

# California Freedom

July 2003

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

## The Beauty of the Recall

by **Edward Bowers**  
Media Relations Chair, LPC

One major issue was put to the voters in California 25 years ago. I was too young to vote, but it was hard not to take sides. My friends were "Against." They feared that our after-school activities would be first to go if this measure passed. Meanwhile, my family was building a house and wanted to be able to afford moving in. So my father was "For." Soon Dad and Mom were Libertarians. Their new political party was probably too small to have had much impact in June of '78, but soon grew ten times bigger as if fed by Prop. 13's success.

Today Libertarians can make another such impression on Californians. Right now, the recall is labeled by Democrats as "sour grapes," an expensive right-wing scheme to reverse the election. It says so on the petition. Republicans and

• See **Recall Davis** page 7

## INSIDE

You too can run for office! **3**

Entrepreneur and Libertarian at 17 **4**

Help create Galt's Gulch in your lifetime **5**

Libertarian majority on resource board **6**

Happy 4th! A song for America **8**



• Norm "Firecracker" Westwell rolls out LP flyers

## ■ Taking Action

# Pinstriped Activist Burns Rubber

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

It's not his ratatat fast talking that earned Norm Westwell the moniker "Firecracker," but when his town, Huntington Beach, rescinded citizens' legal right to celebrate with safe and sane fireworks. Independence Day without sparklers? This infringement prompted Westwell to get involved in the LP. He registered Libertarian right out of high school, and started his 2000 campaign for City Council in 1999 and became a member of the Party.

The 44-year-old owner of a sportswear manufacturing firm runs a "paper" campaign each year in his city of 200,000. He's proud to report that during his last run he garnered more votes than a neighboring town's former mayor. In 2002 he ran

simultaneously for school board.

Now he plasters Huntington Beach neighborhoods with LP outreach flyers, methodically—with precinct lists—and rapidly—zipping from house to house on his in-line roller skates. His motto is, "We're Libertarians—let's roll." Clearly he feels that life is short—too short for merely walking these key mis-sives around! Quite fitting is his current flyer's theme: "The Boston Tea Party was over a tea tax of only 2%."

The outreach campaign he conceived and instigated has distributed about 15,000 flyers since January, and is focused on single-family homes, of which Westwell estimates there are 60K in the city. His wife and friends help with the effort too, which Westwell believes is "having an influence even though it's not obvious."

Keep sparkling, Firecracker! •

## ■ Media Relations

# Making Friends in TV News

by **Mark Hinkle**  
Regional LPC Representative

The morning of April 21, Bob McKenzie, a reporter-commentator for KTVU (Channel 2, the S.F. Bay Area's Fox affiliate) was assembling a story about—what else?—our state's budget crisis. His call to the LPC office landed in my lap as an opportunity for a TV interview to air that very evening during the 10 O'Clock News. As I'm a former LPC Chair and I live in the area, Aaron Starr passed me the baton.

Figuring that my five- to ten-minute interview would be trimmed to one or two minutes

at the most, I took full advantage of cell technology to gather some pithy quotes from Aaron and from Richard Rider during my drive to KTVU's studios near Oakland's Jack London Square.

Aaron reminded me of a few Gray Davis-related statistics, to wit: The levels of inflation and population growth since the governor took office would normally have corresponded with a 21% growth in government spending. Revenues actually increased 28%, but here's the rub: growth in

government spending has increased 36%.

Richard shared how curious it is that California is taxed at one of the highest rates in the country, and that we have low economic growth; conversely, the lowest taxed states have far higher growth.

Fortunately, I had opportune moments to share those tidbits so relevant to the budget crisis, and just these two made the final cut from my five-minute interview, and aired that evening. I was identified as a former chair of the LPC, and over the next few days, several friends reported they'd caught me on the program, even though I hadn't alerted



them to my TV appearance. (I must confess, I did call a "few" people on my way back from the studio.)

But the interview's only part of my tale. While awaiting a cameraman, McKenzie and I chatted informally; it turns out that my wife, Linda, and he are both graduates of U.C. Berkeley, and they share a passion for fly fishing. Wouldn't you

• See **TV News** page 7



• Mark Hinkle

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ANSWER: Sing to the tune of Happy Xmas (War is Over) by John Lennon



## Letters

### McClintock on State Debt

Regarding Tom McClintock's speech reported in the April issue, he glosses too quickly over the problem of the rapidly mounting debts assumed by the California state government. Bond issues have become a major vehicle for interest groups and state legislators to circumvent restraint in spending.

Since debt service takes priority over other spending, passing bonds allows them to put through pet projects without setting aside the money to pay for them. As I understand it, legislators need to decide how the debt will be paid only *after* the bonds are sold. And the debt-happy Californians who regularly vote for bond-measure initiatives never seem to realize that these things actually cost them through taxes.

— John S. Postovit, Seaside; April, 2003



## In Memoriam

### Meg Williams

We are saddened to learn from Jack Williams of the passing of his devoted wife of 56 years in La Jolla.

Meg died on December 28, after spending Christmas with her three children and all nine of her grandkids. Meg had been a long-time Libertarian, and along with Jack, had supported many libertarian causes and organizations over her lifetime.

In her honor, a one-year

scholarship has been established at Freedom Mountain Academy in Tennessee. The Academy is a structured, family-run, co-ed boarding school offering a curriculum that combines academics with farm work and mountaineering adventure. Those interested in their teenage child or grandchild attending should contact Jack Williams at [JackWms@san.rr.com](mailto:JackWms@san.rr.com).

Meg Williams was a delightful woman; she will be missed. ●



## FROM THE CHAIR

Some say that our country's war for independence from Britain began as a rebellion against taxation. And part of this anti-tax sentiment is with us today, reflected in the relatively low levels of taxation in this country compared to other countries. Of course, we Libertarians understand taxes are still much too high, and our country would be much freer and more prosperous with less of a tax burden.

Perhaps it's time for a new little tax revolt in California.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association (HJTA). Besides their fine work in the 1970s on Proposition 13, they were instrumental in drafting and enacting Proposition 218, the Right to Vote on Taxes Act. Most people are aware that this initiative forces local government to get permission from the voters before extending, increasing, or creating new taxes. That's an important protection for taxpayers!

But here's something only a few people know. Before Propo-

# Time for another Tax Revolt?

sition 218, qualifying a local initiative required signatures from 10-15% of all registered voters. That's no easy task. Well, in Prop. 218, the geniuses at HJTA included Article XIII C, Section 3 of the California Constitution, which reduces the number of signatures required to only 5% of those who voted during the last election for Governor, to qualify an initiative designed to lower or repeal a local tax, fee, charge, or assessment. For tax-reducing initiatives, depending on the jurisdiction, this reduces the signatures required significantly, often to just one-fourth of previous requirements.

So what does this mean in real numbers? Well, out of 477 incorporated cities in California,



118 require under 250; 82 require under 500; 105 require under 1,000 signatures; and 52 require

# Revolutionary Reflections

## FROM THE EDITOR



This month America commemorates and celebrates our birth as a nation—the nation which has more closely than any other aligned itself with natural law, human nature, and man's unalienable rights. Our founding fathers were indeed brave, revolutionary men who risked so much for their freedom and ours. One of those men was Patrick Henry, whose bold and immortal excla-



mation, "give me liberty or give me death," is quoted with solemn respect and great frequency by libertarians, both vocally and as a popular tag line in our e-mail messages.

Today we face a multitude of threats to those rights, and I could not imagine a more appropriate tribute to the ideals of our country and the goals of our Party than to share in these pages the speech leading to Mr. Henry's call to action. I encourage those of you who have never

## "Give me liberty or give me death!"

read it through to savor its full intent, eloquence, and its revealing of the resolute purpose of his soul; I trust that those of you already intimately familiar with it will deem it a fitting use of our space. Enjoy! ●

Toward liberty!

*Elizabeth C. Brierly*  
 Elizabeth C. Brierly, Editor

fewer than 2,500 signatures. Only ten cities require more than 2,500 signatures. There's a lot of low-hanging fruit ripe for the picking.

And this is the basis for our new project, whose working title is "California Tax Freeze."

With the help of a volunteer attorney from Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, I have drafted several model initiatives to take advantage of this relatively unexploited power of the

public that services they most value will be the first to be eliminated.

The new approach with these model initiatives is either to reduce overall taxation enough to effectively freeze a city's inflation-adjusted per capita revenues—essentially, a Gann limit on city revenues—or to reduce the per capita taxation level to cities of a comparably size. Cities will have a difficult time convincing the public that a freeze in revenues will cause services to be cut, or that reducing revenues to the level of comparably sized cities will result in service levels that are less than the comparable cities.

If you would like to help, visit our web site at [www.CA.LP.org](http://www.CA.LP.org), and download the petition documentation workbook.

With your help, working with other Libertarians in your county, we can reduce local taxes and increase our membership base in scores—if not hundreds—of cities up and down the state. ●

Toward greater liberty!

*Aaron Starr*  
 Aaron Starr, CPA, Chairman

## With your help...we can reduce local taxes

people to reduce local taxation. The few previous initiatives that have taken advantage of this amendment to the Constitution focused on reducing or repealing specific taxes (e.g., Utility Users' Taxes). Unfortunately, the cities have learned how to defeat these attempts to reduce or repeal taxes by convincing

## Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death

No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the house. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining as I do opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony. The question before the house is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part, I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at the truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the Majesty of Heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.

Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that siren till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the numbers of those who, having eyes, see not, and, having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to know the whole truth, to know the worst, and to provide for it.

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And judging by the past, I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves and the House. Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received?

Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with those warlike preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation; the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motive for it? Has Great Britain any enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies? No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us: they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose to them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer upon the subject? Nothing. We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication? What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves. Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne! In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation.

There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free—if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending—if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained—we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us! They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength but irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance by lying supinely on our backs and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. The millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations, and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable—and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come.

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, Peace, Peace—but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God!

I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!

*Patrick Henry*

Addressing fellow colonists in Virginia, March 23, 1775



## Wanted: Libertarian Candidates

by Ted Brown  
Chair, Candidate Recruitment



The mission of political parties is to gain political influence and governmental control—that means fielding candidates!

The 2004 general election sure seems distant, but it's nearly time to declare your candidacy. With the primary election in March, the filing deadlines are in November and December of 2003. Candidates can take out papers in late September, over 13 months prior to the election.

The partisan offices up for election are U.S. Senate, all 53 U.S. House seats, 20 odd-numbered State Senate seats, and all 80 State Assembly seats. That means that if 154 California Libertarians step up and are counted as candidates, the LPC will be running a full slate.

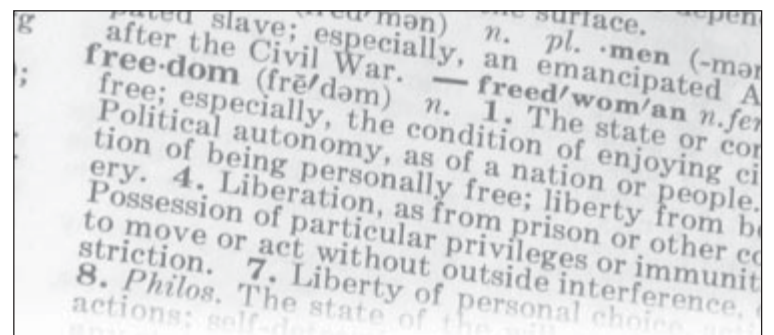
Candidates need to be familiar with Libertarian philosophy and, at a minimum, be willing to attend campaign forums, answer questionnaires from special interest groups, and respond to any media requests for comments, interviews, and articles. Active campaigning beyond that is up to you, and will vary depending on the race and location.

In order to be legally eligible to run, you must have been registered to vote with the Libertarian Party since December, 2002 at the latest. If you are registered "decline to state," or not registered to vote at all, you still can register Libertarian, but do so now, since the deadline is in early September. State Senate and Assembly candidates must live in the district, but U. S. House candidates have only to live in the state, thus can choose any district.

It's vital that each voter has a Libertarian alternative listed for each and every office on the ballot. Let's break our record in 2004! ●

**Interested in running?**  
Contact Ted Brown at (626) 286-6124, or by e-mail at TedBrown1776@HotMail.com.

*Ted Brown is an at-large representative to the LPC Executive Committee. Not only has he been the LPC's candidate recruiter since the 1988 election, but he is chair of the Elected Official Support committee which means he'll be there for you even after your victory party!*



### "Words mean things."

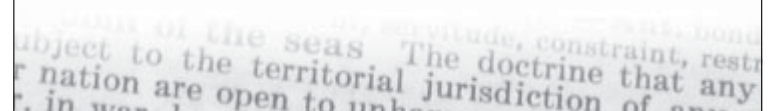
—Rush Limbaugh

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# Who's Who on your LPC Executive Committee

**E**ach month, meet a few of the hard-working activists 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!

## John Scott Ballard, At-Large Representative

When John Scott Ballard received a postcard inviting him to an LP meeting, he wasted no time joining the Party. That was in 1996. And San Bernardino County Party members wasted no time getting him involved—at his second meeting, they elected him as both Vice Chair and Treasurer. Since then, he's served twice as Chair of his region, and twice as at-large rep on the

LPC executive committee.

Ballard, 41, works as an electrician for L.A. Department of Water and Power (DWP); he also attends college part time, pursuing a B.S. in Business Administration, and has been maintaining a 4.0 GPA. He has resided in one California city or another throughout his life.

Ballard is a man who just can't—or won't—say "no." He sits on the board of the DWP Employees Association, as Assistant Chief Financial Officer. He is also a member of their investment finance committee, assisting in managing an investment portfolio of over \$10,000,000, chair of the membership and rules committee, and member of the mutual benefit committee. He also works with more than 40 charities, and negotiates discount ticket deals with entertainment companies such as Magic Mountain and Universal Studios.

Ballard has run for public office a whopping nine times, and expects to vote for himself again this year—perhaps in three or four races! This raft of experience as a

candidate has lent him a unique feel for the challenges of LP candidates operating in the two-party system and against entrenched incumbents—experience he puts to good use as chair of the LPC's Candidate Support and Training committee. His perspective is that "it is fun to meet your elected office holders in debate, and let them know what you think of them and their policies. It is even *more* fun to offer simple, workable, alternatives to those policies." Ballard predicts, "With my luck, I will win several [offices] at once and have a ball for the next four years!" Ballard can be reached at [NOTA@QNet.com](mailto:NOTA@QNet.com).

## Daniel Wiener, At-Large Representative

A longtime member of the grateful LPC, Daniel Wiener has returned this year to the Executive Committee as an at-large rep. Members may receive a friendly call from him with some market research questions, since

he also serves as chair of one of our membership acquisition and retention committees.

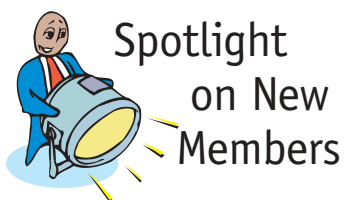
Wiener earned his bachelor's degree from M.I.T., and his M.S. degree right here at the University of Southern California. His name adorns not one or two, but four patents. Currently an electronics engineer at Northrop Grumman, Wiener works on software and digital circuit design for advanced inertial guidance/navigation instruments. Systems he has helped develop are used in aircraft, missiles, and precision munitions.

Since 1977, Wiener has shared his life with fellow energetic Libertarian activist and former Simi Valley City Councilwoman Sandi Webb. Not only has Webb served as an officer of the LPC, but it was she who led the 2000 effort to recall Insurance Commissioner Chuck Quackenbush, who later resigned. The couple's daughter, Aubri Webb, also a libertarian, is doing a bang-up job on staff in our LPC office. Aubri is a performing

artist and was graduated from Whittier College in 2001.

Wiener has been active in the LP since 1972, shortly after its founding. An energetic volunteer, he has served in a laundry list of positions within our state party, including newsletter editor, treasurer, and vice chairman. It was during his stint as chairman of the state party—1979 to 1980—that the LPC successfully registered over 80,000 voters and achieved permanent ballot status. He's no slouch on the campaign trail, either, having run as a Libertarian candidate for State Assembly, State Senate, and Congress. This firebrand activist also sports a wicked sense of humor that is relished by his fellow executive committee members. Dan Wiener can be reached by e-mail at: [Wiener@ZeroCall.com](mailto:Wiener@ZeroCall.com). ●

You can find all the LPC Executive Committee members on the LPC web site, at [www.CA.LP.org/lpc-ec.html](http://www.CA.LP.org/lpc-ec.html).



## Spotlight on New Members

by Elizabeth C. Brierly  
Editor, California Freedom

### Bri Holt, Carmichael

It's said that if you're not a liberal in your youth you haven't a heart, and that if you're not a conservative in your adulthood, you haven't a brain. Entrepreneur and student Bri (short for "Brian") Holt is well beyond that adage, since at age 17, he's already libertarian.

What triggered Holt to join the Libertarian Party? Self-deprecatingly, he shared that he feels a bit ashamed to have been a staunch believer in welfare. He would argue "day and night" with a good friend who's an Ayn Rand fan. The turning point came during a speech about utilitarianism. As an exercise, the audience was instructed to establish a work system in which the group would assign the tasks. Holt didn't care much for the rescinding of his power to choose his own job, and suddenly he realized that "we need to protect individuals from groups."

## It's never too early to be a Libertarian

Holt complains of the party he'd felt more aligned with before his epiphany about individual rights, "Democrats aren't even doing the things they purport to be for." Now he's nicknamed the two party system "Bad and Badder."

Holt lives in Carmichael with his parents and middle school sister. While shopping with his father at around age 6, young Holt spotted a marble on a shop floor. Being a kid, he employed the time-tested "finders, keepers" rule. When his father learned where he'd found the marble, he admonished his son, insisting that "you can't steal even one little thing." That left an impression. Today, Holt has expanded that exhortation to, "you can't hurt people even one little bit."

Holt has dipped his toe into politics earlier than many LPC candidates. Last fall he was elected junior class president. But soon he was forgetting about everything but himself, and observed his fellow politicians promoting their personal agendas rather than keeping their constituents' best interests at heart. He saw that in politics, "all that matters is getting reelected." To maintain his integrity, he felt it

necessary to resign. Would he consider running for office now? Holt hasn't ruled it out, but, citing the film, "The Candidate," wherein a new politician allows power to corrupt him, he said he

## "We need to protect individuals from groups."

worries that his principles could degrade the way they did in student government.

In the spirit of that breed the LPC respects so much, the business owner, an astonishing three years ago Holt founded Dataplain.Com, providing visitor analysis for web sites. His 1,300 members include web-based businesses, conventional enterprises with web presences, and marketing consultants who use Dataplain's statistics to make advertising and marketing recommendations to clients. When Holt, a web designer, sought a tool to analyze his own sites' visitors, he recognized a need and decided to fill it himself.

Holt plans to major in political science, possibly at U.C. Berkeley. Augmenting his fascination for the political process, last summer he interned for a Sacramento lobbyist. "Every day I saw the dumbest laws being passed," he reports. One bill proposed to "force cell phone providers to offer a continuous reporting of how many minutes a customer used," a service he believes should be a company's free choice based on their desire to fulfill their customers' demands. He also spoke out recently to support a private property owner's right to construct the seven new homes he'd planned, instead of limiting him to the five that the zoning authorities allowed.

On the divisive debate over Bush's recent tax cuts, Holt sympathizes, reminding us "the rich are people too!" He aims to become one of those rich people—possibly by further growing and then selling his business—so that he can devote more time to libertarian activism. ●

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.

## Welcome Aboard!

A new member related that after years around socialist-like colleagues, he's found his "voice." In May, we welcomed 27 folks, including production control analyst Michael Acosta, Jason and Melissa Fritcher, a software engineer and a student, office manager M. Dawn Hay, and we profile entrepreneur Brian Holt. We hope you all will find a new voice with the LPC!

Michael Acosta .....	Costa Mesa
Edward Argo .....	Chatsworth
Daniel Avila .....	Newbury Park
Daniel Baehr .....	San Diego
Barbara Bolton .....	San Andreas
Colby Cline .....	San Diego
Michael Cnossen .....	Monterey
David Eichen .....	Westlake Village
Christopher Faulk .....	Sylmar
Melissa Fritcher .....	Pasadena
Jason Fritcher .....	Pasadena
Alyson Hall .....	Camarillo
M. Dawn Hay .....	Napa
Al Hendrickson .....	Eureka
Heather Hill .....	Ventura
Brian Holt .....	Carmichael
John Ives .....	Albany
Paul King .....	Thousand Oaks
Alex Langley .....	Camarillo
David Mann .....	Lompoc
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James Tracy .....	Temecula
William Vandatta .....	Harbor City
Robert Walker .....	Redding
Danny Watson .....	Oxnard



## Coalition Building

by **Lori Adasiewicz, Esq.**  
Chair, Coalition Building Comm.

When she opened her eyes, she saw sunlight, green leaves, and a man's face." The moment Dagny Taggart first woke in Galt's Gulch, she knew it was "her world...the way men were meant to be and to face their existence—and all the rest of it, all the years of ugliness and struggle were only someone's senseless joke."

Imagine yourself, very soon, waking to such a reality—a place where there is no loneliness in being libertarian. Where would the Party be now had we concentrated our 30 years of money and activism in just one state? Can you conceive a world where a consolidated effort to reduce government and reclaim liberty was not only possible, but would succeed?

Jason Sorens can—and did. He founded Free State Project (FSP). With an all-star board of directors and formal corporate status, Sorens endeavors to create a real-world Galt's Gulch in the next five years.

His plan is to attract 20,000 liberty-minded individuals who'll commit to relocate their residence and activism to another state. Following the philosophy of F.A. Hayek, FSP is the "beachhead strategy" seeking to influence the

# Rebirth of a Revolution: Free State Project

members, many also members of the LP. About 10% hail from California.

FSP members engage in e-discussions about specific plans that take into account which state is chosen. They debate strategies for achieving political success, how to create an excellent private education system, and business and job ideas. These discussions reveal that the movement has its share of oddballs, but they are outnumbered by those truly motivated to work for freedom and to sacrifice (weather, job security, familiarity) for the cause.

So, which state? The decision has yet to be made. FSP is considering states of fewer than 1.5 million, or that spend less than \$10 million on political campaigns in any given two-year election cycle. These two criteria are deemed essential for political success. Weigh-



• Lori Adasiewicz

ing other factors such as coastal access, a native culture that's pro-freedom, independence from federal funds, and a strong job market, FSP has applied a scientific process to narrow the field to Alaska, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and possible front runners Montana, New Hampshire, and Wyoming.

Scrutinizing these ten are economists, political scientists, attorneys, philosophers, business persons, and FSP members, who meet at conventions in each state to learn more and make an in-

formed choice. When FSP reaches the "5,000 member milestone," the question will be put to a vote. "The migration will start immediately upon the state being chosen, and will continue indefinitely, for many years thereafter...possibly forever!" writes Timothy Condon, FSP's Member Services Director. "In fact, though we all seek liberty in our lifetimes, we must view FSP as a long-term effort. FSP will not be a shining beacon of freedom and liberty only after it has been freed...it will be a beacon for freedom-lovers from the very date it's chosen."

members will honor their commitment to move; the stated prerequisites to success are overly optimistic; and the free staters will not receive the warm welcome they count on. Once the state is chosen, some probably will renege, but others may be buoyed by the plan having become more solid. Even if fewer than 20,000 move, a tremendous opportunity will still exist to influence politics. Californians—just by leaving—would immediately enjoy greater freedom, even without major changes. As for the impression they'll make on the locals, FSP leadership encourages respect, patience, and perseverance in the movement.

If successful, FSP will help libertarians across the country. In addressing the South Carolina LP (October 2002), Sorens predicted that "once we have established significant political reforms [in the free state], the educational benefits for defenders of freedom around the globe will be immense. We will finally have our 'city on a hill,' a case study

in what mere freedom can do for a people—and for an economy."

In 1776, people gave up life and limb in a war for independence from a nation with superior wealth and resources. Today, FSP is starting a new revolution, one that asks not for the loss of life or limb, nor for taking up arms against a superpower, but just that you cross state lines and resume your activism.

Though we're on different roads, FSP and LPC are heading to the same destination: a freer world in our lifetime. Its ideals mirror many of our own principles, and its success surely would bolster our efforts in Calif. As an allied organization, LPC members should do all they can to support and encourage the efforts of Free State Project. ●

*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.*

## Savage Slant

Former LPC executive committee rep and candidate Terry Savage (Assembly '94, Congress '96) established Sovereignty Foundation in 1996, its goal akin to FSP's: create a libertarian haven, in this case a new country.

Now Savage has himself moved to a freer state—Nevada—which, ironically, employs him as Chief Information Officer. So he's changing government—but from the inside.

Savage corresponded with Sorens early on. He opines, "This is actually the right approach, [though] I'm not sure this is the effort to pull it off. He struck me as a...purist—better than most, but not grounded in reality. I think he underestimates the drop-off [rate]. I'm still interested in the project, though I see it as flawed. I'm surprised it's gone as far as it has; good for him!" ●

### Advertisement



by Richard Rider

# Thank you, California Libertarians!

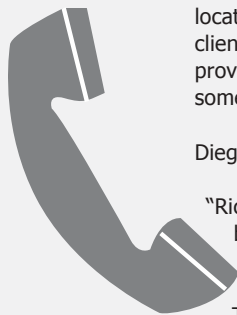
As you probably know, I run a regular monthly ad in this newspaper for my company's discount telecommunications phone service. As my Libertarian-related business has grown, so has the size of my ad. I started with a business card-sized ad, and now we've progressed to bigger ads as results improved. That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

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**For more information, visit the FSP web site, located at: [www.FreeStateProject.org](http://www.FreeStateProject.org)**

politics of a carefully selected state. "For any minority movement, creating a space where movement ideas are dominant—or at least relevant—is the first step toward either influencing the majority culture or creating a new, largely autonomous culture," asserts Sorens.

Founded in Sept., 2001, FSP has attracted the attention of major media such as KSFO and NPR, and endorsements from Walter Williams and Vin Suprynowicz. The first year brought 1,000 members, but it took FSP just two months to double that, and by mid-May, 2003, it had 3,682 committed

Detractors contend: not all

Detractors contend: not all



by **Ted Brown**  
Chair, Elected Official Support

In November, 2000, Gary Molle and Gilbert Carroll were elected to the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District Board in Santa Clara County. Two years later a third Libertarian, Carle Hylkema, joined them, creating a Libertarian majority. In recent memory, Libertarians holding a majority on a fire district board in Santa Barbara County were able to direct the abolishing of that board. How has our latest majority been doing?

### Gary Molle

This all got started when bicycles were stolen from my garage," says Gary Molle of San Jose of his political involvement. A failure analysis tester at an electronics firm, he'd been a Republican active in his local NRA.

## ■ Libertarians in Public Office

# Libertarians Hold Majority on CA Board

When local Republicans refused to support gun rights, Molle found an alternative—and joined the Libertarian Party.

Molle ran as part of the LPC's "Operation Breakthrough," aiming to elect Libertarians to local office. The district covers most of the county and has an annual



**• Gary Molle**  
budget of \$255K. The funds are spent protecting creeks, waterways, riparian areas, and open farmland against other government agencies that want to close them or convert them to flood control ditches.

Molle notes there are concrete flood ditches elsewhere, but not in his area. Since these ditches don't really protect the area from floods, the construction is just an excuse for new development. Lately the district has succeeded in its mission. Molle hadn't been an environmentalist, but now that he's immersed in the issues and has done research, he's more inclined

in that direction.

Molle devotes a great deal of time to this role. He reads documents to prepare for the semi-monthly meetings, and goes on tours, attends outside meetings, and is taking a class on riparian systems.

There are no real "libertarian issues" on the board, reports Molle. Most votes are unanimous, and the three Libertarians get along with the other two board members. Much of the budget is from carry-over, but \$110,000 came in from property taxes last year. Molle doesn't see how the agency could be run without tax dollars, since it'd be hard to raise money privately for what Molle terms "rather dreary issues."

### Gilbert Carroll

Milpitas physician Gilbert Carroll has been libertarian since reading *The Market for Freedom*, by investment analyst Doug Casey, in 1998. Formerly an environmental industrial biologist, Carroll didn't know what to expect when elected, but he hoped the board would have clear au-

thority which he could influence with libertarian principles.

But he's disappointed. So many overlapping government jurisdictions try to influence other government bodies only by threatening to sue them.



**• Gilbert Carroll**  
About half the budget, \$100K to \$150K, is spent on a lawyer and staff member. They don't spend all their revenue, but hide it in categories carried over to future years. The funds come from property taxes, but in light of the budget crisis the board is braced to have a portion of this yanked by the state.

The board's aim is to represent the environment and oppose collaboration between cities and developers. Their main nemesis is a water district whose directors like big construction projects. Generally, Carroll agrees with the board's goals. At first, one distasteful item involved shaking down a developer for money, but this was already a done deal.

Carroll backs private property development, but environmentalists find ways to stop it, or at least to seek concessions from the developments. So far, nothing has changed much since Libertarians have taken over the board. He believes that standard libertarian theory doesn't apply here; it's hard to identify clear-cut principles when dealing with such technical matters. But Carroll disagrees with Molle's sense that the agency couldn't be run without tax dollars, and believes it might be possible to finance the agency privately, with the involvement of citizens' groups. ●

**The LPC applauds these gentlemen, along with their colleague Carle Hylkema, for being active participants in our community and our cause.**

*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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# Recall Davis Continued from page 1

Democrat-haters have their own bad reasons not to sign. They want Davis to “stew in his own juices” and “bring down” his party. (Never mind how many others suffer.) And here’s a good one: they don’t want a Republican stuck with the thankless job Davis has now! Well, why would we want someone not up for the challenge? And why assume a Republican will gain special election plurality when their “supporters” won’t put it on the line?

The People’s Advocate, who did the work to bring us a petition, is confident the recall will transpire. Despite the fact that the effort requires overcoming the same apathy that made it possible in the first place, I am becoming a believer, too. This is a historical opportunity. And, as collecting the required number of signatures becomes a *fait accompli*, not only can Libertarians take part, but we can help determine what the recall means. The more we participate, the more we can make this not just the rejection of one man, but of what he stands for: big government. This is well within our mission. I know the pros-

pect of success is scary, but this is doable and worth doing.

As a Libertarian and a voter, I consider signing the petition to be the bare minimum requirement. Given the chance, every one of the 89K registered Libertarians in Calif. should sign. If in turn they rose to the next level of effort and persuaded just five more people to sign, we could account for as much as 1/3 of the goal of 1.2 million. The next level of effort beyond that would depend on whether you are shy about calling in to talk radio, or lazy about writing letters to the editor. As for collecting signatures, whom will you approach? Republicans and Democrats, of course.

Tell Republicans you’ve heard all their reasons not to sign; that all those reasons are nonsense; and they should just sign. (Deep down they really want to.) Democrats? Even easier. The recall is democracy in action. Power to the people. Citizenship. The right of recall and the initiative process are the checks and balances against the state’s power.

Which brings me to my final anecdote.

In October 2000, I was approached at work by our resident expert-on-every-issue. He is a Republican-hating, class-envying, die-hard Democrat: “Hey, so-and-so’s friends are going to vote for Nader. That’s stupid. You have to vote for the lesser of two evils.” In one fell swoop, this person, in an attempt to insult people he didn’t know, insulted himself. Being a know-it-all, he must know about the Electoral College. Which means, in a state like California, we all get to vote for whomever we want. (Which is why I didn’t vote for Bush, even though this Gorite had just advised me to.)

Recently, the loudmouth was going on about some “corporate scum” scandal—possibly American Airlines’ union concessions and the golden parachutes for management. I may even have agreed with him, but I still was inspired to go on line and print a clean, 600-dpi copy of the recall petition. Now I’m ready. The next time this fellow regales me with his opinion—it’s only a matter of time—I will whip out my democratic document and inquire, “Have you signed the petition

to recall Davis, yet?”

That’s what the Recall is all about. The little guy taking it to Management. Individuals joining together to address the ills of the arrogant, corrupt, power elite. How can he say “no”? We all know such people. Now you can offer them a chance to put their money where their mouth is. Therein lies the Beauty of the Recall.

The next time they open their mouth, you get to tell them to put up, or shut up.

That’s got to be worth \$20-40 million, easy. ●

*Edward Bowers is chair of the L.A./San Fernando Valley region, whom he represents to the LPC Executive Committee. He is an avid writer and director of public service announcement (PSA) videos with libertarian messages. He can be reached at EBowers@Mac.com.*

# TV News Continued from page 1

know it—the next day he called Linda about doing a story on women and fly fishing! Apparently he has a good deal of leeway in the type of story he undertakes.

To follow up on the interview, and at Aaron’s suggestion, I asked LPC staffer Aubri Webb to send McKenzie a copy of David Bergland’s *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, as a thank-you for having contacted us for his story. We spoke again after he’d had a chance to review the book. “I’m pretty much a libertarian,” he proclaimed. Aaron

and I will be absolutely certain to invite Bob McKenzie to next February’s annual LPC convention in San Jose!

Thanks to Aaron Starr, Aubri Webb, and Richard Rider for helping engineer the whole encounter so smoothly. The LPC has garnered some good TV publicity; I enjoyed doing it; and we’ve landed another friend in the media! ●

*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 son, Logan.*



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# Happy Birthday

(Davis Recalled)

## A Song for Independence Day

Original lyrics by Edward Bowers  
Regional Rep, San Fernando Valley

Note: If you can't discern the tune of this, you may pretend it's all original. Or, for the answer to the puzzle, see its name at the bottom of the sidebar on page two.

So this is Independence Day,  
And what have you done?  
Another year older,  
And still number one.

And what of the children?  
The future? they say.  
What will you tell them  
Of this fateful day?

Happy Birthday, America,  
And have a great 4th.  
Does anyone out there  
Still carry the Torch?

[Refrain 2]

Did you sign the petition?  
And give us some hope?  
Or did you give in to all the  
apathy, negativity, and cynical  
BS political reasons not to,\*  
You sad gutless dope.

I'm talkin' 'bout freedom,  
That Sweet Liberty,  
To do unto others,  
As you'd have unto thee.

So let's have the Spirit  
Of good ol' 13,  
To kick out the bastards  
And wipe the slate clean.

To never be traded  
For security.  
When good men do nothing,  
You have what you see.

Declare independence  
From panic and fear,  
And take back the power  
The moment is here.

And what about your state?  
Your one of fifty.  
Say, is it all that great?  
Is it all it can be?

[Refrain 2]

[Refrain 1]  
War is over  
Now it's time to  
Recall Davis  
We can do it

So go California.  
It's time to save thee.  
A thing that's worth doing—  
I hope you agree.

It's tough to cut taxes,  
And cut all the fat.  
Or is it as simple,  
As simple as that?

So here's to our country,  
The freest of lands.  
To make sure it stays so,  
Is all in your hands.

Why bother with unions?  
Is there really a need?  
To fight the corruption,  
And arrogant greed.

And here's to the people  
Who'll work to be free,  
To do the amazing  
For you and for me.

[Refrain 2]  
Davis recalled  
If you want it  
Davis recalled  
Now

It's time to dump Davis,  
And all he stands for.  
The sooner the better—  
Before the next war.

So here's to each of us,  
The man on the street,  
United to challenge  
The power elite.

Happy Birthday, America,  
And Sweet Liberty,  
Let's reclaim our birthright,  
For you and for me.

\* Hey, they can't all have perfect meter.



# Help Grow Budding Libertarian TV Talk Show

by Mark Selzer  
Southern Vice Chair

The rule of politics is: if it hasn't happened on TV, it hasn't happened. There've been lots of happy happenings over the last several months of the *Libertarian Alternative*, the cable access TV talk show I host.

San Diego has been well represented on the program, with Joshua Castro joining our own José Aguilar from East LA. to give viewers a Latin American perspective on the Libertarian Party. I also was pleased to welcome Richard Rider with Edward Teyssier, the Chair of the LP of San Diego, speaking about their trials and tribulations fighting taxes and government-funded sports stadiums.

Recently the program's most notable guest has been Judge James P. Gray, author of *Why Our Drug Laws Have Failed and What We Can Do About It*. He discussed the failed war on drugs, as well as his potential run for the Presidency on the LP ticket. As a currently seated judge, he spoke convincingly, with authority and authenticity. He explained how, while presiding in his courtroom, he came to see that the drug war was not at all solving its targeted problem, and that instead it was just ruining lives. The Republi-

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cans who saw him on the show said they would vote for him, so if he does run he could very well be the man to oust George W. Bush from the White House. Sharing the factors that led him to join the LP, he showed that he could become a compelling incentive for others to join, and his leadership could serve as a catalyst in our quest to increase our voter registration and political power. Indeed, I do hope he will run.

The *Libertarian Alternative* is now being shown in an area of Calif. larger than ever. A special

"thank you" goes to committed activists in Orange County such as Norm Westwell, Marla Tarpo, and Paul Studier, for petitioning Cox Cable to allow the show in its area. A public access manager seeking good programs for his territory actually called me to request the show for Santa Ana, Fullerton, Buena Park, and Placentia. I am also pursuing Santa Barbara and San Bernardino. If you'd like watch the show in your area, or if you have suggestions of guests to interview, I could use your help! Call me at (323) 469-5372, or e-mail me at Liberty64@JPS.net.

The *Libertarian Alternative*, as with all libertarian adventures, needs money. Funds are sorely needed to produce shows and get them shown in more and more areas. Very few folks will see us or hear us if we are not on TV. The *Libertarian Alternative* gives you a voice and provides a place to have our ideas heard-and heard our way. Please send your best possible donation!

Sunburst  
1830 N. Cherokee Ave., # 511  
Hollywood, CA 90028 ●

Mark Selzer is an internet business owner. Active in the LPC since 1998, he ran for State assembly in 2000 and has served as our Southern Vice Chair since 2001. He lives in Hollywood and frequently is heard extolling libertarian values as a guest on local radio shows.



## ■ Donor Appreciation

# Integrity Illustrated

## Susan Franco, Los Angeles

Susan Franco, a television editor in Los Angeles, mailed the LPC her contribution to 2002's "pay for results" program of pledging a donation to the LPC for each Libertarian candidate elected. The letter accompanying her check stunned Chair Aaron Starr. After reading her explanation of the delay in fulfilling her pledge, Chair Aaron Starr thanked this inspiring individual, who graciously gave her permission to share her story. Here is Ms Franco's letter.

April 21, 2003

Sorry about the delay in payment. When I made my original pledge, I thought I was pledging \$25 for the entire election, not \$25 for

each winner. As I have never been able to afford to contribute more than \$25 a year towards the party, you can imagine my horror when I received a bill for \$650! (On top of that I'm also getting married and hoping to buy a house this year...so money's a bit of an issue).

Immediately I thought about getting out of it, knowing that the party would understand my error, but the longer I thought, the more I felt that I should be figuring out ways to pay the bill instead. You know, finally put my money where my mouth is. So now, after a few months of overtime and side jobs, I actually have \$650 to give.

Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,  
Susan Franco

Ms Franco, it's easy to be patient with members who demonstrate such integrity of commitment to the LPC and its goals toward liberty. We wish Ms Franco and her fiancé, a camera operator, much prosperity and all the best during this year of momentous occasions in their lives.

Employing the cherished capitalist principle of rewarding only for results achieved, this elected candidate fund raising project raised about \$2,000 for each of our victories November 2002. A similar program is being considered for 2004. Along with Ms Franco, we thank all those who participated in making this project a success. ●