



A R I Z O N A

LIBERTARIAN

Election Cycle 2008

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It Has Always
Been a ...

"Libertarian" REVOLUTION

Restore '04! Undoing the damage from Portland

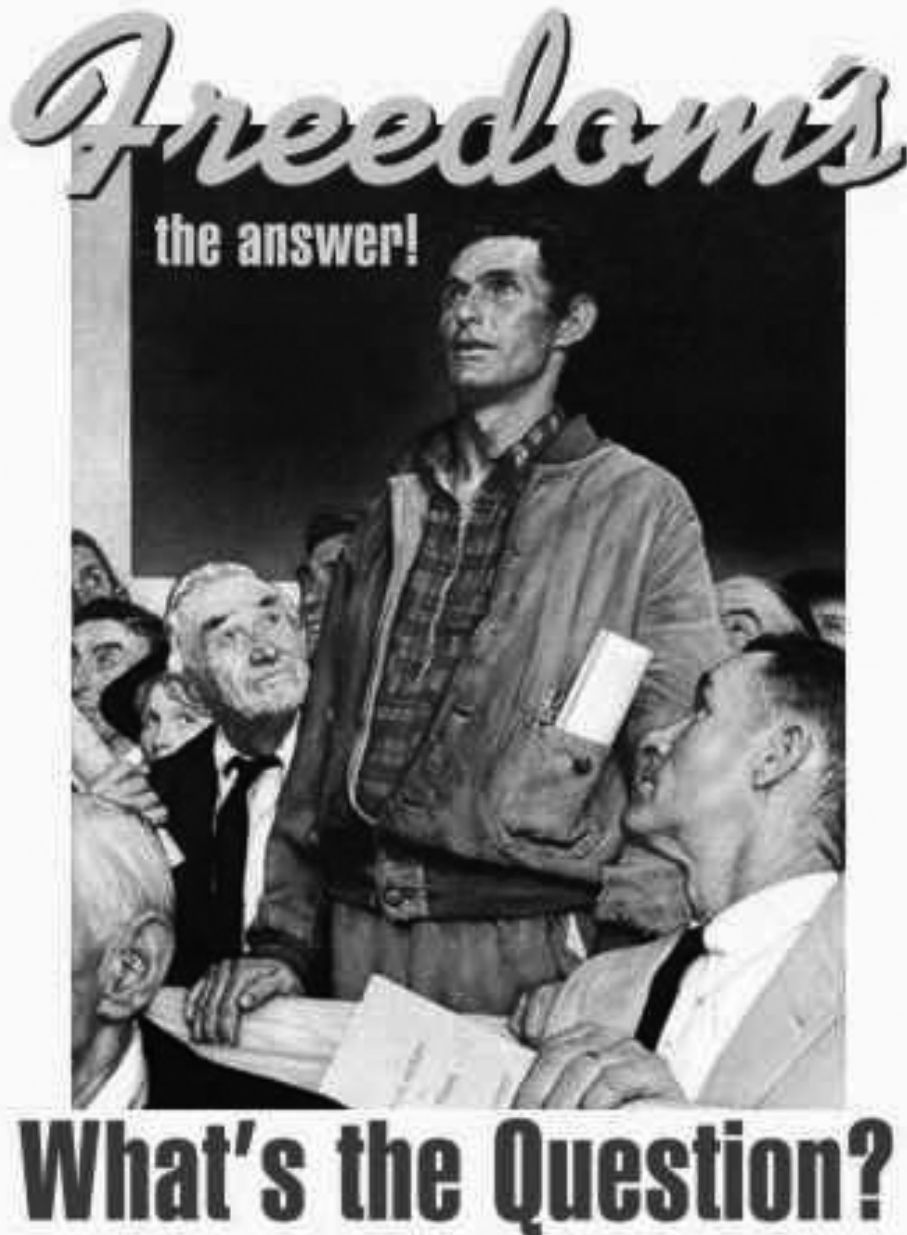
By David F. Nolan

Perhaps the most important decision facing delegates to the 2008 Libertarian Convention in Denver will be what to do about our national platform.

In 2006, a small number of overzealous reformers, voting at an unusually small national convention, was able to remove the great majority of a platform that had evolved over three decades and incorporated the thinking of thousands of dedicated Libertarians. The 2006 convention was less than half the size of the 2004 convention, and was not representative of the party membership at large. The irresponsible vote to destroy most of our platform was a great disservice to our Party, and should be undone as much as possible.

Many Libertarians believe that the best option available to us in 2008 is to restore the 2004 platform, which can then be amended to reflect needed or desired changes. As of March 30, more than 200 Libertarians have joined the Restoration ...

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Looking for our Long-Lost Future

By L. Neil Smith

Attempting to seize an empire, America has lost its hold on the future.

We are left now — present libertarian company excepted — with a choice of three disgusting collectivist alternatives: a woman who lies for the sheer joy if it, and has just the faintest reek of the deathcamp about her, a "peace candidate" who wants to bomb Pakistan, and a warmongering madman who wishes to preside over another Hundred Years' War. Meanwhile, everything this sorry, battered country really needs, in terms of policy and principle, has been deliberately excluded by an electoral process so corrupt it would embarrass Boss Tweed or Huey Long.

But to those who know what to look for in the popular culture, the news is even worse than that. Judging from the media, there is no future. Not only have dramatic programs rooted in the future been steadily disappearing from network television over the past several years, not only are new programs of this kind arriving stillborn, but their ...

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2008 AzLP Voter Registration Drive

By Jim Iannuzo, Chairman,
Maricopa County Libertarian Party

This 2008 election cycle presents an opportunity for you to make a pro-freedom statement. The time to field only a dozen or so Libertarian candidates for statewide office is behind us. **A New FREEDOM BLOCK of Voters** has emerged in Arizona and with your help, we will forever change the size and scope of government.

The Libertarian Party has a Central Tenet: "The only legitimate function of government is in ensuring individual rights." Our entire platform is consistent with this very simple statement. "You own your person, property, money and goods and no one, including government, has a right to use force against you to take them away..."

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Now! ... as in Not Later

By Ernest Hancock

Over the last year it has been clearly demonstrated that the clean and clear message of libertarianism is what is popular, and not the individual bearer of that message. More important than my creation of the r3VOLution artwork and the promotion of the accompanying street activism, was my understanding that the next American Revolution was already in the hearts and minds of enough people that it could not be ignored if given an opportunity to express itself.

In 2004 and 2006, I expressed this opinion at the LP National Conventions, and for years I have done so as a talk show host, a candidate for office, as co-founder of the Freedom Summit, director of the 38 year old Arizona Breakfast Club, and countless activist projects and court actions. The revolution between the ...

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Hit The Hot Buttons

By James Bovard

Libertarians need to hit the hottest buttons in the 2008 campaign. War and torture are issues that will electrify and outrage many voters. Neither major party will show much courage or wisdom on either of these issues.

While the media has shifted attention away from the Iraq war in recent months, this could easily change if the civil war heats up. Or, an influential cleric like Sadr could give the order to target Americans or to cut off their supply lines coming in from Kuwait and elsewhere. The illusion of U.S. progress in Iraq has been created in part by the indulgence of individuals like Sadr who could flip a rhetorical switch and wreak havoc on U.S. troops. McCain has based his presidential campaign on Iraq. If Iraq implodes before the election, libertarians who have consistently and stalwartly attacked the war could harvest the dis-

enchanted voters. Taking a strong anti-war position will also help libertarians if Bush and Cheney attack other nations in the months, weeks, or days before Election Day.

The major parties and the mainstream media have said very little about U.S. torture abuses in the Bush reign. But month by month, more evidence and more memos leak out. On April Fool's Day 2008, a 2003 memo leaked out which revealed that the Justice Department told the Pentagon that U.S. laws did not apply to interrogations of terrorism suspects.

The Iraq war and torture are issues that will make many people cringe. But libertarians are not going to open minds and electrify audiences by offering "me-too-patriotism." Candidates can offer a case for immediate withdrawal from Iraq that has nothing to do with pacifism. And they can demand an end to torture with no bleeding-heart overtones. ...

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Published by the Arizona Libertarian Party, Inc., 4802 E. Ray Rd., #23-255, Phoenix, AZ 85044. 602.248.8425. www.AzLP.org.

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Courage Now

By Mike Dugger



As we approach the end of the tragedy commonly known as the Bush Administration, Libertarians must take stock of what it means to us as a political party. How have we conducted ourselves and our campaigns to counter the depredations of Bush's fascist juggernaut? How will we do so this year and in the future? I think the LP has failed miserably over the last eight years, but that doesn't mean we will continue to do so from here on out.

I prefer not to accentuate the negatives, but I think I would be remiss if I failed to at least briefly summarize them. I am writing in general terms and naturally many libertarians have avoided these errors over the years. Overall, however, I believe we have been guilty as charged.

Our first error was allowing ourselves to get caught up in the politics of fear after 9/11 and failing to energetically oppose the subsequent assaults upon our rights. Even if we couldn't prevent The Patriot Act, The Military Commissions Act, and other egregious legislation, we should have positioned the Party as the only one diametrically opposed to them.

This timidity led directly to our second error, failure to unite in determined opposition to Bush's illegal invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Some libertarians even supported these war crimes. The one thing any libertarian should know is that war is the health of the State and, absent a clear and credible threat to the country, it should always be opposed for that reason. Neither Osama bin Laden nor Saddam Hussein constituted a credible, immediate threat.

Finally, a similar lack of courage

SNAFU or PSYOPS? Why Does Government Bring Out the Worst in Us?

By Kent B. Van Cleave

Libertarians often find themselves scratching their heads in bewilderment as people fall for each new outrageous political boondoggle. How can people fail to wise up to the sloppy thinking that keeps them supporting Republicans and Democrats and all the disastrous laws and policies they promulgate? And, given that government is supposed to be in charge by virtue of some kind of expertise, knowledge, or other ability that makes its officials qualified to lead, direct, regulate, arrest, judge, and punish ... OK, stop laughing and get off the floor ... how could they fail to notice that they and their programs are bought by the

of convictions led to the gutting of the L.P. platform in 2006 and the present marginalization of the Party. But for the inertia of our ballot access, the L.P. would have ceased to exist by now. In other words, we are only here today because of the progress we made prior to 2001 and the fading momentum that progress has provided us. But we've nearly squandered it at this point and I doubt we can afford any more political cowardice.

The time has come for the Party to *boldly* go where it was founded to go, head-on in opposition to the Cult of the Omnipotent State. The best way we can begin this task is to restore the party platform to its pre-2006 state. In addition to putting teeth back into our opposition to the status quo, this will also mark a symbolic turn-around by the party to begin to correct the failures listed above.

From there, I propose three primary issues that the LPUS should make the focus of its efforts.

First and foremost, we don't need to attack or invade another country in yet another neocon war of aggression. Instead, we need to get our military out of the wars they're currently in, *starting* with Iraq and Afghanistan. Polls show that roughly 70% of Americans want us out of Iraq. We'd have to be stupid not to headline an issue that is not only consistent with our platform, but backed by over two-thirds of the electorate!

Second, we must advocate the repeal of all of legislation passed in the wake of 9/11 which violates our Constitution, including the Department of Homeland Security. To any thinking libertarian, these laws are nothing less than an attack by our own government intended to deprive Americans of their Constitutional rights, not to protect them from any credible threat to their well-being.

Finally, we must promise to investigate and prosecute those in office who have violated the highest law of the land, to commit war crimes and crimes against our rights as secured

public on the basis of well known psychological biases – "stinkin' thinkin'" you might say?

In other words, does government bring out the worst in us, psychologically speaking, because it screws that up like everything else ... or because that's how they get what they want? My plan here is to discuss some particular examples, then leave the reader to reach the verdict: incompetence or malice?

Let's begin with a juicy one: *groupthink*. That's the tendency for individuals to avoid thinking critically about groups to which they belong, and the closer one identifies with a particular group, the more likely one is to defend it against all opposing criticism, however compelling. Our so-called "Two-Party System" thrives on this one. Members of each party, to the extent they identify with it, refuse to even consider criticism from the opposing camp. Take the Iraq War:

in the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights. The most dangerous criminals are those who commit crimes under color of law. Therefore, we have little choice but to *fearlessly* identify those criminals and to pursue their punishment to the fullest extent of the law.

Of course there are many other issues that are important to libertarians, but these three are the ones I believe are the keys to turning the Party around and restoring it to its rightful position as the defender of individual rights from the depredations of the Cult of the Omnipotent State. Certainly the major parties have abandoned Americans on these issues. This presents us with the opportunity to take them up and use them to position ourselves as the not only the Party of Principle, but the Party of Peace and Individual Rights as well.

Will headlining the issues I advocate guarantee that the L.P. will capture the imagination of the electorate and suddenly ride a wave of electoral success? Of course not. It simply means that by doing so we *should* capture the imagination of the electorate and suddenly ride a wave of electoral success. Whether that actually happens will ultimately depend on how well we communicate the message, as well as whether or when Americans are ready to accept that message.

That's about as good as it's ever going to get for a third party seeking to overtake the entrenched parties of the established order. Eventually, if we position ourselves deftly on major issues consistent with our philosophy and platform, the other parties will drive the electorate right into our corner. The only remaining question is, how much more will they destroy in doing so?

Mike Dugger is the former Chair of the Arizona Libertarian Party from 1996-1998. He has recently been involved with End The War Now, a local coalition opposing the War on Iraq. He is also a contributing writer to FreedomsPhoenix.com and has his own web log at www.golffront.org/blog/

Remember how Republicans reacted when the Bush Administration's serial rationales for the war fell apart one by one? Right-wing talk shows went on and on about how Liberals were denying the existence of WMD's just because they hated Bush ... or, worse, because they hated America. (Come to think of it, *nationalism* may be about 70 percent groupthink.) Today, the typical Republican still believes there were WMD's, that Saddam was a threat to the U.S., that he was colluding with Al Qaida, and that our invasion would improve things for the Iraqi people, who desperately needed democracy.

Of course, Democrats are just as prone to groupthink. They mostly think of themselves as belonging to the fraternity of compassionate people, and think criticism of their policies goes beyond error, all the way to pathology.

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But Soft

By Charles Goyette



*As, in a theatre,
The lights are extinguished, for the
scene to be changed
With a hollow rumble of wings, with
a movement of darkness on dark-
ness,
And we know that the hills and the
trees, the distant panorama
And the bold imposing facade are all
being rolled away—
— T.S. Eliot*

Too long! Weary now; even seat-squirming, the audience anticipates the election, anxious for the next act in American life, hoping it brings catharsis, redemption, change.

But soft, for the fool still struts his hour upon the stage.

The curtain cannot fall on the Bush years soon enough. The sheer destruction has been unbearable for those with healthy human consciousness. We have witnessed the invasion of two countries -- and the silent, smirking nod given to the invasion of a third - leaving cities leveled, towns wasted, and lives lost in uncoun- ted thousands. The economic price we will pay is only just becoming visible through the rising smoke and ash, while eight years of power-lust and lawlessness have left our hard-won human liberties buried beneath the rubble. The scene demands the lonely sound of a cello as we survey the desolation: "Madness! ... Madness!"

A tale told by idiots? To be sure! Else why would the ideologues have destroyed the political vehicle they rode to power? Yet modern American

conservatism, whose faithful, like poor players, had mindlessly mouthed empty lines about fiscal responsibility, limited government and respect for the Constitution, will now not be pieced back together. But for idiocy, why would the worshippers of nothing so much as military might have displayed their ultimate impotence? Only idiocy explains why the plunderers, utterly dependent on the productive, have wasted their hosts so completely. Surely the act is complete? We, the unwilling spectators, hold our breath, longing for release. Enough! Let the curtain fall! Get on with it!

But soft!

For this is the America that worships commander guys and destroyer gods! This is the age of the Hollywood blockbuster! Enough is never enough! The frenzy of destruction is never complete. There is always another car-truck-bus chase to end in a twisted pile of carnage ahead, another helicopter to crash, another train to wreck. More falling debris to crush fleeing bit players... high altitude bombardment, a thermonuclear explosion, an asteroid if need be! Whatever it takes to

top that which has gone before and pierce the American theater-goers' dull sensitivity, that his delight in destruction might be made complete.

Those wise in the ways of theater, recognize the device: the mournful cello's remorse signals the end of the act only to deceive, that we might let our guard down, heightening the surprise of the next thunderous shock.

And life imitates art. Busying themselves, the stagehands of this production, the enabling talking heads and public nuisances, raise a great sound and much fury about the acts to come.

But soft!

We, distrustful of power-wielders and world-shapers, recognize the device! Will the hapless audience exhale now, anticipating the act yet to come, even as the clown prince remains on the stage, his last lines yet unspoken, his final deeds unfinished?

To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow:

Iran!

Judge Buttrick to Stand for Reelection

By Ernest Hancock

April 2, 2007

Arizona Superior Court Judge John A. Buttrick announced today that he will seek election to a second full four year term this November.

As a general jurisdiction judge, Buttrick is believed to be the highest elected registered Libertarian official in the country. He was originally appointed to the Superior Court in Maricopa County (the greater Phoenix/Scottsdale metropolitan area) in May 2001 by Republican Governor Jane Hull. In 2004 Buttrick ran for a



full term in a retention election. He received an almost 74 percent "yes" vote in that election, garnering well over 403,000 votes.

"I am confident that I can be retained by popular vote once again," Buttrick said. "Some people said that I could never be appointed Judge after having run as a Libertarian for Governor in 1994 and State House of Representatives in 1998. Similarly, others said that my well known Libertarian Party membership would hurt me in the retention election in 2004. They were all wrong. Governor Hull appointed me over 39 Republicans and Democrats and my vote total in 2004 was among the highest in the state. In fact, I received more votes in Maricopa County alone than the Libertarian Presidential nominee received in the entire country. Since 2004 I have

"I received more votes in Maricopa County alone than the Libertarian Presidential nominee received in the entire country."

served on criminal, family court and civil assignments and I believe that, if anything, my performance in those positions will lead to an increase in my vote totals."

Besides running for elective office as a Libertarian, Buttrick also was as an at-large member of the Libertarian National Committee from 1997 to 2000 and served on the national LP Platform Committee three times, including chairing the Committee in 1998 and 2000. He has addressed LP national convention delegates in 2002 and 2006 as well as other libertarian and civic groups, but is presently forbidden by judicial ethical rules from endorsing any political organization or candidate.

"Those rules are certainly restrictive, but I enjoy the job so much that it

has not dulled my desire to continue as a judge, at least until my next four year term expires. Beyond that I have no specific plans." Because of family commitments, Buttrick will not be attending the Denver convention. "I wish all my old friends well. I'll be watching all the action on CSPAN."

As in 2004, Buttrick is seeking no funds for his campaign. An independent Judicial Performance Review will evaluate his qualifications based on surveys of lawyers, litigants, witnesses and jurors. The result of that review will be made available to all voters and should serve to adequately inform them in advance of the election. If not, Buttrick will mount a self-funded campaign. "There are more important campaigns for people to support with their dollars and time," Buttrick stated. "I'm sure you know which ones those are."

For additional information call Judge Buttrick at 602-506-0971.

Celebrating Genuine Freedom on the Fourth of July

By Jacob G. Hornberger

Ever since the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, celebrations on the Fourth of July have brought forth pronouncements that U.S. troops in Iraq are defending the freedoms expressed in the Declaration of Independence. But nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, most of the "freedoms" that Americans are celebrating today are antithetical to the genuine principles of freedom enunciated in the Declaration.

There is no better way to demon-

strate this than by contrasting the freedoms that Americans in, say, 1880 were celebrating on the Fourth of July with those "freedoms" that Americans celebrate today.

In 1880 America, there was no income taxation, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, welfare, public (i.e., government) schools, drug laws, gun control, immigration controls, foreign wars, or foreign aid. Economic regulations were few.

That is what it once meant to be an American. That is what it once meant to be free.

In the hearts and minds of our American ancestors, freedom included the natural or God-given right

to sustain one's life through labor and through economic exchanges made with others. Americans would have scoffed at the notion of asking the state's permission to engage in an occupation or profession or having the state interfere with mutually beneficial exchanges.

Taxes on income were considered an anathema because freedom entailed a person's right to keep the fruits of his earnings and, in fact, to accumulate unlimited amounts of wealth. Social Security, Medicare, and other social welfare programs were opposed because freedom entailed the right to do whatever a person wanted with his own money. For that matter, charity meant nothing in terms of virtue or morality if it resulted from the coercive apparatus of the state.

The freedom celebrated on July 4, 1880, entailed a person's right to live his life any way he chose — responsibly or irresponsibly, healthy or unhealthy — so long as his conduct was peaceful. Drug laws were nonexistent because freedom entailed the unfettered right to ingest harmful or unhealthy substances.

Unfortunately, in our time Americans have rejected our ancestors' philosophy of freedom in favor of a "freedom" in which the state's primary role is a paternalistic one. Today, the "freedom" celebrated is the collective power of the state to take care of people in society by taxing them. On the Fourth of July, 2008, Americans

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The R3VOLUTION isn't all just about Ron Paul anymore ...

By Ed Vallejo

I loathe politics.

I always have. In over 40 years of living on planet Earth, I never saw a politician that I felt was a good choice to lead the country of my birth, and because of this, never voted in a presidential election. Little did I know that my life was to take a radical turn in 2004.

I was quite familiar with Michael Badnarik from his Course on the United States Constitution he had been teaching, and knew him to be a good man. Someone I would take orders from as Commander-in-Chief without hesitation, a man I could fully trust. When I saw him get the Presidential

Nomination, I promptly went out and registered to vote and joined the Libertarian Party here in Arizona, where I actively campaigned for this excellent individual.

I learned a lot in that election cycle about how 'the game' is played – from a third party perspective. Main point being – the more truth a candidate speaks, the further away from earshot of The People that candidate is held. I saw this idea taken to the extreme point that Michael got arrested trying to gain access to a debate of Presidential Candidates! Such foul play I somewhat expected, but I was surprised at the degree to which it was taken.

By the time the next election cycle began in early 2007, I was not only a little wiser, I had 'attended' my way up the Libertarian Ladder to become Precinct Committeeman (elected by one vote – mine!), State Committeeman,

Assistant State Secretary, and Chairman of the Platform Committee. I had met some very good people along the way, and I was trying to make a difference in the world through my commitments. Then came Ron Paul.

I was somewhat aware of Dr. Paul from his 1988 Libertarian run for President. When I heard of the exploratory committee to draft Ron as a Republican contender, I did a short bit of research and found him to be every bit as principled and honest a man as Badnarik, and kept my eyes open. When I saw the Ron Paul for President – Phoenix Meetup Group created I joined it, and shortly after, Ron was in the race. It wasn't long before I found myself as Organizer of this group due to my ardency of 'taking action'.

That was a year ago. I could tell stories for hours on what has transpired in that twelve month period, but

it all boils down to what I learned in the last cycle was not only true for third party candidates, but ALL candidates; the more truth a candidate speaks, the further away from earshot of The People that candidate is held, and this time it couldn't be more obvious. The biggest difference this time was that the 'powers that be' didn't fully anticipate the impact of Ron getting on Prime Time – even if only a few times – and telling the People the TRUTH about the status of our Beloved America, and how we have been nose-dived into the dirt by corrupt empire-building politicians freely acting outside of the confines of the Constitution. By the time the Media lid was clamped down tight – TOO LATE – the cat was out of the bag, and a R3VOLUTION had begun!

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"Definition of Insanity"

By Howard Blitz, President, The Freedom Library, Inc. A Liberty Moment

It has been said that doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results is the definition of insanity. It appears American government officials are insane. They truly believe continuing and increasing the amount of control government authorities have over the American economic system will some how create economic stability and help all Americans become successful in their economic lives.

History and current events, though, prove otherwise. America never experienced a widespread economic depression until the Federal Reserve System existed. It was in fact the interference and the control of the supply of money by the Federal Reserve System that caused the great depression of the 1930's.

Now Henry Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury, along with the rest of the republican administration wants to give the Federal Reserve System even more power to dictate to banks, insurance companies, and other financial institutions on how to run their businesses creating even more instability in the already topsy-turvy economic environment individuals must exist.

Mr. Paulson stated in his remarks on Monday, "Government has the responsibility to make sure our financial system is regulated effectively." Nowhere in the United States Constitution does it state that government has that responsibility. The closest one gets is the responsibility of government to coin money and regulate the value thereof. However, that means government is to just coin the money and initially set the relationship between a dollar and an ounce of gold and silver, the commodities that are money.

The Federal Reserve System is

not even the government, though. It is a private bank created by congress to essentially print money when money is needed. The Federal Reserve System has done more harm and created more economic instability than any institution created. To give it more regulatory power is insane. It is like bleeding people to get rid of their disease.

Because the treasury secretary and other government officials are asking for more control of the economy, they necessarily must have more information about what individuals do in their economic lives such as when and where individuals make deposits and withdrawals and with whom they do business. The regulatory blueprint outlined by the republican administration through Secretary Paulson necessitates more information gathering and more imposition on the lives of individuals, making it tougher for banks and other financial institutions to do business and complicating the lives of all individuals. In other words the end result is less free-

dom and individual liberty.

Americans, though, cannot look to democrats for less regulation as they accuse the republicans for not doing enough.

According to Mr. Paulson state based regulations is now outmoded. True enough. State government is not be involved in regulating the economic activity of free individuals as well. However, that is not what is being advocated.

Republicans and democrats alike now propose to have the federal government take over control of the American economy for which the state was responsible, which is also truly insane. There is no room for government control in a truly free market economy.

The treasury secretary also stated another truth that in the private sector if institutions do not change they become obsolete. However, private

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Hit The Hot Buttons

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Surveillance is another issue custom-made for libertarians. The Bush administration may have decided even before 9/11 that the Fourth Amendment prohibition of warrantless and unreasonable searches did not apply to good guys like themselves. Denouncing the administration's violation of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, its roundup of Americans' email, and its gradual building of a Total Information Awareness regime could especially energize younger, tech-savvy voters.



Most Americans now recognize that the Bush administration deceived

the nation into war with Iraq. Discontent with lying politicians could be a gusher for libertarian causes. It is not necessary for libertarian candidates to promise honest government. Instead, they can stress that it is far easier to reduce politicians' power than to raise their characters. If we cannot have honest politicians, at least we can have rulers with fewer levers to destroy private lives and livelihoods. If we cannot have honest elected officials, at least we can have less dangerous liars.

Libertarians must also raise the question of whether America is becoming an elective dictatorship. The Bush administration has trampled the Constitution time and again, and the Democrats have usually done little except pout and whine in response. There is far more fear of dictatorship in this country today than there was seven years ago. Libertarians can tap into those concerns to help people recognize that merely changing the name

of the party controlling the White House does little or nothing to safeguard their rights.

Libertarians can help Americans recognize that voting is not enough. Democracy is not failsafe. Democracy is not a penicillin that cures all politically transmitted diseases. It is good for some things—especially for peacefully removing bad rulers. But the ability to remove bad rulers provides no assurance that good rulers will take their place

Modern democracy is far more effective at unleashing government than at protecting individuals. The Founding Fathers believed that governments were created to secure rights. Subsequent generations of politicians have disparaged such a constrained vision of their own prerogatives. Yet, regardless of how often popularly elected governments trample people's rights and liberties, many people continue to equate democracy

with freedom.

Libertarians should call Americans to a higher grade of patriotism. It is not patriotic to ignore violations of the Constitution. It is not patriotic to "look the other way" when politicians ravage rights. It is not patriotic to pretend that politicians are entitled to all the power they can grab, at least until they get impeached or indicted. It is not patriotic to give the benefit of the doubt to people trying to shackle you.

The American political system has lost much of its legitimacy in recent years. Libertarians have a good opportunity to exploit that decline to awaken people to their right to freedom.

James Bovard is the author of Attention Deficit Democracy (Palgrave, 2006), Terrorism and Tyranny (Palgrave, 2003), and Lost Rights (St. Martin's, 1994). Copyright © 2008 by James Bovard.

Now!*Hancock Continued from Page 1*

... ears of millions of Americans is moving to the streets, and I am uniquely qualified and motivated to put the Libertarian Party in a very influential position so that from the coming chaos we can expect a rebirth of American liberty. As the new Chairman of the Libertarian Party of the United States of America, I fully expect Lady Liberty's Torch to produce a Freedom's Phoenix.

I chose the theme of my Chair campaign to be the Libertarian Party of the United States' "Statement of Principle". Since the beginning of the party it has remained, "We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual". This Mission Statement was well understood by activists who were proud to refer to themselves as libertarians.

At the time of the creation of the Libertarian Party, it was easy to understand the reasoning for such a statement in the face of the Nixon administration and the Vietnam War. After the past two Bush administrations, it seems more like an act of clairvoyance.

"We, the members of the Libertarian Party,..." seems obvious. This makes clear that individuals have banded together to make use of the peaceful political process to do something.

"...challenge the cult..." is just as clear. Oppose/confront a group that adores/supports something. And 'that something' is the ..."omnipotent state". An all powerful, all knowing, government.

The mission statement goes on to make clear that the Libertarian Party was created not only to oppose those with a collective adoration of an all

powerful and all knowing government, but to "defend the rights of the individual" against this "omnipotent state". The Libertarian Party's Mission Statement goes on to define individual rights and our opposition to government's abuses of them. But nowhere does it dictate how this is to be done. And to make sure that this Mission Statement could not be changed for light and transient causes, it requires a 7/8 majority vote at a Libertarian National Convention.

The "injection of the libertarian infection into the bone marrow of American politics (for which there is no cure)" is extremely powerful. The recent r3VOLution has been a very good example.

Over the past year, I have traveled coast-to-coast many times, helping other libertarians and freedom supporting individuals in support of the libertarian philosophy behind the r3VOLution, but I was very concerned by official Libertarian Party communications in support of another party's candidate with little attention to the libertarian philosophy behind his popularity. Support for Congressman Ron Paul's clear opposition to the Federal Reserve, the War in Iraq, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Omnipotent Surveillance State (in that order) was obvious to the thousands attending any of the events. Yes, #1 was the Federal Reserve (thank you Aaron Russo). I am certain this observation will be confirmed by many libertarians at the Denver LP convention.

Only 6 months before the r3VOLution took the country by storm, the very issues that were its backbone had been abandoned by the LPUS at the National Convention of 2006.

The internal LP debate over what the specific function of the LP should be has been raging for at least the 15 years that I have been a libertarian activist. Efforts to bypass the desires

of Libertarians in convention via an LNC vote or a well timed parliamentary procedure have become almost expected. But, individuals with the desire to use the political process to achieve specific goals not addressed in the Mission Statement of the LPUS have gone too far, and principled libertarians are being compelled to direct their attention to the internal issues of the LPUS.

The LP News is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party. Page 2 of the LP News lists contact information for the LP. Immediately below that are these words:

The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party:

"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

If this Mission Statement could be found anywhere in the official documents of the LP, I might be more compelled to fully examine how different this statement is in philosophy and function from the true Mission Statement. But, in brief, proclaims that Libertarians have abandoned the idea of opposing omnipotent power in favor of getting hold of it.

The most damaging aspect of this issue is that the Libertarian Party is committing fraud, plain and simple. I can't imagine how you could convince the ultimate judge (the general public) that the "Party of Principle" isn't being fraudulent with this blatant misrepresentation. Any success we may experience in the political process at a national level would be lost in a moment with a single featured segment on any number of national media programs. A public relations fi-

asco from which, I fear, the LP would never fully recover.

I hope many are asking how this could have happened. Many of you may have reacted with colorful language as I did. But I hope that you will direct your energy in helping me to make it clear that we do not support the direction the Libertarian Party of the United States has taken.

The original purpose for the creation of the Libertarian Party has never been more pertinent than it is right now. The r3VOLution is already well under way and if the LPUS were to aggressively challenge the Bad Guys and defend the Good Guys, I guarantee that we'd have a great deal more fun and would enjoy tremendous support.

Ernest Hancock is campaigning to be the National Chair of the Libertarian Party of the US. An unedited version of this essay may be viewed online, the entry dated April 8th:

www.ernesthancock.org/Ernies-Blog.htm

REVOLUTION**Taxation with Representation Is Still Tyranny***By Mary Ruwart*

"Nothing is certain but death and taxes."

Conventional wisdom puts the so-called "necessary evil" of taxation on par with death—inevitable, unavoidable, the way the world works. Our society seems to believe that taxation is indispensable to civilization. Our ancestors once believed the same thing about slavery.

Today, we know better. Slavery is not only unnecessary to civilization, but hinders its development. What we call "evil" has a way of doing that.

One day, the "necessary evil" of taxation will be recognized for what libertarians know it to be: legalized theft, a hindrance to civilization, prosperity, harmony, and happiness.

We've been so conditioned to ac-

cept taxation, that we often forget it's an "evil." Yet if we closely examine the process of taxation, we find it looks a lot like stealing.

Imagine, for example, that we wanted to have a new neighborhood park. We could get together with other neighbors who wanted the same thing and raise the necessary funds. We could even hire a manager to do this if we didn't want to.

If some of our neighbors didn't want to contribute, they wouldn't have to. If they changed their mind later, however, they might have to pay an extra entry fee. Everyone would be free to choose whether or not they wanted to help create a park.

However, we usually prefer not to honor our neighbor's choice. If we are part of a majority that wants the park, we vote to impose a tax on all of our neighbors, even those who don't want a park or wouldn't use one. The majority forces the minority to its will. The minority is no longer free to choose.

If one of our neighbors refuses to pay the park tax, he or she will be

forced—at gunpoint, if necessary—to do so. For example, if the new tax is a property tax, a lien will be placed on the dissenting have harmed no one. Their only crime is that they didn't agree with the majority about how their hard-earned money should be spent.

Most of the time, our dissenting neighbors will pay the tax before they are forced to do so at gunpoint. Eventually, they will retaliate in kind by becoming part of a majority that opposes what we might prefer. For example, people who don't want a park may want a library instead. They will vote to force us to pay a library tax, even though we buy our reading material at a bookstore rather than patronize a library.

With taxation, we take turns being minorities and majorities, victims and aggressors. We become irate and belligerent as the stakes escalate, reminiscent of the famous Hatfield and McCoy feud.

You can see this interplay in the verbal venom used by the liberals and conservatives, as they decry the way

the other group wants to spend your hard-earned money. They never question whether or not your money should be forcibly taken from you in the first place. They clearly believe that it is their "divine right" to do so.

Libertarians believe that it is your divine right to spend your money as you wish. If you are smart enough to earn it, you are smart enough to spend it. Stealing from Peter to pay Paul is still stealing. Taxation is indeed an evil, an evil that tempts us to grab as much as we can from each other. Voting for a tax is a declaration of war on our neighbors and is eventually responded to in kind. No wonder we have so much strife in our fair land!

Not only is taxation "evil," it's unnecessary as well. When government provides a service, it costs us twice as much as a private firm would charge us (for examples, see my book, "Healing Our World," available as a bound book (2003 edition) or a free download (1992 edition) at

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Defending the Public

By David Euchner
Pima County Chair

Upon losing the 2004 election for Pima County Attorney, I followed the old adage: "If you can't beat them, join the opposition." I have been working as a public defender since 2005 as a trial and appellate attorney as well as counseling those just arrested prior to their initial appearance in court.

In nearly three years on the job, I have seen up close the damage to a large section of Arizona's population caused by our immigration policy.

While all sides of the immigration debate are represented in Arizona just as they are nationally, in Arizona there has been enough political will to make the changes sought by the most extreme of the right wing, led by Rep. Russell Pearce of Mesa. Pearce's coalition has three principal achievements in immigration law "reform" in recent years. In 2004, voters passed Proposition 200, which made statutory changes that precluded illegal

immigrants from being able to vote or collect welfare. While this proposition was not inconsistent with libertarian philosophy, it was a solution in search of a problem. Illegal aliens do not vote, and to the extent they are on the dole their numbers pale in comparison to the citizens of the United States who collect welfare.

Emboldened by his success, Pearce then had a constitutional amendment placed on the ballot in 2006 for voters to consider. Prop 100 expanded the list of crimes for which a judge can deny bail to a defendant beyond murder, rape, and molestation of a child. After voters passed that proposition, judges now can hold individuals who have entered or remained unlawfully in this country and are charged with a "serious" crime. For purpose of this law, "serious" means any class 1, 2, 3, or 4 felony. Those familiar with Arizona's criminal code realize that this includes most drug offenses and the result has been further overcrowding of our jails with minor drug offenders.

Recently, Pearce has succeeded in suckering Gov. Napolitano into sign-

ing an employer sanctions law that seeks to put out of business every employer who hires an undocumented worker. Though I have not yet seen it, I understand that Pearce still intends to submit a stiffer bill to the voters this fall.

The local economy is already starting to take a hit.

Pearce made his true intentions known in 2006 when he stated publicly that he wants to institute a program similar to the old "Operation Wetback" to effect massive deportations as quickly as possible. For civilized Arizonans who do not share Pearce's racism, there seems to be lacking an understanding of the impact on our communities.

Many of those deported to Mexico are people who crossed the border when they were minors, even babies. These people grew up in the United States and have never known a life in Mexico. They have social security numbers, they pay their taxes, and they help the landlady take out the garbage. They have families of their own. The ones I have come to know

have been charged with a felony, sometimes a violent offense and sometimes a simple drug offense.

Federal law governs which offenses are deportable, and the smallest of drug offenses, where the sentence in state court is mandatory probation, will lead to deportation. Because of the refusal of prosecutors to acknowledge this problem, our courts have become backlogged with drug cases that could plead out if the prosecutor would offer a plea to a similar offense that does not require deportation.

I believe that the employer sanctions law will destroy our communities even further by taking more people from their jobs, their homes, and the only homeland they've ever known. We also know from experience that immigration enhances the local economy, and therefore the Pearce Plan will destroy the local economy. Libertarians need to denounce Russell Pearce and his plan to rid our community of productive people who clearly want to work.

Why Go On?

By Mike Shoen

We now know that Ron Paul will not receive the Republican presidential nomination. In fact, we know that, even with the most effective volunteers in the country and with the best message, he received maybe seven percent of the Republican vote. So why go on?

For years I have been working to oppose the statist and their warfare state. Activists like Ed Vallejo, Charles Goyette and Ernie Hancock have put in 100 times my effort. So why continue?

One reason is that some of us simply cannot stomach an aristocracy of warfare statists and all-purpose stat-

ists who have hijacked our country. These elitists mouth platitudes about freedom and security, but smirk as they speak. They are the military-industrial-governmental complex whose goal is to take wealth and power from the citizenry and make it their own. With the help of mainstream media, they have done a pretty good job. Some of us just can't stomach liars and bullies, and we will continue to oppose them, no matter what.

Another reason is that things may change. While it is true that Ron Paul received only three to seven percent of the vote, it is also true that a much larger percentage of voters admitted that Ron Paul was "the candidate who made sense" or that Paul was the only candidate who "dealt with the real issues". A much larger percentage of citizens are edging ever closer to voting for freedom. Libertarians and lovers of freedom have brought this

about.

Another accomplishment of the Ron Paul campaign is that it has identified mainstream media as a central part of the problem. The Fox News fiascos, their shabby treatment of Paul at the debates, the obviously untrue allegations, the trivialization, marginalization and flat-ignoring the candidate are conclusive evidence that mainstream media is in bed with the military-industrial-governmental statists. We have identified another enemy of freedom, mainstream media. This is progress.

Another accomplishment is that our philosophies of economic liberty are now widely discussed in the mainstream economic media, primarily because of the profound problems caused by the irresponsible, warfare-state, money-sucking, dollar-printing, central-banking, spendthrift leviathan,

military-industrial-governmental complex. But it was Ron Paul and his supporters who forced the discussion of this issue and only happenstance that the statist economic house of cards is collapsing after Paul's economic warnings. Libertarians and freedom lovers now have broad support amongst academic economists and economic commentators. Our message of economic freedom and responsibility has brought us legitimacy.

But, for me, the most important reason to continue is Karma. There is a force in the universe, call it what you like – Providence, God, Destiny, Cosmic Power – which demands that each of us do what we know is right. If we do not, then in some way our lives are diminished, and not just our

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Pima County Needs YOU

By David Euchner and
Bennett Kalafut

Rapid growth, rising property valuations, and complacent, bond-friendly taxpayers have allowed the Pima County Board of Supervisors to more than triple their budget in the last ten years while cutting tax rates. The housing slump and the more general economic recession are putting an end to that.

When individuals or businesses go through lean times, they cut back on spending. When government experiences a shortfall, officials raise tax rates. The Supervisors have not cut the size or scope of county government, making a rate hike inevitable,

although it may not come until after the November general election.

Anxiety over taxes, latent resentment over subsidy of growth, everyday mismanagement, and the crass act of scheduling an off-season Regional Transportation Plan election in 2006 have combined to make the Pima County Supervisors more vulnerable to electoral challenges than they have been in recent years. The three Democratic Supervisors, having opposed their own party's requests for release of election databases following evidence that vote tampering might have occurred, are facing primary challenges.

There are signs—public meetings, ballot initiatives—that voters are fed up with seeing home

sales in their neighborhood drive up their property valuations, in some cases doubling in a span of five years. County Assessor Bill Staples insists that there is but one legal way of computing valuations and so his hands are tied. But he has responded derisively to the suggestion that, if this is so, he should ask the legislature to give him more flexibility.

The incumbents' fiscal irresponsibility and contempt for the taxpayer have made 2008 a prime year for local Libertarians to advocate fiscal restraint, outsourcing, and reduction of the scope of county government. The Pima County Libertarian Party seeks candidates to challenge all five Supervisors, as well as candidates for Assessor, Sheriff, County Attorney, and the state legislature.

We will assist you in navigating the required paperwork and provide suggestions for talking points and platform planks. The impact you will have on the race depends on your degree of motivation and the amount of time you can commit to campaigning. At the very least, a good part-time candidate will introduce libertarian ideas to the debate.

We are also seeking candidates to run for nonpartisan offices such as school, water, and fire protection boards. These offices often serve as "stepping stones" to city councils and the Legislature. Three of our members are already serving in nonpartisan office.

Contact David Euchner at pclp_chair@pimalp.org for more information.



Looking for our Long-Lost Future

Smith Continued from Page 1

... places have been taken, for the most part, by the most repulsive garbage imaginable — generally misadvertised as “reality shows” — and deliberately aimed, as far as I can tell, at destroying whatever remnants this civilization may still cherish of human decency and dignity.

If I were a “liberal”, who believes that everybody is just a little bit stupid and must be “helped”, if I were a “conservative”, who believes that everybody is just a little bit evil and must be watched, if I were a “populist” — or fascist — who believes that everybody is both stupid and evil and must be controlled, I would see “reality” programs as an answer to a propagandist’s most fervent prayers.

In the nation’s grocery and drug-stores, it’s no longer unusual to see paperback racks that hold no science fiction or even offer a place for it. Americans, I think, aren’t just no longer interested in their future, they’re openly terrified of it and don’t want to think about it. If what a culture thinks about its future determines its future, what can be said, then, of a culture that refuses to think about the future, and whose leaders — including New York book publishers and network television executives — won’t let it think about the future anymore?

The ironic fact is, there is nothing much wrong with America that couldn’t be cured simply by repealing every single law, at every level of government, passed since September 11, 2001 — and then rolling up our sleeves for the longer task of repealing every law passed since 1913. Eventually we’d get around to abolishing the obsolete medieval joke of sovereign immunity, dumping limited liability, and outlawing the “fractional reserve banking” fraud. With government severely limited by the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights energetically and stringently enforced, we should have the beginnings of a fairly decent society.

But it won’t happen easily; it will never happen if we go about it timidly. The libertarian movement is the only real opposition party left. We have nothing to lose by being as radical, within principal, as we can. It is not our role as libertarians to propose only what sounds reasonable. It is to point out, as enthusiastically and often as we possibly can, that a proposition is only reasonable when it is right.

Just as an example, it is time for those of us who call ourselves libertar-

ians to acknowledge publicly what the most principled among us have always believed privately: that taxes — all taxes — are evil, and exactly the wrong thing on which to base a civilization. It is time for libertarians to make it our public mission to eliminate taxes — all taxes — once and for all. We must undertake our mission in the spirit of those who fought so long and hard to abolish slavery, grimly determined to accomplish it no matter what it costs or how long it takes.

And it is time — long past time, in fact — for those among us who refuse to share this goal with us to stop calling themselves libertarians.

And go away.

Taxes are dangerous, as well as evil, because they offer to any government resources it invariably abuses, most often to take away our rights as well as our property. And if we resist, to take away our lives.

Moreover, taxation is the fuel of war. No nation’s tax practices can be purely an internal matter. Taxation is an international offense. Governments, whenever they levy or raise taxes — exactly as when they institute military conscription — should be considered by their



neighbors as having committed an act of war and dealt with accordingly.

Taxation is theft. And no, it doesn’t make any difference when the government does it; government has no unique moral status that puts it above the standards that all of us must observe. Unrestrained by basic considerations of decency, government is a dangerous monster. And just to get it straight, taxationwise, we are not doing it to ourselves. It is being done — with the help of hordes of “useful idiots” spawned by the public school system — by a gigantic gang of murderous thieves incapable of earning a re-



spectable living for themselves in a free society.

A retiring IRS chief once said, “Taxes are the price we all must pay for civilization.” But he was wrong — it’s precisely the other way around: the loss of civilization is the price we all pay — it’s what we must give up, what we have to sacrifice — in order to have taxes.

One more thing, for libertarians campaigners and platform writers: when a ravenous carnivore has its claws sunk into your body and its foul predatory breath is blasting hot on your throat, it is not your obligation to find it

America into a prison continent for long decades before the Twin Towers fell. September 11, 2001 was merely a convenient excuse.

Tell them that, in the free market system we will reestablish, there will be no reason for a gallon of gasoline to cost more than a dollar.

Tell them that libertarians will establish total separation of money and state, and that precious metals make the ideal currency because their value can’t be inflated out from under those who hold them.

Tell them there must be a separation, as well, of science — especially medicine — and state, ending decades of rising medical costs and putting an end to pseudoscientific frauds like global warming.

Tell them that libertarians will work to abolish tobacco taxes and establish and defend the rights of smokers so that they’ll no longer be milked like cattle and treated as outcasts. Alcohol taxes most go, too.

Tell them we will empty and raze the prisons that hold over two million of our fellow Americans, get rid of government driver’s licenses, pull down the spy-cameras, and restore privacy by aiming for anonymity.

Tell them we will end the war on drugs, and that the “peace dividends” from that will be: more freedom than most of them have known in their lives; a likelihood that most of them will live for 200 years or more as the resources presently being thrown away on this infantile prohibition are spent better on long-delayed advances in life-extension — or, for that matter, on almost anything else; and a chance to take part in exploring and settling the rest of the Solar System.

These are all new, exciting ideas to voters who will hear from nobody else. Taken together, they spell out a bright, beautiful future for everybody — except, perhaps, for politicians, bureaucrats, and cops.

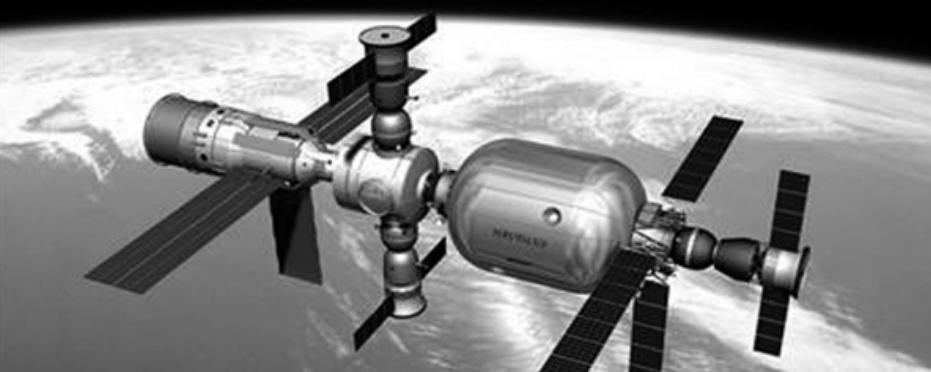
All we have to do is go Thomas Jefferson one better. He said, “I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.” We must swear eternal hostility against every form of authority over the minds and bodies of humanity.

L. Neil Smith is the award-winning author of 27 books, including The Probability Broach, considered by many to be the definitive libertarian novel, Pallas, and Forge of the Elders. He has been called one of the foremost authorities on the ethics of self-defense.

Tell them that libertarians in office will end the war in the middle east, bring our military home for good from the 150-odd countries they’re based in, and abolish the standing army our Founders feared (correctly) would be misused by those obsessed with power over others.

Tell them to stop worrying about “terrorist” boogymen under their beds. We all know, deep down inside, that this country’s leaders had plans to turn

Did you Know... that there are 2 Private



Space Stations in Orbit..... Right Now?

The Libertarian

By Vin Suprynowicz

They have us surrounded. This is good. Now we can safely attack in any direction.

Listen to the under-45 members of the press corps — and the populace at large, for that matter — wax eloquent about freshmen Illinois Sen. Barack Obama, that fine orator and fledgling socialist Chicago race-hustler.

"He wants to UNITE us. He wants to give us HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. He wants to give us SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN!"

Yeah. He wants to impose collectivism on a gigantic scale.

Didn't work out so well when Stalin, Mao, and Pol Pot tried it. Even our own small-time imitator, Frank Roosevelt, managed to stretch out the Great Depression for an extra decade based on some of the same claptrap. (Asked where the planes that bombed Tokyo came from, it's widely reported that Roosevelt smiled and said "Shangri-La." Few people today realize the apparent jest was caused by a time-delay in the electronic relay of the questions at that press conference. Roosevelt thought he was answering the PREVIOUS question: "Where did you learn your economics?")

But after all, who cares about boring old economics? Nobody under-

stands it and it's all cyclical, anyway. It's so thrilling to listen to Obama TALK. Why, I don't know when I've seen someone able to hold an audience spellbound like that since, since ... since ... some German guy back in the 1930s, can't bring his name to mind right now ...

I don't write today to ridicule Barack Obama, who is the effect and not the cause. I write to ridicule American-style democracy, which Hans-Herman Hoppe has characterized as "The God that Failed."

We've all heard about how democracy must fail once the populace realize they can vote themselves a stipend out of somebody else's pocket. That's currently in progress, and about as easy to reverse, now, as reclaiming a wounded rabbit from a pack of wolves busily tearing her apart.

What was not foreseen as clearly is how pathetic the end game would become — presidents and congresscritters being chosen with hardly a lingering pretense of examining their character, their insights, their proven history over a long public career of defending property rights and the Constitution, but rather the way the fans decide who's their favorite pop singer or magazine cover girl: "She's so rad," or whatever the phrase of the month may be.

If democracy has failed, why continue to go through the motions? You cannot sell ideas based on historical analysis of the failures of collectivism in this kind of a popular bazaar any

more than you can hope to compete by placing a copy of Hayek's "Road to Serfdom" or Bastiat's "The Law" or even "Atlas Shrugged" on a supermarket checkout rack next to three warring tabloids showing Jennifer, Britney and the other Jennifer falling out of their sun dresses while promising to tell you inside which one is really pregnant by the other's boyfriend.

I do not know how to get a majority of today's brain-dulled government-school graduates, taught to tune out and ridicule anyone who starts referring to the words of warning of "dead white slave owners," to coalesce and vote for a version of freedom that doesn't promise to give them lots more stuff for free.

If it could be done by an inoffensive, friendly, likeable, principled fellow, dressed up in suit and tie and willing to mention in brief sound bites that part of the problem might just be the Federal Reserve and its fiat currency, Ron Paul would be the current presidential nominee-in-waiting of the Republican Party — if not both parties.

You do not get from 2 percent to 51 percent in a nation of 250 million people glued to the TV going nuts over young men with pituitary problems tossing balls through hoops by painting a few more yard signs.

If Libertarians want to accomplish anything, I submit they must stop trying to be inoffensive and non-threatening, and do just the opposite.

America is not going to change

until the current system collapses into bankruptcy. The question is, in which direction will it then turn?

Numbers will not matter, at that point. The message might. A shocking, startling, well-honed message.

But you cannot have an impact on that decision and that direction unless you have their attention. You do not get their attention by trying to appear mealy-mouthed and "mainstream." If that worked, Montovani and the Hollyridge

Strings would have remained more popular than the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, who did not get where they got by being widely considered "inoffensive."

I do not say we need to sacrifice the truth to get anyone's attention. I say we need to speak the truth in a way DESIGNED to get their attention.

My newspaper recently editorialized that higher gasoline taxes were not the right way to raise the funding needed to repair our highways.

A reader wrote, in reply:

"A recent editorial ... stated that because 'family paychecks barely cover basics, the money [needed to repair our country's crumbling infrastructure should come from] somewhere else.' What could this 'somewhere else' be? ... Is the Review-Journal advocating higher Federal income taxes, or a new national sales tax, or new toll road like user fees to pay for this? ..."

Suprynowicz Continued on Page 9

What is the purpose of the Libertarian Party?

By Powell Gammill, Senior Editor, Freedom's Phoenix

The purpose of a political party is to get its leaders elected, to grab coercive control over as big a slice as possible of the taxpayer booty, and to gain power over the suppressing enforcement mechanism involved in the collection and maintenance of those funds. Additional power is gained through the distribution of that money through favoritism which provides mass cooperation and approval of the armed robbery tactics applied.

As a response to over 250 years of such corrupt practices by the Constitutionally created and ostensibly limited United States government, espe-

cially in the past century, the Libertarian Party (LP) was formed by visionaries in 1971. Sick of watching both parties fleece the populace unchallenged, and recognizing the futility of internally trying to fix what **is not broken**, they proposed instead using the tools of the state -- the election process -- against the state.

Not all approved of this endeavor. Murray Rothbard, in particular, objected strenuously that to become a political party was to invite the eventual corruption that comes with forming such an association. Having lost the argument, Rothbard embraced the Party, and to protect against future encroachment upon the principles of libertarianism, he and others eventually convinced the members to adopt rules and a platform to ensure statists would have an impossible time gaining control of the newly formed party and changing its purpose to that

of a statist chattel.

Any organization, once it reaches critical mass, attracts people to its membership who work to rise up the ranks to control the organization and change the goals of the organization from one of purpose to one about them -- the leadership becomes more important than the original goals of the organization. It is human nature that gatherings attract a minority of people who desire and are committed to rule, and a majority of people too lazy to oppose such apparent benevolence. After all, such kingdoms are built not only on the pledged best of intentions but with (short term) promises to address, lighten and remove perceived problems suffered by the members of that association. "Bread and circuses."

Sadly, this is very much like the

history of the failed U.S. Constitution, created with clear tripartite organization designed to be combative with one another, while explicitly laying out the limited duties and powers, and explicit prohibitions on the government. It failed. Like the Libertarian Party by-laws, the Constitution is ignored by the very association (government) it purported to create. Its lack of restraint has the current federal government bearing no resemblance to Constitutional government, meaning an impositor — with guns and the violent will to use them — stands in its place.

The Libertarian Party, the "Party of Principle", two years ago eliminated virtually all of the platform in one massive vote. Unfortunately for those orchestrated this -- and this includes over a 2/3rds majority of the then Libertarian National Committee (LNC),

Gammill Continued on page 10

Let Freedom Grow...

By Steve Kubby

As a candidate for the Libertarian Party's 2008 presidential nomination, I believe that America's voters deserve a clear and compelling alternative to the failed policies of Republican and Democratic politicians.

In this watershed election, I offer myself as that alternative, and ask of

Arizona's national convention delegates that they carefully weigh their choices. Among those choices, I believe that I offer the best combination of name recognition, media penetration, political track record and, most importantly, realistic yet uncompromisingly Libertarian stands on the issues.

Before packing your bags for Denver, please take the time to visit my campaign web site (kubby2008.com) and the sites of my opponents. Put all

of us to one simple test: Upon whom can you depend to most ably represent your party and your principles in November? For many voters, our party's presidential candidate will be the sole visible representative of libertarian ideas in the political arena for the next four years. We owe it to ourselves, and to those voters, to put our best foot forward.

As your presidential candidate, I will do my best to bring a bold libertarian message to America. The mes-

sage that we CAN achieve a full restoration of civil liberties; that we CAN end the war on Iraq, the war on drugs, the war on same-sex couples and the war on immigrants; that we CAN raise the iron curtain of repression and stagnation brought down upon our nation by decades of Democratic and Republican misrule. I humbly request your support in Denver, and after as the LP's 2008 presidential nominee.

Let Freedom Grow!

The Libertarian

Suprynovicz Continued from Page 8

Some might have replied in a soft voice, aiming to find common ground with this reader and gradually bring her around to seeing things a bit differently.

I believe we need an approach closer to the way you get the attention of a wayward mule with the help of a two-by-four.

I responded, the following Sunday:

Aside from noting the inappropriate capitalization of the word "Federal," above, the way one might capitalize the word "God," does anyone else notice a whole category of places omitted where the central government could quickly and easily "get the money"?

In an admittedly very incomplete list, how about closing down the federal Department of Education — ending all federal subsidies and interventions in schooling, overnight?

We were a much more literate, independent, and productive nation 140 years ago, before government got massively involved in schooling.

How about shutting down the federal Department of Energy, with all its misdirection of agricultural resources and corporate welfare for agribusiness ethanol producers?

(It would be cheaper to import the stuff from Brazil, a simple procedure now essentially banned. It would be even better to drill America's offshore and Alaskan oil, relaxing Luddite "environmental laws" against siting new refineries and coal-fired generating plants. While I have nothing against nuclear plants, once we repeal the federal statutes limiting the liability of private operators for accidents and waste disposal, only private insurers will determine whether nukes are a dead letter.)

How about shutting down the Agriculture Department, ending all its ongoing efforts to fight the agricultural

depression of 1920 by barring the sale of undersized peaches? How about shutting down the actuarially bankrupt Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security Ponzi schemes, allowing us to save and invest for our own retirements — money we can leave to our kids and spouses — meantime restoring a far less expensive free market in medicine with no government oversight except courts to prosecute malice, negligence and fraud?

Yes, "far less expensive." Is a rich variety of affordable food a) easier to get or b) harder to get, now that Moscow has replaced "state stores" with free-market groceries?

Such wealth-transfer schemes, cynically and fraudulently disguised as "insurance policies" and "pension annuities," were never authorized in the Constitution — anyone who has ever voted to support them is a thief and a traitor, a cynic or a fool.

How about repealing the Endangered Species Act, which has done more harm than good by leaving land owners who'd rather live in peace with our furry friends no option but to "Shoot, shovel, and shut up"?

How about withdrawing U.S. military forces from Iraq and 136 other nations with whom we are officially at peace, overseas? How about ending the multi-billion-dollar Drug War and mothballing half our federal prisons by properly declaring all federal regulation of drugs and medicines retroactively unconstitutional and releasing all Drug War prisoners tomorrow? (Just leave a few cells for the IRS agents.)

No federal agent should be authorized to carry weapons and serve as a "policeman" inside our borders. That's a local responsibility. When the McLennan County sheriff wanted to find out if the Branch Davidians had any illegal weapons in their church near Waco, he visited alone, knocked on the door and asked to look. They let him. He found no machine guns. When the federal government wanted to find out, they invited TV crews along to make an exciting action movie to show con-

gressmen debating a renewal of their "SWAT" funds, storming the place with a hundred black-clad storm troopers, murdering a nursing mother in her bed with assault weapon fire from hovering helicopters, shooting the pet dog and her puppies before they even got to the front door, guns ablaze.

When that didn't work out real well, the FBI and the Delta Force knocked down the escape staircases with tanks, incapacitated the women and children and set the place afire with their incendiary tear gas and ferret rounds, holding the fire engines miles away while the church burned to the ground, killing everyone in a very unpleasant inferno including babies too young to be christened.

(Yes, a few tried to escape. From the grainy, long-range videotape, it appears our G-men shot them. Those G-men never found any machine

barring IRS agents from any further federal employment and canceling all their pensions. If any of them object, prosecute them in front of judges not on the federal payroll and randomly selected juries — randomly selected juries — for operating in knowing violation of their own regulations and for knowingly violating our constitutional right against self-incrimination for the past 95 years. (Last time you signed a tax return, did you notice any Miranda warning?)

Yet the only way our letter-writer can think of for the federal government to "find more money" to repair its interstate highway network — justified for federal funding under the massive fib that these were and are "defense highways" (whereas a real "defense highway grid" would bypass urban chokepoints, instead of running right through them) — is to raise taxes?



guns, either. But they all got awards and promotions.)

How about shutting down the BATFE and the FBI (with the possible exception of the unarmed fingerprint lab), the very existence of which is an insult against our Second and 14th Amendment rights to defend ourselves against tyranny?

Do all that — for starters — and not only would we have plenty of loot to repair our highway bridges, we could do it at the same time we eliminate the federal income tax entirely,

How pathetic. What kind of Dumb Pills are Americans taking?

Oh, wait. To answer that we'd have to go back to writing about the mandatory government youth propaganda camps foisted off on us by the likes of John Dewey and Horace Mann, wouldn't we?

Vin Suprynovicz is assistant editorial page editor of the daily Las Vegas Review-Journal and author of the "Send in the Waco Killers." See www.vinsuprynovicz.com.

Maricopa County LP News & Events

By Jim Iannuzo, Maricopa County Libertarian Party Chairman

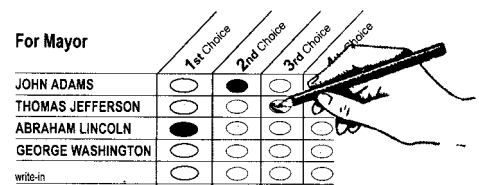
RANKED CHOICE VOTING – BETTER BALLOT GLENDALE INITIATIVE IS UNDERWAY FOR 2008

The Maricopa County Libertarian Party has taken a leadership role in supporting and promoting an initiative called "Better Ballot Glendale". If 1500 valid signatures are collected, it will be voted upon during the September 2008 City of Glendale election.

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) saves money by eliminating costly require a majority vote in order to de-

clare a winner. RCV is designed to cause an instant runoff since voters indicate on the ballot their second and subsequent choices.

The wasted vote syndrome is eliminated with RCV. Instead of voting against someone, you can vote for the



individual you like the most without trying to keep someone out. Just Put the candidate you can't stand at the bottom of the list.

To get involved with the RCV initiative, call the MCLP at 602-595-5451 or visit www.betterballotglendale.org.

MARICOPA COUNTY LP WINS LAWSUIT AGAINST COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

A funny thing happened when the Maricopa County LP appointed election observers pursuant to A.R.S. 16-621 to watch ballot counting and the logic and accuracy tests during the February 5th 2008 Presidential Preference Election. Karen Osborne, Maricopa County Elections Director, decided to exclude our observers in violation of state law.

According to a ruling by Judge Peter Swann, the state statutes clearly indicate that the Libertarian Party has a right to be in the tabulation room on election day. This decision was reached in less than 45 minutes during an emergency hearing called by MCLP attorney (and state chairman) Michael Kielsky.

According to Iannuzo, "the elections department believes that they are the rulers, and voters are relegated to serfdom. The LP insists that there is transparency in the elections process. Anytime they try to obfuscate the vote, we are ready to expose them."

The judge's order in case # CV-2008-002704 can be found at www.lpmaricopa.org.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Maricopa County Libertarian Party Meetings are held the second Monday of each month, beginning at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome for our dinner meeting at:

China Village Restaurant
2710 E Indian School Rd
Phoenix, AZ 85016

The Coming Decades in American Healthcare

By Fran Van Cleave

For a 65-year-old American couple retiring in 2008, financial experts now recommend they set aside anywhere from \$206,000 to \$215,000 just for medical expenses. How many people do you know who will be able to do that?

If you're like most of the people coming into the pharmacy where I work, your answer is "very few." Given the grotesque yearly cost increases for medical insurance, and the large numbers of working poor declaring bankruptcy following a medical disaster, government-run healthcare, i.e. socialized medicine, seems as inevitable as water running downhill. What's a libertarian to do?

Well, since the federal government is largely responsible for the severe shortage of doctors and nurses in this country, it is wise to be skeptical of "universal healthcare," which will no doubt involve appallingly long wait times for medical care of any kind, and quite possibly food police chasing black-market sugar. But there are a few more appealing options.

I'm sure lots of people are looking forward to Wal-Mart's grand opening this spring of thousands of medical clinics in its stores across the country. Other drugstores will surely follow Wal-Mart's example. These clinics will be staffed by nurse practitioners or physician assistants, not doctors. While they will be more affordable than a visit to your family doctor or the lo-

cal Doc-In-The-Box, the quality of care remains to be seen. My concern as a pharmacist is that people have realistic expectations – i.e., don't go there for a heart attack or psychological medications. Particularly if the clinic staff are as overworked and understaffed as the rest of Wal-Mart's employees. In other words, probably an okay place to go if you or your child need antibiotics. But if someone comes in with a group of nonspecific symptoms, such as "tired, but I can't sleep, always cold, no energy," I wonder how many will be sent home with a \$4 antidepressant or sleeping pill instead of getting a blood test to diagnose a low thyroid? You might be better off consulting with an internet physician, or at least check your symptoms at Web MD.

The internet's information-gathering ability has enabled many people to find specialists and become experts on their disease before walking into the doctor's office, which usually improves the quality of care tremendously. (I'm sure I don't need to tell the readers of this paper about the net's wheat-chaff ratio.) Don't expect most doctors to tell you everything you should know; they're too busy filling out federal forms. Take advantage of your browser.

There's "medical tourism" now, where you can travel to India for certain high-dollar procedures, such as hip replacement. That costs over \$40,000 here, but less than \$10,000 in India, and that's usually with airfare included. Their doctors are well-educated, they speak English, and they like Americans. The hospitals that offer these programs are quite good;

many Americans are finding this an excellent deal.

Then there's "boutique medicine," a new kind of medical practice. These doctors charge their patients a yearly fee – anywhere from \$1,000 to \$20,000 – and in return, you get 24-hour access to the doctor, unlimited consults, same-day medical visits with no more than a 15-minute wait, and in some cases, house calls. In short, you get Marcus Welby. This kind of practice started a few years ago in Seattle, and is becoming increasingly popular for family practice physicians. However, certain senators have denounced it as "elitist" and are writing legislation against it. If it becomes illegal here, it will become available offshore, and of course will be more expensive. Many of these doctors do not take insurance plans, but you could actually end up paying much less than you currently do by using such a plan while retaining a high-deductible insurance for emergencies. When you consider that the average doctor visit is 20 minutes, and the average doctor interrupts you less than 18 seconds after you start explaining what your problem is, the money spent on a regular insurance plan doesn't buy you much.

We already have a form of boutique medicine for the poor in this country. It's called the Emergency Room. People on Medicaid tend to use the ER for non-emergencies, which is why wait times in the ER get worse every year. I don't know what the solution for this is, other than to make it socially unacceptable to visit the ER for the common cold.

For those who live in rural areas and plan to have children, I suggest you find a midwife. It's doubtful there will be any rural hospitals in America after 2015 that have an obstetrical unit. Because Medicaid reimburses hospitals at an average of 22 cents on the dollar, and because it is illegal to turn away a patient who cannot pay, hospitals have been saddled with an unfounded federal mandate. Rural obstetrical hospitals, such as the one I worked in last year, have been forced to shut down OB units or go bankrupt.

Of course, the FDA continues to make health care more expensive, less flexible, and in some cases more dangerous. We just recently had to yank a drug off the shelves that was destroying people's livers after only three days of use. It's not clear how many deaths were required before the FDA woke up and took action. Because of cases like that, I recommend that you avoid using new drugs until they have been in use for about a year, just to be safe. Of course, you might find good data from Europe or elsewhere on the long-term safety and reliability of drugs only just approved by the FDA....

While it's entirely possible that Boomers on Medicare will run the economy into the ground, there's a very good chance that the next twenty years will see the first true rejuvenation therapies – something that humans have dreamed of since time immemorial. What do you want to bet that Congress will either outlaw them (as an unfair advantage for those who can afford it) or try to subsidize them for everyone (paying for it with the new currency, the VaporDollar)?

Purpose of the LP?

Gammill continued from Page 8

the Convention Rules of the Party (Rule 7: Debating and Voting -- Platform, Section #8) in the bylaws at the time clearly stated that the planks can only be approved (and that includes removal) by one vote at a time, not *en masse*. The bylaws were also stripped of important Article 5 and 6 at this 2006 Convention. The LP's Judiciary Committee apparently wasn't asked to rule on this, further substantiating the corrupt nature of those in charge of the LNC and the LP.

The same individuals despise the nonaggression pledge and the mission statement opposing the cult of the omnipotent government. They want a political party and the political power that comes with it just like the Rs and Ds have. Well tough! If you crave power go join the Rs or the Ds, you will be right at home.

If you want power to obtain freedom from tyranny, buy a gun.

I have yet to see freedom and liberty acquired through a political process. I can see no logical mechanism where that result comes about.

Freedom is **always** purchased in blood. So is servitude. Those who claim power over you will enforce that dominion through violence upon you. If you desire freedom from them, **you must** make the price of enforcing dominion exceed the cost of "them" going somewhere else.

Fortunately for government, there are not enough of "you" to make the price of dealing with you greater than the price of ignoring you. So, **for now**, you get to bend over and take it, or you die. But that does not prevent you from practicing for the eventual day when a critical mass is reached.

Keep proselytizing. Keep showing the way to liberty. Even those who mock you are paying attention, and may come to reflect on your advice once their circumstances change to fit your predictions. No one knows who the next Rosa Parks will be. Freedom from government will not happen all at once, but it will occur overnight. With the coming economy, it pays to be prepared.

It is not the platform, nor the pledge nor the mission statement that prevents Libertarian Party candidates from getting a plurality of votes to get

elected. In a three way race LP candidates are fortunate to get 5% of the vote. And that only routinely happens in Arizona -- a bastion of uncompromising activists, not pragmatists. The pragmatists who try so hard not to offend or scare anyone are usually pleased if they get 1% of the vote. The reason LP candidates do not get any greater percentage of the vote has more to do with a nationwide conspiracy of vote fraud than objection to libertarianism.

You either have principles or you are no better than the amoral Republican Party or the amoral Democratic Party. You either represent a **fundamental** difference from them, or you represent more of the same. And if someone is dissatisfied with either of the two major parties, why do you represent an alternative if you are only seemingly slightly different and imperceptibly less objectionable than the other guys?

Stop being a wimp! Start standing out from the crowd by standing up for honest to goodness principles you WILL NOT compromise for the expedience of gaining votes, attention or popularity. You do this and I will not ensure you a majority, but I WILL guar-

antee you will attract your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free. Do not seek the mass, seek the disenfranchised who are well motivated to work hard for THEIR liberties, if you allow them to see the pathway to liberty ahead.

"The basic dilemma of the modern world is, where do you want to live, in the jungle, or in the zoo? And you will be surprised how many people are more comfortable to live in the zoo, because you get your piece of fruit every day. It's true, you have to eat what they give you. But if you are a rabbit, the lion will not eat you up, because you are protected. It's true, you are protected by the cage, you are inside the cage, and the lion is also inside its cage, but nothing will happen to you. If you want to go for a walk, yes, sure, you have this 10-by-10-foot space, and there you can walk.

"If you live in the jungle, it's beautiful, it's gorgeous, you are free to go where you want, sleep wherever you want, eat whatever you find or manage to catch - but the snake can bite you, the lion can bite you, you can fall into a ravine, you can die of cold. But you are free."

— Milos Forman

Americans Awake!

By Christine Smith

I am a libertarian. I am a firm believer in individual liberty, personal responsibility, adoption of a non-interventionist foreign policy, free markets, creation of a sound stable economy by ending government's artificial control of it, with a small federal government limited to its constitutionally authorized functions; I fundamentally believe in freedom...free enterprise...free movement of people...freedom of association...freedom over our own bodies...freedom to live in any way we choose as long as it harms no other...always freedom...always economic and personal liberty - the principles our nation was founded upon and which once made us both great and greatly admired worldwide.

Our nation achieved that greatness and respect, and we reaped the fruits of our labor because we lived in a society that welcomed innovation, creativity, and self-reliance. We didn't look to a government to care for us or protect us, we looked to ourselves - and it worked! And you know what? It will still work - if we return to the values we as a people once cherished. That is the message I love sharing with non-libertarians; it is the message I will share with millions more as your 2008 presidential candidate.

The powerful message of liberty, the facts, must be communicated and brought to the American people passionately, knowledgeably, and articu-

lately. My campaign theme, "Americans Awake!" will educate, enlighten and recruit. But before more Americans awake, it's time for true libertarians in the LP to awake - awake to the realization that our party has been infiltrated by those whose priority is not liberty, but who use our party for their own agendas (with much collectivist rationalization). Although we should welcome all to join our party, we should only allow true libertarians to hold office/positions of power in the LP.

Pure libertarian principle is what separates our political party from all others.

I believe true libertarians comprise the majority of our membership, but a vocal minority of non-libertarians have gained positions of power, which we - those who care about maintaining this as 'The Party of Principle' - must purge from all positions of power within the LP.

Since beginning my campaign, I have learned much about people, politics, and the LP...those who share my commitment to freedom and those who do not. I believe the truest test of one's integrity is whether one will unequivocally refuse to compromise the principles one espouses-regardless of the possible 'gain' you are offered or may receive.

I joined the LP because of it being the 'Party of Principle,' and I am glad to say I have met plenty of true libertarians who also cherish principle. But I have also encountered a number

who believe that to advance an agenda justifies compromising principle. Some have gone so far as to promise my campaign considerable help and financial support if only I would modify/weaken my platform by to getting rid of its 'radical' stances as they perceived it. They wanted me to become 'moderate' in my libertarianism and in turn they offered me support.

I reject such compromise. The end does not justify the means. You can't be 'moderate' when it comes to principle, just as you can't be 'moderate' in matters of right and wrong.

"Moderation? It's mediocrity, fear, and confusion in disguise. It's the devil's dilemma. It's neither doing nor not doing. It's the wobbling compromise that makes no one happy. Moderation is for the bland, the apologetic, for the fence-sitters of the world afraid to take a stand. It's for those afraid to laugh or cry, for those afraid to live or die. Moderation...is lukewarm tea, the devil's own brew."—Dan Millman, from *The Way of the Peaceful Warrior*.

It was because of principle, and its clear elucidation in our previous platform, that I found a political home in the LP. As a libertarian, and as Libertarian candidate for president, I will boldly share libertarian solutions with Americans - articulately giving them a real choice - and calling upon them to vote their conscience and be voters of integrity. I love communicating lib-

ertarian solutions, and have reached millions of Americans with our message of liberty through the numerous AM-radio talk shows I have appeared on nationwide (many on 50,000-watt stations heard in 20-40 states).

Truth is my highest priority. Thus, my respect is only for those whose character is one of integrity, and I am fortunate in having had opportunity to meet such rare individuals during this campaign. We truly want to share with one another in our quest to learn, grow, and make progress in society. And for me 'progress' means advancing liberty...restoring protections for our intrinsic freedoms as human beings. It means non interventionism. It means limiting government at all times...never growing it. That's the progress I devote myself to in this country, and is why I choose to enter the political arena. Those principles comprise my platform on every issue-no exceptions.

I invite you to visit my campaign website, to read my bio, where I stand on the issues, and to listen/view numerous interviews with me, and I ask for your help in achieving the LP nomination so I will have the opportunity and honor of sharing our message of liberty with millions of Americans as your 2008 Libertarian Presidential Candidate.

Christine Smith is a Libertarian Candidate for President; see her website: www.LibertarianForPresident.com tel. 303-217-8848

Additional Articles

By Michael Kielsky, Exec. Ed.

Due to space limitations, we were unable to include everything we wanted to make available to you in this printing. Not to worry, you may find these additional articles, as well as an electronic version of this paper, online at:

www.azlp.org/pub

The bonus articles there include:

The Libertarian Choice by George Phillies

Instantly Amp Up Your Libertarian Outreach by Sharon Harris

Obama vs. Root: A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity for the Libertarian Party! by Wayne Allyn Root

The Purpose of a Libertarian Party by Joe Cobb

My Journey to Libertarianville by Marc J. Victor

The Immorality of Immigration Controls by Mike Renzulli

The libertarian message:

"Don't hit other people, don't take their stuff and keep your promises."

-- David Boaz

In Memory of Rick LaPoint

1970-2007

Rick was a libertarian activist, a former Libertarian candidate for office, a county party officer, and a good friend to many, always willing to do whatever he can to help another person. His talents as an artist and with graphic design were frequently applied for the benefit of activist projects and campaigns. He will be missed.

Restore '04!

Nolan continued from Page 1

... Caucus (www.restore04.com) to work toward this goal. And as of that date Caucus members included five of the declared Libertarian Presidential candidates: Steve Kubby, Mary Ruwart, George Phillies, Barry Hess and Christine Smith.

Unfortunately, a majority of the Platform Committee members oppose this effort, and instead favor adopting a completely different type of platform one which simply states general Libertarian principles and avoids taking specific stands on existing or proposed laws and programs.

Restorationists believe this amounts to a cop-out - an attempt to weaken the party's traditionally strong stands on issues facing America and the world.

As the Restore '04 website states: 'At this crucial time in history, where our lives and liberties are threatened by both of the old-line parties, it is imperative that the Libertarian Party offer a clear, uncompromising alternative to the politics of statism.

'Our message must be what it has always been: a clear statement of support for the principles of self-ownership and self-determination. Tepid calls for "less" of various statist incursions on our lives and property should

be left to the Republicans and Democrats. When Ron Paul, seeking the nomination of the Republican Party, is calling for the elimination of the Federal Reserve system and repeal of the Federal personal income tax, can we do less?'

According to the Restoration Caucus, if the Platform Committee ignores its responsibilities and presents a report to the convention that does not substantially reverse the damage done in 2006, the Restoration Caucus will move on the convention floor to reject that report and revert to the 2004 Platform as the starting point for the 2008 Platform.

Most observers expect that the

Platform Committee will not offer a substantial restoration of the 2004 platform, and that there will be a major floor fight over the platform in Denver. Libertarians who favor a restoration of the 2004 platform should make a point of attending the Denver convention as delegates and voicing their support for the Restore '04 effort.

For updates on this crucial effort, go to www.restore04.com and add your name to the Restore '04 petition. You will also receive bulletins from the Restoration Caucus.

David Nolan is one of the founders of the Libertarian Party, and the prime mover behind the Restoration Caucus.

What Would A Libertarian Candidate Say?

By Barry Hess



A run to become the candidate who will define Libertarians as a political party is not something that should be considered lightly. I don't.

I was there when the Ron Paul Revolution began, and proud to appear in the very first video, hanging the signs we made. I share Ron's philosophy, not his political affiliation.

The Republican/Democrat management team are too corrupt to let an honest candidate be one of their nominees. They seek only to divide us up into groups, pit us against each other and then offer to referee. Those people in whom Ron revived the American spirit of individual freedom will not just disappear. They need a place to park their vote where it will be heard. I will carry our message of individual freedom and self-reliance without excuse, apology or compromise.

Dr. Paul is a fellow messenger—he is not the freedom movement. WE are the movement. WE are the revolution. Returning America to the home of the Free is bigger than all of us!

Americans are at the lowest point of political confidence in history. They're coming to us because we are reliably different. The difference between "them" and "us", as our collective ship of state sinks, is that "we" want to save the People—"they" want

to save the boat.

My record as an effective and serious candidate has garnered national attention as well as bankable public support. Besides, I'm the only candidate with actual presidential experience...well okay, high school and college. So how far back should I go?

Seriously though, the last thing I would want on my resume is political experience. To say that I could thrive in a corrupt system could only say one thing of my own character.

Our Nominee may not 'win' the election, but if we choose right, they cannot lose the campaign. We need a Nominee who doesn't just give lip service or simple letters of endorsement. We need to revive America as an 'activist' nation, and remain focused on equal rights and freedom, not devising schemes to give each child \$5,000.00 of stolen tax money for their education. We need a principled and effective communicator who knows the only solution to our third world literacy rate is to get government out of the education business altogether.

Republican/Democrats toss out empty rhetoric like, "Hope is on the way"—I suggest that 'hope' without 'help' is just a thought. My message is that 'help' is on the way.

Our Nominee should represent our Libertarian philosophy. They should understand our most basic concept. Freedom is a state of being completely unbound and unfettered. It's an absolute, not a relative term subject to percentages and degrees. Saying we can be "a little freer", is like saying we're "completely honest"...some of the time.

We can't allow government to behave in a criminal manner and not expect the public to do the same.

Libertarians do NOT support the immoral, illegal and unconstitutional on-going attack on the Iraqi People. Our legitimate concern is limited to what they actually did with their weapons, or we should have already attacked China, North Korea, France, Iran or any of half the known world.

Pre-emptively attacking any nation based solely on what politicians think the other guy is thinking is absurd. Nations do not declare unprovoked war on other nations—such is the sole province of Madmen and Fools. Just because some piss-ant dictator exposed another piss-ant dictator's daddy as an incompetent paper tiger is no reason for war.

Some seek to justify military action in Iraq by the extent of the carnage we have wrought. Some pervert our most fundamental principle—that of non-aggression—to include 'being frightened into a pre-emptive war'. Still, doing a bad thing well, doesn't make it good. Even the Best Knee-Breaker in the Mob—is just a knee-breaker.

War is easy, requiring only brutish thought, a dis-concern for human life and endless ammunition. But just as you can't "stomp out violence", war cannot lead to peace—only conquest.

As president I will order our military professionals to plan and execute a safe and immediate withdrawal. I will pursue a foreign policy of peaceful co-existence and trade, void of entangling alliances.

We can lessen crime and the perceived need for legions of police by respecting the right of each Citizen to defend themselves by any means and in any manner they see fit. In an armed and civil society, either by discouragement or demise—the bad guys go away.

Inflation is NOT about price in-

creases—it's about dollar value decreases. It represents the theft of money you've already earned.

I advocate the un-replaced repeal of the income tax because theft is still theft...even by government.

I support unregulated, competitive trade and commerce, and a sound currency.

People who wager their vote to match the olde media's presumptive winner in a limited contest of two evils artificially under-represents those who just want to be free. The ONLY wasted vote is the vote not cast in good conscience.

We only get one candidate while they get two so we have to work harder to get into the public debate. We need someone who represents us, not another ego. I understand that there is no such thing as a 'group' of individuals. Each individual inherently possesses an absolute right to be left absolutely alone.

I am proud to be an American, and to oppose the Cult of the omnipotent state, so why am I the only Libertarian candidate who hasn't scurried to beg government FEC "permission" to be considered a candidate for our private party's nomination?

Americans will find that Barak's empty (but well-spoken) rhetoric, Hillary's faulty memory and McCain's emotional instability are NOT their only choices.

If we keep electing our representatives from the same old inbred political genepool—we'll have to change our national anthem to "Dueling Banjos".

We are the choice for change seeking to leave the next generation the only legacy of any value—that of their birthright, individual freedom and liberty.

Why Go On?

Shoen Continued from Page 6

communal lives, but our personal lives. In a sense, I am working for my grandchildren and great grandchildren. I want them to know that one of their ancestors stood up to the monster, that he didn't back down when con-

fronted with an overpowering evil, and that he didn't take the easy way out into a cushy retirement of golf, television and leisure in a country that was, in fact, oppressing most people. Look into the history books: the German Nation, in their darkest days still had heroes like Wilhelm Canaris, Franz Stock and Henning von Treskow – ordinary people who did what they could

to oppose the predatory, lying, statist, fascist, leviathon warfare state. Google these names. Maybe someday, our descendants will Google ours.

I have a scary website - www.shoenforcongress.com - scary only because it lays out the truth in an undeniable and digestible manner, complete with lovely illustrations. We are living in a time of problems but also

of opportunities. We all have the opportunity to do something. I don't know what you can do, but you know. We can make our lives better. We can go on.

Michael L. Shoen is a Libertarian Candidate for U.S. Congress in Arizona's District Three.

Real Change

By Senator Mike Gravel

Over the past year I tried educating Democrats to embrace libertarian policies that will secure REAL change.

During the debates I proposed eliminating the IRS, which stifles incentive and investment, and ending the War on Drugs that turns millions of citizens into criminals. On national television I upbraided my Democratic opponents for opposing gay marriage and accused them of keeping gays and lesbians in second-class citizenship.

I demanded that congressional Democrats prove they really are

against the Iraq War by cutting off the funding. And after Hillary voted to give Bush a green light to attack Iran, I told her I was ashamed of her.

My refusal to parrot the party line upset establishment Democrats including George Stephanopoulos who called me "the skunk at the party." Well I was proud to be a skunk at a party hosted by Washington insiders, militarists, and corporate elites. And now I have decided to dump the Democratic Party and seek the Libertarian Party's nomination for the Presidency.

I have long advocated libertarian positions on the IRS, the War on Drugs, and the need to bust the Military Industrial Complex. For two decades I have advocated a detailed

plan to take legislative power away from governmental elites and give it to the people through the National Initiative.

Over the next two months I will travel the country speaking to Libertarian audiences to share my ideas on how to secure REAL change. Along the way I hope to meet many of you and I look forward to our conversations about how to defend our freedoms. And I promise that as your presidential nominee, I will use my national media platform to continue educating Americans about our libertarian ideals. I humbly ask for your support in my enduring fight to empower the people.

Mike Gravel, former US Senator from Alaska, is running for president under the Libertarian Party. In 1971, he waged a successful one-man filibuster for five months that forced the Nixon administration to cut a deal, effectively ending the draft in the United States. He is most prominently known for his release of the Pentagon Papers, the secret official study that revealed the lies and manipulations of successive U.S. administrations that misled the country into the Vietnam War. Gravel is author of the forthcoming "Kingmakers: How the Media Threatens Our Security and Our Democracy" (Phoenix Books) due out this June. Find him online at: www.Gravel2008.us

Guns at Supreme Court for 96th Time

D.C. v. Heller Case Addresses Second Amendment, Again

By Alan Korwin, Co-author, *Supreme Court Gun Cases*

The question posed by the Court is: "Whether [three gun-ban provisions of the D.C. Code] violate the Second Amendment rights of individuals who are not affiliated with any state-regulated militia, but who wish to keep handguns and other firearms for private use in their homes."

The "news" media is fond of saying: the Supreme Court has rarely addressed the Second Amendment, everything they've said shows you have no rights, and the Heller case, argued on March 18, 2008, was the first gun case since Miller in 1939.

Like much of what you see and hear in the lamestream media, none of that is true.

The Court has used the word gun in some form (rifle, shotgun, pistol, Winchester, etc.) more than 2,900 times in its decisions. For two hundred years they have consistently recognized an individual right to keep and bear arms. I'm not making this up — I spent six years with two co-authors digging out the cases and putting them into a 672-page book.

Don't believe me? Look for yourself, every case is summarized at gunlaws.com. But don't count on The New York Times to do it — they prefer to say the Court may find a "newly recognized right" (NYT, 3/19/08, Pg. 1) in the Heller case. Will someone tell them we've exercised this right for centuries? Fuggedaboutit, their hoplophobic gun hatred deafens them.

The Trouble with "Enhanced" Driver's Licenses

Why remotely readable ID cards are a very bad idea

By Katherine Albrecht, Ed.D.

A number of U.S. states have begun working with the Department of Homeland Security to issue new remotely-readable driver's licenses to their residents. Known as the "Enhanced Driver's License," or EDL, the card is being promoted as a way to facilitate travel between the U.S. and Canada and Mexico. The dual-purpose card would serve both as a driver's license and as a passport card for all land and sea border crossings.

Washington, Arizona, Michigan, New York, and Vermont have already agreed to participate in the program. California and Texas have also been in talks with DHS regarding the plan.

The licenses will contain EPC Gen 2 RFID inlays, or antenna-microchip

Our capitol has the most restrictive gun laws in the nation. Since 1976, people cannot legally keep a working firearm at home (which, not surprisingly, hasn't stopped criminals). If you have one (handguns prior to 1976 are grandfathered), it has to be unloaded and disassembled or locked. If you put it together and load it, you're automatically a criminal — even if a criminal breaks in and you act in self defense. No exceptions. It's a perfect test case.

Well, the District's lawyer Walter Dellinger plainly said, in open court, the city would carve out an exception for self defense. It was pure joy to see him disemboweled over that, by Heller's lawyer Alan Gura who said that, first, your Honors, the law has no exception whatsoever, and second, in the two court cases where they had an opportunity to do that, they refused.

Poor Dellinger hadn't had enough, and in trying to claim the city's absolute ban was reasonable, said he could open a gun lock in three seconds. He stood humiliated as Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Scalia rebuked him, insisting you would also have to load the darn thing after unlocking it, and then Roberts got the biggest laugh of the day, noting that after you heard breaking glass you'd need to turn on a night light and find your reading glasses to work the tumblers.

The case attracted 47 briefs supporting the right to arms, and 19 against, more than any case in recent memory. Although 18 members of Congress signed on to deny these rights, 305 (250 representatives and 55 senators) signed on to vice president Cheney's brief in support of these civil and human rights. That brief was written by my co-author, Stephen Halbrook. My other co-author, David Kopel, was asked to sit as Dick

combinations, containing unique ID numbers that will link to a data record on each participating citizen. This remotely-readable tag will allow border agents to call up an individual's file and view his or her information on a computer screen while the person is still 20 or 30 feet away idling in a car.

While any form of RFID tag in an identity document would be problematic, it is especially difficult to understand why DHS selected the EPC Gen 2 tag for this application. The EPC Gen 2 standard is the most widely used commercial standard for RFID in the U.S., and readers that can scan them can be easily obtained. That means that anyone in possession of a reader can read an enhanced driver's license, as there is no encryption planned (or even possible) on this type of RFID tag.

There are numerous privacy problems associated with remotely readable, RFID-tags in driver's licenses:

- The use of a unique, persistent serial number associated with an individual creates the very real po-

tential for tracking. The number contained in an enhanced driver's license represents that individual consistently. This means that someone who wants to track Jane Smith, for example, need only scan her RFID driver's license once to learn that it emits unique serial number #234567. From that point forward, Jane's ID card serves as a beacon emitting that number wherever she goes to indicate her presence.

Heller's co-counsel and provide on-the-spot expertise. Me, I was just lucky (and honored) to get a reserved seat as a guest of the Court.

My friend Bob Blackmer, a CCW-instructor who suggested going in the first place, had to sleep out overnight to get in, and his story (along with pre-game and postgame reports) has as much drama as the proceedings, detailed with pictures, also at gunlaws.com (along with links to everything and plain-English analysis that won't fit here). If he hadn't convinced me, I would have missed the most important gun case in the country's history.

It's the most important case because the Court is using it (hopefully) to put to rest what anti-rights advocates are doing to destroy RKBA. In recent decades, gun bigots have fabricated one lame invention after another to claim you have no rights — only the states are protected where it says "the right of the people," you only have rights if you're in the National Guard (a government-run military force invented in the early 1900s), and "people" really means "the collective." Review the briefs — the anti-rights ones tie largely to documents from the past few decades, the pro-rights ones go extensively back to writings contemporary with constitutional debates.

Among the finest results of this case so far, those briefs unequivocally inform the record. The truth, stellar research and facts are undeniably exposed. It will help stop the lying. Maybe.

Everyone wants to know how it will end, but nobody will until the decision arrives in June, and maybe not even then. The Justices seemed inclined to recognize an individual right, and to find D.C.'s ban in violation of that. But the decision will be complex, with concurrences and dissents, and its effect

on future legislation will only emerge over time. What new law will D.C. write if this one is overturned? What guidance will the High Court provide?

And therein lies the rub. Some limits are permissible (sorry, libertarians) even under strict scrutiny of "shall not be infringed." You can disarm a suspected felon upon arrest and in prison, without offending 2A. A sentence can be enhanced for threatening people

1774 in Boston, 2005 in New Orleans



Any Questions?

with a cavalry saber (or gun) during a robbery. But how much regulation is "reasonable"?

For me, the bright line's between exercise of rights and commission of crimes. A normal capacity magazine exactly like police use, bans on where you can carry (so-called known-to-be-dangerous fallacious "gun-free" zones), bans on tasteful, discreet carry in public by innocent women (or men), government mandated license/tax/test/expiration-date/required-papers/fingerprint/photo/magnetic-stripe — strike me as unreasonable limits on a fundamental right. Does the Court agree? We wait until June and then, it doesn't end, it begins.

Alan Korwin is a nationally recognized expert on gun laws, working on his 11th book, and can be reached at gunlaws.com.

could be read through a wallet or purse. Radio waves travel easily through fabric, paper, leather, plastic — and even walls. Simply aiming a reader at an individual would return that person's unique ID number from an enhanced driver's license, right through a person's wallet, purse, pocket, or backpack. Readers in the environment would not need to be aimed. Simply walking through a reader-rigged doorway or passing by a stationary reader



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SNAFU or PSYOPS?

Van Cleave Continued from Page 2

Yet all their policies are based on (as Teddy Roosevelt put it in a different context) carrying a big stick. Suggest that they require a form of slavery in order to fund their programs, and they'll look at you as though you'd just stepped off a flying saucer.

Both sides exploit psychological *anchoring*. Say you're selling a gizmo, and you stick a price tag on it. That price serves as a psychological anchor for those who might want to buy – it's the place to start negotiations, the "real" price they might want to beat. Yet you set it, perhaps, quite arbitrarily – or deliberately high or low. It may have little to do with the actual value of your gizmo. Politicians do the very same thing. In fact, there's a serious competition to see who can set the anchor for any political issue. And you can bet that a politician will always set the anchor ridiculously high. Are "weapons of mass destruction" AK-47's or hydrogen bombs? What's at stake with our climate – a fraction of a degree more on Saturday's barbecue, or global flooding and desertification? Wherever you set the anchor, the statistical response from people will be either higher or lower, accordingly.

This anchoring heuristic can really take you off the deep end. A good example of this is what is now called "the precautionary principle" – basically the idea that if you can imagine some dire consequence of a course of action, then that action must be avoided at all costs. It is based on setting the anchor at total disaster. Never mind any scientific and logical examination of the situation showing risk to be minimal or nonexistent!

There's a valuable application of anchoring for Libertarians, though. They should be (and the best activists are) setting their anchor in the political debate at 100 percent liberty.

Let's move to "Islamic terrorism"

for the next example, the *actor-observer effect* (the "observer" part of this is basically what psychologists call the *fundamental attribution error*, because it is arguably the most pervasive error people make when attributing motivations to others). First, an example to illustrate the idea: If you're late for an appointment, chances are you'll blame the *external* circumstances. But if someone is late for the same appointment, chances are you'll blame some factor *internal* to them – laziness, inattention, etc. The idea is that two people can behave in exactly the same way, but each will attribute different behavioral influences on self vs. the other. Much of Americans' misunderstanding of what we call "terrorism" is due to this factor. The American revolutionaries were freedom fighters, responding to intolerable circumstances (external factors) visited upon them by King George. Islamic terrorists, though, are motivated simply by an irrational hatred (an internal factor) of those they target.

Yeah, sure. One of the best results of the 2008 presidential primary season has been Ron Paul's discussion of "blowback" – the natural consequences resulting when people respond to intolerable external circumstances. He was simply explaining that Arabs, just like Americans, are motivated by external factors (and when those factors are especially onerous,

they are *strongly* motivated). But Americans caught up in the actor-observer effect couldn't buy such a sensible explanation.

I've just scratched the surface; there are many more psychological traps like these – but I have room to discuss only two more that will be important for you, the jury.

In 1963, psychologist Stanley



Milgram published a report on the disturbing results of his research on obedience. Subjects in his study were told they would administer electric shocks to learners when they made mistakes, in order to assess the effectiveness of this "negative reinforcement" for learning. It turned out that, more often than not, his subjects would continue to follow orders to administer shocks (fake, of course, though the "learners" screamed and begged for mercy very convincingly) even when serious harm appeared imminent.

Similarly, in 1971 Philip Zimbardo conducted the famous Stanford Prison Study, in which ordinary students were assigned roles as prison guards and prisoners. The study had to be shut down prematurely because both "guards" and "prisoners" were showing disturbing psychological changes. Some guards became downright sadistic, while most overstepped the bounds most of us would think appropriate in their role. And many of the prisoners were severely traumatized. Members of both groups required therapy for years afterward to help them recover from what they had learned about themselves.

Fast-forward to today. American military prisons such as Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo are supposed to be loaded with interrogators who are experts in psychology, right? Probably the installation commanders were chosen because of their understanding of how a prison environment can elicit information from its inmates. Is there any way such people could *not* be aware of these experiments, among the most famous in all of psychology?

Why do politicians and generals act surprised when troops in Iraq or Afghanistan are seen abusing innocent civilians?

As police forces in the U.S. are increasingly militarized, we've seen many more instances of cops flying off the handle and abusing their authority. Why hasn't there been a tighter rein to prevent that? In fact, how can one justify the very obvious change in mission overtaking "law enforcement" everywhere: the shift from keeping the peace to *controlling* the people and restricting any opportunities for the commission of crimes?

With those uncomfortable questions I'll now ask for your verdict: Does government simply fail to guard against all these psychological traps, or does it purposefully exploit them?

Driver's Licenses

Albrecht Continued from Page 13

would be enough to transmit the ID number.

Combined, these features of RFID make the technology extremely attractive for anyone interested in surreptitious tracking and surveillance of others. This potential has not been lost on government authorities and corporations, both of whom have become increasingly invasive of individual privacy in recent years. IBM, Phillips Electronics, Bank of America, and American Express have all developed strategies to exploit RFID tags carried by the public in ways that most people would find extremely invasive.

IBM, for example, holds a patent titled "Identification and Tracking of Persons Using RFID-Tagged Items." That patent describes a nightmarish scenario that IBM envisions for the day when members of the public begin

carrying remotely-readable RFID tags. IBM-patented "Person Tracking Units" would be installed in the walls and flooring of public places, including bus stops, train stations, shopping malls, sports arenas, museums, theaters, libraries — even elevators and public restrooms — to secretly identify and track members of the public as they go about their daily business.

In addition to the enormous privacy concerns created if people can be remotely identified and tracked by corporations or governments, there are serious safety issues, as well. The National Network to End Domestic Violence is a vocal opponent of remotely readable RFID cards, pointing out that the decision to carry one could be a matter of life or death for victims of domestic violence.

Finally, it should be noted that placing the RFID tag into a driver's license means that people will carry the remotely-readable devices at virtually all

times, not just at border crossings. People are routinely asked for their driver's licenses to verify their identity at retail stores, when writing checks, at banks, airports, schools, government buildings, and other locations. In addition, the driver's license is required to operate a motor vehicle, so the decision to leave the card at home for is not an option.

In conclusion, while greater security and efficiency at border crossings is an important goal, the use of RFID-tagged driver's licenses is a poor choice of technology to accomplish it. RFID is extremely problematic from a privacy and civil liberties perspective. Because RFID-tagged driver's licenses would pose an enormous threat to the privacy and safety of the nation's residents, I urge the legislatures of the various states involved in this project to rescind their agreements with the Department of Homeland Security, and decline further participation in the program.

Dr. Katherine Albrecht is widely recognized as one of the world's leading experts on RFID. She holds a Doctorate in Education from Harvard University and is the director of CASPIAN, a 15,000 member consumer privacy organization. Katherine hosts a daily radio program on We the People Radio Network (WTPRN.com) and co-authored the award-winning book "Spychips," the definitive critique of RFID.

Since 2003, Katherine has led the fight against unethical RFID use in products and in people. She regularly testifies before lawmakers around the globe and has given over a thousand television, radio and print interviews to news outlets like CNN, NPR, Good Morning America, Business Week and the London Times, to name just a few. Executive Technology Magazine calls Katherine "perhaps the country's single most vocal privacy advocate" and Wired magazine calls her the "Erin Brockovich" of RFID."

Celebrating Freedom

Hornberger Continued from Page 3

will be celebrating the "freedom" that has come with income taxation, Social Security, Medicare, occupational licensure laws, economic regulations, trade restrictions, immigration controls, and the drug war.

John Quincy Adams's statement to Congress on the Fourth of July, 1821, that America does not go abroad "in search of monsters to destroy" is now considered a quaint and obsolete philosophy of foreign policy. "Freedom" now entails an enormous standing army whose mission is to invade and occupy foreign nations with the

supposed aim of taking care of their people, protecting them from tyranny or oppression.

How is the domestic policy and foreign policy celebrated as "freedom" by Americans today different from the philosophy that guided King George in 1776?

Don't many Americans today favor a domestic policy of ever-increasing spending (which necessitates ever-increasing taxes), subsidies, and economic regulations? Don't they favor a foreign policy based on an enormous standing army, empire, and intervention? Don't they favor cruel and

unusual punishments and denial of due process and jury trials? Don't they favor warrantless searches and indefinite detentions? Don't they favor immigration controls and trade restrictions? Don't they favor gun control?

Didn't King George favor all those things? Didn't those British insurgents and terrorists who signed the Declaration of Independence and take up arms against their own government and its troops oppose all of those things?

The irony is that most Americans have no idea that the political and economic philosophy to which they adhere is contrary to the founding prin-

ciples of our nation. The plight of the American people can best be summed up with the words of the great thinker Johann von Goethe: "None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free." We can only hope that, as crises and infringements on liberty grow in number and magnitude, Americans will rediscover their heritage of liberty and lead the world out of the anti-freedom morass in which it is increasingly mired.

Jacob Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation, a libertarian educational foundation in Fairfax, Virginia.

R3VOLUTION

Vallejo Continued from Page 4

When Ron spoke to a crowd of 150 supporters in Phoenix Sky Harbor he said "thank you for inviting me to the revolution." I fully believe that he knew a year ago that the grassroots movement to regain lost liberties and right the wrongs of the past was more of a 'Campaign for Freedom' and getting people involved in the 'self-governing' process than a campaign to make Dr. Paul president. It was a

"revolution between the ears" to quote Ernie Hancock. It was more about how many minds can we free and how many people can we wake up to the fact that the America we were born in no longer exists, and we lose more of what is left every day.

No matter what the outcome of the 2008 Presidential Election is, the R3VOLUTION will continue in the efforts of making changes wherever we can make a difference. We will assist in getting Libertarian and freedom-oriented candidates for local and national

offices elected. We will continue to produce and distribute educational and informational materials to the public free of charge. We will punish the Mainstream Media at every opportunity for being complicit in the blackout of information concerning candidates that 'speak the truth to power.' We will continue to contact our elected officials with our disapproval when they act to the detriment of the general welfare of The People, or when they abrogate their Oath of Office. We will continue to demonstrate in the streets of our hometowns, and the streets of

Washington D.C. to awaken our fellows to the perils we all face in the dismantling of our Creator-given Rights, our war-making powers, our Constitutional Duty to print our own money, and many other restraints our Founding Fathers attempted to warn us about. And we will grow stronger with every Patriot who heeds the call, and takes action.

The R3VOLUTION has only just begun. Come make history with us!

www.ronpaul.meetup.com/7/

Insanity

Blitz Continued from Page 4

institutions have an extremely difficult time of changing to avoid becoming obsolete when government officials control their very activities.

In a free market, one totally unregulated by government officials, the type of system that America was based upon, the control factor resides

with the individual through his spending and not spending of his own hard earned wealth. If one wants to see more price stability, economic growth, and allow the poorest in America to have an opportunity to have economic success in life, there needs to be less, if any, government regulation, not more.

The best way to do that is to start by eliminating the Federal Reserve

System and then move on to all of the other existing government economic regulatory bodies. That will be a tall order. Government officials are not interested in giving up their positions of power and go to work and compete with the rest of American society producing goods and services that individuals really desire.

Howard Blitz is the founder of The Freedom Library, located in Yuma,

Arizona, that helps individuals learn and understand the principles of liberty as understood by the American founders. Howard is also chairman of the Yuma County Libertarian Party and writes a weekly column published in the Yuma Sun newspaper and FreedomsPhoenix. His column has also been published in the East Valley Tribune in Mesa and the Free Enterprise Society publication.

Taxation Tyranny

Ruwart Continued from Page 5

www.ruwart.com). If we all spent our money the way we chose to, instead of trying to tax each other, we'd have twice as much to spend. Imagine how much better off we'd be! Civilization would flourish, instead of being suppressed. Harmony would be restored.

The only major party candidate who understands that taxation is an unnecessary evil is Dr. Ron Paul, GOP hopeful, and 1988 Libertarian Party presidential nominee. If he doesn't get the Republican Party's

nomination, many supporters will write in his name on their ballots. Sadly, such loyalty will go unreported by the press, since write-in votes are rarely counted and even more rarely reported.

I see only one way that his supporters can make their voices heard if Dr. Paul doesn't receive the GOP nomination. If the Ron Paul Revolution votes en masse for the Libertarian Party (LP) candidates, including the presidential nominee, the LP will receive an unprecedented number of votes. The Ron Paul Revolution votes will likely land LP candidates in local and state offices, and empower them

to help Dr. Paul with his programs.

The press tied the libertarian label closely to Ron Paul. The Revolution will get credit for the surge in LP interest. Sympathetic politicians may feel it's safe to come out of the closet and support Congressman Paul's proposals.

Of course, all this is possible only if the LP runs a principled Libertarian and Ron Paul supporter for their presidential candidate. I propose to be that candidate. I have supported Dr. Paul's congressional campaigns since 1988 and have been active in his presidential run. Dr. Paul has supported me

by endorsing my book, "Healing Our World," and writing President Bush in support of my application for FDA Commissioner some years ago. As the LP presidential nominee, I will refer to Dr. Paul's ongoing efforts, such as passage of the "Health Freedom Protection Act," as part of my program to deregulate the health care industry.

If Ron Paul does get the GOP nomination, what a wonderful dilemma we will face. I would be delighted to educate voters on choosing between the greater of two goods, rather than trying to discourage them from voting against the lesser of two evils!

'08 Registration Drive

Iannuzo Continued from Page 1

Respect for individual rights, self ownership of person and property, should no longer seem like a distant memory. But the truth is, it can not be done without your help. Individuals make the difference. Unlike other parties which function via top down "control", we need the help of individuals like you, today!

It is critical that you **talk** to a fam-

ily member, friend, or neighbor about registering Libertarian. Request voter registration forms be mailed directly to you and give it to them. In Arizona, call 877-THE-VOTE (877-843-8643), or register online: www.azlp.org/reg. Having enough registered Libertarians ensures a pro-freedom voice in every statewide debate. A consistent, principled, loud voice, not to be ignored.

"I'm an Independent, why should I vote Libertarian?" You've already figured out that Republicans

and Democrats have become two sides of the same coin, big government spenders all. They no longer stand for anything, except the latest opinion poll. They run their political lives as a business. Why else would someone spend millions of dollars for a job that pays only thousands? The politicians in Washington and our state capital have led us away from the principles of individual liberty and personal responsibility which are the only sound foundation for a just, humane, and abundant society. Government at all

levels is too large, too expensive, woefully inefficient, arrogant, intrusive, and downright dangerous. Democrat and Republican politicians have created the status quo, and do not intend to change it.

If you believe in freedom and personal responsibility, your easiest and most effective action is to register and vote Libertarian. Check out the "World's Smallest Political Quiz" and find out where you fit into the political spectrum: www.lp.org/quiz



Election Cycle 2008

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Take Action!

By Michael Kielsky, Arizona
Libertarian Party Chairman

One of the primary activities of your state Libertarian party is to maintain ballot status — that means, the right to place candidates on the ballot. To maintain ballot status, we need more voters registered as Libertarian. To make the best use of ballot status, we need to run Libertarian candidates.

Take Action! Register Libertarians

Get friends, family, neighbors, or acquaintances, to register Libertarian. Online: www.AzLP.org/reg

Take Action! Become Active

The Arizona Libertarian Party consists of all registered Arizona Libertarians. The officers of the county party and the state committeemen are selected by our precinct committeemen. The state committeemen then in turn select the officers of the state party. Become active in your party! To become a precinct committeeman requires one form and one nominating petition (which requires only 1 signature - yours). Links to forms and more details [online: www.AzLP.org/act](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

Take Action! Become a Candidate

Unfortunately, there are far more offices for which we could run candidates, yet nobody has stepped up to take on the challenge. This year, as an Arizona Libertarian, you have a great opportunity to make a difference

in promoting our message of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and limited government, by getting yourself on the ballot as a candidate for one of more than 200 offices which will be contested this November.

Take Action! Seek an Office

This November, Arizonans will vote on over 200 partisan offices, including:

- 8 Representatives to Congress
- Corporation Commissioners
- 30 state senators
- 60 state representatives

And in each county (we have ballot access in Coconino, Maricopa, Pima, and Yavapai counties), nearly another hundred partisan offices:

- Assessor
- County Attorney
- Recorder
- Sheriff
- School Superintendent
- Treasurer
- Board of Supervisors
- Judges or Justices of the Peace
- Constables

A list of partisan offices elected this year is [online: www.AzLP.org/act](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

Take Action! Get on the Ballot

For each of the Congressional seats and the Corporation Commission seats, any registered Arizona Libertarian may file regardless of where in Arizona you reside — the required paperwork is filed with the Secretary of State. They can notarize any signatures as required when you file.

For the State Senate and State Representative seats, you also file with the Secretary of State, but you must live in the district to be represented.

For each of the other offices, you file with your County Elections department, and you need to live in the district that is to be represented. They can notarize any signatures as required when you file.

The steps, links to the forms, and more, are [online: www.AzLP.org/act](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

Remember, a *Political Committee Statement of Organization* or *\$500 Threshold Exemption Statement* must be filed before accepting contributions, making expenditures, distributing campaign literature or circulating petitions. So, after you have decided on which office to pursue, make sure you file your exemption statement — you can always file additional paperwork if your campaign expenditures or contributions exceed \$500.

Take Action! Forms to File

1. *\$500 Exemption Statement* (file this **before** you begin)

The filing period for everything else begins May 5, 2008 and ends June 4, 2008. File everything below at the same time.

2. *Nomination Paper, Affidavit of Qualification and Campaign Finance Laws Statement*
3. *Financial Disclosure Statement*
4. *Nomination Petitions*

Links to forms, and detailed directions are [online: www.AzLP.org/act](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

Take Action! Get your Signatures

The minimum number of nominating petition signatures for a Libertarian candidate range from 1 to 85, depending on the office, but only a few require more than 12 valid signatures.

For Congress, you will need at least 8 to 14 signatures (depending on the district). For Corporation Commissioner, at least 85. For State Senator or Representative, at least 3 to 12 (depending on the district). For Assessor, County Attorney, Recorder, School Superintendent, Sheriff, Treasurer, in Maricopa you will need at least 46 signatures, in Coconino, Pima, and Yavapai around a minimum of 17.

In every case, this requirement is easily achieved, especially if you remember that you may accept signatures from any registered voter, EXCEPT Republicans and Democrats (or Greens, in Pima County), so you don't have to get only Libertarians to nominate you.

We've documented the offices to be contested, steps to get on the ballot, links to forms, directions for completing the forms and filing them, and more, [online: www.AzLP.org/act](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

For more information, your county elections department is a place to start, or contact the Secretary of State.

Our links [online:](http://www.AzLP.org/act)

www.AzLP.org/act