



The Utah Liberator

The Monthly Voice of the Libertarian Party of Utah for the Enlightenment of Our Members & Friends

Vol. 2, No. 5

December 1996

LPUtah Celebrates LP's 25th Birthday

Members new and old, prospective members, and the state chair of the Natural Law Party gathered at the Hampton Inn in downtown Salt Lake City on Wednesday December 11 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Libertarian Party. For it was on that same night that eight men gathered in a living-room in a Denver suburb to form what would soon become one of the most influential political movements to sweep the nation. The LPUtah's celebration of that event was a splendid event itself, thanks to the tireless efforts of state vice chair and special events goddess Kaylin Robinson. The walls and ceilings were adorned

with colorful decorations provided by former gubernatorial candidate Kitty Burton and expertly hung by Lee Christensen and Ju-el Robinson. Those same walls were also covered with exhibits and memorabilia provided by the George Chapman family, Willy Star Marshall, Steve Trotter, and Stan King.

The evening started at 7:00 p.m. with a great social period featuring several different h'ors doeuvres. Then, because anything we do is a political event, it was followed by Libertarian-style speechifying. But instead of bombast, guests were treated to often humorous reminiscences from past LPUtah leaders, one of whom is now serving his second

term as an officer of the same national Party founded in '71.

Speakers from Afar

After brief opening remarks by state chair Jim Dexter, attendees were treated to a videotaped message from the LPUtah's founding chair, George Chapman, now age 77 and sharp as a whip. Living proof that libertarian thoughts are good for your health. Marsha and Hugh Butler, Kaylin Robinson, and Jim Dexter had traveled to Coalville two weeks prior to the party to tape George's comments. Hugh provided the TV/VCR that let the celebrants enjoy seeing the first state chair.

George's comments were followed by Hugh Butler who talked about his term as state

chair. Next, in one of her several appearances as someone else (likely a case of incipient multiple personality disorder), Kaylin read Willy Star Marshall's eyewitness account of how Big Water became the first fully Libertarian town government in America. She was followed by a voice from the past, literally, as Bob Waldrop joined the party from Oklahoma via speakerphone. (We're again grateful to Hugh for providing the equipment and the phone credit card.) Next, Kaylin talked about her stint as Doug Jones' state vice-chair.

Then Amy Lassen (Doug's wife) gave a droll recounting of her

Continues next page . . .

LDS "Agency" Can Help You Recruit Mormons To Our Cause

by Charles Hardy

You're not Mormon, you have no desire to convert, and you're not a student of religion. But if you want to convince more Utahns to become Libertarians, the simple reality is, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (a/k/a "Mormons" or "LDS") still make up a majority in this state. And, like it or not, no political proposal is going to succeed without the backing of at least a significant number of Mormons. Fortunately and contrary to popular belief or even your own observations, *Mormon doctrine is quite agreeable to libertarian principles.*

Generally, it is not LDS doctrine, but the Utah Mormon popular culture that is at odds with Libertarianism. The intent of this article is to give you some basic

information relative to LDS doctrine/beliefs that may be helpful in effectively communicating Libertarian ideas to Mormons.

I must point out that I am not acting in any official capacity for the LDS Church, the Libertarian Party, or any other organization. The entire content of this article is nothing more than my personal opinions and observations which are subject to change pending further data and are offered for what they are worth which is probably only slightly more than what I've been paid to write them.

Agency Is the Key

This article will explain some of the LDS principle of Agency. Mormons believe that all humans are the children of God, their Father-in-Heaven, and that they lived with God as spiritual

beings prior to this earth life. From their reading of the *Book of Revelations, Doctrine & Covenants, Pearl of Great Price*, and the *Book of Mormon*, Mormons believe that God laid out a plan for the continued progression and development of His children through which they would come to earth, gain a physical body and be tested.

God knew His children would make mistakes (sin) while in mortality, and that the laws of eternal justice would prevent them from re-entering His presence unless some accommodation were made. He asked for a volunteer to help mankind.

His first-born of the spirit, Jesus Christ, volunteered to come to earth in the role of Redeemer and offer Himself as sacrifice for the sins of the world to satisfy the

laws of Justice so that all who desired and would make an honest effort to live the laws of God might be able to return to Him.

Lucifer Protests

But there was another of the children of God who objected to this plan. He pointed out there would be some who would openly reject the laws of God and would thus be unable to take part in the redemption of Christ and would be denied readmittance to the kingdom of God.

His name was Lucifer and he proposed that he would come to earth and would force all people to live the laws of God. All would then be able to return to the kingdom of God. None would be lost to their own foolishness.

Continues next page . . .

25th Party — cont'd

days as state chair. She was followed by Kaylin playing Jim Elwell and reading his prepared remarks. Jim, out with the flu, was not too feverish to forget the time a female postal inspector invited herself over to his apartment. (We'll leave your imaginations to work on that one. You should have been there.) Then Dexter told the story of the past 18 months under the trijimirvate. first Lorenz, then himself.

Kaylin, hostess extraordinaire, used the wrap-up opportunity to talk about her ten years of experiences with the LP, ranging from the first successful tax protest to helping stage the '93 LP NatCon here in Salt Lake City. She then presented each of the state chairs with a special 25th Birthday silver medallion struck for the occasion by Stan King.

Cake & Champagne

When the speeches were all spake, it was time to party hearty. The candles on the fabulous cake (see photos on page 7) were lit and blown out by everyone after a rousing round of "Happy Birthday to Us." LNC treasurer Hugh Butler was given the honor of cutting the cake. He cut the corner with the Torch and presented it to his gracious wife, Marsha, "who has carried the torch for both me and the Party for all these years." The champagne (or sparkling cider for those following the *Words of Wisdom*) were opened and Dexter led a toast to both the 25-year-old Party and the Bill of Rights whose 205th anniversary was the following Sunday (see page 5). More socializing lasted until one a.m. for the hardier partiers.

Disappointing Turn-Out

All-in-all only about 30 people, half of all those who had said they'd come, showed up. And the event, which was intended to raise desperately needed funds for a very needy Party, may actually have lost money. If you were contacted by Bob Jarvis or one of his county phone-tree chairs and agreed to come, please send

in your money now. If you declined because you couldn't make it, feel free to send a check for \$25 anyway. And if you could have made it but didn't want to for whatever reason, you too may donate to the Party's future with a financial contribution (e.g., money) in the present.

Make your check payable to: LPUtah (we make it real easy) and send them to LPUtah, P.O. Box 526025, SLC, UT 84152-6025. In the words of Hugh Butler's classic comment of the evening, "Becoming a Libertarian millionaire is easy. Just start with two million." Thank you for your support.

See photos on page 7.

A Good Question Can Help Make Lib. Converts

Harry Browne's campaign featured the "Iron Question:" *Would you be willing to give up your favorite government program in exchange for no income taxes?*

Here's "Gold Question" that just might help you turn a nonlibertarian into a pledge-signing, dues-paying member.

Whenever you hear anyone talking about the need for government to take care of the poor, don't pull the usual Lib. stunt of arguing or lecturing him/her, which would only start an argument and put the other on the defensive. Instead simply ask:

If you came into a large sum of money and wanted to help the poor, you could give \$100,000 to the charity of your choice, such as the church (or Salvation Army), or you could give it to the U.S. Dep't of Health & Human Services. Which would you choose—and why?

Letting people convince themselves of the advantages of private charitable efforts over unworkable government welfare programs helps them understand Libertarian principles on their own. Once they agree, the rest should be easy.

LDS Doctrine — cont'd

Heavenly Father pointed out that in order for people to progress they had to be free to choose for themselves and reap the consequences of those decisions, that it was contrary to the nature of God to deny Man his "agency."

Lucifer's plan was rejected and Jesus' plan was accepted. Lucifer did not take well to this and rose up in open rebellion against God. He was able to persuade one-third of the spirit children of God to support him in this rebellion. Ironically, it was the very agency against which Lucifer and his follows were fighting that allowed them to wage the war in the first place.

Is Utah County Satan's Playground?

The ability to choose for oneself is so inherent in every one of God's children, so important to His plan for them, *that even in His own kingdom He would not infringe that agency* [Gayle Ruzicka, are you listening?-ed.]; He allowed Lucifer and his followers to wage war so that all His children could freely choose which plan to follow.

Those who followed Jesus prevailed in this war in heaven, and Lucifer and those who followed him were cast out of heaven to become Satan and his demons and were denied the opportunity to gain mortal bodies. They will never again be allowed to dwell in the glory of God's presence.

The remaining two-thirds of the hosts of heaven freely made the decision to follow Jesus' plan and have, are, or will experience mortality upon this earth. While here *they must choose for themselves* whether or not to follow the laws of God and they will reap the consequences, good or bad, of their decisions.

Agency Means Choice

One can see that agency, the ability to choose one's course of action, is so important in LDS belief that Mormons believe a full third of God's children were permitted to rebel and lose any

chance of happiness before ever coming to earth simply to hold the principle inviolate.

Further, numerous more of God's children have and will use their agency to make decisions here that will prevent them from ever living with their Father in Heaven again. *Those that would have removed said agency were consigned to everlasting torment.* [Gayle Ruzicka, are you listening?-ed.]

This doctrine is central to Mormon theology. Clearly it is at odds with certain aspects of the Utah Mormon culture which attempts to force everyone to live a good life by imposing legal penalties for private acts that do not infringe others' rights.

Mormons believe that every person living on this earth made the voluntary decision to support Agency. There are clearly quite a few who act as if they would have been more comfortable with the other alternative.

One wonders if they would like the consequences that followed that decision. Statements or questions on the foregoing topic offered in an appropriate manner for a given circumstance should at least start the rusty wheels of thought turning.

The Utah Liberator

Published 10 or so times a year by the Libertarian Party of Utah.

Editor & Designer
Jim Dexter

All submissions are welcome. Send neatly typewritten hard copy and/or disk in ASCII [text], Word, or Word Perfect) no later than the fifth of the month to:

The Utah Liberator
P.O. Box 526025
Salt Lake City, Utah
84152-6025
801/534-8872
1-800-280-7900

Or, if you're on-line, submit them electronically to:

JimDex1@aol.com

Submissions may be subject to editing for fit, but will otherwise be printed as submitted . . . if we have room in the issue.

LPUtah Praises Wal-Mart, Blasts Utah Cty & Eagle Forum for Raid and Harassment of Movie Buffs

The following is based on a press release sent to all Utah papers following Wal-Mart's decision to censor the CDs they'd sell.

Wal-Mart's legitimate exercise of its first Amendment right to free speech, and the Utah County Attorney's obscene violation of the first Amendment, show the important differences between the private and public sphere, said Jim Dexter, state chair.

"As a private business, Wal-Mart has every right to determine what it will and will not sell to the public. Private censorship does not conflict with an individual's right to free expression," Dexter noted. "Those who want to buy certain kinds of recordings can find them at other retailers.

"Yet the recent action ordered by Utah County Attorney Kay Bryson against Movie Buffs and its customers proves the foresight of our Founders. They knew the Bill of Rights was needed to protect citizens from intrusive governments. 'Congress shall make no law' does not mean Utah County can."

The Party chair's comments follow the outcry by some in the entertainment industry criticizing Wal-Mart for refusing to sell music with lyrics, or packaged with cover art, it deemed objectionable, and the outcry of others over the seizure of adult movies and customer lists from two video rental stores by Utah County sheriffs.

Private Solutions Work

"Wal-Mart's policy proves again that private sector solutions are best. No one is harmed by Wal-Mart's approach. But some guy who rented a 'dirty' video at Movie Buffs for his friend's bachelor party now risks being pointed out as some kind of pervert by an overzealous prosecutor.

"Unlike the Utah Cty Sheriff's deputies, Wal-Mart can't kick down the door of video vendors, point a gun, and dictate what consumers can and cannot watch," observed Dexter. "Wal-Mart shows us that free enterprise can provide solutions without force, while acting according to the Constitution. That's just as it should be in a free-market economy."

Dexter decried the pattern of escalating government harassment against Movie Buffs prior to the raid. "Utah County Sheriff's deputies showed utter disregard for the first Amendment by trying to intimidate Movie Buffs with repeated fire-code inspections when the stores refused to pull the offending videos in the weeks preceding the illegal raid," Dexter complained.

Buzzard Forum

The Libertarians also denounce the Eagle Forum's outrageous attempt to intimidate Movie Buff customers by picketing their two stores. "Are people who want to rent Disney movies and Barney videos to be subjected to the screaming harassment of busybodies with too much time and too little minds? Will they demand to look in the bag to see what videos you've rented? Who are they to inhibit a free people's actions and privacy?"

"While a boycott is legal, the lessons of history are clear. Intolerance such as this has forced good people to leave their homes and seek refuge elsewhere. The actions of Ms. Ruzicka and her blue-nosed cohorts will negatively impact all other businesses around the stores.

"All this economic ruin because one person and her puritanical groupie buddies decide they have a right to decide who can't watch what in their own homes? Call it the Buzzard Forum," said Dexter.

"Compare Wal-Mart's approach to Utah Cty's" he said. "Wal-Mart, as a free enterprise in a free country, decided on its own what it would sell. It did not take any police action, legal threats or public harassment to get them to make the change.

"Yet despite a host of Constitutional protections, the Utah County Attorney gleefully deprives a merchant of his inventory and private citizens of their privacy with nothing but his own sense of 'morality' to go on."

Founding Fathers Knew

"The first Amendment came first because the Founders knew what governments could be like. The entire Bill of Rights is about individual guarantees. Those rights are not collective. If only one person in Utah County wants to rent what Utahns naively call 'pornography,' he/she has a right to do so. And a retailer has the right to provide for that need."

"If Mrs. Ruzicka is sincere in her desire to protect children, let her go home and do so. While we favor her stance on home schooling, on this one she's way off base. We would be better off if she were home, teaching their children about the Constitution, not abandoning them while she tries to impose her moral code on the rest of Utah. The Buzzard Forum is a menace to free speech."

"We are also proud that our candidate for Attorney General, W. Andrew McCullough, has joined the effort to hold county government accountable for its gross violations of the constitution," Dexter said. "The first Amendment guarantees fundamental freedoms of for all of us—including Wal-Mart, Movie Buffs and their customers."

For more on government erosion of the Bill of Rights, see "Hanging by a Thread" on page 5.

Feb 25 To Be "Rights Day" at the Capitol

State legal counsel J. Robert Latham invites all members to participate in the LPUtah-sponsored "Individual Rights & Responsibilities Day" on Tuesday, February 25.

Basically it's a day for lobbying the state legislature to repeal limitations on individual liberties. To start the day off, Latham has reserved Room 223 in the State Capitol for 10:30 a.m. to Noon and the Auditorium in the State Office Building behind the Capitol from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in case the crowd exceeds Room 223's 82-person capacity.

Latham reports, "Although I'm still working on the details of the agenda, I basically envision keeping the event simple. First, a greeting to attendees by a representative of the LPUtah, then a statement about why we've gathered to recognize individual rights and responsibilities, then a quick role-play on how to lobby your senator and representative. Then we'll turn the participants loose on the legislators, who should be in their morning session until Noon.

"If other liberty-oriented groups want to co-sponsor the event with us, we may also add to the agenda some time for representatives of those groups to speak. I also hope to have the help of several LPUtahns to help participants with questions about the LPUtah, specific issues and bills we're watching, and how to find who their senators and representatives are."

Latham asks those who want to take part in this event or who have suggestions, to e-mail him at JRLinSLC@aol.com or call him in SLC at 364-0090. We will keep this simple so participants will enjoy getting their new "lobbyist" feet wet.

More about this planned invasion of the capitol in January.



Notes From The Chair

by Jim Dexter

Great Party: Our celebration of the LP's 25th Birthday on December 11 was absolutely fantastic. Best party the Party has ever thrown. Our sincerest thanks to **KAYLIN ROBINSON, JU-EL ROBINSON, LEE CHRISTENSEN, HUGH** and **MARSHA BUTLER**, the **GEORGE CHAPMAN** family, **STEVE TROTTER, WILLY STAR MARSHALL, KITTY BURTON,** and **BOB JARVIS** for all their help in making this such a special night. And to all members who supported this great fundraiser with their dollars and presence. And to **CATHERINE CARTER**, state chair of the Natural Law Party, for joining us in solidarity with third parties.

Must Reading: I strongly recommend reading **CHARLES HARDY's** terrific article on pages 1 & 2. Most Utahns are LDS and if we are ever to succeed in Utah, we must convince the majority that the morally conservative governments they usually elect violate their core beliefs. Mr. Hardy gives us the tools we need.

Lonely Democrat Saints: A front-page article in a recent Sunday *SL Tribune* reported strong anti-Mormon sentiments in the Democratic Party. (It just goes to show how intolerant today's so-called "liberals" really are. Scratch a statist, find a dictator.) So, seek out those disaffected LDS (Lonely Democrat Saints) and tell them the LPUtah welcomes them with open arms.

All they need to become Libertarians is a sincere desire to preserve a state of Agency for all, a commit-

ment to honor the Founding Fathers and the Constitution, and a willingness to let their fellow citizens live in peace according to their own preferred lifestyles, living not from the taxed sweat of others but from their own self-reliance, and a strong understanding that government doesn't work. We are the last true liberals. Spread the word. And we'll accept tithes. ;-))

Trib Coverage: We were gratified to be the subject of the *SL Tribune's* "Utah" section lead article on Nov. 30. The headline, "One Party State? Not Quite Yet, Say Libertarians" was priceless. However political editor Dan Harrie, referring to last month's issue of *The Utah Liberator*, said I was wrong about us being one of only four parties to retain ballot status. At the time that issue went to press, based on a strict interpretation of Utah election code, we were right. The Lt. Gov's office has the final say and the state Constitution calls for a "lenient" interpretation. So only the Natural Law and U.S. Taxpayers parties were eliminated.

Vote Counts Changed: The results listed in the November *Liberator* were wrong according to information recently obtained by **ANDY McCULLOUGH**. Per the latest count, Hugh Butler received a total of 23,369, Andy got 10,4467 (Lib: 3,536/Ind: 6,910) and Amy Lassen earned 2,341 votes in all.

Gratitude: We are grateful to **RON AMOS, GENE LINDER,** and **DAVID B. SMITH** for their recent donations to the Party's dwindling coffers. You, too, can get your name listed here. (Hint, hint.)

Season's Greetings: This issue is too late to be timely for our Jewish members and it might even be late for Xmas, but we hope you and yours have Happy Holidays. We also hope you enjoy the two humorous articles (pgs. 5 & 8) intended to help make this a very Merry issue for all.

Give The Gift of Liberty!

Still frantically searching for that ideal last-minute present for a loved one, friend or client? What better way to say you *really* care than a membership in the Libertarian Party of Utah? Not only is freedom a great gift any time of the year, but one size fits all! Just

complete the form below, include your check and we'll send a note the lucky recipient praising your originality and generosity. Remember State memberships to *not* automatically come with a lifetime of supply of fund solicitation letters from the LNC. And they cost \$5 less.

YES, I want to give the Gift of Liberty to the individual named below. I understand you will ask him/her to sign the Pledge with the card announcing my gift.

Your Name: _____

Please print neatly. Thank you.

Make my gift a subscription to *The Utah Liberator* for \$10.



Membership Form

Yes, I Want To Be a Utah Libertarian

Please check one membership category, sign the Pledge, fill in your name and contact information, include payment and mail.

- State**— Provides annual membership in the Libertarian Party of Utah. Entitles you to our monthly newsletter, *The Utah Liberator*, invitation to all our social events and political functions, and voting rights at our state and county party meetings and conventions. **Dues: \$20.**
- National**— Provides annual membership in *both* the Utah *and* national Libertarian parties. In addition to all the rights and privileges of Utah membership, you'll also receive the national party's monthly newsletter and be eligible to be a delegate to the national convention. **Dues: \$25.**

The Libertarian Party Pledge

I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signed: X _____ Date _____

Please type or print neatly. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: (801) _____ Fax: (801) _____

Work Phone: (801) _____ E-mail* _____

* Yes, please sign me up for the LPUtah's Members Only on-line forum.

Payment: Check (payable to: Libertarian Party) Cash/Money order
 Visa Mastercard

Card Number: _____ Expires: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Mail to: **Libertarian Party of Utah**
P.O. Box 526025
Salt Lake City, Utah 84152-6025

(PUtah Office Use Only)
 Membership Treasurer
 Database LNC

The Newt Before Christmas

Edited from an e-mail contribution by a Forum member

'Twas the night before Christmas, and throughout the White House Al Gore was eyeing Hillary, peering into her blouse. Secret Service was guarding the premises with care, for a whole host of Democrats were camping out there.

Chelsea was nestled all snug in her bed after locking out Ted Kennedy and the thoughts in his head. And Bill in his sportcoat; a heavy grey tweed, had just fried his brain with some Mexican weed.

When out in the garden came a plethora of noise, all drunken and rowdy: 'twas Newt Gingrich and boys! Bill jumped to the window, and tore open the sash, "It's a raid, boys!" he cried, "Quick, go hide my stash!"

The pot in his blood and the moon on the snow lent a psychedelic haze to the objects below. When what to Bill's frantic eyes should appear, but a slew of Republicans with a keg of ice beer.

With a big old leader, all lively and fat; He knew it was Newt, "Proponent of GATT!" As vicious as vipers, the Republicans came. Bill recognized them all and called them by name.

"Hey, Helms! Hey, Thurmond! Hey, Packwood and Hatch! Hey, Dole and Pataki, it's time for a bash!" A collective cheer rose out from the crowd, "Let's listen to Newton, and turn it up loud!"

The Donkeys and Elephants sang out in cheer, "Screw Health Care and Welfare, it's time to drink beer!" Then came from the chimney, a black cloud of soot, as Limbaugh rushed in in a red Santa suit.

He moved through the crowd, then held up his hand and when all was silent, on a keg he did stand. The crowd raised their cups, as Newt bowed down in prayer. The champagne flowed freely, just like our welfare.

As Kennedy and Reno romped in the Green Room, the rest of the pols outlined an Agenda of Doom: "We'll pray in schools, we'll shove it down their throats!" "More welfare, more taxes, we'll still get the votes!"

As they drank, hugged, and danced, they crossed party lines, and they cheered, "It doesn't matter, we're all bastard swines!" So they threw out allegiance and partisan crap, and took turns sitting on the President's lap.

Gephardt and Bobdole passed out on the lawn, and awoke in the morning without their pants on. Packwood gave Tipper a pat on the rear, while Judge Thomas and Miss Hill went out for more beer.

Then the party-goers spied a sight touching and cute, Bill Clinton fast asleep, snuggled up next to Newt. Rush Limbaugh smiled and threw up on his boots, "A Merry Clinton to all, and to all a good Newt!"

Is the Bill of Rights Now Hanging By a Thread?

The first ten amendments to the Constitution, commonly referred to as the "Bill of Rights," were ratified on December 15, 1791. To mark the occasion, the LPUtah sent this release to all major media.

The LPUtah commemorates the 205th anniversary of the Bill of Rights by noting how often government has overcome the restrictions against it contained within the original ten Amendments.

"Government's assaults on individual rights didn't happen overnight," observed Jim Dexter, state chair. "But it's clear that the limits our nation's Founders intended to place on government have been significantly eroded since the Bill of Rights' ratification 205 years ago."

The Libertarian Party offers the following examples:

- **The First Amendment:** Utah County's prosecution of a small business for renting videos depicting consensual conduct between adults shows that free speech is no longer protected. The federal government's intervention in Waco, Texas showed that the free exercise of religion and peaceful assembly are also without protection. Waco was reminiscent of the federal government's constant attacks on polygamy.
 - **The Second Amendment:** If you can't carry weapons to defend yourself, you aren't truly free. Yet law-abiding gun owners continue to be harassed by the government's various licensing schemes and restrictions on the types of guns they may own.
 - **The Fourth Amendment:** Americans who have committed no crime continue to be searched without probable cause and have their property seized by government agents without due process. The ATF, DEA and certain zealous UHP troopers are notorious for warrantless searches.
 - **The Fifth Amendment:** Double jeopardy now seems to be the rule rather than the exception, when government repeatedly prosecutes citizens exonerated by juries for the same alleged conduct. "Private property" has become a joke in light of evictions for nonpayment of property taxes, environmental protection laws, and the government's use of eminent domain to appropriate private property for the public good, such as urban redevelopment schemes and light rail.
 - **The Seventh Amendment:** The government delegates increasing authority to administrative agencies and self-important bureaucrats who deprive citizens of both due process and jury trials and, in some cases, their property and livelihood.
 - **The Ninth and Tenth Amendments:** The federal government has clearly undertaken activities not authorized by the Constitution nor intended by our nation's Founders. The rights of the people and the states are continually being stripped away by an ever-growing national government.
- "The Founding Fathers' idea that 'Congress shall make no law' seems to have been changed to 'Congress shall make all laws'," says the Libertarian Party.

Listen to Lowell Ponte

Hear the clarion voice of libertarianism by tuning in *Lowell Ponte at Large* Monday thru Friday on these Utah stations: Salt Lake City — KTKK-630 AM, 9 p.m.—Midnight.; Blanding-Monticello — KUTA-790 AM, 10 p.m.—Midnight; St. George — KDXU-890 AM, , 10 p.m.—Midnight

Lowell can also be heard via internet audio at <http://www.AENNET.com>. Download free audio software and tune in M-F, 9 p.m.-Midnight and Saturdays 7 p.m.—10 p.m.

Liberty and Justice for All

by Charles Hardy

Recently, SL County readers of the Tribune and the News were treated to this article. We are sharing this version with you because it is a) the full text, not the edited version appearing in the Citizens section, and b) half our readers do not get the Citizens section. However, we regret the necessity of printing it in a smaller typeset than the rest of this newsletter.

A recent editorial in one of our local papers opined with unbridled disgust that the annual deer hunt was a "slaughter". A letter to the editor lamented the State did not issue hunting tags on the hunters so "they could get a taste of their own medicine." These sentiments raise several interesting points. First, do the writers make use of any animal products such as meat, poultry, eggs, cheese, milk, leather shoes, belts, wallets or furniture? If so, they are either woefully ignorant of the living (and dying) conditions of virtually every animal commercially used by humans or else they are guilty of gross hypocrisy. Ask anyone acquainted with both hunting and a commercial animal facility and they will surely tell you deer have got it good compared to domestic animals. Second, is it mere coincidence that the people who insist private citizens should only be allowed to own firearms for "legitimate sporting purposes" are also opposed to those "sporting purposes?" What kind of values would leave women unarmed and defenseless against attack but mourn the death of a deer or cougar?

However, the most troubling question is why are hunters such a popular target for scorn? There must be at least two orders of magnitude more cows, pigs, or chickens killed every year to feed the residents of this State than there are deer taken by hunters. Part of the answer, I'm sure, is that hunters are visible, especially in their blaze orange clothing, while the death of domestic animals is neatly hidden from sight.

There is more to it than that, though. After all, if hunting is killing, a trip to McDonald's or the grocery store is nothing less than killing for hire—paying someone else to do our dirty work. No, the real reason hunters are singled out for scorn and Burger King isn't is the same reason more people protest the wearing of fur

than the wearing of leather. Simply put, it is a lot safer to pick on old ladies wearing mink than bikers or cowboys in leather.

So it is with hunters. They have become a minority in this country, so they are politically safe to castigate while those who make use of animal products maintain a comfortable majority. If hunting were outlawed tomorrow, most people would not be affected and so would not object. But, let Congress pass a bill outlawing Big Macs and you can count on a Presidential veto faster than you can order a side of fries.

Unfortunately, hunters are not the only group so treated. In fact, longstanding practice is to marginalize those with whom you disagree so the rest of society no longer identifies with them. At that point, it is safe to mistreat them.

Don't believe me? Just label a group of people as abolitionists and heretics if they claim revelation from God and their views are offensive to their neighbors and you are free to rob, kill and drive them from the state under official extermination order.

Or maybe equate consensual polygamy with slavery as the Republicans did in 1856. Rename a religion a "cult." Then just for good measure, spread unsubstantiated rumors of rebellion and insurrection.

You are now free to send an army against the people, march it through their city as they stand ready to burn it to the ground rather than have it be spoiled, dissolve the church, throw a lot of harmless men into prison, seize property and otherwise oppress.

Think it doesn't happen today? Call a man a loner and racist if his political views are offensive to the majority and you are free to kill his wife and son without even standing trial for your actions. Did any descendants of the pioneers identify with Randy Weaver?

Or rename a religious commune a "compound" and the religion a "cult." Then spread the word the leader claims revelation from God, practicing polygamy and has food storage and guns. Just for good measure, throw in unsubstantiated rumors of child abuse. You are now free to attack and burn to death eighty-plus men, women, and chil-

dren. How many descendants of polygamists identified with the Branch Davidians and objected the government's actions? See, the tactic works well because our memories are short and this time it is "different." It's always different when it is someone else.

How about some less sensational examples? Label someone "rich" and you are free to rob him of his property through confiscatory taxes. Classify a business as "big" and you are free to regulate it into bankruptcy. How many harmless people are taking up jail space because their recreational drug of choice doesn't happen to be alcohol, nicotine, or caffeine? How many of us are willing to give big brother the power to kick down doors, tap telephones or otherwise disregard basic rights without even a warrant just to stop adults from doing things in the privacy of their own homes we find personally offensive?

The classification of nicotine as an addictive drug should serve as a wake-up call to all of us. "Why us?" you ask. "We don't like smoking."

Well, give government the power to decide which substances are "drugs" and which drugs are "bad" and then let government outlaw bad drugs and you have no room to cry foul when your Pepsi or favorite herbal remedy is outlawed. Recent editorials calling for government regulations on certain herbs suggest this is not as far fetched as you may hope.

If you want big brother to go into your neighbor's bedroom to stop consenting adults from doing things you find disagreeable, don't be surprised when the jack-boot is on the other foot and the number of children you may have is subjected to regulation.

If you let government tell private property owners they cannot allow smoking in their businesses simply because you don't like smoking, don't complain when someone else gets government to declare your property a "wetland" or "monument" and seize it because they don't like grazing or development.

Conservatives would intrude into your bedroom and medicine chest, while liberals want control of your boardroom and pocketbook; and neither side really likes us peasants

to own or carry guns—tax collectors (like criminals) prefer unarmed subjects.

As I hope you are beginning to see, this is a dangerous game to play. If the government has the power to do it to "them," they have the power to do it to you and me. This is the great realization of libertarianism.

If I wish to remain free to live my life unobstructed by government force so long as I do not harm others, I must allow others to live their lives as they see fit so long as they do not infringe the rights of their fellows—even when such behavior is personally offensive to me or self-destructive to the one engaging in it. Jefferson, speaking against government protecting men from their own follies said, "Laws provide against injury from others; but not from ourselves. God Himself will not save men against their wills." Freedom is not the safest way to live—it requires personal responsibility—but it sure beats the alternatives.

I, for one, would much rather learn to not think about what my neighbor may or may not be doing behind closed doors than grant to government the power to kick in that door, squash his agency, and stop him. I would rather learn to ignore the bulge under my neighbor's skirt than let government throw her to the ground to disarm her.

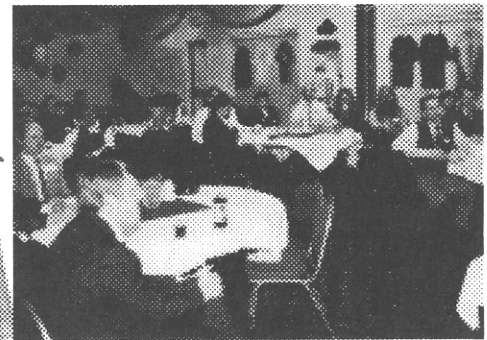
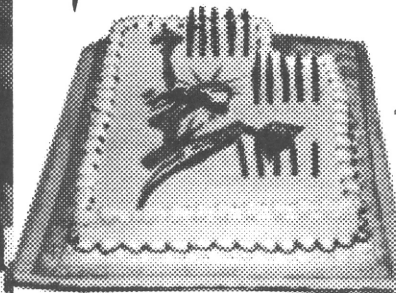
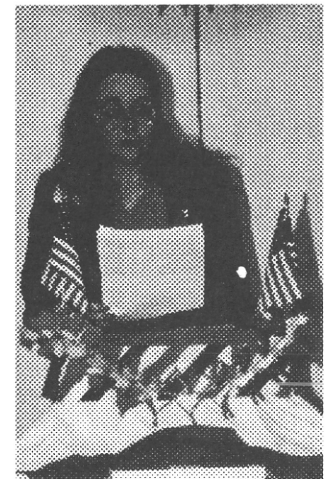
I would rather patronize businesses which freely cater to my tastes while those with different tastes do likewise than allow government to infringe property rights. For I know such power will ultimately be brought to bear against me or mine.

As Lyndon Johnson is purported to have said, "You do not examine legislation in the light of the benefits it will convey if properly administered, but in the light of the wrongs it would do and the harms it would cause if improperly administered."

This is a lesson those of us in the majority would do well to learn and teach to others while we still are the majority. We were once a minority and may yet be one again. Outside our own little confines we are even now a tiny minority.

History has a nasty way of repeating itself when humanity fails to learn our lessons. And history was not kind to our ancestors.

The Libertarian Party's 25th Birthday Bash In Pictures



The Liberty Penguin

It's time for a new symbol for the Libertarian Party!

- Donkeys & elephants dominate American politics.
- Penguins are cool and fun and popular!
- Politics is not pretty, but Penguins are.
- A Penguin at play is a picture of freedom.

Liberty Penguin Lapel/Hat Pins:
\$4.95 each, 3 for \$9.95, 5 for \$12.95

Liberty Penguin Koolie Cups (can coolers):
2 for \$5.95, 4 for \$9.95

A. Cason, PO Box 368, Bean Station, Tennessee 37708, 423-993-3962

CALENDAR

December

26 Salt Lake County Xmas Party – 487-4450

January

9 State Executive Committee – 534-8872

23 Salt Lake County Caucus – 487-4450

February

13 State Executive Committee – 534-8872

25 Individual Rights Day – 364-0090

27 Salt Lake County Caucus – 487-4450

Starting a College LP Chapter

Today's college students are far more libertarian than ever. They have seen first-hand that government doesn't work. They have discovered the Internet and know forces are gathering to censor and control freedom of expression. They face an incredible tax burden, estimated to be near 85% of all they'll ever make, to pay for government programs that haven't worked. They have seen how the American "melting pot" is being turned into individual crucibles of dislike and distrust thanks to "multiculturalism" and other misguided social engineering ideas forced on a free people by an all-powerful government.

A campus LPchapter is philosophical discussion group that turns activist whenever libertarian wisdom is needed and during elections.

As a discussion group, it introduces fellow students to the basics of libertarianism and the Libertarian Party as its active, political manifestation.

As a political action group, it sponsors activities designed to make students aware of issues that infringe their individual rights, whether on or off campus. Protests, picketing, leafleting, etc. are typical student activities.

Each institution has its own rules. Please check with your student activities area to find out what's required. You may need a faculty advisor. There may be limitations on dues. You may be eligible for financial support. Some activities may be prohibited.

The LPUtah can provide advice, recruiting materials, and strong moral support. Please call 534-8872 in SL Cty or 1-800-290-7800 from anywhere else in Utah.

Changing a Light Bulb – Part 1

Q: How many Democrats does it take to change a light bulb?

A: 5,445. 14 White House aides to deny the bulb is burned out; eight aides to blame the previous administration; four network news commentators to call the Republicans mean-spirited; 243 children to stand behind Clinton as he explains the impact of burned-out bulbs on our children and how the mean-spirited Republicans want our children to grow up in darkness; one First Lady to say that changing a light bulb takes a village; nine Hollywood stars to testify as experts because they played a movie role in which they changed light bulbs; 15 spin doctors to put the best light on it; 103 Congresspersons to tell us that only Washington DC really knows how to change a light bulb; One President to tell us that he feels our darkness, that he has 18 new fed-

eral programs to prevent bulb burn-out, and that he has vivid memories of light bulbs burning out during his childhood; 42 cruise missiles to take the heat off the burned-out bulb; one Vice President to inform us of the environmental impact of changing light; two CPAs to devise a high tax on those who are unfairly able to afford and change their own light bulbs; one dead White House lawyer who can be blamed for anything that can't be pinned on the Republicans; one White House ghost who can retrieve the subpoenaed light bulb files no one else knows anything about; and 5,000 Bureaucrats to make sure the new bulb doesn't offend anyone, doesn't impact the environment, doesn't unfairly benefit one group, doesn't harm anyone during the installation, and is up to 1945 specifications for light bulbs.

Give The Gift of Liberty!
 (See page 4)

The Utah Liberator
 Libertarian Party of Utah
 P.O. Box 526025
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 84152-6025

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT NO. 3645

