

California Freedom

September 2003

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

A Real Teacher's Story

by **Dave Barker**
Oakland Public School Teacher

I teach in an urban public school district. I encourage people to vote against every bond or tax measure claiming to go to the schools.

Why? I can see that the money never reaches the schools or the classroom. Where does it go? Into the budgets and pockets of adults—many who never set foot in the classrooms.

In 1999 I started teaching at a public middle school in San Francisco. Less than a week before the first day of school, I had no idea what grade level or subject I was to teach. This is true

of most new teachers. My classroom's ceiling was shedding tiles, and while walls were deteriorating, mold grew. The window on the door was cracked. I moved a cabinet, revealing orange paint, probably left over from the seventies. Textbooks were falling apart at the bindings and were missing pages.

This is what greets young, curious minds at the start of their public school experience. Our principal, who

was new, wound up being absent most of the year. The annual salary for principals is between \$70,000 and \$90,000. Many teachers share my experience of a principal who seldom shows up.

I asked about the broken window and was told to request a work order from the district office downtown. The door across the hall wouldn't close. Two screws simply needed tightening, but when I took a screwdriver to it, I was told I was violating the rights of the Building Maintenance union people. I asked how long it would take them to fix it; one teacher said that a work order had been requested for my window for over two years now.

A few weeks later, I brought paint samples for my classroom

Without tax-funded education, everyone would be much richer.

walls. The kids chose colors, and I bought paint and brushes. I received donations from Home Depot and was able to put

some 4' x 8' sheets of soundboard across two walls. We painted the room three shades of blue and covered the soundboard with colored paper. I worked on this until nearly midnight for a month. When the room was finished, the kids and I loved it, and the soundboards provided a place to display their work.

But I'd overstepped my bounds, as these tasks were specifically slated for the district maintenance union people. Just before Christmas break, I was told that a teacher with tenure would be replacing me. I called the union to which I paid dues; they said the tenured teacher had pri-



• **Lori Adasiewicz addresses cross-party recall crowd; Norm Westwell advertises LP** Photo credit: Bruce Dovern

Coalition Building

Recall Puts LPC on National TV

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

The bad news is that the state's finances are in the hole. The good news is that such disaster has brought together people of different political stripes for a common cause.

The steps of the State Capitol in Sacramento teemed with excited activists on Saturday, July 26, enthusiastically celebrating their continuing campaign to recall Governor Gray Davis. Members of this herculean and unprecedented effort seemed intoxicated by the July 23rd validation by the Secretary of State that they'd successfully gathered enough petition signatures to put the recall to a public vote.

Lori Adasiewicz, attorney, LPC Secretary and past Treasurer, spoke to the crowd at the rally in Sacramento. Howard Kaloogian, a key organizer and spokesman for the recall, introduced her to the activists after crediting the LPC

as the first party to endorse the recall effort. Warmly received, with cheers, applause, and the occasional wave of chuckles, Ms Adasiewicz energized the recall activists with her good-natured address.

"Tens of thousands of Libertarians sent me here today to say 'thank you!' Thank you to each one of you, because we don't often get to feel mainstream. This is a mainstream movement.

"I look out there: I don't see Republicans; I don't see party lines. I see families; I see people; I see children; I see business owners. And I want to thank you for one other thing. I want to thank you because you—and we—are smarter than that.

"We're smarter than that.' Say that every time you hear Gray Davis say that this is about sour grapes.

"We're smarter than that. They want to say that this is conservative Republicans that are doing this. Well guess what—we're smarter than that!

"They want to say this is about the \$30 million it's going to cost to recall Gray Davis. Well guess what—we're smarter than that!

"Together, every one of us—we can make this happen. But it doesn't stop here today. Today is a celebration; today is the beginning. And each of us

needs to continue to be smarter than that, as they go forward and try [to] smear us for being the losers, 'cause we are not. We're smarter than that.

"So stay strong; stay with the program; and we can—not take over California, but take it back!

"Recall Gray Davis!"

The rally, including Ms Adasiewicz's speech, was televised by C-SPAN, reaching a national audience.

At this writing, the recall election is scheduled for October 7. Over 200 individuals have expressed interest in running for the state's top executive seat, including Libertarians Jack Hickey and Ned Roscoe, and Republican Tom McClintock, the fiscally conservative state assemblyman and candidate last November for state controller, who addressed the LPC convention in February. ●

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.

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FROM THE CHAIR

The weekend of July 19 saw our Membership Task Force hit the ground running on Operation Desert Member.

Our team, including Bruce Cohen, Mark Selzer, and Anthony Turley, visited Imperial County just to add dues-paying members by targeting the registered Libertarians living there. Imperial County is a desert region in the southeast of the state, sharing borders with Mexico and Arizona. Its population is only 150,000, spread over 4,600 square miles, bigger geographically than L.A. County and even some states. With the least educated population of the 58 counties, less than 60% of those over 25 have high school diplomas. The county also has the lowest per capita income in the state; about 24% live in poverty, and unemployment is well over 20%. About 170 registered Libertarian voters live there, about half the rate found in the rest of the state.

FROM THE EDITOR



Back to School

September is "back to school" month, a tradition reflecting an era when students would be sent home for the summer to work on the family farm.

The opportunity to learn is all around us, so why are about 75% of American children enrolled in public—rather, *government*—schools?

Libertarian speaker Michael Cloud has pointed out, "The government doesn't take away our freedom by taking away our freedom. The government takes away our freedom by offering to be responsible for things for us." It

Membership Heats Up



• Aaron Starr

In June, Imperial had only seven dues-paying members, perhaps the smallest number per capita in the state. Even taking into account its high water mark of 1999, the county has never had more than 12.

So why did we come here? To prove to ourselves that through personal contact we could add members, even under challenging conditions.

The desert weather didn't do us any favors, at 110°F in the shade. Our vehicles' air conditioners struggled unsuccessfully to maintain a cool refuge from the scorching day.

Our biggest challenge? Finding people home during the day. At best, we found one person of five at home, and many on our list of voters had moved away. Thankfully, most of those we did reach were happy to see us; many offered us cold water and the chance to talk. No one from the party had ever approached them. They didn't know any other Libertarians.

Armed only with *LP News* and *California Freedom*, we sold the idea of banding together and becoming dues-paying members. We created a bond not possible when soliciting through the mail. We learned about people's personal lives: people like Mark Cosio, 29, a cook at the local hospital who's taking care of his sister and her children since her husband died; Ryan Kelley, 34, a firefighter born and raised in Brawley, where his grandfather had served as mayor; Chris Shaul, 26, who we later discovered was

Many offered us cold water and the chance to talk.

the night clerk at our hotel; and Gil Perez, 68, a former Democrat and city council candidate, now President of United Taxpayers of Imperial County.

By the end of this single weekend, we'd added 12 dues-paying members, about one of every two people we met, for a

new membership base of at least 19. We hope the three other commitments come through with their checks, giving us 22.

But although I'm a CPA, I can see it's not just the numbers that matter—we created relationships. Several people are interested in becoming leaders in the local party. Some are willing to be proponents of initiatives to lower taxes. I believe we have the beginnings of a success story.

If four guys are willing to travel five hours to go door-to-door braving awful weather and less than ideal demographics, and emerge with more members than a county had ever seen, I believe that every county party can increase their numbers better with local people.

Go! Meet registered Libertarians. Ask them to join. It's more effective than just about any other method. You'll meet interesting people and have fun while growing the party.

What else could you ask for? ●

Toward liberty!

Aaron Starr
Aaron Starr, CPA, Chairman

quently reminds us how to help non-libertarians understand that we don't oppose *education*, but that we favor educational *choice*, and the separation of school and state. And we provide a list of possible resources for parents, grandparents, or any concerned adults to investigate alternatives for the children they cherish.

On another front, the unprecedented progress to date of the Recall Gray Davis campaign has necessitated a few of our regular columns to go on hiatus, and in October we will resume Sandra Kallander's series on increasing membership. At the July 26th recall rally we are inspired by Lori Adasiewicz's address to the assembly, free of political party borders, and heartwarmed by young Alexis Westwell's own participation in that event. Edward Bowers shares how he thinks we can avoid wasting our vote in this most unusual upcoming Recall Special Election.

I am lucky enough to have parents who paid rapt attention to their children's education. They were able to enroll my brothers and me in a charter (though public) school, with a structured, "back to basics" bent which was perfect for our family. Fellow dedicated Palo Alto parents had lobbied and planned and toiled, and the school district had agreed to work with the

community to establish a school with a consistent, structured program built around instruction in basic academic skills.

Finally Hoover Elementary opened its doors to a small number of fortunate pupils, many others relegated to long waiting lists. This commandeering by parents of their children's public school education attracted national media coverage by the *New York Times* and NBC television.

In an era of progressive and alternative educational experimentation district-wide, Hoover provided a calm and structured academic environment. That's where my champion, Miss Barbara Ballou, taught me—among other things—the algebraic discipline of diagramming sentences—a skill proven integral to my current profession!

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles: it's time to hijack the educational system—for the children. You have more power than you know. Separate the state from *your* school. ●

Toward greater liberty!

Elizabeth C. Brierly
Elizabeth C. Brierly, Editor

seems that through the government policy of offering "free" education and taking on the responsibility of educating our children for us, we've unwittingly sacrificed the freedom to choose. But we have not.

Many organizations are out there providing alternatives to the government school—alternatives such as private schools and home schooling—even something called "unschooling"!

Yes, the education of other people's children can and does affect us all, since we interact both economically and socially with so many others. All the more reason to find ways to oust the government—and its inherent bias—from the business of imparting knowledge and wisdom and thinking skills.

We favor educational choice.

This month we see the frustrations of Dave Barker, a Libertarian working as a public school teacher in the San Francisco Bay Area, who bears witness to the diversion of school bond funds away from their intended target: students. Mike Laursen elo-

Goodbye Old Friend

A Tribute to Mike Hall

by **David Bergland**
Former Chair, National LP

Mike Hall has left us and we are poorer. Those of us who knew him personally now grieve. Libertarians who only knew of him reflect on the loss of a warm and generous former leader in the movement we share. The Libertarian Party is 31 years old; Mike Hall is not the first of our leaders and activists to pass on. Mike was a Chairman of the Libertarian Party of California, as was John Vernon, who left us a few years back. Also no longer with us are Murray Rothbard, Roger MacBride, Karl Hess. Illustrious names all. Mike Hall deserves to be remembered with them.

But, let me speak personally. I knew Mike for about 30 years. From its earliest days, we shared a commitment to making the Libertarian Party a success and libertarian activism effective and rewarding. I always admired him for his solid judgment and supportive personal style. If you were a libertarian, Mike was your friend. If you made mistakes, if you stumbled, he would help you up and get you back on track. He was that great bear of a friend who you knew would be at your back if the going got tough. We all need friends like that. And you had to love the guy for his guitar playing and how he could sing the blues. If you appreciated the blues, Mike was your buddy. I love the blues.

I wish that my wife, Sharon Ayres, and I could have spent more time with Mike and his wife, Laurel Fest. Our lives are too short and there is too much to do in the time we have. How easily we allow "being busy" to dominate us and divert us from

things that, upon reflection, we realize were more important. When I think of how much I admired Mike, how enjoyable were the times spent with him, I know we would do some rescheduling if given the chance.

I don't know much about immortality. If, as I suspect, there is no such thing, then perhaps the closest we can come to it is to be kept alive in the memories of those who follow us. It is gratifying to me to believe that those who loved us, our family and friends, will

He was that great bear of a friend who you knew would be at your back if the going got tough.

keep us alive in their hearts and minds, perhaps even telling our stories to the children and grandchildren to come. Of course, if a life has been a particularly inspiring one, filled with happiness, humor, love, and good works the way Mike's was, the prospects for immortality must improve considerably.

I know I shall carry Mike Hall with me for the rest of my life. And I plan to tell what I know of his story to those who follow. It pleases me to believe that all who knew and loved him will do the same. ●

*David Bergland served the LP as its Presidential candidate in 1984, the year he published his book, *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, still used by the LP today as an introductory text. An attorney and former law professor, Bergland is also a second degree black belt in Kenpo Karate and an active self-defense instructor.*



• **Tom McClintock**

As I write this, we don't quite have our One and Only Libertarian Candidate for Governor.

As you read this, though, we may be less than a month away from a Recall Special Election. Now it's "gut check" time.

The point of recalling Davis is to put an end to his way of doing business: spend and borrow, spend and borrow and (eventually) tax. The recall will result in victory only if Davis is replaced by someone with the brains that can fathom the simple concept that raising taxes is not the best solution to what ails us. While there's a laundry list of candidates who won't make the recall worth the effort, we know the Libertarian candidate will be a Friend of the Taxpayer. And many Libertarians believe that there is one other candidate, likely to be on the

Opinion

Why Not Tom?

by **Edward Bowers**
Chair, L.A./San Fernando Valley LP

ballot, who also fits that label. Yes, many Libertarians are itching to vote for Tom McClintock. If you are one of them, I certainly hope that you have spent the time between my writing this and your reading this stumping for your guy because, as of this writing, he is far behind. A recent poll had McClintock third, behind the tag team of Schwarzenegger and Riordan, as well as Bill Simon (who really ought to be disqualified; he had his chance).

The only good news for McClintock supporters is that he was ahead of Issa. (Probably good news for us all.) If McClintock has not made up any ground in the last month, if he isn't his own party's first choice or at least neck and neck with the front runner, then there is no reason to vote for him. That's right; a Libertarian is advising you *not to waste your vote*. For me, if Tom McClintock is polling worse than five points behind any other Republican at election time, then I won't think twice.

I will be voting Libertarian. As should every other person reading this now. The only tough decision will be presented by the

question "Shall Davis be recalled?" Because, replacing Davis with someone who won't carry a mandate of controlling spending will only mean we replaced a Democrat with a Republican who might as well be a Democrat. In that case, the Recall will be far from a success; it will spell disaster.

I will vote "yes" to recall Davis, despite our chances, because I believe that anyone who signed the petition and votes "yes" will not only have the right to say, but be righteous in saying, "You want to keep Davis and the government he stands for? Fine, you pay for it. I'm out."

That's right. If our good faith effort to fix the state is rejected, then we can make *moot* the question of the recall and all of its surrounding political hoopla. It has been 25 years since Proposition 13. Did anyone march in a Silver Anniversary Parade?

It's time for another Tax Revolt, and this time make it stick. Who's with me? ●

Edward Bowers represents the LP of L.A./San Fernando Valley to the LPC Executive Committee, where he also serves as Media Relations Chair. He is an avid writer and director of public service announcement (PSA) videos with libertarian messages. He can be reached at EBowers@Mac.com.

A Real Story

Continued from page 1

ority. My sixth-graders and I were disappointed that I wouldn't be back for their next two years.

Public schools are filled with teachers with political agendas; one hired a self-declared Socialist to teach American Government. He expressed to me that he doesn't believe in teaching much of the American history that interested the kids, but that his idea of teaching is for them to do "community service," such as volunteering at soup kitchens, for a grade. He did spend time on America's involvement in slavery during the Civil War.

One week I substituted for the Socialist. I ordered a set of Cato Institute's pocket Constitutions for the kids to keep. We studied the Bill of Rights; debated how it empowers them as students; watched a video on the founding fathers; talked about some founding "mothers"; and debated about the Federalists and Anti-Federalists. It was only then that the kids learned of the electoral

college—and this during election year between Gore and Bush. One student, triggered by the video, shared with the class the delightful happenstance of his relation to John Jay! When the teacher returned he was hurt to find out that the kids requested to have me as their American Government teacher.

Many kids still walk away illiterate.

I've consistently seen anti-Bush posters on classroom walls. My mailbox is filled with Democrat, party-line politics from the unions. Many teachers have material promoting resistance movements and their people, such as Castro's Cuba and Middle Eastern terrorist organizations, and they consistently teach kids negative ideas about this country, and environmental doom and gloom.

Urban public school districts operate with a centralized Human Resources department located far from most of the schools to which they dictate orders. It's a micromanaged fiasco. Many Directors of This and Executive Directors of That work in the district office, diverting money from the schools, with salaries approaching and exceeding six figures. Do the schools need these people? What funds does it take to support such an unneeded entity? How much does it waste? Can't the principal of each school run the school him- or herself?

I've visited the district office myself since it is so difficult to get hold of particular people. I've found these administrators eating catered gourmet brunches, brand new Lexuses and BMWs in their reserved parking spaces—this in a city with very limited parking. This is where your school

● See **A Real Story** page 8

Meeting Notice

The quarterly meeting of the **LPC Executive Committee** will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2003 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Doubletree Hotel
San Jose International Airport

2050 Gateway Place
San Jose, CA 95110
Phone: (408) 453-4000

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



All LPC members are welcome to attend.

Welcome Aboard!

The LPC welcomes these 27 new members from July, including Randy Clemens, a culinary arts student, Danita Fleck, a business systems analyst, community college professor Murray Levy, and Jack Shelnut, an instrument technician. Our member profile is on hiatus. We hope to welcome all of you in person soon at your local LP events!

- Kurt Anderson Topanga
- Nikki Ayers Santa Barbara
- Mary Baker Bakersfield
- Stephen Barter Bakersfield
- Jane Bates Bakersfield
- Randy Clemens Sylmar
- Michael Dorris San Diego
- David Faunce West Hollywood
- Danita Fleck San Jose
- Pete Hentrich Los Angeles
- William Idzerda San Pablo
- George Istambauli San Diego
- Stanley James Santa Rosa
- Ken Jones Lancaster
- Teddeaux Lamoureux La Mesa
- Barry Larson Santa Rosa
- Murray Levy South Pasadena
- Judith Luchsinger Lakeport
- Taylor Miles Lake Forest
- Alan Neuman Ventura
- Joel Ostheller Antelope
- Jack Pierson Carlsbad
- Matt Poorman Encinitas
- Bradley Sacks San Diego
- Jack Shelnut Brawley
- Robert Urling Rancho Palos Verdes



Libertarians in Public Office

Freedner for Freedom: He Keeps Going and Going

by Elizabeth C. Brierly
Editor, California Freedom

On July 4, the LPC distributed certificates of appreciation to its 2002 candidates for public office, who'd also been honored by Chair Aaron Starr at the February convention. Starr was pleased to receive this gracious response with news from J. Eric Freedner, who had run for San Fernando Valley City Council District 7, and as he indicates, didn't let that defeat stop him.

July 15, 2003

Dear Mr. Starr:

I was genuinely surprised to receive the Certificate of Appreciation, and thank you for thinking of me. I remember being invited to the convention at Ontario but was unable to attend, as on February 15 I was in San Fernando marrying the most beautiful woman in the world (well, I am a bit biased). However, I did not think I was "miss-

ing anything" as the saying goes, and got a big laugh out of finding out at this time that my absence had indeed been noticed.

Since that time I have remained active politically. On June 7, my birthday, I won election to the Board of the North Hollywood Northeast Neighborhood Council, receiving 67 out of 70 votes cast in all. While the election was non-partisan in nature, it's still an unusual situation where a Libertarian receives 95% of the vote. Our formal installation is scheduled for July 30. I've already gotten involved in a local issue, that of L.A. Byproducts (landfill at Tujunga Avenue) who want a profitable land use of part of their holdings vs. nearby residents who demand recreational use only of those old facilities.

My second cousin, Charles Barr, first introduced me to the Libertarian Party in 1974. Charles at the time was Information Director (or "Minister of Propaganda" as I called him). Charles later ran for City Council of Buena

Park and some years thereafter, moved to Las Vegas. I've been kidding him about his election results versus mine!

Once again, my heartfelt thanks to you and all the other party members behind you.

Very truly yours,
J. Eric Freedner

On July 30, Freedner was indeed sworn in by his City Councilwoman to the North Hollywood NE Neighborhood Council, where he promptly assumed the role of Secretary.

L.A. Byproducts, who owns the landfill, seeks to raise revenues by offering a type of full-service truck stop on ten acres of the property, which has distinct constraints on its safe use, due to its landfill residue. Freedner says that residents of the Council district, which borders the property, oppose such use of the property, and prefer that a park or other public recreational facility be installed. The entire zoning question has

been tabled while the City considers the issues, and Freedner is awaiting word of the next step.

The attorney employing him as a Legal Secretary retired earlier this year and closed his firm, so in between marrying his wife, Francia, and seeking a position with another law firm, the LP is lucky enough to have Freedner actively guarding private property rights and promoting liberty in his new Council role, a most worthy follow-on to his 2002 candidacy.

Freedner was born in New York, and moved to California in 1973. He and his wife, who works for an aircraft components company, live in Sun Valley. ●

Inspired to run for office?

Contact candidate recruiter and Chair of the LPC's Elected Official Support committee, Ted Brown, at (626) 286-6124, or by e-mail at: TedBrown1776@HotMail.com



Donor Appreciation

Contribution Matched! Challenge Reissued

With this letter to LPC Chair Aaron Starr came a response to the contribution matching challenge presented by Wayne and Linda Grau in the June issue of California Freedom:

17 July 2003

Dear Aaron:

Congratulations on the new publication, California Freedom, with its inspiring example of the special contributions (financial and otherwise) of Wayne and Linda Grau! We need as many such good examples as we can get.

We also need to have other members of the party step up and reinforce such party loyalty. Accordingly, I have decided to match the Graus' \$700 contribution with one of my own (enclosed herewith). I challenge other California Libertarians to do the same!

Keep up the good work!

Cordially,

Armand L. Mauss, Ph.D.

A longtime libertarian, Dr. Armand Mauss, 75, began his

adult life as a charter subscriber to the politically conservative National Review.

Early in his teaching career, he was awarded a three-week fellowship to Foundation for Economic Education, which publishes The Freeman. He says that experience was what convinced him that he was more libertarian than conservative.

After earning degrees—both here and abroad—in History and Asian Studies, he turned to the study of Sociology, and completed his Ph.D. at U.C. Berkeley in 1970. His subsequent extensive studies and research grants in sociology, religion, and collective behavior heartily reinforced his conviction that government programs do not work, and led to his officially joining the LP just five years ago.

Not only named by Washington State University as Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Religious Studies, Mauss is also a prolific writer. He's the author of several books, including This

Land of Promises: The Rise and Fall of Social Problems in America (1977), and The Angel and the Beehive: The Mormon Struggle with Assimilation (1994). He has had published some 100 articles and reviews in academic journals and edited collections, including many in the journals of religious studies, such as the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion. He continues to pursue his interest in religious studies today, writing and publishing as a hobby.

A great-grandfather of three, Mauss lives in Irvine with his wife, Ruth. An aficionado of classical music, he leads the hymns in worship services at his church.

The LPC is grateful to Dr. Mauss for his enthusiastic contribution toward our fund raising goals, and for his dedication to libertarian principles in so many facets of life and society. Thanks go again to Wayne and Linda Grau also for their original challenge! ●

2. Yielding a salary. ... 1. In receipt of a salary (sal'ar-ē, sal'rē) n. pl. -ries A periodic, fixed payment for services, especially for official or professional services as distinguished from manual or menial labor. -ried, -ry-ing To pay or allot a salary to. [*< AF salarium money paid Roman soldiers for their salt rious of salt < sal salt*] — Syn. (noun) Salary, stipend, wage, pay, compensation, pension, emolument, fee, and honorarium denote money paid for services; all but the last two imply periodic payment. applied to trained and skilled workers.

A salary paid in salt?

Yep! Salt was what Roman soldiers called a paycheck.

Today, soldiers for liberty need cold, hard cash—and every tool to maximize *that* paycheck.

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is also used humorously for wage. Sa-la-zar (sā'la-zār'), Antonio de Oliveira, born 1889 guese statesman, prime minister 1932–. sale (sāl) n. 1. The act of selling; the exchange or of property of any kind for money or its equivalent. auction. 3. The selling of something at bargain price. Opportunity of selling; demand by purchasers; Stocks find no sale.



Letters to the Editor

LP Strategy: Local vs. Presidential

Richard Winger gave me permission to quote from his Rx for an LP breakthrough [originally posted on July 17 to the LPUS list]:

"I believe that the best use of Libertarian Party resources, for the next 18 months, is to do whatever it takes to run a strong presidential campaign.

"I disagree with the idea that the best way to advance party goals is to concentrate on electing people to non-partisan city and town office[s].

"In U.S. history, minor parties that have consistently carried out well-run presidential campaigns, without a break, have had the strongest influence on policy.

"The Socialist Party and the Prohibition Party are the only two minor parties that consistently polled at least 1% of the vote for president, over a period of at least 20 years.

"The Socialist Party's role in influencing U.S. policy is fairly

well known. The Prohibition Party's role is not as well known. The Socialist Party usually polled 3% during the period 1904-1932, although it hit 6% in 1912 and less than 1% in 1928. The Prohibition Party was weaker, polling between 1% and 2% in the entire period 1884-1920, except that it hit 2.2% in 1892 and fell below 1% in 1896.

"The Socialist Party's presidential campaigns never caused the outcome...to change. But the Prohibition Party's presidential

We may have the field mostly to ourselves.

campaigns cost the Republicans the election in both 1884 and 1916 (both years, the Prohibition Party presidential candidate was an ex-Republican Governor). The 1884 Prohibition campaign tilted New York to the Democrats; the 1916 Prohibition campaign tilted California to the Democrats.

"After the Prohibitionists cost the Republicans the presidency for the second time, in 1916,

Congress passed the Constitutional amendment imposing prohibition, early in 1917. This amendment had first been introduced in Congress in 1875. It languished for 42 years before it passed. I believe the Republicans decided to pass it because they were tired of losing votes to the Prohibition Party. The Republican national platform had never even hinted at any Republican Party support for prohibition (nor had the Democratic platform), but they passed it anyway.

"Of course, the Prohibition Party didn't set out to alter the outcome of a presidential election. The Prohibition Party simply put on a vigorous presidential campaign, with clockwork regularity. No one can predict how these things [will] turn out.

"I conclude from this history that it pays a minor party in the U.S. to consistently carry out a vigorous presidential campaign. I am posting this idea because, over the years, many Libertarians seem to have concluded that putting resources into a presidential campaign doesn't pay off.

"There are additional reasons why it's especially desirable for

the L.P. to run a strong presidential campaign in 2004. We may have the field mostly to ourselves. If the Democrats nominate Governor Dean, the Greens will not make a vigorous run. No other minor party seems likely to do anything vigorous either. Yet the electorate is very unhappy now, and is likely to be unhappy next year also.

"It's always possible that there will be a breakthrough with presidential debates. The National Voting Rights Institute, headquartered in Boston, is already planning a new lawsuit against the Commission on Presidential Debates. We may get a breakthrough."

It intuitively feels right to emphasize local offices. However, as Mr. Winger convincingly demonstrates, feelings are not facts.

- Michael R. Edelstein, Ph.D.
San Francisco

LP Productivity in Recall Effort

I got 120 signatures to recall Gray Davis.

What I would like to know is how many signatures the Libertarians got out of the 1.6 million??

- Irvin E. Chambers
Menlo Park

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.



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What is the Libertarian Party For?

by Mike Laursen

Fund Raising Chair, LP Santa Clara Co.

Ballot arguments are probably the only communication from the Libertarian Party that a typical California voter ever sees.

Invariably, we are the only ones who step forward to argue against tax measures with appealing names like "Clean Water Initiative" and "Safe Schools Act." When the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County assembled a web page arguing against several local school tax measures, we decided that I should write an accompanying statement explaining what the Libertarian Party is for:

We are for parents having more choices about where their children go to school and what their children are taught there. And teachers having more choices about who they work for. There are lots of practical steps that Californians can take to increase school choice: vouch-



• Mike Laursen

ers, tax credits for private school tuition, easing regulation of private and home schools, taking back local control of education from the state bureaucracy.

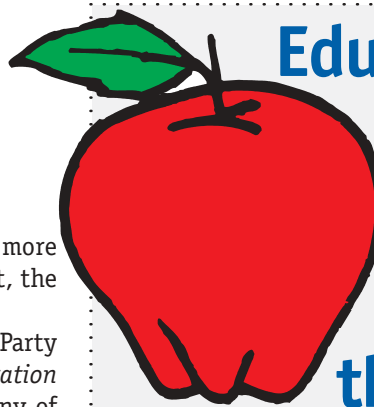
We are for taxpayers keeping more of the money they earn. With more money in your pocket, you could spend more on the things that are important to you: starting a business, buying a home, earlier retirement, sending your children to art and mu-

sic classes, charity. With more money in everyone's pocket, the economy will grow.

Ideally, the Libertarian Party would like to see the *separation of school and state*, for many of the same reasons that the Constitution requires separation of church and state. Perhaps worse than the potential for public schools to teach only one side of a controversial issue is the pressure to dumb down what is taught to avoid offending any point of view.

You can read more about the Libertarian Party's views on education at the web site of the LP of Santa Clara County: www.SC.CA.LP.org/issues/education/. •

Mike Laursen has been a member of the Libertarian Party since 1980, when he first reached voting age. Sitting on a bench at school, reading Atlas Shrugged, and disgruntled from having just registered for the draft, he was approached by someone who asked him to register Libertarian. Laursen grew up in Redondo Beach, and after earning a Computer Science degree from UCLA, he moved to Silicon Valley, where he works as a Software Engineer at Adobe Systems.



Educating our children is too important to be trusted to the government!

Parents, here are a few resources on educational alternatives for your young 'uns:

- Alliance for the Separation of School and State www.SepSchool.org
- California Parents for Educational Choice www.CPEOnline.org
- Cato Institute www.Cato.org/current/school-choice/index.html
- Challenger School www.ChallengerSchool.com
- Freedom Mountain Academy, Tennessee .. www.FreedomMountainAcademy.com
- Heartland Institute and School Reform News www.SchoolReformers.com
- Milton & Rose D. Friedman Foundation www.FriedmanFoundation.org
- The Montessori Foundation www.Montessori.org
- Unschooling www.UnSchooling.com

Home schooling resources:

- American Homeschool Association AmericanHomeSchoolAssociation.org
- Home Education Magazine www.home-ed-magazine.com
- Homeschool World / Practical Homeschooling Magazine ... www.home-school.com
- Learn in Freedom LearnInFreedom.org
- National Home Education Network www.NHEN.org

Note: The Libertarian Party of California does not necessarily endorse these organizations.

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Win Free Airfare to LP National Convention in Atlanta

Free round-trip airfare to the LP's 2004 national convention in Atlanta will be awarded to between one and five LPC members!

To enter the contest, simply sign up as many new monthly pledgers as you can before December 31, 2003. The four LPC members who sign up the most pledges to any combination of LP national, LPC, and LPC regions will be automatic winners.

Also, a drawing will be conducted at the March 2003 LPC convention at which one additional winner will be selected at random from all those who signed up new pledgers.

Signing up more or bigger pledgers will increase your chances to win. •

Two Ways to Win

The Fine Print: Initial payment for all pledges must be received after July 1, 2003 and before December 31, 2003. Pledges canceled or not paid in full as of the LPC convention in March 2004 will not count. Only one person can take credit for each pledge or part thereof. Drawing will be held only if total new pledges to the LPC from all sources during the period July 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003 reach \$2,000 per month. The drawing will be made from a hat containing one slip of paper bearing the contestant's name for each \$10 per month of pledges signed up by that contestant. Automatic winners must sign up at least \$2,000 per month of new pledges to qualify. If no one signs up \$2,000 of new monthly pledges, the LPC member who signed up the most new pledges will win. New and existing pledges by existing members may count toward one's own efforts. Only new pledges may count toward another's efforts. Prizes contributed by M Carling. Interpretation of contest rules will be made by M Carling, subject to appeal to the LPC Judiciary Committee. M Carling not qualified to win. Questions may be addressed to M@idiom.com.

■ Fund Raising Their Turn-Ons? Free Markets!

by Rachel Mills
Former Fund Raising Director

*Photo shoots for 12 exceptional
Libertarian Ladies \$1,200*

*Publishing costs for
2,000 calendars \$4,035*

*Envelopes and postage
to mail calendars out \$850*

*Being interviewed on prime
time national television three
times and on two dozen radio
stations across the country,
being picked up by the AP, and
discussed in the Washington Post
and countless local
papers, all positively, and
at election time Invaluable!*

As you can see, the Ladies of Liberty calendar was a very good investment for liberty. It was a risk we can't afford not to take again. We can't simply do the same thing again to garner the same media opportunities. It must be

new, fresh and different. So this year, we're stepping it up:

- The Ladies 2004 are national—the models are from all over the country.
- We will offer these at cost to all libertarian candidates—nationwide—to sell to raise funds for their campaigns. Just visit www.RachelMills.com for your campaign's supply!
- Celebrity power! Mary Ruwart, Autumn Browne, and elected Libertarians Heather Scott and Kate O'Brien will all grace the 2004 calendar.

Producing the calendars is not cheap. I can't do this alone. Since the 2004 calendar is more strategically designed to benefit the whole Party, I am asking for your help. I hope you are as eager to see this thing fly in 2004 as I am! To contribute to the cause, just visit www.RachelMills.com!

Two Sexy for the LP



**by Lori Adasiewicz
and Elizabeth C. Brierly**
Members, Libertarian Party of CA

Three months of celery, squats, and psychological prep, the day finally arrived. We two Libertarian ladies were to participate in the Ladies of Liberty 2004 fund raising calendar, conceived and coordinated by North Carolina Libertarian Rachel Mills.

After battling high noon Saturday shopping mall traffic, toting two trunks of antique clothing, accessories, and sample photographs, we made

our way to the back room of a photo studio. Awaiting us, a vintage make-up and hair specialist named Jesse.

Three hours and several energy snacks later, the artistry was complete, and we emerged, transformed into Hollywood starlets circa 1940. The camera beckoned, along with faux cigarettes, feather boas, and a raft of backdrops. Dolled up, we contorted into awkward positions that—astonishingly—appear natural, frame after frame. (Yet another reason we pursued careers outside the fashion modeling world!) John, the photographer, documented some bare skin, along with the enthusiasm shared by yours truly for the cause of Liberty.

Exhausted from the six-hour ordeal, famished, and eager to scrape off our layers of spackle and hairspray, we left the studio somewhat lighter, having perspired under the lights, and having fronted the costs for the studio time, photos, and copyrights. This day of activism sure was a different experience from that of gathering petition sig-

natures at supermarkets or going bleary-eyed at our CRTs writing ballot arguments. Though not a newcomer to applying theatrical make-up, Elizabeth found this more involved and arduous than her ballroom dancing competition preparations. Lori, on the other hand, was quite eager to set a date for next year's calendar photo shoot—and the year after!

The Ladies of Liberty 2004 calendar will also feature the LPC's Kate O'Brien, who was elected in 2002 to Rancho Simi Recreation & Parks District. For more information about this revealing look at 12 Libertarian lovelies from around the country, and to donate to producing this exciting fund raising project, and the resulting media exposure that's sure to follow, visit www.RachelMills.com. ●

Lori Adasiewicz and Elizabeth C. Brierly have both served on the LPC Executive Committee, and both as Secretary. Both grew up on the San Francisco peninsula, and study dance—belly dancing for Lori, and ballroom and Latin for Elizabeth. Their collaboration on the calendar project allowed them to gladly shed their business-suited professional and political personas...just for a day of—and for—liberty!



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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.



• LPC member Alexis Westwell, 9, supports recall campaign.
Photo credit: Norm Westwell



Media Relations Rally Report: Pint-Sized LP'er Charms Press

by Norm "Firecracker" Westwell
LP Candidate for City Council,
Huntington Beach

The Westwell family trekked to sunny Sacramento for the July 26th Recall Gray Davis rally at the state capitol.

Libertarians had four booth spaces set up with tables and canopies. It was a good opportunity for me to meet and talk with Lawrence Samuels, the Northern Vice Chair, as well as several other No. Calif. Libertarians. I also shook hands and briefly spoke with State Senator and probable gubernatorial candidate Tom McClintock.

When Howard Kaloogian welcomed LPC spokeswoman Lori Adasiewicz to the lectern, I grabbed the only Libertarian poster not already in use—a bright yellow declaration of "Libertarians to Dump Davis"—and positioned myself behind her as she spoke, so it would be captured by the raft of media

present, along with a neighboring sign which pointed out, "Ineptness is not a family value."

Sharing libertarianism is, however, a family value. My nine-year-old daughter, Alexis, garnered plenty of media attention herself, displaying the American flag in face paint. She quickly learned to provide her name, spelled out of course, along with her age and city. Nominated for Chair of Orange County LP in our last officer election, Alexis especially relished informing the media that she is a card-carrying Libertarian. The next day, a striking photograph of her by Justin Sullivan of Getty Images was published in the Orange County Register. And yes, they spelled her name correctly!

The rally seemed quite successful; I estimate a couple of thousand were in attendance. Across the street from the capitol building about 75 labor union workers protested.

Oh, yes: our family made a point of being available to meet

and confer with Gray Davis, in his office. He wasn't there. We told Davis's staff that in a very short while, all of them would "not be there."

All in all, the rally was an inspiring event! ●

Norm "Firecracker" Westwell is running for City Council in Huntington Beach, an office he also pursued in 1999. He is an energetic activist for the LP, and was featured on the cover of California Freedom's July 2003 issue in a story about his unconventional distribution of LP outreach leaflets via roller-skating. Westwell was also a candidate for his local school board in 2002.

News Hound? P.R. Fiend?

To get involved with the LPC's P.R. projects, contact Edward Bowers, chair of the Media Relations committee, at EBowers@Mac.com.

A Real Story

Continued from page 3

bonds have gone! Most teachers drive older cars and share homes with several roommates. I've seen the boardroom remodeled with modern seating and technology, such as recessed TV screens that descend at the touch of a button, while the ceiling tiles are still falling in that first classroom of mine from five years ago.

The best support for teachers has come from private, non-

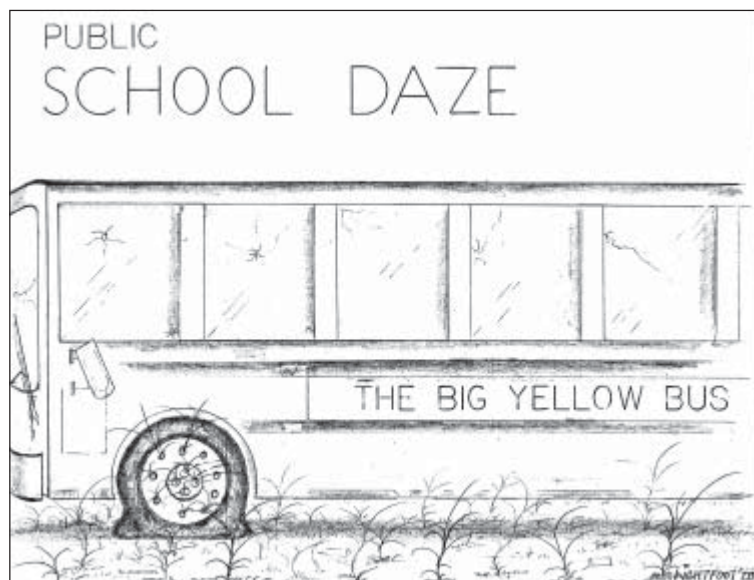
for them. A science center has a two-year science-training program for teachers providing very practical resources with which to teach their students. Credentialing courses teachers are forced to take—and to pay for—are useless for preparing us.

We need to see through the myths that we need public education and that without it we will live in an illiterate society. Many kids still walk away illiterate, and even those who don't could have had a much better education. Without tax-funded education, school boards, large centralized school districts and bureaucracies, everyone—teachers, administrators, parents, and students—would be much richer: in literacy, knowledge, and dollars. ●

Dave Barker is a member of the LP of San Francisco. While earning his B.A. in Liberal Studies from S.F. State University (1998), he spent a year in elective student office, and learned first-hand the nature of politics. Barker has a 17-year-old daughter entering her senior year of high school, and his wife, Alona, is also a schoolteacher. Barker's hobbies include learning everything he didn't learn in public school.

The best support for teachers has come from private entities.

district entities. The local hospital has a resource center that lets teachers borrow interesting classroom kits assembled just



Save the Date! LPC Convention: March 12-14

It may be hard to fathom, but some delegates don't agree that political conventions constitute a romantic adventure for Valentine's Day. So the next annual convention of the LPC will not be held on its traditional Presidents' Day/Valentine's Day weekend, but on March 12-14, 2004 at the Doubletree Hotel in San José. Watch this space for news of the business agenda, featured speakers, and activities. ●

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