

California Freedom

August/September 2006 _____ The official publication of the **Libertarian Party of California**

Unlikely Coalition Defeats Tax Hike in Santa Clara County

by **Greg Perry**

Citizens for Sensible Transportation

Something very unusual happened on June 6 in Santa Clara County. Voters turned down the

Measure A sales tax, and turned it down hard.

Despite a \$1.7 million advertising campaign, over 57% of voters rejected the tax. That is almost twice the 29% who voted against a similar tax just six years ago.

and a lot of the difference is due to factors beyond our control. Tax increases are easier to pass, for example, when we're in an economic boom. But it's worth understanding what was different this time. Some of the roots of that

No single cause is going to explain a 28% swing, and a lot of the difference is due to factors beyond our control. Tax increases are easier to pass, for example, when we're in an economic boom. But it's worth understanding what was different this time. Some of the roots of that



Photo: M. L. Brown

• This view of the Castro Valley Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station and the tracks serving it shows how several freeway lane equivalents are taken up by the tracks. Santa Clara County voters defeated a measure on its June ballot for sales tax funding of an extension of BART to downtown San Jose.

constituencies have run campaigns independently, and both without success. Anti-tax groups have endured many difficult losses over the years, watching taxes climb in 2000, 1996, 1984, and 1976. Public transit advocates also fought a hard campaign against the 2000 sales tax. Despite presenting solid arguments and having

the support of several public officials, they fell short of the 34% they needed to defeat the tax. They also fought the gerrymandered BART extension to San Francisco International Airport, again without success.

This time, there was much better communication

• See **Tax Defeat** page 4



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierty

• **Greg Perry, of Citizens for Sensible Transportation (center) speaking with Scott Lieberman (right) and Doug McNea, then president of Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association, at the LP of Santa Clara County election night party in June**

Judge Rules Against Write-In Candidates

by **Brian Holtz**

Associate Editor

Minor parties suffered a setback August 9 when Sacramento Superior Court Judge Gail Ohanesian ruled that Proposition 60's change to the California Constitution does not trump the Elections Code rule about how many votes a primary write-in candidate must get to advance to the general election. The Code sets a threshold equal to 1% of the votes cast for the office in the previous general election. However, Prop 60 says that for "a political party that participated in a primary election for



• **Brian Holtz**

a partisan office", the general election ballot for that office

shall include "the candidate who received, at the primary election, the highest vote among that party's candidates". Since the requirements for getting qualified as a write-in candidate are much less than for regular candidates, the LP and other minor parties were hoping to use Prop 60 to relax ballot access requirements. (California's other ballot-qualified minor parties

are: Green, American Independent, Peace and Freedom, and Natural Law.)

Judge Ohanesian wrote that nothing in the Prop 60 language "suggests that it applies to the procedures for write-in candidates".

The plaintiff in the case, Republican Assembly candidate Raylene Wiesner, received almost 700 write-in votes in the June primary and had sued Secretary of State Bruce McPherson to be placed on the November ballot. The Democratic Party sought to join the suit on behalf of three of its candidates, but Judge Ohanesian decided that the Democrats lacked standing to do so for want of "direct and imme-

diated interest in the litigation", because her ruling allegedly would only affect Wiesner.

An appeal seems likely, as there are multiple grounds for disputing Ohanesian's opinion. First, she claimed

that "the Analysis by the Legislative Analyst clearly stated that Prop 60 would not require any changes to election procedures". However, the Prop 60 legislative analysis

• See **Write-Ins** page 2

Next Month: Election Issue



The penalty good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men.
- Plato

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES

All news stories, editorials, and announcements are due six weeks prior to the month of publication:
• Oct 2006: Due 8/20/06
• Nov 2006: Due 9/20/06
• Dec 2006: Due 10/20/06

Advertising orders and artwork are due eight weeks and four weeks, respectively, prior to the month of publication. We reserve the right to refuse advertising. All contributions subject to our editorial guidelines.

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Getting Involved—Now and Later



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Fellow Libertarians,

It's now the middle of the Campaign Season. This is when things get exciting for both Candidates and Voters. Up to now, it's been mostly preparation, but after Labor Day is when the Media and the rest of the world start to really pay attention.



Not only are the next two months the most important time of the election, but it's also the most fun!

If there is no Libertarian in your area who's making a serious effort, it's very worthwhile to help out

If you're not a candidate or part of a Campaign, now would be a great time to help!

another serious non-partisan Candidate.

Libertarian or non-partisan Campaigns—when you get involved and volunteer, you'll learn and gain valuable experience. You can take this with you to the 2008 elections and help even more next time!

Valuable campaign experience can also be had by working with the teams on the different propositions, but I suggest you pick a Candidate you like, support

and has a Campaign office in your area.

Finally, there are statewide Candidates that are very worth volunteering for. The most organized and serious effort seems to be by Art Olivier, our Candidate for Governor.

If you don't have a local Candidate to support, Art Olivier needs volunteers in all aspects of his campaign, all over California.

Remember my mantra: "It takes Members, Votes and Money!"

— Aaron Starr
Chairman,
Libertarian Party of
California

Political Parties Get People Elected!



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OK, OK, I seem to be stating the obvious, but the fact is we Libertarians often overlook this basic tenet of the political battleground.

We get so excited about spreading our great ideas to any and all who will listen, we sometimes forget that in order to put those ideas into action *in the real world*, we must have *Libertarians in elected office* with the power to implement those ideas.

That's where our Operation Breakthrough comes into the picture. Thanks to the generous support of many of your fellow California Libertarians, we have been able to contact over 15,000 committed Libertarians who live in special Districts with November election for local offices that *we can win*.

As this goes to press, over 500 of us have committed to represent us in these elections *that we can win*. We're still compiling the list of our Candidates, but we're confident that this year's *Operation Breakthrough* will surpass our best ever showing from 2002.

You have probably received a "Don't send any money" letter from **Kate O'Brien** (one of our biggest *Operation Breakthrough* Success Stories). Please read what Kate has to say.

Added to our supporters from last month, these committed Libertarians have already answered Kate's call to action:



Gazi Abousaro
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Dale Adler
Robert Ainsworth
Charles Andersen, III
Ken Bacon
Anthony Bajada
Jonathan Baker
Reba Ball
Edward Barber
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George Strawbridge
Peter Strudwick
George Sutton
Van Treska
Alan Waters
Kevin Watson
Phyllis Weed
Laddie Yamada
Norman Zucker

Thanks to you all!

—Dave Ruprecht
Executive Director

Write-Ins

continued from page 1

inaccurately simplified the Elections Code when it said "the candidate receiving the most votes among a party's candidates is that party's nominee for the general election". Second, she didn't address the possibility that a write-in candidate could win more votes than a regular candidate and yet still be excluded from the general election by the 1% threshold, in contravention of the plain language of the California Constitution.

Perhaps the best argument for upholding Ohanesian would be based on what the Constitution means by "a political party that participated in a primary election for a partisan office". One could argue that a party doesn't participate in the primary for an office if it doesn't have any candidates printed on the primary ballot. However, *parties* don't place candidates on primary ballots—that's the job of the *candidates themselves*. Libertarians have generally been much better at doing so than have members of other minor parties, so if Ohanesian is overruled, it may end up being a mixed blessing for the LP. ●

Use coupon on page 3 to add your name to this list!

Introducing New Associate Editors



FROM THE EDITOR

I'm pleased to announce two very fine additions to the Editorial Staff of your magazine, *California Freedom*.

From Northern California is **Brian Holtz**, a long-time Libertarian Activist, Author and Candidate. Brian blogs extensively on Libertarian thought, strategy and tactics, among other things. He brings a fresh new approach to *California Freedom*, that I'm sure all readers will find interesting and challenging.



• **Brian Holtz**

From Southern California is **Paul Blumstein**, also from the IT industry, and also known for his daily digests of news relevant to Libertarians.

Both of these gentlemen have contributed generously in the past, so this is not a new relationship for us, but rather a recognition of their roles. It



• **Paul Blumstein**



• **Bruce Cohen**

also marks a greater commitment on their and the rest of the staff's part to build a better magazine.

We hope to be a part of a larger, more vibrant California Libertarian community. We intend to do our part by providing the best possible *California Freedom Magazine* we can!

— *Bruce Cohen*
Executive Editor

Holding a Libertarian Event?
Today's Events

Contact us with your information!
Editor@CA.LP.Org

What's Up this Week?

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, visit our web site:

www.CA.LP.org



Opinion

A Taxation Taxonomy

by **Brian Holtz**
Associate Editor

Many Libertarians oppose all forms of coercive taxation, even going so far as to label all such taxation as "theft". Even if one agreed with such rhetoric, one would surely concede that theft can be more bad or less bad based on how the stolen property is chosen, how the victim is chosen, how much is stolen, and what the stolen property is subsequently used for. For these reasons, and to be realistic about how a Libertarian legislature would govern if elected in the next election, we on the 2006 Libertarian Platform Committee proposed language for the taxation plank saying that some kinds of taxation (e.g. on estates or income) are worse than others (e.g. on consumption or pollution) and that the worst taxes should be repealed first. The Portland convention couldn't muster the 2/3 vote needed to amend the taxation plank,

and so it was swept away in the Platform retention vote. We'll be trying in 2008 to write a new taxation plank, and I hope it is shaped by the ideas in the following taxation taxonomy, where I describe various interesting kinds of tax in order of their increasing undesirability.

In the following taxonomy I describe various kinds of tax in decreasing order of desirability.

User fees are of course the ideal way to finance any product or service. However, governments should generally avoid them, because if the optimal amount of a product or service can be financed by voluntary transactions, then the government should probably not be involved in providing that product or service in the first place. The government should only produce or regulate those goods and services that free markets either 1) overconsume, 2) underproduce, or 3) cannot produce efficiently. These three categories of goods and services are well-defined in modern economics, and are called 1) natural resources, 2) public goods, and 3) nat-

ural monopolies. The only general exception to the no-government-user-fees rule should be for natural monopolies (like roads or power grids), because (unlike public goods and natural resources) their "excludability" makes it possible to charge by usage.

Taxes on negative externalities (e.g. pollution) are a critical function of government. One of the best ways to tax a negative externality like pollution is to hold regular auctions for finite-duration tradable emissions credits. Nature conservancy groups would be able to directly decrease pollution—and make remaining emissions more expensive—by bidding for emissions credits and then retiring them.

Resource usage fees are the best way for government to prevent overconsumption of natural resources—i.e., goods like fisheries, aquif-

The LP needs to help promote these ideas, instead of just repeating the impotent mantra that all taxation is "theft".

fers, spectrum, and orbits, for which consumption is "rivalrous" but not excludable. ("Rivalrous" means any use decreases the remaining supply. An example of a non-rivalrous good is national defense or an uncongested road.) Again, an excellent way to set these fees is by periodic auctions.

Land value taxes are considered by libertarian

• See **Taxonomy** page 4

Correction

In the June issue, page 7, "Bonds are Taxation Without Representation", we incorrectly printed Anthony Gregory's title in his byline. He is a Research Analyst at the Independent Institute, a non-partisan public policy think tank in Oakland.

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Tax Defeat

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among the opponents. And it helped. At a simple level, including both left- and right-leaning groups meant that we had more boots on the ground doing work.

More importantly, bringing in more groups means your message will have broader appeal. Liberals are better at winning over liberals, and conservatives are better at winning over conservatives. It is difficult for a liberal environmentalist to write an argument which appeals to conservative businessmen. Or

the other way around. This time, the chairman of the Santa Clara County Libertarian Party was writing arguments cooperatively with the transportation chairman of the Sierra Club. It took longer, but the result, which resonated with both groups of voters, was worth it. It wouldn't have been possible

without the initial outreach, and the recognition that on this issue, we agreed. Including widely divergent groups also meant that we had more contacts. There isn't much overlap between the taxpayers' association and the environmental movement. That means that each side was frequently bringing in people that the other side didn't even know existed. For a low-budget campaign, this was wonderful. It meant

more speaking opportunities, more messages in newsletters—in other words, more free ways to get our message out. Without that, we could not have stood up to the labor union money. Many thanks to the advocates and voters of all stripes who helped make this campaign a success. ●

Greg Perry is Vice Mayor of Mountain View, California, and a member of Citizens for Sensible Transportation. Contact him at Greg_Perry1234@Yahoo.com.

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Remember that now your national Party membership does not place you onto our state Party membership rolls. You must sign up and renew your membership with the LPC directly. Also, we often publish the names of new members who join the Libertarian Party of California in our "Welcome Aboard" announcement in *California Freedom*, which is also posted and searchable on the Web. If you do not wish to have your name published, please opt out by noting "Do not publish" somewhere on this form.

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Taxonomy

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economics Nobel laureate Milton Friedman to be the least onerous kind of tax. They are the central, differentiating idea of geolibertarianism. California's own Santa Clara University economics professor **Fred Foldvary** (a former LP congressional candidate) is one of the world's leading theorists of geolibertarianism.

A libertarian society would probably not need any form of taxation beyond the above, so the discussion below is relevant mainly for transitional tax policy on the way to Libertopia.

Consumption taxes have several nice properties compared to alternatives farther below. 1) They don't inhibit investment, which (along with technological progress) is the engine of increased living standards. 2) They are self-limiting, so that if the consumption tax rate gets too high, then consumers can just decrease consumption or take their transactions to the black market. 3) They are hard to make progressive, but easy (through rebates) to make non-regressive. Production taxes (e.g. a European-style value-added tax) are very similar in effect to consumption taxes, and differ primarily in how they are administered.

Income taxes are dangerous because they are hard to evade and are very tempting to make progressive. The only thing keeping them from the bottom of my list is that they are a transaction tax and not a wealth tax, so that a 99% income tax doesn't do as

much redistribution as a 99% wealth tax.

Property taxes are onerous not only for their potential to redistribute wealth (as opposed to just income), but also because they create hardships for people (like retired homeowners) whose wealth is not very liquid. (Reverse mortgages do not yet have low enough transaction costs to address this problem.) Any advantages that property taxes might have in terms of Tiebout sorting are shared by Land Value Taxes, and so are not an argument for traditional property taxes. ("Tiebout sorting" is the landmark 1956 insight by economist Charles Tiebout that if government is decentralized and people are free to migrate, then people who desire the same kinds and levels of government services will tend to sort themselves into the same communities.)

Estate taxes (a.k.a. "death taxes") are the closest thing America has seen to outright confiscatory communalism. They are always accompanied by gift taxes so that they cannot be avoided in the obvious way.

Given the LP's results at the ballot box, it might sometimes seem that the idea of free markets has little hope of influencing public policy in America. In fact, the ideas described above are gaining a little traction among policy analysts, since these ideas have a solid basis in mainstream economics. The Libertarian Party needs to help promote these ideas, instead of just repeating the impotent mantra that all taxation is "theft". ●

■ Opinion

Why No Vast Libertarian Conspiracy?



by **Brian Holtz**
Associate Editor

I disagree with pretty much anybody who says there is only one right institutional or tactical way to focus liberty-increasing effort. There are wrong ways (like creating additional liberty-oriented parties), but there is no single right way. The Libertarian Party, the Republican Liberty Caucus, the Cato Institute, and Reason Magazine/Foundation are each useful, and it's just criminal that such organizations fight or ignore each other instead of working together in a Vast Libertarian Conspiracy. It's ironic that there are so many conspiracy theorists in the LP and the larger freedom movement, and yet we as a movement can't conspire our way out of a wet paper bag. Hell, we don't even have a secret handshake. Then again, it's nice to be reminded of just how far from tyranny America actually is, that all these self-proclaimed freedom-fighters so clearly believe they can afford the luxury of a balkanized freedom movement.

The role of the LP in the Vast Libertarian Conspiracy should be to use electoral politics to move public policy in the direction of increasing liberty. The LP should seek to be the political voice and electoral broker of the 16% and 20% of Americans who polls show favor increased economic and

It's just criminal that liberty-oriented organizations fight or ignore each other instead of working together.

personal liberty. Of course, even if we capture that 20% electoral share, we will be winning very few legislative seats. So why run? There are multiple independently valid reasons for a Libertarian to run a race she has little chance of winning:

- To educate voters about the libertarian alternative to Left and Right;

- To provide voters in that election a way to signal their desire for increased economic and personal liberty;
- To show the major-party candidates how many votes are they are losing for not favoring increased liberty;
- To get more attention for the libertarian perspective from editorial boards, journalists, candidate comparison services, and other opinion-shapers;
- To directly confront the incumbent and his attending staff with the libertarian perspective during candidate forums;
- To help maintain LP ballot access, which in states like California depends on result thresholds in certain races;
- To be prepared in case scandal knocks an incumbent off the ballot in a safe seat, as has happened to Congressman Tom DeLay in Texas this year.

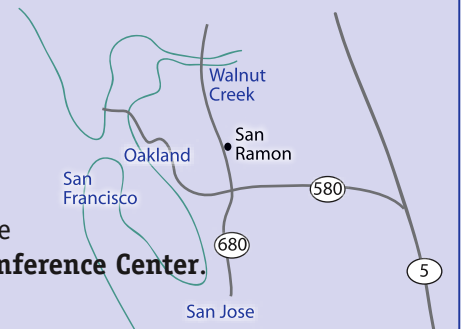
Note that each one of these reasons is defined relative to the status quo, and not to some abstract utopian ideal. No election in the real world is ever an up-or-down referendum on libertarianism. Rather, elections are a choice between expressing support for increased liberty and expressing support for one (or none) of the alternatives. So to get people to vote our way, we only have to convince them we're not as ignorant as the Democrats and not as evil as the Republicans and not as silly as the Greens and not as self-disenfranchising as NOTA.

How hard can that be? ●

BRIAN HOLTZ has been designing Internet software in Silicon Valley since 1990, first for Sun Microsystems and now for Yahoo. He lives in Los Altos Hills with his wife and three daughters. He holds an M.S. in AI from the U. of Michigan and a B.S. in computer science from the U. of S. Mississippi Honors College. was a member of the last three LP-CA Platform Committees and the California representative to the 2006 LP Platform Committee. Holtz recently joined the California Freedom team as Associate Editor. For more see <http://holtz.org>.

LPC Convention to be in San Ramon

The Libertarian Party of California Board, Executive Committee has voted to hold the State Party's 2007 Convention at the **San Ramon Valley Conference Center.**



Further details, including dates and prices, will be available soon. Information on the Conference Center itself is available at <http://www.sanramonvalleyconferencecenter.com/>.

Terry Floyd heads up the team putting on the convention.
— Daniel Wiener
Secretary, Libertarian Party of California

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■ Commentary

Thanks to Flourishing Market Forces, Angelenos Can Enjoy More for Less

Life in L.A. is better than it was in the past



• Ted Balaker

By Ted Balaker
Reason Foundation

Originally printed in the
Los Angeles Business Journal, August 7, 2006

If given the choice of living in today's L.A. or the Los Angeles of a generation ago, which would you choose? I'll stick with today's Southern California.

For the glass is half-empty crowd, let's start with the common complaints—many of which aren't as bad as they seem at first glance.

Take gas prices. As much as they hurt, University of California Los Angeles researchers note that we pump a smaller portion of our incomes into our cars than we did in the 1980s.

What about L.A.'s smoggy reputation and awful air quality? The California Air Resources Board finds the number of days that L.A. has exceeded the 1-hour ozone

standard has dropped from 192 in 1975 to 75 last year—an impressive 61 percent drop.

And then there's the crime. Outsiders often regard L.A. as one giant playground for gangs, but the serious crime rate has been cut in half since 1980.

Sure, Los Angeles' economic performance hasn't been as robust as we might have liked, but the local economy is more resilient than many realize. Recall that L.A. has shaken off defense cuts, the '92 riots, the Northridge earthquake, and more. And despite all that, since 1979, median household income is up more than 140 percent. Business services jobs grew by 58 percent and the

Milken Institute notes that in 2004, with telecommuting and technology helping entrepreneurs, L.A. reached a new peak in residential employment.

Some worry about income inequality, but even if the gap between rich and poor widens, that tells us little about the actual state of economic opportunity because the faces that comprise income groups keep changing. Such comparisons over time are particularly misleading in L.A., where immigration constantly swells the ranks of the poor. We're fortunate that ours is a rather fluid society, in which the dynamics of a relatively free market help those at the bottom make their way up the economic ladder.

From faltering public schools to the housing crunch, plenty of problems remain in Southern California and some have gotten much worse. Traffic congestion, for instance, has gotten 150 percent worse since the early '80s. It's gone from just an irritant to a force that squeezes much of the economic vitality from the local economy, costing Angelenos \$11 billion each year just in wasted gas and time.

And, of course there are the heavy hands of state and local government. Many a business has recently escaped the squeeze of high state taxes and onerous regulations by heading to Nevada, Arizona, and Texas. Bureaucracy is booming in L.A., as local government now accounts for the county's largest employment sector. No wonder *Forbes* recently named L.A. the nation's most expensive place to do business.

And yet, the good still edges out the bad. One often-overlooked aspect of progress is the degree to which falling prices have improved living standards.

When measured as the amount of time someone must work to make enough money to buy something, the price of nearly everything has fallen dramatically. Buying a dozen eggs requires only about a quarter of the time an American from 1920 had to invest. Want to buy a car? You'll only have to work about a third as long as your early-century counterpart.

When measured as the amount of time someone must work to make enough money to buy something, the price of nearly everything has fallen dramatically.

The nationwide home ownership rate stands at nearly 70 percent, a historic high. Yet restrictions on building permits, a sluggish approval process, inclusionary zoning and other local policies have constricted housing supply in L.A., catapulting home prices to new heights. Thankfully, cheaper cars make it easier for people to live in more affordable areas outside of L.A. and still travel into L.A.'s economic orbit.

The bottom line is clear: when market forces flourish, Americans enjoy more for less.

A 1970's IBM mainframe cost over \$3 million, but today's consumer need only pay about \$500 to buy a computer that's a thousand times faster—and better. Deregulation has lowered air fares, allowing average folks more opportunities to visit loved ones or explore

faraway lands. Medical science continues to give new hope to those with age-old ailments. Laser eye surgery gives the blind sight and cochlear implants let the deaf hear. Many advances we take for granted haven't been around that long and, thanks to research in fields like genetics and nanotechnology, many more are on the way. Indeed such progress is a global phenomenon, with L.A. playing its part.

Los Angeles offers unlimited opportunities for entrepreneurs and consumers. We may pay more than folks in North Dakota do for a lot of things, but instead of yearning for days gone by, give me today's digital L.A.—with its explosion of films and state-of-the-art movie theaters, funky shops, fantastic restaurants, inviting beaches, and updated maps to the stars' homes. ●

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TED BALAKER is a policy analyst at Reason Foundation, a nonprofit think tank advancing free mind and free markets. He is also editor of Privatization Watch, a Reason publication that analyzes the latest developments in outsourcing and government reform. Balaker has advised legislators in several states on transportation and outsourcing policy. His recent research includes studies on light rail and employment issues, such as offshore outsourcing and telecommuting, and his next book is on traffic congestion.

Balaker's work has been published by the Investor's Business Daily, The Washington Times, Orange County Register, and Playboy, among others. He has appeared on many television and radio programs, including The CBS Evening News and various National Public Radio programs.

Prior to joining Reason, Balaker spent five years with ABC Network News producing pieces on issues such as government reform, regulation, the environment, and transportation policy.

Balaker graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Irvine, with bachelor degrees in Political Science and English.

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Millions of Californians Want to Watch Libertarian Candidate in Gubernatorial Debate

by **Chelene Nightingale**
Campaign Manager, Art Olivier
for Governor

We just seem to have such *great* news everyday in the **Art Olivier** campaign!

First, a Rasmussen poll came out stating that 29% of all Californians want to see Art Olivier in the "big" debate.

Second, Art was mentioned in the Minutemen Newsletter. Thank you to our

friend Gayle who faithfully writes the MM newsletter. We love you Gayle!

And finally, we are now in a winning position.

"For those willing to vote third party for Governor... Art Olivier is our candidate."

— *Minuteman Magazine*

Below are the stats for Libertarian Jesse Ventura, who won the Governor's race

in Minnesota in 1998.

Now keep in mind, we are have the entire voter phone list. We can WIN!

Press Excerpt:

"Minnesota Governor's race in 1998. Jesse Ventura was only at 10% during the last week in September and gained momentum during the month of October.

The last poll on the week-end before the election, he was polling at 27%.

Ventura ended up winning the race with a showing of 37%." ●

Keep Talking About the LP's Statewide Candidates

2006

Governor
Art Olivier



Lieutenant Governor
Lynnette Shaw



Treasurer
Marian Smithson



Secretary of State
Gail Lightfoot



Controller
Donna Tello



Attorney General
Ken Weissman



Insurance
Commissioner
Dale Ogden



The 2006 Liberty Film Festival Calls for Entries

Hollywood, CA – Sept. 2006

The Liberty Film Festival and the David Horowitz Freedom Center are pleased to announce that the 2006 Liberty Film Festival will be held this November 10th-12th, 2006 in West Hollywood, California. The Liberty Film Festival showcases films that celebrate free

speech, patriotism, religious freedom and democracy.

In a world at war, the Liberty Film Festival spotlights films celebrating freedom over tyranny. The festival is seeking documentary and narrative films on subjects such as: the Iraq War and the War on Terror, Israel and the current mid-



east conflict, free speech, illegal immigration, democracy and free markets in the developing world, preservation of traditional cultures and art-forms, and the struggle for religious freedom against totalitarian systems.

New Voter Registration Rules

Voter Registration is an important part of the Freedom Effort. Most of our LP Members, Volunteers and Activists come from our outreach efforts to California Voters registered as Libertarians.

To continue to grow, we must recruit more of these Registered Voters. Certainly this group is our best source of new people and energy.

The rules have changed

Good or bad, we've come to expect this in life, and especially from a Government Agency.

Effective January 1, 2006, the California Registrar of Voters now requires all voter registrants to provide identification in the form of a California Drivers License (or state ID card) number—if they have one. If they don't have a driver's license (or state ID card), they must provide the last four numbers of a Social Security number.

Failure to collect the required identification information may result in the delay of the person actually being registered to vote.

There is a newly issued voter registration form which highlights the mandatory information. New forms can be obtained from the Secretary of State's office or from your local County Clerk/Registrar of Voters.

The Office of the Secretary of State's website is www.ss.ca.gov, and its telephone is (916) 653-7244.

Whether we agree or not with this policy, they are the rules of the game. And, since we want to play, we have to follow the rules!

Don't let your hard work registering voters go to waste. Make sure to fill out the new registration form completely and correctly.

This year's festival will also take a historic look at anti-Communism in Hollywood.

The Liberty Film Festival seeks to stimulate a lively and diverse debate, and welcomes filmmakers from all backgrounds whose films celebrate America, Israel, and democracy around the world, and that affirm individual liberty, free enterprise, fam-

ily and faith.

The Liberty Film Festival is currently accepting feature and short film submissions, both documentary and narrative, from the U.S. and internationally. The festival will hold juried competitions for Best Feature Film and Best Short Film. The postmarked deadline for all entries is September 23rd, 2006. ●

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For more information and to sign up on-line:

www.EconomyTelcom.com/CA-LP

Offered by Richard Rider
President, Economy Telcom (800) 914-8466

Wine and Liberty Event at the Westover Vineyards Winery

34329 Palomares Road, Castro Valley

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2006

2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Free admission

Confirmed participants:

Art Olivier – LP candidate for Governor

Lynnette Shaw – LP candidate for Lt. Governor

Gail Lightfoot – LP candidate for Secretary of State

Cam McConnell and **Jim Eyer**

Many local candidates will also be there.



Details:
Jim at 510-482-3521,
jim@jimeyer.org
or
www.lpac.us/events

- In the summer of 2004, Westover Vineyards, located in the gorgeous, pastoral foothills of Castro Valley, provided its terrace and tasting room for a festive, evening fundraiser. This time, admission to the venue is free.

Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierty



Gubernatorial Candidate Speaks in Monterey Sept. 29

The LP Candidate for Governor and former mayor of Bellflower, **Art Olivier**, will speak in Monterey on Friday, September 29th at the Monterey Bay Travelodge' restaurant (2030 N. Fremont) at 6:00 p.m.

Olivier will talk about his experience as mayor and his policy proposals for the state of California. Dinner: \$20, speech: \$10. Sponsored by the Sam Adams Forum and the Libertarian Party of Monterey County. For more information about the event-contact Jeff at 647-8428 or jeff.pizanti@gmail.com

For more information visit www.Freedom1776.com.

Art Olivier was the Libertarian Party candidate for Vice President of the United States in 2000.

Olivier is a graduate of Cerritos College with a de-

gree in Design Technology. The 49-year-old Olivier is a Realtor with Cogburn-Miller Realty. He and his wife Joyce have four children.

Olivier served as a councilman (1994-97), mayor *pro tempore* (1997-98) and mayor (1998-99) of Bellflower, a Los Angeles suburb with 77,000 residents.

During his five years (1994-1999) on the City Council, Olivier privatized the city's tree trimming, crossing guards, street sweeping and the Building Department. He eliminated the city's lighting tax assessment and did not allow eminent domain to be exercised while on council.

Olivier's website is www.2006gov.com



Libertarian Party of California

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Panorama City, CA 91402

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California Freedom

Harvest festival season is here!



Photo: Kevin Takenaga

The fresh, cool mornings and warm afternoons of Fall are a reminder of why it's great to be a Californian.

A great way to go out and enjoy the Autumn air is to staff a Libertarian Party booth at a local festival. Pick a shift and help your local LP educate the public. Please send us photos and/or stories about your outreach efforts.

- Left: Allen Hacker administers a political quiz to a South Bay Area family at an Operation Politically Homeless booth.

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