



The Utah Liberator

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

Vol. 4, No. 5

May 1999

Help Stop Utah Gov't from Paying Any Olympic Debt "Nolympic" Activist Steve Pace Joins Speakers at May 22 State Convention

Now that SLOC's corruption has become international news and 2002 sponsors are fleeing in fear of association, Utah's "power elite" want taxpayers to help fund their two-week party. Now our new, imported Oly czar, Mitt Romney, wants Utahns to come up with a mere \$100 million. (We won't be passing the hat for this cause.)

Utah activist Steve Pace has started a petition drive to give taxpayers a chance to vote on a proposition prohibiting the state from guaranteeing any public or private Olympic-related debt. His cause is right in line with our platform:

"Olympics: We are proud that Salt Lake City has been chosen to host the 2002 Winter Games and salute the hard work of the volunteers who made it possible. *But we are adamantly opposed to spending any tax*

dollars on any private "sports" enterprise. We are outraged at the rich-get-richer scheme which allowed the swap relatively worthless land for prime, federally-owned Snow-basin property. We are against spending any taxpayer dollars to build a roadway to that new millionaire's playground. We will fight any and all attempts to temporarily alter or subvert Utah's concealed carry law, private club law, anti-smoking law, and other arcane impositions on the liberty of the state's citizens in an effort to make Utah appear 'normal' to outsiders."

You Can Help Now

A petition form is folded into this issue. Please take the time

to a) read the instructions, front and back, and b) get just five (5) signatures from registered voters and bring it to the convention (or mail it to: LPUtah, P.O. Box 526025, Salt Lake City, UT 84152-6025.)

If you want more petitions, just call 801/963-1028 or put a note in the petition you mail in. Do NOT copy the petition form. Each is individually numbered and any copy will be rejected.

Pace To Speak

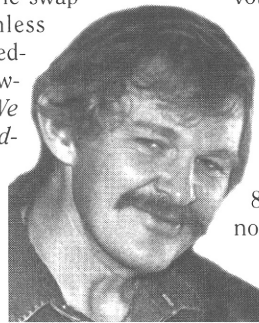
Steve Pace, founder of the Nolympic movement, designer of the infamous "Slalom and Gomorrah" sweatshirt, and probably Slick Mikey's least favorite person (in competition with Jan Graham and all Libertarians, of course), has agreed to join economist Mark Skousen

as a guest speaker at the state convention on May 22. (K-News' Bob Lee will speak at the Bray Dinner that same evening.)

Pace was born in Salt Lake County and received Bachelor's and Masters degrees in Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He now earns a very respectable living as a consultant specializing in healthcare politics and finance to hospital companies and trade associations around America.

In contrast to Utah's Republican politicians, Steve believes that every statement he's made about the 2002 Winter Games over the past decade have been "truthful, consistent, and correct on the facts."

Come and hear for yourself on May 22. And help Steve smile by bringing and handing in a completed petition. (Don't forget to witness it, but not if you signed it yourself.)



Steve Pace
Wants to stop Utah gov't from spending tax money on Games

Weber County to Organize on May 15

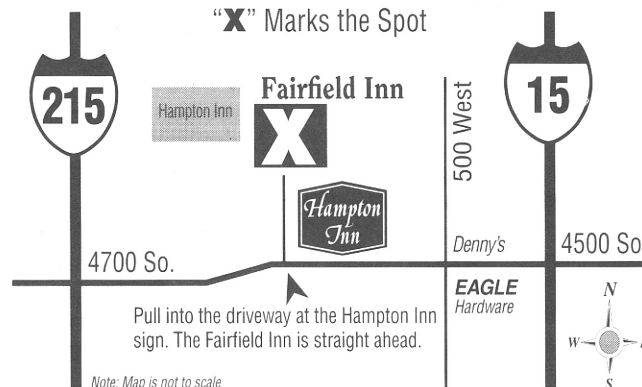
The Libertarians of Weber County will soon enjoy the benefits of an organized, local party. Former state secretary Gerry Arthus is holding an organizing meeting in the back building at his home at 2521 Jackson Avenue in Ogden starting at 11:00 AM on Saturday, May 15.

State chair Jim Dexter will help the group elect officers and adopt a county party constitution. Nonmembers are invited. Call 621-2102 for more info.

How To Get To the Convention

1:00 PM, May 22, Fairfield Inn, 594 West 4500 South

"X" Marks the Spot



Pull into the driveway at the Hampton Inn sign. The Fairfield Inn is straight ahead.

Note: Map is not to scale



Mark Skousen shares his vision of a free, Libertarian America at the convention.



Bob Lee offers his wit and wisdom at the Bray Dinner following the convention.

Mark Your Calendar for May 22

1:00 PM – State Organizing Convention, Fairfield Inn, 594 West 4500 South, SL. (See map at left) The public is invited. No registration fee.

6:00 PM – The Annual Karl Bray Memorial Dinner & Awards Banquet, the social event of the year, this time at the Chuck-A-Rama at 2690 South Highland Drive, SL

Cost: \$20 individuals
\$35 couples
\$00 monthly pledgers

RSVP: Call Kaylin Robinson at 801/468-6209 or kaylin@inconnect.com ASAP.

Region One Conference in Boise on June 5. All Are Invited. Free!

LNC Rep BetteRose Smith and LPIdaho state chair Chris Struble invite all Utah Libertarians to attend a combined regional leadership meeting (for officers) and a campaign workshop (for candidates) to be held in Boise, Idaho on Saturday, June 5. Members from Region One's nine western states will attend. Best of all, except for lodging and meals, *there's no cost!*

The morning session will be a regional meeting of state and county party leaders, sharing success stories and ideas on more effective organizing and campaigning. Steve Dasbach, LP national director and former national chair, will speak at lunch.

Dasbach will lead an afternoon session on campaigning and organizing at the state level. The day will conclude by organizing campaign committees for the 2000 election campaign.

This promises to be an exciting day. Bring notepads. Come learn from the best on how to be an effective activist for liberty!

When: Saturday, June 5, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Where: Shilo Inn Boise Airport, I-84, Exit 54

Accommodations: For a special rate of \$59 for a double room, call the Shilo Inn Boise Airport at 208-343-7662 or the chain's toll-free reservation number at 800-222-2244. Tell them you will be attending the "Libertarian Party of Idaho meeting."

RSVP: The event is FREE and open to any Libertarian Party member. However, because seating is limited, the LPIdaho asks you to RSVP to them at P.O. Box 15582, Boise, ID 83715, or email to: cstruble@netboise.com

If you have any questions, please call Chris Struble, state chair, LPIdaho at 208-362-6873 or Jim Dexter at 801/963-1028.

C A L E N D A R

May

- 7 Box Elder/Cache CONVENTION — 435/649-2451
7:00 PM — 4480 North H'way 38, 4 mi. north of Brigham City
- 13 State Executive Committee — 963-1028
- 15 Weber County CONVENTION — 801/621-2102
11:00 AM — 2521 Jackson Ave., Rear Building, Ogden
- Davis County — 801/776-5796
10:00 AM — 1813 West 2250 South, Syracuse
- 22 State Organizing CONVENTION — 801/963-1028
1:00 PM — Fairfield Inn, 594 West 4500 South, SL
• Guest Speakers: Mark Skousen & Steve Pace
- 22 Karl Bray Memorial Banquet — 801/468-6209
7:00 PM — Chuck-A-Rama, 2690 South Highland Drive, SL
• Guest speaker: Bob Lee
- 29 Summit/Wasatch County — 435/649-2451
7:15 PM — Parley's Grill, 205 Aspen Drive, off I-80 Exit 140
- 27 Salt Lake County — 254-3834
7:00 PM — Sliders, SE Corner 3500 South & Redwood Road, SL
- 27 Memorial Day — Remember those who fought for our liberty

June

- 3 Utah County — 801/356-8467
7:00 PM — Barnes & Noble, University Parkway, Orem
- 5 Region One Meeting — 801/963-1028
Shilo Inn Boise Aerodrome, Boise, ID

County Parties Elect New Officers

DAVIS — The LP of Davis County convened at 6:30 PM on Thursday, April 8 at Doug & Emmy's restaurant in Layton. Two prospective members attended.

The new county officers are:
Chair: **Norman Parker** *
Vice-Chair: **Pat Hunt** *
Secretary: **Don Kingsley**
Treasurer: **Patricia A. Hunt**

Two people volunteered for the positions shown:

Public Relations Chair: **Susan Green Parker**

Recruiting Chair: **Scott Haney**

The Davis party agreed to hold its next two meetings on May 15 and June 12, Saturdays, starting at 10:00 AM (see Calendar).

SALT LAKE — The LP of Salt Lake County convention was held at the Salt Lake County Commission Chambers, nicely decorated by Kaylin Robinson, on Saturday, April 17.

A contingent from the Mormon Battalion performed the color ceremony. Sixteen of 133 members attended. Without provocation, county chair Ricard Barnes impassionately defended teachers, light rail and the national party's Statement of Principle. He would receive no votes in his bid for re-election.

National vice-chair Hugh Butler gave an interesting, multimedia presentation on anarchy (and why we aren't anarchists) which was, appropriately, randomly interrupted by questions from the audience.

Each office was contested by at least two candidates. The following were elected as the new officers:

Chair: **Kitty K. Burton**
Vice-Chair: **Chauna Pierce**
Secretary: **John Pack**
Treasurer: **Scott Bergeson** *

UTAH — The LP of Utah County met in informal convention at

3:00 PM on Saturday, April 24 at the Woodside Condos clubhouse in Provo. One prospective member attended.

The new county officers are:

Chair: **Andrew Howard**
Vice-Chair: **Glade Bradford**
Secretary: **Steve Thomas** *
Treasurer: **Stan King** *

The group agreed to continue meeting on each first Thursday at the coffee shop in the Barnes & Noble at University Parkway and State Street at 7:00 PM.

SUMMIT/WASATCH — The Libertarians of Summit and Wasatch Counties agreed to form a two-county party at their meeting on Tuesday, April 27 in Park City's municipal building.

The newly-elected bi-county officers are:

Chair: **Chris Kierst** (S)*
Vice-Chair: **Steve Sady** (S)*
Secretary: **Beth Lawrence** (W)
Treasurer: **Jerry Owens** (W)

They will meet in Summit (S) the first six months, then at a Wasatch (W) site for the rest of the year. See Calendar.

*Re-elected to same post.

The Utah Liberator

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Editor & Designer
Jim Dexter

All submissions are welcome. Send neatly typewritten hard copy and/or disk in ASCII [text], Word or Word Perfect to:

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

Or better, if you're online, submit your article as an email message to:
jimdex@inconnect.com

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

Enforced Ignorance of the Law

by Larry Dodge, Co-Founder, Fully-Informed Jury Associaton

During the second Movie Buffs' trial, a juror, who apparently did not trust the system, was dismissed after trying to research the legal definition of "pornography" at the BYU Law Library. She was turned in by a law student working in the library.

I find many disturbing elements in this news report. To wit:

First, how sadly ironic it is that the government is always so quick to insist, when it is to its advantage in prosecuting someone, that "ignorance of the law is no excuse." But when a person is being tried by a jury, the government expects, even demands, that the jurors be ignorant of the law.

Second, this juror found out that the jury has a lot of power in a pornography case, because it is "up to the community" to define pornography and obscenity. That extremely valuable information will now very likely be kept from the jury, and instead the jurors will be charged by the judge to "apply the law as I give it to you." So the judge can create whatever "community standard" he feels is appropriate, and then intimidate the jury into using it.

Third, how sad to learn that a law student would go to such trouble to get a juror in trouble with the court. It shows just how indoctrinated some of today's law students—tomorrow's lawyers—have already become before they even graduate.

Fourth, the judge may have inadvertently made a point that all jurors need to understand,

though it's doubtful they will in this instance, unless they analyze every word he utters: He reminded the jurors that they took an oath (an unenforceable oath, incidentally, for which there is no basis in constitutional law) to "consider only the evidence you hear in court, and that does not include independent research."

But this juror researched the LAW, not the facts of the case, which means the judge (rightly) considers the law to be "evidence." Therefore, between the lines, he actually admitted that the jurors can judge the law itself, precisely because it constitutes evidence.

Fifth and finally, I have to agree with defense attorney Randy Spencer that his client is being denied a fair trial because of the way the factual evidence is being manipulated, on the usual excuse that to show the jury the rest of the evidence would be "confusing."

Talk about your arrogant, self-fulfilling prophecies! If the juror had been able to explain to fellow jurors what the law says about the definitions of pornography and obscenity, I seriously doubt there would have been any confusion among the jurors with regard to any and all evidence they might have been exposed to. But by limiting the evidence the jury can consider, and enforcing jury ignorance about the law, the court ensures that confusion will indeed reign in the jury room, and that the prosecution will have a better chance of prevailing. So what else is new?

If the Light at the End of the Tunnel Is Not the Torch of Liberty, It's the Flames of Hell!

Help us run ads with headlines like this in the 2000 elections. Become a monthly pledge contributor to the LPUtah. Join the "\$50K by Y2K Club."

You'll get into the Bray Dinner . . . and all other LPUtah fund-raising events . . . free. Other benefits to be announced at the convention.

No Light Rail!

by Stephen C. Carr

This letter from longtime Libertarian Steve Carr recently appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune.

Once again, an editorial asks Utahns to submit to long-term taxation/fees to take advantage of some federal largesse. It happened with the Central Utah Project, with the north-south light rail line being constructed, and now The Tribune wants us to fund as East-West light rail line.

First, there is nothing "light" about the present line being constructed. The roadbed, ballast, concrete ties and continuous welded rails being now installed are better than anything the 200 West railway has ever had. At least those who do ride it will get a smooth ride. If only there weren't all those road crossings at grade. But if "light" refers to budget, forget it, this is heavy duty, expensive construction.

Those who do not have a pecuniary position in the project and who examine other cities with light rail systems cannot avoid concluding that light rail operates with a huge tax subsidy per

rider and is insignificant in reducing auto congestion.

The problem with (non-personal auto) transportation most of the 20th century is the government's co-option and regulation of it. If the UTA serves the riding public, why does it ask for exact change? Can you imagine the 7-Eleven asking for exact change? If private people expected the light-rail system being constructed by UTA to be successful, then the real estate appreciation around the "stations" would be sufficient to fund the construction. Imagine the value of, say, a cappuccino stand at a major rail transfer point if hordes of people did use the service. Keep imagining, all you will be doing is paying sales taxes to keep the service running.

If government concentrated on its major functions of being a legal monopoly concerned with protecting persons/property (a working police system) and disputes (a working court system), rather than trying to provide services like transportation, we would all be much better off.

Politicians' Code Broken!

Republican politicians and their uncritical media cohorts disguise what they really mean by using code words designed to give a completely different impression. Here's how to see through some of their doublespeak:

Accountability: Holding the private sector responsible for the misdeeds of government.

Crisis: Any situation that politicians want to change.

Compassion: Using tax money to buy votes.

Funding: Using money taken from taxpayers to buy votes.

Insensitivity: Objecting to the use of tax money to buy votes.

Private Greed: Making money by selling to people what they want.

Public Service: Gaining power to make people do what you want.

Rehabilitation: Magic word said before releasing criminals, like child molesters, to make room for dope-smokers.

Social Program: Using money taken from taxpayers to buy votes and reward prominent minority supporters.



Notes From The Chair

by Jim Dexter

HELP! Would someone, please, give the pilot who's been dropping feces on the valley a map? The governor's mansion is thataway.

OOOOPS: We put the wrong date for SL County's April meeting in last issue's Calendar. We humbly apologize for any inconvenience.

Olympic Spirit: A sickening, wandering stench permeates the Wasatch Front and Utah government is puzzled. The cause is under their corrupt noses, DUH. No doubt convention speaker **Steve Pace** will have much to say. Please bring a completed petition on May 22.

Tax Day: April 15 saw Libertarians all over the Wasatch Front distribute nearly \$3 trillion in our "\$1 million" bills. Our thanks to **CHARLIE BONSALE, KITTY BURTON, WILLIAM JONES, CHRIS KIERST, STAN KING, JOHN PACK, NORMAN PARKER** and **CHAUNA PIERCE** for helping to spread the word about Utah's \$6.5 billion budget. Illness and a family tragedy prevented **CHARLES HARDY** and **DON JOHNSTUN** respectively from participating. The tragedy at the LDS genealogy library diverted the media.

Not My Words: *The Salt Lake Tribune* misquoted (what else is new?) my remarks about disturbed minds' RKBA. Thanks to **Tom Barberi** (KALL-910) for giving me a chance to explain our position on his 6-10 AM show.

Scooter's Gone: Our favorite pooch, **SCOOTER, THE WONDER DOG**, has escaped the Zion curtain and gone off to earn bigger doggie biscuits in Sacramento, CA. He contributed much and, while we can no longer scratch him behind

his ears, we can promise some nice words at the Bray Dinner.

April Gunshow: The SLC event began as the Salt Lake County convention commenced. Special thanks to **RICHARD PARTRIDGE** and **ERIN PARTRIDGE** for handling the booth so state gunshow chair **KITTY BURTON** could attend her convention. **CHAUNA PIERCE** worked the booth Sunday morning. The two-day event netted \$55 in contributions, 21 qualified prospects and one new member.

Congrats: The new Libertarian who joined at the April Gunshow is **CLAUDIA HEPNER**, new bride of longtime member and effective candidate **ALAN HEPNER**.

Great Writers: Without *your* contributions (hint, hint) we are forced to print wisdom from outside the LPUtah. Last month we let **Ludwig von Mieses** have a say. This month we're pleased to provide space to **Ezra Taft Benson** and **Larry Dodge**. **Harry Browne** is considered one of us.

County Conventions: As reported on page 2, four county parties have held successful conventions. No offices have gone unfilled. Two counties have combined for mutual advantage. And best of all, it looks like we're going to finally get **WEBER COUNTY** up and running. Activity, like money, is key in politics.

\$50K by Y2K: If you're a direct-billed monthly pledge contributor, you must be paid up-to-date by the end of the convention for free admission to the Bray Dinner.

Special Attraction: We have been told by a reasonably reliable source that state treasurer Chas. Hardy's lovely bride, **Jennifer Hardy**, will make her Libertarian event debut at the Bray Banquet. Yet another reason to attend.

LPN Withdrawal?: The LNC felt it could not act on our request and has referred the matter to committee for further study. Our resolution should encourage them.



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

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What better way to prove you *really* care about Utah's future than by becoming a member of the Libertarian Party of Utah? Just complete the form below, in-

clude your check (or credit card number). For a 12-issue subscription to this superb (if infrequent) newsletter, check that box, and enclose \$15 payment (check or credit card info).



JOIN TODAY (or Subscribe)

- JOIN** — Yes, I want to be a Utah Libertarian. I understand my dues payment provides annual membership in *both* the Utah *and* national Libertarian parties; entitles me to the state party newsletter, *The Utah Liberator*, invitation to all LPUtah social events and political functions, and full voting rights at state and county party meetings and conventions, *plus* I'll receive the national party's monthly newsletter and be eligible to participate in national conventions and activities. *Please sign the Pledge, fill in your information, include payment (\$25 check payable to: Libertarian Party) and mail.*
- SUBSCRIBE** — No, I'm not yet ready to be a Utah Libertarian, but I would like to receive *The Utah Liberator*. My check for \$15 for an annual subscription is enclosed.

The Libertarian Party Pledge

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

Signed: X _____ Date _____

Please type or print neatly. Thank you.

Name: _____

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Occupation*: _____ Employer*: _____

*Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

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

Visa Mastercard

Card Number: _____ Expires: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: X _____

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Freedom of Expression for Students

by Charles A. Bonsall, State Vice-Chair

The LPUtah was invited to provide a speaker for a Point/Counterpoint discussion on freedom of speech by the principal of Duchesne High School. Charlie Bonsall volunteered. The following is excerpted from his prepared remarks

Today many people are trying to stifle inquiry and free discussion which only increases ignorance and disillusionment. I applaud this community for encouraging inquiry and discussion, and including programs like this in your education.

The first ten amendments to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, limit the power of government and secure individual rights. The 10th amendment leaves to the states or to the people all powers not delegated or prohibited to government, and by people the framers of the Constitution meant individual citizens; *there are no group or majority rights.*

Today we are considering the "freedom of expression." The First Amendment says, in part: "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble . . ." The authors of the Constitution did not anticipate radio, movies and TV, but the same principles apply to all media today.

The Constitution limits the power of government. This is critical because only government is authorized to initiate the use of force against citizens. The founders feared tyranny by their own government more than foreign aggressors. The Constitution prohibits only the government from abridging freedom of expression. However, expressions causing real harm to others are prohibited by laws against slander, libel, fraud and inciting to commit crime, and victims have recourse through the courts.

A nongovernment organization, like a private school, church, club, company or other association, can establish whatever rules it wishes and that is not unconstitutional because members can quit any time they want. Libertarians support or oppose anything you can imagine, but a principle held by all Libertarians is simply that government does not and should not have the power to either impose upon citizens, nor restrict citizens from, any activities which are not specifically listed in the Constitution. Libertarians expect that free citizens will be responsible and considerate of others in the exercise of their rights. Individual freedom cannot last long without individual responsibility—unfortunately, government often steps in, with force, when citizens are irresponsible.

How To Avoid Problems

Please remember we all have effective ways of dealing with unacceptable expressions which do not require government force:

- You can be excommunicated from a church for saying something they don't like;
- You can be kicked out of a club for writing something unacceptable;
- You can be fired from a job if you don't behave or perform as the employer wants;
- And we all know there are words, looks and gestures you just can't use in front of Mom;
- You can challenge ideas with debate, persuasion, or even ridicule;
- You can refuse to enter an art gallery;
- You can tune your radio or TV to a different station;
- You can choose not to view a particular movie;
- You can select only books or magazines you want to see, or music you want to hear;
- You can refuse to buy from

businesses you don't like;

- You can refuse to associate with people you don't like;
- You can ban people and things from your property;
- Or, you can simply decide not to be hurt by offensive expressions.

A citizen should have an absolute freedom of expression and then accept the results, whether it is praise or ridicule, acceptance or ostracism, profit or loss, reward or punishment.

Libertarians believe that government today has gone much too far in determining that real harm has been done by expression that simply offends the sensitivities of others. I don't believe I can ever be harmed enough by derogatory or tasteless expressions to justify the government limiting the freedom of expression of another. I would rather suffer ugly name-calling and offensive images, than have our freedoms limited by government force. The determination of harm should be limited to actual physical or economic damage to person or property.

Student Considerations

Now let's look at your specific situation as young students in a government school

According to legal experts, you have exactly the same freedom of expression in this government school as do prison inmates—which is quite limited. Also, Constitutional rights are meant for adults and most students are still children legally. Many school-age children cannot exercise the self-discipline and responsibilities that First Amendment rights demand. Inexperienced and passionate young people can use speech thoughtlessly, cruelly and criminally, with no idea of the immediate or long-term consequences. Your teachers and school officials have the authority to limit your freedom of expression in this government-

owned-and-operated institution.

The Libertarian solution to this problem is simply the abolition of government schools. Certainly abolition of federal funding and control of local schools, and of mandatory school attendance. In a system of private schools and voluntary attendance, you could enjoy what freedoms and suffer what limitations you and the school could agree upon mutually—then leave or be kicked out if you disagreed.

Of course, your freedom of expression is still limited by laws prohibiting slander, libel, fraud and incitement. In addition, your freedom of expression does not include the right to use other people's property and you don't own this government school. Because you and others are compelled to attend this institution, because it is government property, and because all are forced to be exposed to expressions made here, then your freedom of expression must be restricted when it infringes upon the rights of others.

Obviously, it is difficult to balance justly the potentially conflicting rights of all the students, staff and public. I would hope that all of you, as growing citizens, do appropriately and responsibly exercise your freedom of expression at the same time respecting the rights and sensitivities of others, and equally that you tolerate others even when their expressions may be offensive to you. I hope you take advantage every legal opportunity to express yourselves including voting, serving as fully informed jurors, writing letters to editors, and speaking out.

I also urge you to learn about the only political party in America today which is committed to returning our government to only those functions specifically established in the Constitution—the Libertarian Party.

The Real Truth About the Republican Party

by Harry Browne, *LibertyWire*

WorldNetDaily columnist David Limbaugh received the question, "Why vote at all, when there is no difference between the Democrats and Republicans?" He responded by arguing that the Republicans care more about freedom than Democrats do. But he had to resort to a number of myths about the Republican Party. Here are some of them:

Myth: "Had the 1994 Republican Congress failed to rein in spending, we would not be approaching a balanced budget today."

Truth: The last four budgets passed by a Democratic Congress enlarged the federal government by 14.4%. The four budgets the Republican Congress passed enlarged the federal government by 13.9%. This can hardly be called "reining in spending." In fact, the first three Republican budgets increased spending *faster* than the Democrats.

Myth: "Democratic presidential frontrunner Al Gore's vision of America includes an even more intrusive federal government. He's promised federal intervention to micromanage such local problems as traffic control."

Truth: The federal government already micromanages traffic control—and rapid transit and local highways and auto specifications and almost everything else related to your car. Republicans voted for these intrusions.

Myth: "Democrats favor injecting more federal money into education and increasing federal control over local school decisions. Republicans favor less federal control and adoption of school-choice measures with the belief that added competition will improve the quality of public and private schools."

Truth: Democrats and Republicans both take your money. Both believe the federal government should decide how your school system should operate. They argue only over *how* to spend your

money. Neither party says your money shouldn't go to Washington in the first place. Neither suggests getting the fedgov completely out of education—as the Constitution demands. Neither proposes to repeal the income tax so you can put your child in any school you want.

Myth: "With the tantalizing prospect of budget surpluses, Democrats are already champing at the bit to repeal legislatively imposed spending caps that have been instrumental in bringing the federal budget nearly into balance for the first time in three-plus decades. Republicans insist on adhering to the caps."

Truth: Republican Congressmen busted the budget caps—when they approved the 1999 budget, when they voted the biggest farm subsidies in history (three years after voting to "phase out" farm subsidies), when they vote year after year to make government more expensive, more intrusive, and more like Big Brother.

Myth: "Republicans advocate saving SocSec by programs involving partial privatization. Clinton and his cohorts stringently oppose privatization and favor instead a shell game involving an accounting scam that uses nonexistent budget surpluses (which are actually temporary SocSec surpluses)."

Truth: Talk about a shell game! The Republican con game will have you paying the exorbitant SocSec tax for the rest of your working life—while the Republicans dangle the carrot that SocSec will be privatized in some sweet bye and bye. (Republican Sen. Phil Gramm's proposal will privatize Social Security over 60 years!) Unless you believe in reincarnation, the Republicans have nothing to offer you.

Myth: "Republicans advocate overhauling the Medicare system with elements of privatization and reductions in automatic cost

increases . . . Clinton Democrats support socialized medicine."

Truth: Democrats and Republicans both support socialized medicine. Republicans passed the Kennedy-Kassenbaum bill and the Kennedy-Hatch bill—each giving the federal government more authority over your health, your doctor, and your insurance company.

Myth: "Clinton has systematically emasculated the military while expanding our commitments throughout the world."

Truth: President Clinton has exploited the precedents set by Reagan and Bush—waging wars unconstitutionally without declarations by Congress. Remember Republican incursions into Libya, Nicaragua, Granada, El Salvador, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Panama, the Philippines? The Republicans invented the idea that any problem in the world is an excuse for the U.S. military to intervene. If Clinton's actions are based on policies and precedents established by his Republican predecessors.

Myth: "Republicans since Reagan have supported a strategic missile defense initiative to protect the nation against burgeoning nuclear threats."

Truth: Republican Nixon signed the ABM Treaty, outlawing missile defense. No Republican has done anything concrete to provide such a defense—which would be the one truly sensible military policy. Instead, 15 years after Reagan raised the missile-defense issue, billions of dollars have been spent and we aren't one step closer. Why didn't Reagan demand it? Why hasn't the Republican Congress demanded it? Why are we still vulnerable to any two-bit dictator who can get his hands on a nuclear missile? Probably because the vulnerability is used to justify a multitude of big-government military programs that RepubliCrats impose on us.

Myth: "Only after the recent revelations concerning China's theft and development of nuclear delivery technology are the Democrats beginning to come around on this vital issue."

Truth: The Democrats have proposed a sham defense that will make us no safer from a missile attack. As with so many fake reforms, the Republicans support it—and claim credit for bringing it about.

Myth: "Had defeatist Republicans prevailed in 1980, Reagan would never have been nominated nor elected . . . We might still be fighting the Cold War."

Truth: Historians still argue over what caused the Great Depression; so they'll argue beyond our lifetime over what ended the Cold War. The one certain conclusion is that the Republican legend—that Reagan started an arms race that bankrupted the Communists—makes no sense. Why would the Soviets spend more than they have to? Republicans tell us Reagan's missile-defense proposal was too much for the Soviets. Why? The U.S. did nothing to implement it, and the Soviets didn't have to match a nonexistent program.

When historians investigate the causes of the Soviet Union's downfall, there are many leads to follow. Why in 1989 did the Hungarian government open its borders to allow East Germans and Hungarians to flee to Austria, causing the Berlin Wall to come down three months later? Why didn't Soviet officials stop their citizens from using telephones and fax machines to get information from the West? Why did Mikhail Gorbachev push Glasnost so far—while still proclaiming himself a dedicated Communist? Was it simply old age that caused an unworkable, 70-year-old system to collapse?

Whatever they find, it won't be that expanding government, tak-

Continues next page . . .

ing away freedoms, running up huge debts, and copying the Communist system were the keys to winning the Cold War.

Myth: "Conservative Republicans favor tax cuts to spur sustained economic growth and because they believe the people's money should be restored to them."

Truth: Republicans do nothing to reduce the size of government or restore money to you. Because they won't reduce government spending, the "tax cuts" only rearrange the burden of big government.

Myth: "Had defeatist Republicans prevailed in 1980, Reagan would never have been able to pass legislation reducing top marginal income tax rates from 70 percent to 28 percent."

Truth: And four years later Republicans voted to increase tax rates. Government grew by two-thirds during Reagan's presidency. The one thing Reagan did that was both important and good was to abolish U.S. price controls on oil and natural gas—destroying the power of the OPEC cartel. Strangely, the Republicans never mention his one real achievement.

Myth: "Democrats still want to appoint activist federal judges, while Republicans want strict constructionists."

Truth: Republican Presidents have appointed bad judges from Earl Warren to David Souter—just as Democrats have. Some Democratic judges have at least respected parts of the Bill of Rights and protected our civil liberties, while taking away our economic freedoms. Republican judges, on the other hand, have taken away our civil liberties *without* respecting our economic freedom.

Myth: "And the GOP is pro-life and ardently supportive of the Second Amendment."

Truth: From the Brady Bill to the promised repeal of the assault weapons ban, Republicans have caved-in on one Second Amendment issue after another. As for abortion, it's the #1 pos-

suring and fund-raising issue for the GOP, but those who oppose abortion would be hard-pressed to discover anything Republican politicians have done to actually reduce abortions in America.

Myth: "Our children deserve to be bequeathed an America that continues to blossom in political freedom and economic prosperity, and that still aspires to be a nation under God."

Truth: If that's true, you'd better get off the Republican plantation before your children grow up. So long as the Republican politicians know they have your vote locked up, they have no incentive to *do anything* to advance the goals they proclaim.

But whichever side scares you most, you never get what you vote for. You may vote for Democrats because you want greater personal freedom—and they reward you by trying to censor the Internet, putting a V-chip in your TV set, and abolishing the Fourth Amendment. Or you vote for Republicans because you want greater economic freedom—and they reward you by passing bigger highway bills, bigger farm bills, bigger budgets, more corporate welfare, and just plain bigger government.

If you really want your vote to count, join the desertions from the two-party system and vote for what you really want. Vote Libertarian and scare the old parties into making real changes.

Myth: "Those who advocate not voting should look at the 1998 congressional elections for proof of the consequences of quitting."

Truth: People who don't vote have come to the sensible understanding that their votes make no difference. Why should they continue voting when they never get what they want?

The consequences of the 1998 congressional elections are simple: government will continue to grow, as it has for the past 70 years—which is what happens no matter which party wins any election.

Myth: "They should examine

Ross Perot's impact on the 1992 presidential election if they are tilting at third-party windmills."

Truth: Ross Perot's 19% vote in 1992 proved that Americans desperately want a third party that will break the stranglehold the RepubliCrats have imposed on our lives. Ross Perot and Jesse Ventura have helped Americans realize that a *real* third party, with *real* proposals to reduce government to a fraction of its present size (unlike Perot's proposals to make big government *more efficient*), has a chance to win eventually in America.

Myth: "Freedom requires responsibility. Not voting is an abdication of that responsibility. Those who drop out, cop out. Abandoning the fight is no different from joining the other side."

Truth: Freedom is the opportunity to live your life as you want to live it. It imposes no responsibility to vote for people who take your money and use it to destroy your children's education, your health-care opportunities, and your liberties. In fact, freedom involves no responsibility to vote at all—certainly not when you see no candidate who will provide what you want.

Fortunately, the Libertarian Party is now three times the size it was at this point in the 1996 election cycle. It will be running more than 1,000 candidates in 2000 — and its presidential campaign should be far better financed and much more visible than its 1996 campaign was.

Republicans will continue to campaign like Libertarians while governing like Democrats. But in 2000 you'll be able to choose the real McCoy—Libertarians who want to reduce government far enough to free you from the income tax entirely, replacing it with nothing, to free you *immediately* from the fraudulent 15% "Social Security" tax, and to make your neighborhood safe by ending the nightmare of drug Prohibition.

Myth: "Just because the Republican Party isn't everything we

want it to be is no excuse to quit. We must stay engaged and fight to ensure the party remains conservative."

Truth: Republicans excuse their failings by saying we must elect more conservatives. In the 1950s, when Republican President Eisenhower set up the Department of Health, Education & Welfare and other Democrat-style monstrosities, Republicans said "We must elect more conservatives." When Republican Nixon imposed wage & price controls, the EPA, and other new big-government programs, Republican stalwarts said "We must elect more conservatives."

When the quintessential conservative Ronald Reagan, aided by a Republican Senate, never proposed to reduce the size of government by even a single dollar, and as the federal government grew by two-thirds in eight years, we were told "We must elect more conservatives."

So for 45 years Republicans have been saying that all will be well as soon as we elect more conservatives. I don't know about you, but I can't wait another 45 years.

Republican politicians are power-junkies—just as Democrats are. And the "enablers" are those who permit them to indulge their addiction to power—finding excuses for every life the Republicans wreck with big government.

If you don't want your vote to count, continue voting Democratic or Republican—rewarding the politicians for stealing more of your money and more of your freedom. If you want your vote to mean something, send a message in 2000: vote Libertarian!

That will reform the Republican and Democratic parties faster than the election of a thousand "conservatives."



Harry Browne was the LP's presidential candidate in 1996. He can often be heard Sundays starting at 9:00 PM on KTKK-630 AM in SLC.

Origin of Human Rights Is Not Government

by Ezra Taft Benson

Men are often asked to express an opinion on a myriad of government proposals and projects. All too often, answers seem to be based not upon solid Principles, but upon the popularity of the specific government program in question. Seldom are men willing to oppose a popular program if they themselves wish to be popular—especially if they seek public office.

Such an approach to vital political questions of the day can only lead to public confusion and legislative chaos. Decisions of this nature should be based upon and measured against certain basic Principles regarding the proper role of government.

Unlike the political opportunist, the true statesman values Principles above popularity and works to create popularity for

those political Principles which are wise and just.

The most important single function of government is to secure the rights and freedoms of individual citizens. But, what are those rights? And what is their source? Until these questions are answered, there is little likelihood we can correctly determine how to best secure them.

Let us first consider the origin of the freedoms we have come to know as "human rights." Rights are either God-given as part of the Divine plan or they are granted by government as part of the political plan. Reason, necessity, tradition, and religious convictions all lead me to accept the Divine origin of these rights. If we accept the premise that human rights are granted by government, then we must accept the corollary that they

can be denied by government.

We should recognize that government is no plaything. *It is an instrument of force*; and unless our conscience is clear that we would not hesitate to put a man to death, put him in jail, or forcibly deprive him of his property for failing to obey a given law, we should oppose the law.

Once government steps over this clear line between the protective or negative role into the aggressive role of redistributing the wealth through taxation and providing so-called "benefits" for some of the citizens, *it becomes a means for legalized plunder*. It becomes a lever of unlimited power that is the sought-after prize of unscrupulous individuals and pressure groups, each seeking to control the machine to fatten his own pockets or to benefit his favorite charity, all

with the other fellow's money, of course.

Each class or special interest group competes with the others to throw the lever of government power in its favor, or at least to immunize itself against the effect of a previous thrust. Labor gets a minimum wage. Agriculture gets a price support. Some consumers demand price controls. In the end, no one is much further ahead, and everyone suffers the burden of a gigantic bureaucracy and a loss of personal freedoms. With each group out to get its share of the spoils, such governments historically have mushroomed into total welfare states. Once government gives way to the aggressive or redistributive function, then forces are set in motion that drive the nation towards totalitarianism.

— Conference Reports, October 1968

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