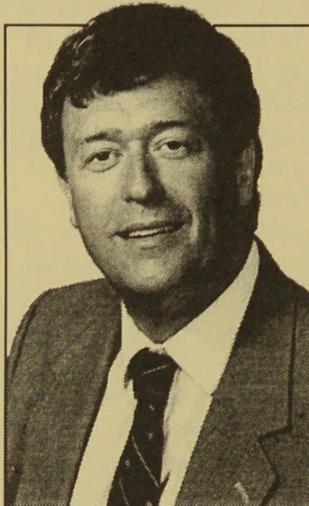
The bipartisan loan guarantees to Mexico would have occurred whether NAFTA existed or not. As long as international banking interests have political power in both major parties, bailouts of this type will be commonplace. In fact, the only vocal opposition to the Mexican bailout was led by Congressmen who voted in favor of NAFTA in 1994. True free-traders favored NAFTA and opposed the Mexican bailouts.

**T**he second assertion is that NAFTA constitutes a threat to "American Sovereignty."

This assertion is a more serious issue. Exactly what does the term "National Sovereignty" mean — and how does NAFTA endanger it?

The concept of National Sovereignty means that laws that govern individuals within the U.S. should be made politically by those individuals.

The danger to "National Sovereignty" posed by NAFTA is that an outside international agency might interfere with the asserted "right" of our Federal government to do such things as: Enact tariffs; establish trade quotas; subsidize farmers; pass discriminatory standards of inspection of goods made overseas; or otherwise inter-



★ Don Ernsberger, a 20+ year veteran of LP political action, is a Libertarian National Committee At-Large Representative. He lives in Warminster, Pennsylvania.

fere in free trade.

The truth is that *no government*, including our own, should have the right to do such things. Any pressure that an international agency can put to bear on such anti-free trade actions is a positive *advance* in individual rights — not an attack upon them.

But in fact, the *only* power NAFTA creates in such "inter-

national bodies" is that the World Trade Organization, if it finds that one country is breaking the free trade agreements, can grant permission for the victim country to break its free trade commitments. . .

That's hardly a threat to any libertarian view of economic freedom!

**I**t is easy to understand why a believer in state's rights would have a problem with NAFTA. Or a supporters of Pat Buchanan's anti-trade protectionism, or even supporters of labor union politics.

But for a person calling themselves a Libertarian to have fears of NAFTA betrays an endorsement of beliefs foreign to our creed.

NAFTA was only a weak step in the direction of free trade in the world. Libertarians favor unilateral abolition of tariffs and quotas and subsidies.

But NAFTA is a small step in the *right direction*. Those within the Libertarian Party who attack it reveal more about their own underlying political values than their understanding of NAFTA. ■

## Share your success!

**D**o you have a state or local success story? A campaign technique that worked particularly well? A fundraising program that earned big bucks? A media outreach effort that generated publicity? A membership growth plan that exceeded expectations? We want to hear about it — and share it with other Libertarians! We're looking for articles, story ideas, and news items for the *Libertarian Volunteer*. Call, write, fax or e-mail editor Bill Winter. (See page 2 for contact information.)

# Newsletter targets libertarian radio hosts

> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

show hosts identifying themselves as libertarians — both small 'l' and large 'L' — and talk radio is becoming an increasingly influential part of the American political landscape," said Bill Winter, LP Director of Communications and editor of *Liberty Talk*.

Not only are more talk show hosts libertarian, but the talk-radio audience is shifting in a libertarian direction, too, said Winter, citing a September 1995 *Talk Daily* poll which found that 10% of the talk-radio audience describes their political affiliation as "libertarian."

"Talk radio is becoming in-

creasingly receptive to our message. We need to make sure we get our fair share of coverage, and that we maintain a high profile in this crucial media market," he said.

In the introduction to the first issue, Winter told the libertarian-friendly talk show hosts: "Talk radio is a major force in American politics. And the LP is becoming increasingly professional, effective, and influential. Working together, we can keep the issues and principles in which we both believe at the forefront of public debate."

Winter said the two-page newsletter features short, punchy



stories about LP projects, media coverage, candidates, ballot access progress, political strategies, and election victories. It also features capsule summaries of polls which confirm the growing anti-government trend in the country, and facts and figures which make the case against "big government."

"I want *LibertyTalk* to be a resource for talk show hosts," said Winter. "I want to provide

them with the facts and figures to talk positively about the Libertarian Party."

Also, said Winter, "We want to keep our name in front of them on a regular basis, so they remember us when it comes time to book guests!"

Winter said the LP has been developing an increasingly high profile on talk radio. "We had a great year in 1995. We scheduled over 100 radio interviews which were broadcast on more than 1,200 individual stations. But we want to do even better in 1996," he said.

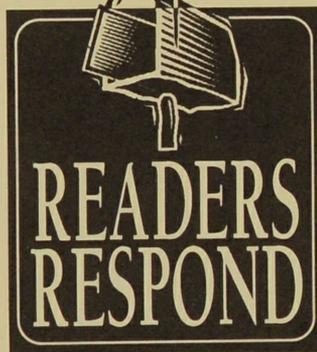
**How you can help:** "If you have any Libertarian-leaning radio talk show hosts in your state that we may not know about, please tell me so I can add them to the list to receive *LibertyTalk*," said Winter. "I need just three things: Their name; the station they're on, and their fax number." ■

# Winning, sovereign citizens, and contracts

I disagree with G.T., Arizona. [Readers Respond, Fall/Winter 1995]. Winning office, or, at a minimum, becoming sufficient a political force to shift the political spectrum in our direction, is a prior condition to becoming free. Being a libertarian isn't enough.

—J.L., Delaware

Some thoughts on your response [Fall/Winter 1995] on the "Ask the Headquarters" question. [You wrote]: "The National LP has never issued a policy statement on Mr. Granse and this theories" [on so-called Sovereign Citizens]. An impartial writer would have simply stopped there. The rest is [Director of Communications] Bill Winter's personal opinion, and



it was inappropriate to print it under the guise of answers from the LP headquarters [since] it has the effect of making a National LP policy statement where none existed before.

The battle must be fought on many fronts. Citizens for a Constitutional Republic (CCR) and the Libertarian Party compliment each other on this, al-

though they are utilizing different means of getting there, they share the same mission, "to roll back the size, cost, and intrusiveness of government."

—Citizen L.Q.,  
"Republic of Minnesota"

**Editor's Response:** Our answer noted that the National LP had *not* issued a policy statement on Mr. Granse's theories (or their legal validity). The rest of the answer dealt with practical questions: Should LP activists promote such controversial legal theories? Or should we focus on *partisan* political activities that specifically promote the Libertarian Party?

Of course, individual Libertarians have the right to endorse and promote whatever political

or social causes they choose. But don't they have an obligation for somewhat greater discretion when they act officially on behalf of the LP?

When I read about having our own Libertarian Contract with America, I thought that it might be interesting to copy the idea at the state level, by having all or most of the Libertarian candidates for each state develop their own list of state issues and what they want to do about each. Such as "A Contract with Oregonians," or "A Contract with Virginians." Now, is this a good idea, or is it a good idea that everyone else has thought of already, and is being worked on as I write?

—B.T., Oregon

# Notices

■ **Signs:** An LP activist has volunteered to make campaign signs, bumperstickers, or tee-shirts for other Libertarians at cost — if you meet his criteria. Steve Kennedy of Iowa, a professional screenprinter, has offered his services if: 1) The campaign is winnable or strategically important; and 2) He is reimbursed for materials before work is started. Kennedy said he prefers to “work with campaigns in his region, but will consider others.” Contact him at: 1957 Bertsch Street, Burlington IA 52601. Or call: (319) 752-3244.

■ **New Officers?** LP state convention season has begun, and

many states are electing new officers. If your state recently elected new officers, please send a complete, updated list — with name, title, address, and phone number — to the National HQ, Attn: Bill Winter.

■ **Platform Committee:** Don't forget the next Convention '96 deadline! The top 10 states must each select one member of the Convention Platform Committee by February 29th. Send the name, mailing address, phone, and e-mail address of your Platform Committee representative to Secretary John Famularo and the National office. (Top 10 states: California, Pennsylvania, Texas, Michigan, New York, Florida, Washington, Illinois, New Jersey, and Ohio.)

■ **Request: Newsletters!** Is your state, county, or local party

sending your newsletter to the national HQ? “These newsletters are very valuable to us in our efforts to keep track of state party activity,” said Director of Communications Bill Winter. “If you could add us to your regular mailing list, we'd really appreciate it!” Mail them to the HQ, attention Bill Winter.

■ **Campaign Materials:** Need buttons, signs, doorhangers, or baseball caps for your campaign this year? *Campaigns & Elections* magazine (in conjunction with Image Marketing) is offering a wide array of customized campaign materials for sale at competitive prices. They offer dozens of “stock” designs; print most items in one, two, or three colors; and ship in one to two weeks. Their “complete portfolio of campaign stock designs” is available for \$8, cred-

ited to orders placed within 90 days. Call (800) 888-5767.

■ **World Conference:** The International Society for Individual Liberty will hold its 1996 World Conference in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada from August 19 to 24. Price: \$595 for conference and accommodations. For more information, contact Brian Taylor via e-mail at: [brian\\_taylor@mindlink.net](mailto:brian_taylor@mindlink.net) Or call: (604) 224-4628.

■ **College Seminars:** The Institute for Humane Studies is offering a series of one-week seminars this summer to give college students and recent graduates “a week of libertarian enlightenment.” The seminars are free and will be held near major U.S. cities. For a free brochure about the program, call (800) 697-8799. ■

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