

California Freedom

June 2003

The official publication of the **Libertarian Party of California**

LPC business owners put money where mouth is

In recognition of the great contributions Libertarians make to limit an overgrown government, Linda and Wayne Grau met LPC Chair Aaron Starr on May 4 to present the Party a check for \$700. The Graus own a business the type of which was created by de-regulation of the telephone industry in the early eighties. Their business, Best Tel, was started in the early nineties to purchase excess telephone equipment for cash. Now Linda and Wayne are finding ways to assist the Libertarian

recent years' election results that LPC has helped to generate in our home state."

"Our contribution has no strings attached; nonetheless, we hope it'll support expansion of a pilot telephone contact program already underway in the Ventura region," commented Wayne. "The pilot telephone program isn't using Best Tel equipment, but we're not afraid of the competition. We'd like every region to know that if they embark on the pilot program, we can offer excellent equipment that does more, and at a discount for Libertarians."

"It makes perfect sense for small business owners to support the Party."

Party of California. "It's not only because we are strong backers of individual rights," said Linda, "but because we are pleased with

Starr is grateful for the Graus' contribution. "It shows they have a great deal of confidence in the direction we're taking, especially this year's focus of testing methods to increase membership," Starr said. "It makes perfect sense for small business owners to support the Party. The other political parties just aren't sympathetic to them—I believe Democrats are influenced by big labor, and Republicans are influenced by big business. No one but the Libertarian Party is looking out for the rights of small businesses. The Graus understand that."

For over 20 years, the couple has called Orange County home.



• LPC Chair Aaron Starr (center), accepts donation on May 4 from Wayne and Linda Grau

The Final Bow from "Traveling Capitalism Show" A tribute to Joe Fuhrig

by **Mark Hinkle**
Regional LPC Representative

March 29 saw a veritable Who's Who of northern California libertarians, faculty and students from many San Francisco Bay Area schools, and family and friends gathered to honor Joe Fuhrig, a.k.a. the "Traveling Capitalism Show."

Joe's brother Mike hosted the memorial service in Hayward, emceed by Marshall Fritz, longtime friend and fellow board member of Advocates for Self Government, and current President of Alliance for Separation of School and State.

Two dozen of Joe's friends and family reminisced. A cousin spoke of Joe's early expertise with numbers; students, of how his enthusiasm for economics had changed their lives. Jeffrey Hummel, now Assistant Professor of Economics at San Jose State University, gave a moving tribute. They'd shared offices at

SJSU and Golden Gate University, and he credited Joe with having influenced him to become a teacher and to finish writing his book.

Marshall Fritz related how at 4 A.M. they had hopped a freight car in Southern Pacific Railroad's Oakland switching yard, and had "ridden the rails" all day. Joe had held trains in great fascination and had ridden the rails before.

Joe had been an avid golfer; recently he'd told me that he'd played 81 rounds of golf last year. His golfing buddies scattered his ashes on Joe's favorite links — strictly illegal, so no names were revealed—while riding a golf cart, just in case a speedy getaway was needed. The gathering of about 150 had a good laugh hearing that Joe viewed golf carts as being sent by Satan.

David Theroux, president of Independent Institute, spoke of Joe's love of teaching and the impact he'd had on so many students—an estimated 20,000 students throughout his career. Joe had taught an annual week-long

Summer Seminar in Political Economy at the Institute for high school and college students.

Charles Baird, chair of Economics at CSU Hayward, reminisced about Joe's college days. Joe was the first there to graduate with a master's degree in Economics. Greg Christainsen, also of CSU Hayward, said Joe's love of teaching had compelled him to teach as many as 21 classes a year. Joe had taught

also at University of S.F., Smith Center for Private Enterprise Studies at CSU Hayward, the Independent School in Wichita, Armstrong College in Berkeley, College of San Mateo, and Cato Institute. He also had served as an economist at the Fair-Issac Corporation, and since 1992 had been Chief Economist at Michael H. Clement Corp.



• Mark Hinkle

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California Freedom

Vol. I • Issue 1 • June 2003

California Freedom

is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published herein do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated.

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES

All news stories, editorials, and announcements are due six weeks prior to the month of publication:

- August, '03 : Due 06.20.03
- September, '03 : Due 07.21.03
- October, '03 : Due 08.20.03

Advertising orders and artwork are due eight weeks and four weeks, respectively, prior to the month of publication.

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The key ingredient to growing the LPC

Okay—it's time to get serious and grow. Yes, size does matter. More people make for bigger campaigns and more competition creates better candidates. Better, well-funded candidates mean more victories at the local level, which brings us that much closer to a freer world.

Becoming a serious, growing political party requires we communicate effectively and be organized from top to bottom.

So, what are we doing about this?

Well, we're working to become more professional.

Often the first communication a new member has with us is through our monthly newsletter. So, we've brought Elizabeth C. Brierly and Trever Barker on board to transform our monthly newspaper, *LPC Monthly*, into *California Freedom*. Elizabeth owns a professional editing service, while Trever owns a graphic arts business. I hope you'll agree that *California Freedom* is something you'll be proud to show your friends.

Our current literature has a somewhat think-tank approach to conveying information. Over



FROM THE CHAIR

"If you believed your life and freedom depended on it, would you ask one person to join this month?"

the next few months I'm hoping we'll develop professional-looking literature that sells people on joining our party. It really depends on funding.

We're also experimenting with different approaches to inviting people to join us. Over the next few months I'm hoping we'll have the resources to test approaches using telemarketing, and perhaps even a direct sales force.

While there's much we can do to professionalize ourselves at

the state party level, there's also much to be done at the local level.

Bruce Cohen, our Executive Committee member from Orange County, is busy signing up county organizations (a.k.a. regions) to join our Awards and Recognition program, which encourages the type of activity that will increase our size and effectiveness.

The state party also has adopted a model set of bylaws for those regions who haven't established their own, or who believe that their current bylaws may impede their becoming an effective organization.

As we transform ourselves into a professional organization outsiders will admire, we will steadily become more worthy of their contributions of time and money.

Yes, we can make it easier to join and belong, but even if we do all of this, there's still one key ingredient needed to get more people to join...you.

We are a membership organization, so everything we accomplish is due to the time and money of our members.

If you believed your life and freedom depended on it, would

you ask one person to join this month? Of course you would. It all comes down to desire and priorities. We offer the greatest product in the world: freedom. Proudly share it today with a friend just as you would a good movie.

And if you want to really turbocharge our growth, become a monthly pledger to the party. Our budget dedicates most all of these monthly contributions to growing our ranks.

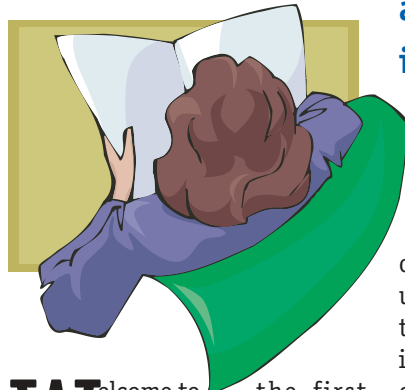
Remember, it comes down to individual initiative...one person...YOU.

Freedom depends on you. Ask a friend to join today. ●



Aaron Starr
Aaron Starr, Chairman

FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to the first issue under our new masthead, *California Freedom*! This is a challenging and pivotal time for the cause of liberty, with the recent rampant infringements on our pocketbooks here in California, and on our

civil liberties nationwide. It's an exciting and pivotal time too for the Libertarian Party of California, with innovative projects such as Operation Breakthrough—the successful candidate recruitment effort, and with our new focus on awarding and recognizing all the great work being done by our candidates, our contributors, by our record number of Libertarians in public office, and by the regional affiliates of our state party.

"Give honest, sincere appreciation. Be 'hearty in your approbation and lavish in your praise.'"

In the spirit of this advice from Dale Carnegie, in this issue we focus on appreciating and recognizing all of the folks who make up this party, from welcoming those who've just joined our ranks in March and April, to honoring one who, sadly, has passed on; from profiling your not-so-elusive-after-all state executive committee representatives, to spotlighting a pair of generous donors.

We have rundowns on activities from a couple of the LPC's new subcommittees, such as Coalition Building. And since gaining political influence and governmental control is a political party's *raison d'être*, candidate recruiter extraordinaire Ted Brown engages us with a report on the ex-

periences of Libertarians victorious in their campaigns for elective office. We admire their courage and want to learn from them all we can about what's working, what's not, and what this year's candidates should expect.

Finally, be sure not to miss

the common sense of one of our champions, Jon Coupal, the president of California's largest taxpayers' association. He reveals yet another sneaky *modus operandi* California officials are employing to campaign for even more taxation.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication and energy of the departing editor of *LPC Monthly*, Scott Wilson, and his team, and to those who've helped the new team at *California Freedom* to bring this newspaper to you. You're all busy making a difference—and mak-

ing a living—which makes your commitment to spreading the word of liberty and sharing with us your activities that much more valued. I encourage all members and readers to comment on the newspaper and its content, and even to write up activism you've observed or in which you've been participating. Let's see your name in print! ●

Toward greater liberty!

Elizabeth C. Brierly
Elizabeth C. Brierly, Editor

A Tribute to Joe Fuhrig

Continued from page 1

Also in attendance were former LNC and LPC Chair Mary Gingell, former LP activist Bill Evers, now at Hoover Institution, and Eric Garris, founder of the "AntiWar" web site, Terry Floyd of the East Bay LP, long-time libertarians June Genis, Alan Paul, Tim Starr, Jeannie Kennedy, from ISIL, Jim Elwood and Vince Miller, as well as Jeff Rigenbach, and my wife, Linda Hinkle.

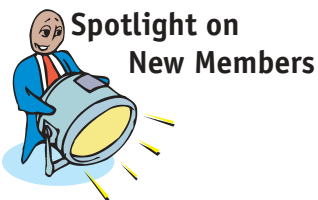
An abundance of messages from those unable to attend included notes from fellow libertarians David R. Henderson, Jim

Lark, Manny Klausner, B.J. Wagener, Bruce Lagasse, David Bergland, Dale Burrow, Charles Olson, Kate O'Brien, and Virginia McIntosh.

Joe's cousin remarked that when you enter this world, you cry and the world rejoices. Live your life so that when you leave, you rejoice and the world cries.

Joe Fuhrig, we applaud you. ●

Mark Hinkle was LPC chair in 1997-2001, and now is rep for Santa Clara County. A retired engineering manager, he lives in Morgan Hill with his wife, Linda, and their 11-year-old, Logan.



by **Elizabeth C. Brierly**
Editor, *California Freedom*

Margaretann Harrison can't help being a libertarian. Of course, libertarianism is the moral and economically productive philosophy, but that wasn't what did it. During her childhood, Harrison's household just had a generally libertarian air about it. Not surprising, since she is daughter to the one and only Gail Lightfoot, former chair of the LPC and a frequent candidate.

For as long as Harrison can remember, her mother was active in the Party. At 11, Harrison was registered as an LPC member to help her region attain the ten members needed to be considered "official," and she even attended national LP conventions.

For the last eight years, Harrison has been inadvertently promoting liberty and responsibility through her career as a Montessori teacher. It makes perfect sense. In her school, children are not only permitted but encouraged to self-direct their learning process, sequence of subjects, and activities. Doesn't that lead to conflicts or a chaotic environment? Harrison explains, "We very clearly couple the idea of freedom with that of responsibility. For example, there are strict guidelines not to damage other kids' belongings." Sounds like Harrison is developing future libertarians.

Disappointed in her older children's government education, Lightfoot enrolled Margaretann in Montessori from first through eighth grade. It fit perfectly with the libertarian philosophy in which she was immersed at home. It worked so well for her, in fact, that after being graduated from Cal Poly Pomona with her B.A. in Liberal Studies, Harrison undertook the rigorous teacher training of Association Montessori International, earning her diploma

It's in her Blood

Margaretann Harrison, Rancho Cucamonga

in Elementary Education.

Maria Montessori, Italy's first female physician, chose to observe rather than to direct children in an authoritarian manner as in conventional schools. She used as the learning avenue what she could see was interesting to each; if the child is respected as an individual to freely choose a subject to learn, he'll be far more engaged by the curriculum. Harrison says, "The art of the teacher is to introduce the universe to the children—Maria called it 'cosmic education.'" Then the child will feel—and be—responsible for his own learning.

That responsibility is a critical component of a libertarian lifestyle.

Pupils "must be purposefully engaged in meaningful activities," insists Harrison. "Usually they are very concentrated and focused, working on skills other than just academics," even while they're learning their facts and figures. They may be grinding coffee beans while learning the agricultural industries of South America. On the rare occasion a child forgoes responsibility and becomes bored or unproductive, he will "spend 45 minutes on the thinking rug." This year Harrison is teaching six- to ten-year-olds, and starting next year she'll be with "upper elementary"—ages nine to twelve.

What about politics? "The way we deal with history helps with politics. We discuss the timeline of life, how everyone needs food, shelter, and clothing, and how each culture developed differently because of its particular environment, such as folks at the equator using building materials other than bricks. We explain economic geography, and how trade throughout the world leads to, for example, the child having bread for his morning toast. The children learn to value all jobs," explains Harrison, since each is a piece of the trad-

ing puzzle. "Montessori lets them develop into the person they were meant to be. They'll just plain be successful."

Harrison and her husband of seven years, Chuck, a field manager in the construction industry, have their daughter, Heather, 4-1/2, well into her own Montessori education at Harrison's school. But Heather is not yet a member of the LPC. Not to worry, Heather; our membership committee has been alerted and will soon invite you to carry on the family tradition, and the torch of liberty and self-responsibility!

When asked why she had only just now renewed her childhood LPC membership, Harrison mused that the energetic activism by her mother had always seemed to be plenty for one family. We're glad to have you on board again, Margaretann! ●

Elizabeth C. Brierly has been active in the LP since 1994. After serving on the LPC Executive Committee for several years, she ran in 2002 for State Board of Equalization, District 1. She is a free-lance editor and communications consultant, and lives in San Jose.

"The art of the teacher is to introduce the universe to children."

Welcome Aboard!

So many freedom-loving folks, upon having found the Libertarian Party, describe their feeling of discovery as that of "coming home." In March and April, the LPC has been delighted to welcome home 52 new members, including economist Adrian Moore of Reason Foundation, Dianne Shook, a self-employed software developer, Charles McGlinchey, a financial and tax planner, and Theresa Morley, an environmental engineer with the U.S. Navy. Each month, we'll be profiling new members, starting this month with Montessori school teacher Margaretann Harrison.

March

James Alves Lakeside
Kenny Arnold Poway
Rosemarie Banich Redondo Beach
James Bullard Monterey
Ezra Finkle San Francisco
Kim Gordon Santa Ysabel
Robert Hansen Colton
Margaretann Harrison Rancho Cucamonga
Nolayan Herdegen ... Los Angeles
James Joshus Kelsey Seaside
Toni Lincoln Santee
Byron Martinez Simi Valley
Gregory Mauro Vista
Erin McIntyre Santa Paula
Ben Miller La Jolla
Courtney Moe Desert Hot Springs
Adrian Moore Tehachapi
Dennis Morrison Apple Valley
Ed Prokop Sacramento
Roberto Rodriguez ... Fillmore
Shane Scalisi Los Angeles
Kenneth Shartz Fresno
Robert Sullivan North Hollywood
Luke Vanderdrift Larkspur
Daniel Weston Fullerton

April

Richard Best West Hollywood
Kathleen Cappetti ... San Francisco
Agustin Castillo La Puente
Brian Cooper West Hollywood
Kristian Erickson San Francisco
Constance Ericson ... Oakland
Jennifer Graham Redlands
Richard Haas Yreka
Johnathon Hanson ... San Pedro
Raymond Hecht Irvine
Brian Kim Manhattan Beach
Robert Lightner Riverside
Marguerite Lorenz ... Tarzana
Charlene Lutz Playa del Rey
Andrew Lynch San Francisco
Kit Maira San Fernando
Joe Mazares San Diego
Theresa Morley San Diego
Anthony Munoz Vacaville
David Nieto Los Angeles
Ryan Porter Stanford
Valarie Rose San Francisco
Michael Selvaggio La Jolla
Dianne Shook Gold River
Noah Staitman Los Angeles
Gary Taylor Mountain View
Mary Zaletel Oakland

Advertisement



by
Richard Rider

Thank you, California Libertarians!

As you probably know, I run a regular monthly ad in this newspaper for my company's discount telecommunications phone service. As my Libertarian-related business has grown, so has the size of my ad. I started with a business card-sized ad, and now we've progressed to bigger ads as results improved. That is because advertising in the LP newspaper WORKS—thanks to all of you who have signed up for our services.

Fortunately, such advertising is quite profitable to the Libertarian Party, providing a much-needed source of revenue to help defray the cost of the newspaper itself. I never mind paying for such ads, knowing that the cost is a tax-deductible business expense.

For those of you who have not yet talked to my company about our long distance service, let me give you a summary of what we do. We are like an independent insurance agency, in that we BROKER with many long distance carriers, seeking to match the client with the proper company. Currently we represent 28 different carriers, and review the offerings of over 70 such companies. It's a bit of an administrative nightmare for us, but a great deal for our clients.

Accordingly, we place clients with different carriers, depending on their needs and location. We offer our service to anyone in the U.S. except Alaska, and currently we have clients in 41 states. We handle both business and residential long distance, plus we can provide low cost LOCAL service to most commercial accounts with four or more lines, and some residential lines.

Here's what Ed Teyssier, President of Microwave Solutions, Inc. (and Chair of the San Diego County Libertarian Party), has to say about our service:



"Richard promised me that he'd save my company 'at least 30%' over my present phone bills. Turns out we saved at least 70% over what we had been paying for the same long distance calls. In fact, the savings were so great that I thought a portion of the bill must have been missing. I could hardly believe it when my accountant said, 'That's it. That's all of it!' Our telephone calls and faxes around the world are now so cheap, I don't even think about the cost."

If saving money on local and long distance service without sacrificing quality is of interest to you, your family, your business or your friends, call us for a quote. Call us locally at (858) 530-2634, or toll-free at 1+(800) 914-8466. Also you can contact me by e-mail—RichardRider@EconomyTelcom.com.

"Only the educated are free."

- Epictetus, Discourses

Who's Who on your LPC Executive Committee

These are the hard-working folks setting the strategic direction for your state Party. They welcome your inputs and of course, your time assisting in areas where their committees could capitalize on your own skills and experience! Along with bringing you updates from subcommittee chairs, starting this issue we'll be spotlighting these energetic leaders and activists to give you insight into what's happening at the state board level, and to give you the opportunity to get involved in projects that interest you. You can find their telephone numbers and addresses on the LPC web site, at www.CA.LP.org/lpc-ec.html.

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Northern Vice Chair	Lawrence Samuels*	.	LawSamz@Hotmail.com
Southern Vice Chair	Mark Selzer	.	Liberty64@JPS.net
Secretary	Lori Adasiewicz, Esq.	Coalition Building; Legal	LAdasiewicz@ATTBI.com
Treasurer	Monica Kadera*	.	MKadera@GTE.net
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	Ted Brown	Candidate Recruitment & Elected Official Support	TedBrown1776@hotmail.com
	M Carling*	Events Planning & Oversight	M@Idiom.com
	Bruce Dovner	Voter Registration	BDovner@ArtNet.net
	Dan Wiener	Member Acquisition & Retention (general)	Wiener@ZeroCall.com
Alternate At-Large Rep	W. Rick Nichol*	Visual Presentation	W_Rick_Nichol@Yahoo.com
Regional Representatives	Frank Manske, East Bay, 1	Volunteer & Staff Development	FJManske@Value.net
	Terry Floyd, Alternate for East Bay	Member Acquisition & Retention (single issue)	TLFloyd@LMI.net
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	Doug Scribner, Alternate for Orange County	.	Doug@123abc.net
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	Mark Hinkle, Santa Clara, 43	Fund Raising; Legislation & Lobbying	Mark@Garlic.com
	Joe Dehn, Alternate for Santa Clara	Member Communications	JWD3@DehnBase.org
	Edward Bowers*, L.A.: San Fernando Valley, 61	Media Relations	EBowers@Mac.com
	Erich Miller*, L.A.: Alternate for San Fernando Valley	.	R61@ErichMiller.com

* New to the Executive Committee this year



LPC Leaders Share Their Skills, Goals, Activities

M Carling, At-Large Representative

M Carling is new to the LPC Executive Committee, as of February's state convention. A devoted pledger to the LPC, he is also a California native, Palo Alto being his birthplace, and U.C. Berkeley being his alma mater. Interested in politics earlier than most, he earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science, and also has worked on the Stanford University campus as a research assistant at Hoover Institution, the libertarian-leaning think tank dedicated to research in domestic policy and international affairs, and the home of more than one Libertarian Party activists over the years.

A globe trotter, Carling currently lives in Vilnius, Lithuania, where he hopes to see many of you at July's conference of the International Society for Individual Liberty. As makes perfect sense for one living so far from home, his hobbies include travel and languages.

This generous and dedicated activist also heads the LPC's Event Planning and Oversight Committee, which will oversee the planning of next February's annual

LPC convention.

Carling owns Codeworks, a custom software development company based in Vilnius. The firm is producing software—free of charge—to facilitate the party's campaign to recruit Libertarian candidates to run for office. Thank you, M! ●

Lori Adasiewicz, Esq., Secretary

Along with running her Sacramento-based estate planning firm, the energetic Lori Adasiewicz serves as LPC Secretary, and she's chairing both the Coalition Building and Legal subcommittees.

Adasiewicz discovered that she was a libertarian in 1996, while studying law in San Francisco. She became active in the party in 1998, when she moved to Dixon, California. Learning that the region was inactive, she attended the Success '99 program, helped to organize the Solano region, and attended her first state convention. Energized by the convention's many diverse people united in their libertarian convictions, she ran for and was elected to an at-large representative position on the executive committee. She was also re-

cruited by the Harry Browne presidential campaign, for which she briefly served as California volunteer coordinator.

In 2001, Lori was elected Treasurer of the LPC. She quips that after her two-year term as Treasurer, "I remembered that accounting was really not my favorite pastime." So she stepped up to the plate and ran successfully for Secretary.

Adasiewicz's personal agenda while working toward liberty as a member of the executive committee is to focus on the ties that bind us together, rather than on the minor points of division. "We all want a freer society. We all agree on the destination, but not always on how to get there. The peculiar thing is that there is no wrong way to campaign for liberty. Every person has a role within the movement, and the LPC must find a way to inspire the average libertarian to action. This is the key most vital to our success, and for some reason, it is also the most elusive," she remarks.

Lori's commitment to freedom extends into her legal practice, where she helps her clients to minimize estate taxes and to eliminate government intrusion into their private lives during incapacity and at death. ●

"One world at a time."

- Henry David Thoreau

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- Rush Limbaugh

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Creating Strategic Partnerships



Coalition Building

by **Lori Adasiewicz**
Secretary, LPC

*Make new friends,
but keep the old.
One is silver and
the other's gold.*

This rhyme that I recall from a song during my childhood continues to offer sage advice; it's especially applicable to our efforts in the Libertarian Party.

Political success is achieved through the cooperation of a plurality to achieve a particular goal, not necessarily by a majority—aligned on all issues—who work to overhaul the system as a whole. This is particularly important for libertarians to acknowledge. We are convinced of the superiority of our philosophy and enamored with our consistent application of that philosophy. However well that passion works for us within the organization, it is not necessarily translatable to those of other political persuasions. But we can usually find common ground on one or two issues with any person with whom we might discuss politics. That common ground might be a means; it might be an end. But as long as we agree on one issue, we can band together for political change on that issue. Being part of any number of coalitions

can empower us to achieve change on many issues.

The LPC has been working with a couple of coalitions this year. The first is the effort to recall Governor Gray Davis. A Republican drafted and filed the recall notice, then focused on recruiting others from across the political spectrum to join the campaign. There was no discussion nor agreement struck regarding a candidate who would emerge to replace the incumbent.

The focus was on the broad-based dissatisfaction with our governor and on removing him from office. The LPC convention delegates voted to join the effort, so the LPC has mounted its own effort to publicize the effort, collect signatures, and make it happen. If you would like to volunteer your time or to donate money to help achieve a historical recall, sign up on the LPC's web site.

The LPC is also working with various local coalitions against the USA/PATRIOT Act. Again, the coalition was prompted by another organization, in this case the American Civil Liberties Union. The ACLU identified other organizations within each community to spearhead the local effort. The ACLU participates actively as a member of the coalition, and lends its name to the cause. The goal is to have resolutions passed by city councils across the state calling for the repeal of the Act, nonenforcement by local law agencies, and non-cooperation with federal authorities. Many resolutions have been passed in cities across America, a success for the cause of freedom. At PetitionOnLine, there is a petition called "Immediate and Total Repeal of the

USA/PATRIOT Act." My suggestion is to sign it, and then to revise the petition language into a personal letter to your own congressional representatives.

Some libertarians have questioned whether we sacrifice our principles by allying with other groups. The sacrifice of principles comes only when we languish in political obscurity and do nothing about it. Because the political pendulum is now swinging in the other direction, joining forces with other groups will be the only way to achieve greater freedom at this time.

Working alongside other groups will also grant us a much-needed opportunity to establish credibility among them. Credibility will encourage thoughtful consideration, understanding, and acceptance of libertarian views. Working in coalitions for freedom will be effective in slowing the pendulum's progress toward authoritarianism, and perhaps even in reversing its direction.

We must enlist all resources available to us in the fight for freedom. One of those resources is other organizations. They have members, infrastructure, passion for a cause, and money to back it. If you are already involved with another organization, you too can be a libertarian ambassador of freedom. If you have a favored issue, I can help match you with an organization to which you can serve as our ambassador. Let's discuss the very best way to put your volunteer time to use.

We can do it—together! ●

Lori Adasiewicz is an attorney with an estate planning practice based in Sacramento. She served as LPC Treasurer 2001 to 2003, and now serves as Secretary. Her firm's slogan, "Building Foundations for the Future," certainly jibes with her objectives as Chair of the Coalition Building committee.

Awards and Recognition

Regional Teams Step Up to the Plate

by **Bruce Cohen**

Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee

I'm happy to report that as of this writing, four regions have formally declared their commitment to the program I introduced you to in April:

- East San Gabriel Valley, Chair Don Fernandes
- Orange County, Chair James Rushing
- San Bernardino, Chair John Scott Ballard
- Ventura County, Chair Saul Rackauskas

Congratulations to these four regions for their determination!

Every California region is automatically eligible for formal recognition of their efforts. We're encouraging as much participation as possible—and that's as easy as ticking off a short checklist and sending us a copy of your newsletter!

The chairpeople, boards, and members of these first four regions are pleased. Not only are they excited about the direction and goals they'll derive, but they're looking forward to receiving the benefits and assistance built into the program. Your region can be involved too. There is no dollar cost to take part, and in fact it ought to add to your member participation, not to mention your fundraising success.

The program offers awards in four different categories: Membership, Organization, Volunteerism, and Fundraising. A region can be awarded at the bronze, silver, or gold level in any of these four categories. On top of the category awards, a region achieving award status in all four categories will be presented with an overall award for excellence. Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards are also designated in this "overall" category.

Every active region is capable of attaining bronze award status within the first month or two of participation. Of course, we hope that at the annual convention in February we'll be presenting not only to these first four regions, but to every last one of you, awards in all four categories. We're here to help you succeed in your activism, and we are striving for this to be a valuable tool to that end. ●

Bruce Cohen is new this year to the LPC Executive Committee, serving as the representative from his region, Orange County. He is a real estate agent and speaks Japanese. He and the Awards and Recognition committee can be reached at (949) 813-8001, and BruceDCohen@Cox.net.

Read more about it

- **Recall Gray Davis campaign:**
www.DumpGrayDavis.com
- **ACLU on the USA/PATRIOT Act:**
www.ACLU.org/SafeAndFree
- **On-line petition:**
www.PetitionOnLine.com/Sabene/petition.html
Key words: "Immediate and Total Repeal of the USA/PATRIOT Act"
- **Get involved:**
Lori Adasiewicz, Chair of LPC Coalition Building Committee
(916) 443-3434,
LAdasiewicz@ATTBI.com

Small Biz LPers Fund Growth Plan

Continued from page 1

Wayne spends most of his time at Best Tel. A long-time activist for the LP, Linda counts as one of her greatest wins helping to thwart the county's billion dollar boondoggle now called Centerline—not once or twice, but four times. She explains, "Centerline is a proposed government-owned, government-operated urban rail system that vexes anyone who hates to see money wasted. If you have any lingering belief

in the viability of government-owned, government-operated urban rail for creating anything but union jobs and bureaucratic butter, visit Wendell Cox Consultancy on the 'net." The international public policy firm specializes in urban policy, transport, and demographics. Its principal, Wendell Cox, was certified by the Urban Mass Transportation Administration as an "expert" for its 1986-93 Public-Private Transportation

Network program of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

In November, Linda was one of the biggest LP vote-getters in Orange County local elections. Some would declare her the most successful Libertarian message vote-getter in the county, having garnered 4,951 votes in her campaign for Irvine City Council. Now she is serving a second term as a duly elected member of the the county's LP Central Committee.

The Graus are pleased that State Chair Aaron Starr will put their contribution to work right away. They're seeking fellow donors to match their contribution. Linda insists, "There is no question that we need to find and engage natural libertarians as Libertarian Party members. Wayne and I could sit on our duffs and say, 'let someone else do it.' We decided to sit on our duffs and let someone else do it with our cash. And it's fun!" ●



by **Ted Brown**
Elected Official Support

Libertarians in Public Office Profiles in Courage

This is the first in a series in which our pioneering Libertarians officeholders share their efforts with us.

Teri Kahn Tehachapi Valley Health Care District

Teri Kahn is one of five board members responsible for a hospital and two clinics in rural Kern County east of Bakersfield. She first won a short two-year term in November 2000, and was reelected to a full four-year term in November 2002.

When Kahn first ran, the board was enduring a great deal of bad press. Its finances were in poor shape, and it was thought that a tax hike was needed to avoid the loss of the only health care facilities within 45 miles. Then voters rejected a property tax hike. The public has picked up the slack, and lo and behold—no tax funding is required at all.

A new hospital is needed at a cost of \$800,000, and private

contributions have been coming in sufficiently to proceed. Local service clubs' and other charitable organizations' involvement has been notable. They are also coordinating with a group of other hospitals to share costs—such as using the same architectural plans for all of them.

The district used to be managed by a health care company. Now they have hired their own CEO to save money. Overall, things are looking good for the district and its directors. Teri Kahn is from a medical family and is a former EMT and veterinary student. Other directors include an ambulance company employee, a nurse and an orthopedic assistant. Thus, they have built-in knowledge of health care issues.

Teri Kahn has considered herself a Libertarian since about 1997, when her brother told her about the Party and, not surprisingly, she liked what she heard. She hasn't yet attended any Party events, but that could soon change, since Teri has graciously agreed to become interim chair of the LP of Kern County.

Joseph Corey Galt Fire Protection District

The Galt Fire Protection District provides fire and ambulance service to 256 square miles of rural southern Sacramento County. There are two fire stations, two chiefs, 18 firefighters and four other employees with an annual budget of \$3.2 million.

Joseph Corey, 57, is retired from the fire department at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories. He was elected as one of five directors in November 2000 by defeating an incumbent who was close to the other directors. Because of this, Corey is given minimal information, and his offers to contribute his expertise are rebuffed.

Corey would like the district to get value for its money. A contract was awarded without the District having called for bids. When he challenged this, he says, "all hell broke loose." They simply told Corey it was their method of operation, but he is concerned about savings. He is also concerned about his individual liability as a

director, since he could be sued, yet he is not provided the information necessary to prepare for the board's monthly meetings. The pay is \$75 per month.

When I asked whether the district could be privatized, Corey said he has heard that privatization has been attempted in Texas, but not whether that effort has succeeded. However, he does believe that dissolving the fire district in favor of a city fire department would reduce service, so he opposes that. With regard to funding, the district is underfunded. A measure to raise property taxes \$100 per parcel was defeated.

Corey has considered himself a libertarian since he watched the Clinton impeachment proceedings, with the Senate's whitewash of the issues. It was then that he quit as a Republican and registered Libertarian. ●

Ted Brown not only has run for public office more often than any other California Libertarian—with 12 races under his belt—but has served as LPC Chair. He has been the our prime candidate recruiter since the 1988 election, helping to grow libertarian pioneers throughout the state.

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Official Notice

Continued from page 8

plished through your region's newsletter. Also, election results must be reported to the State Party Secretary within 15 days of the election. If you are your region's secretary and are unsure of who are your region's members, contact Joe Dehn at Webmaster@CA.LP.org to obtain a password to view the on-line database of members and generate mailing labels.

Regions not submitting a certified list of officers as described above shall be considered to have had no valid election during the last twelve months and may be declared inactive.

Contact information for officers of each region shall be published on the state party web site and shall be considered the region's official officers until the end of their respective terms, unless a new list of officers is certified by the region's secretary, and sent via mail or e-mail to the State Party Secretary.

The State Party shall create an e-mail announcement list to broadcast any appropriate announcements to all regional officers. Such list shall include the e-mail addresses of regional officers provided to the state party. ●

For the latest activities, discussion groups, meetings, parties, and demonstrations of the Libertarian Party of California and to link to your local region's site, check out www.CA.LP.org.

"It's Only..."

by **Jon Coupal**
President, HJTA

We at California Freedom are still reeling from the expense—in time, money, and emotional health—of preparing our income tax returns. In light of that, we welcomed the opportunity to hear from this taxation expert about the understatement—and thus, misleading tendencies—of California's ballot writers.

Public officials pushing for a tax increase love to break the cost to taxpayers down to insignificant-sounding amounts—usually the cost per month, or even the cost per day—and add the words, "it's only."

"It's only pennies a day," they say, or, "It's only a few dollars per month."

The "it's only" approach in campaigning for new taxes is intended to impact the public in two ways. One, to make it sound as if the new tax is nothing to worry about, and two, to discour-

age opponents from speaking out for fear they will look like cheap-skates.

The award for the most arrogant example of using "it's only" surely must go to the Los Angeles Community College chancellor, who described the cost of a new bond as "the equivalent of one regular latte a month."

That's right; he compared the homeowner's monthly cost to that of a coffee drink costing \$3 and up. Will the latte become the new standard by which property taxes are measured?

As bad as the misleading campaigns sponsored by tax raisers may be, it becomes a lot more serious when the official ballot measure descriptions express the cost of new tax measures in these arbitrary amounts.

Several school districts that have placed school parcel tax measures on the June 2003 ballot are expressing the tax amounts on a monthly basis when they write the ballot questions.

This is all part of the larger problem of who writes the "impartial" ballot questions, which are supposed to accurately describe the measure.

Under state law, local gov-

ernments are able to write their own supposedly impartial ballot questions that will appear on the official ballot. This enables local governments to manipulate the process for their own political advantage. The latest tactic is representing the cost of a tax in the smaller monthly amount. For example, a \$120 per year parcel tax is being expressed as a \$10 per month tax, which doesn't sound as bad to many voters. In fact, nothing in law would prevent the cost of a tax measure from being expressed as an hourly rate. "This will increase taxes 1.4 cents per hour," the ballot might say.

While such conduct might be acceptable during the campaign phase, and allowed in the signed ballot arguments pro and con, it is inappropriate in the preparation of the impartial ballot description. These are annual taxes. They are neither imposed nor collected on a monthly basis. Describing them in these understated terms is clearly misleading.



• Jon Coupal

This is yet another example of the need to address behind-the-scenes procedural abuses by local officials that have been occurring to the detriment of taxpayers. ●

Reprinted with permission; originally issued the week of March 24, 2003 by Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

Jon Coupal is an attorney and president of Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, California's largest taxpayer organization, with offices in Los Angeles and Sacramento. The LPC was honored to have Mr. Coupal address its annual convention in February. HJTA's web site address is www.HJTA.org, and there you may subscribe to HJTA's e-newsletter.

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Meeting Notice

The quarterly meeting of the **LPC Executive Committee** will be held on June 21, 2003, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Hacienda Hotel

Los Angeles International Airport
525 North Sepulveda Blvd.
El Segundo, CA 90245-4496
Phone: (310) 615-0015

The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport.



All LPC members are welcome to attend.



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To become a monthly supporter of the Libertarian Party of California, fill in and return this form.

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Government Mandated Notices: The Federal Election Commission requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. The IRS requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fundraising appeals.

Official Notices of the Libertarian Party of CA

The Libertarian Party of California Executive Committee has voted to establish a set of model Constitution, Bylaws, and Meeting Rules (Model Regional Bylaws) for regions who lack these organizational documents. They may be viewed at <http://www.CA.LP.org> [now posted to www.CA.LP.org/act/organization.html].

We encourage all regions to adopt these Model Regional Bylaws for two reasons:

- 1) They create a comprehensive framework for building an effective local party; and
- 2) They are certified to be in compliance with state bylaws, as most recently modified by convention delegates.

Regions having no bylaws shall by default assume the Model Regional Bylaws unless and until they adopt a set not conflicting with State Party bylaws. A region having its own bylaws and not wanting to adopt the Model Regional Bylaws should send to the State Party Secretary by mail or e-mail no later than July 31, 2003 a set of the region's current bylaws certified by the secretary of the region, along with a link to the region's web site with the bylaws of the region, if available.

Any region not submitting a certified set of bylaws will be considered to have no bylaws and thus shall assume the Model Regional Bylaws.

If a region submits certified bylaws that conflict with the State Party's bylaws, the State Party shall inform the region of the nature of the conflict, whereupon the region shall have 60 days to amend their bylaws to correct the conflicting language and send to the State Party Secretary by mail or e-mail a duly amended set of bylaws certified by the secretary of the region, along with a link to the region's web site with the bylaws of the region, if available. A region will be considered to have adopted the Model Regional Bylaws at the end of 60 days in order to resolve the conflicting language, if it does not submit a duly amended set correcting the conflicting language in their existing bylaws.

Regions wanting to formally amend their bylaws normally need to send adequate notice to members by mail of a meeting of the central committee to consider bylaws changes. This notice can be accomplished through your region's newsletter. If you are your region's secretary and are unsure of who are your region's members, contact Joe Dehn at Webmaster@CA.LP.org to obtain a password to view the on-line database of members and generate mailing labels.

Certified bylaws of each region shall be published on the state party web site and shall be considered the region's official bylaws until a revised version is duly adopted, certified by the region's secretary, and sent via mail or e-mail to the State Party Secretary. ●

To help the state party and members keep in contact with the officers of active regions, we are compiling the current information on who are the officers of each region.

The Libertarian Party of California Executive Committee hereby requests all regions to certify who are their current officers in the following manner:

On or before July 31, 2003 each region's secretary shall send via mail or e-mail to the State Party Secretary the following information for each office:

- 1) The title of each officer position (*e.g.*, Chair),
- 2) The name of the current officeholder (indicate "vacant," where applicable),
- 3) The full contact information, including phone numbers and e-mail addresses,
- 4) Whether the individual was elected or appointed to the position,
- 5) The date when the individual was last elected or appointed to the position, and
- 6) When the office is next subject to election or appointment.

In addition, the region's secretary shall certify the date of the most recent election and whether an election notice had been mailed to all the region's members at least 30 days but no more than 60 days in advance of the election and that such election was conducted at a time and place reasonably accessible to the region's membership.

For future elections, regions must send timely notice to their members and to the State Party Secretary. This can be accom-

● See **Official Notice** page 6

Media Relations

Remembering Peter McWilliams

by Edward Bowers
Media Relations Chair, LPC

Mark your calendar! You can help pay tribute to Peter McWilliams by, on June 14, renting the movie "Peter's Friends."

Why? To create a statistical anomaly event, bringing attention to the cause of our fallen hero, on the third anniversary of his death, and to the current medical marijuana movement, in which California has been a pioneer. If every libertarian, every cannabis advocate, everyone who has witnessed a family member

struggle through chemotherapy, everyone to whom Peter was a friend participates, there will be a telling spike in the number of rentals for a movie released 11 years ago. Then we'll get to explain. The movie has been selected for its title. We were Peter McWilliams's friends, and this dear man, whose sense of humor and whose best-selling books helped so many, was indeed ours.

The film is available in VHS format, but may not be stocked everywhere, so plan ahead and shop around. Luckily, video shops are almost as prevalent

as Starbucks! Keep in mind that it matters not whether you've already seen the movie, or you don't care for the director or the cast; you don't even need to watch the movie.

Heck—you don't even have to own a VCR. That's not the point—catching the media's attention in an interesting, sincere, and completely uncynical way is. Please help honor our friend. ●



Throwing Down the Gauntlet

by Edward Bowers
Media Relations Chair, LPC

Got an opinion? Of course you do—you're a libertarian! The Media Relations committee wants to tap into your inherent skill at sharing your opinion.

This is a call for OpEd articles and letters which we will help you direct to the appropriate media outlets and newspapers. The current targeted topic? Small businesses—our natural constitu-

ency, as taken to heart at a recent meeting of the state chairs—and the effects on them of government, taxes, regulations, zoning, and the like. If your hot button is another topic, don't let that stop you—send in your articles and let's see your name in print! ●

Edward Bowers, Media Relations chair, is new this year to the LPC Executive Committee, and is serving also as chair of the L.A./San Fernando Valley region. He is an avid writer and director of libertarian public service announcement videos, and enjoys softball and dancing. He does not work for Blockbuster. He can be reached at EBowers@Mac.com.

California Freedom

The official publication of

The Libertarian Party of California

14547 Titus Street, Suite 214

Panorama City, CA 91402-4935

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