



# The Utah Liberator

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

Vol. 5, No. 2

Jan/Feb 00

## Now Is The Time To Stand Up for Liberty. Be Brave and Be a Candidate!

In order for evil to triumph again, it is only necessary for Libertarians to sit on their duffs and not file for office," says state chair Jim Dexter.

The purpose of the LPUtah, as defined on our constitution and bylaws, is to advance the cause of liberty by running candidates for office. In a small, growing party like ours in a state where ballot status is not automatic and the chances of losing the election are great, finding Libertarians willing to run or place their names on the ballot is often a problem. It takes courage to understand that your effort may bring little immediate reward, but is a stepping stone toward long-term success.

But, of course, it is a *vitally important* stepping stone. This year, we need dozens of credible, energetic, articulate candidates, both to spread our message, and to set the stage for future electoral victories by convincing

voters that the Libertarian alternative belongs in the mainstream of political discussion.

Past experience shows that the more candidates who run, the higher the average vote for all of our candidates.

If only a few candidates run, we aren't seen as having much impact. With a lot of candidates, the media takes us more seriously. Even if not all candidates run active campaigns, Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals* applies — "Power is not only what you have, it's what your enemies *think you have*." And when they take us seriously, they have to respond to our agenda.

### Why Run?

Owing to the elephant's dominance in Utah, many state senate and representative seats go uncontested. If we contest just half the seats up for election we become an "overnight" threat to the tax-and-spend establishment. Even without the GOP's

special interest money, we'll have the potential for a massive redistribution of power. It's something that any reporter or talkshow host can understand and explain in 30 seconds. "What kind of a threat are Libertarians this year? Well, if elected, they will control the state legislature." A ballot packed with Libertarians forces the media to address our ideas.

It also exposes our opponents to Libertarian ideas, and often moves them, or at least the debate, toward the side of freedom as they campaign. At the very least, opponents may be forced to debate our positions. Win or lose, Libertarian campaigns do *make a difference*.

Just having your name on the ballot makes a difference by forcing uncontested Ds & Rs to spend money. (And it's a lot easier than trying to get petition signatures to regain our ballot status.)

Finally, having more candidates naturally helps both the candidates and the Party generate more money and energy. Lots of candidates help us create a sense of momentum. The overall effect is to increase involvement in time, effort and money.

### Do You Qualify?

The qualification and other requirements for all of Utah's federal and state offices are found on page 2. The filing fees for state senator and rep are easily affordable.

Also many county offices are up for election this year. Contact your county chair (his/her phone number can be found on the Calendar on page 2 or on our website on the "Officers" page.) Contacting your county chair before filing helps us avoid having two people file for the same office when other contests are available. So, please call your county chair and say you'll run today.

## Now It's www.lputah.org

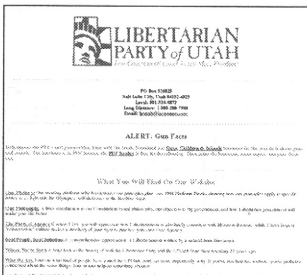
The LPUtah now has a new address on the Web.

Thanks to Jim Elwell our new URL is the much simpler and direct [www.lputah.org](http://www.lputah.org)

The previous, unwieldy URL, [www.inconnect.com/~LPUtah](http://www.inconnect.com/~LPUtah), will be kept open until December '00 as visitors to that site are directed to our website's new address, hosted by QSI Corp.

As usual, there's lots of valuable info on our site which will be expanded to include candidates and other election-related information following our state convention (May 20 in SLC) and NatCon (June 30 to July 3).

Jim Elwell and the folks at QSI Corp. have also agreed (thankfully) to handle updates and other webmaster duties.



## USE THIS INSERT, PLEASE!

This long-awaited issue of *The Utah Liberator* contains a special insert, a flat copy of our "Guns, Children, & Schools" brochure which was produced in cooperation with Women Against Gun Control (WAGC) and Gun Owners of Utah (GOUTah!).

It was prepared to help combat the UEA/PTA's petition drive to get the

### Guns, Children, & Schools

Here Are The Real, Documented Facts that the Media, the Governor, Utah's Teachers Union and the PTA Have Failed to Communicate!

"Can anyone explain how leaving our school children undefended protects them?"  
Women Against Gun Control  
"Do we really want to make our schools as safe as Columbine? Our children as safe as Ft. Worth?"  
Libertarian Party of Utah  
"We trust professional educators with our children. We also trust them with having a means of self-defense."  
Gun Owners of Utah

anti-self-defense "Safe to Learn — Safe to Worship" initiative on November's ballot.

Please make copies of the folder and hand them out at PTA and other meetings where our state's Chicken Littles try to scare parents into going along with their silly anti-2nd Amendment nonsense. Fight their ignorance with the facts and truth!

## Candidate Requirements & Fees

### United States Senator

**Qualifications** — To be eligible to be U.S. Senator from Utah, a person must be:

- 30 years-old at the time the oath of office is taken,
- a U.S. citizen for nine (9) years, and
- an inhabitant of Utah when elected.

**Filing Fee** — \$1,064.

### United States Representative

**Qualifications** — To be eligible for U.S. Representative from Utah, a person must be:

- 25 years-old at the time the oath of office is taken
- a U.S. citizen for seven (7) years
- an inhabitant of your Utah congressional district when elected

**Filing Fee** — \$355.

**Note:** All candidates for federal office must also file with the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) once they have received or expended \$5,000 for his/her campaign. (For more information about FEC filing requirements, call 1-800-424-9530.)

### Governor

**Qualifications** — To be eligible for governor or lieutenant governor a person must:

- be 30 years of age or older at the time of the election
- have been a resident citizen of the state for five years preceding the election
- be a qualified voter:

**Filing Fee** — \$465.

### Attorney General

**Qualifications** — To be eligible for attorney general, a person must:

- be 25 years of age or older at the time of the election

- have been a resident of the state for five years preceding the election

- be admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court

- be in good standing at the bar at the time of the election

- be a qualified voter

**Filing Fee** — \$391.

### State Treasurer & State Auditor

**Qualifications** — To be eligible for State Treasurer or Auditor, a person must:

- be 25 years of age or older at the time of the election

- have been a resident of the state for five years preceding the election

- be a qualified voter

**Filing Fees** —

- State Treasurer: \$362.
- State Auditor: \$373.

### State Senator/Representative

All state rep districts and senate districts 2, 5, 6, 8, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 28, and 29 are up for election in 2000.

**Qualifications** — To be eligible for the Utah Legislature a person must be:

- a U.S. Citizen at the time of filing

- 25 years-old at the filing deadline time

- a three-year resident of Utah at the filing deadline time

- a resident for six (6) months of the senate or representative district from which elected at the filing deadline time

- be a qualified voter

**Note:** Officially, no person holding any public office of profit or trust under authority of the United States, or of this State, shall be a member of the Legislature; provided, that appointments in the State Militia, and the offices of notary public, justice of the peace, United States commissioner, and postmaster of the fourth class, shall not, within the meaning of this section, be considered offices of

profit or trust. But that rule has not kept many Government employees from seeking and holding legislative office. It is as ignored as the Constitution itself.

**Filing Fees** —

- Utah Senator: \$26.
- Utah Representative: \$13.

**Qualified Voter** — All Utah offices require candidates to be "qualified voters" defined as:

- U.S. Citizen,
- a resident of Utah for at least 30 days prior to the next election,
- at least 18 years-old by the next election, and
- their principal place of residence is in a specific voting precinct in Utah.

**Filing** — Any person intending to run for any federal or state-wide office must file a declaration of candidacy with the Lt. Governor's office in Salt Lake City and pay the filing fee at that time. If your leg. district is wholly within one county, you must file with your county clerk. Candidates in multi-county districts (usually senate seats) must file with the Lt. Governor.

**Dates** — Filing dates are March 7-17. The absolute deadline is 5:00 p.m., March 17, 2000.

## 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 space in an issue.

### February

- 5 SLC Gunshow — 801/254-3834  
Also open Sunday, 2/6. Call Kitty Burton to volunteer.
- 10 **Davis County** — 801/776-5796  
7:00 PM — The Parkers, 1142 North 1250 West, Layton
- 15 **Washington County** — 435/652-9442  
7:00 PM — County Admin. Bldg, 197 East Tabernacle, St. George
- 16 State Executive Committee — 801/963-1028
- 24 **Salt Lake County** — 801/254-3834  
7:00 PM — Sliders, SE Corner 3500 South & Redwood Road, SLC
- 26 State Central Committee — 801/963-1028  
10:00 AM — QSI Corp., 2212 South West Temple #50, SLC
- 29 **Summit/Wasatch County** — 435/783-5299  
7:15 PM — Kamas Clinic, 155 South 200 West, Kamas

### March

- 2 **Utah County** — 801/356-8467  
7:00 PM — JB's Restaurant, 366 North University Ave., Provo
- 9 **Davis County** — 801/776-5796  
7:00 PM — The Parkers, 1142 North 1250 West, Layton
- 15 **Washington County** — 435/652-9442  
7:00 PM — County Admin. Bldg, 197 East Tabernacle, St. George
- 16 State Executive Committee — 801/963-1028
- 18 **Utah County Fun Shoot** — 801/356-8467  
2:00 PM — RangeMasters, 712 West 1300 North, Springville
- 24 **Salt Lake County** — 801/254-3834  
7:00 PM — Sliders, SE Corner 3500 South & Redwood Road, SLC
- 28 **Summit/Wasatch County** — 435/649-2451  
7:15 PM — Jerry Owens, 79 North Johnson Mill Rd., Midway

## The LPUtah and Mormons

by David Spackman

I am very favorably impressed with Mark Skousen's "Persuasion versus Force" essay. At the conclusion of his presentation at the '99 state convention, I observed that Libertarians really have the minimization of force down, but hardly seem to consider the persuasion aspect of the equation.

Mr. Skousen suggested that while it is unlikely to get agreement on what moral principles we should persuade, we can, and should at least recognize—and encourage—any and all groups that encourage people to be morally and ethically more responsible. Organized religions must be prime among the groups.

I fully embrace the philosophy of minimal intrusion from our governments on our lives, but I doubt that strict enforcement of the required laws is enough for the system to work. The founding fathers often observed that our system of government only works when the people are generally moral. I'm not suggesting the Libertarian party promote religion specifically, but that they recognize the critical role it plays in civilizing and moralizing the population, so that the population will make good and decent choices as they exercise their liberty.

### Much In Common

Philosophically, Libertarians and Mormons have much in common. In his essay, Mr. Skousen quoted Joseph Smith and a hymn from the LDS Hymnal. A substantial quote from former Church President Ezra Taft Benson was printed in a recent copy of *The Utah Liberator*. Here are a few other indications of similarity:

- "And this land [America] shall be a land of liberty . . . , and there shall be no kings upon the land . . ." —*Book of Mormon, 2 Nephi 10:11*

- Excerpts from Doctrine and Covenants section 134:

1. We believe that governments were instituted of God for the benefit of man . . . for the good and safety of society.

2. We believe that no government can exist in peace, except such laws are framed and held inviolate as will secure to each individual the free exercise of conscience, the right and control of property, and the protection of life.

4. We believe that religion is instituted of God; and that men are amenable to him, and to him only, for the exercise of it, unless their religious opinions prompt them to infringe upon the rights and liberties of others; but we do not believe that human law has a right to interfere in prescribing rules of worship to bind the consciences of men, nor dictate forms for public or private devotion; that the civil magistrate should restrain crime, but never control conscience; should punish guilt, but never suppress the freedom of the soul.

- From the Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Vol.2, FREEDOM AND GOVERNMENT section:

"The scriptures further teach that God instituted governments to bless humankind on the earth. Good government must do more than preserve order; it must protect freedom, ensure justice, and secure the general welfare. "And the law of the land which is constitutional, supporting that principle of freedom in maintaining rights and privileges, belongs to all mankind, and is justifiable before me" (D&C 98:5). The law protects individuals and their liberties from the arbitrary and deleterious acts of others. The genuine rule of law requires that all be equally subject to rules that are prospective, widely known, and publicly arrived at through mechanisms of government that have been and continue to be consensually

agreed upon. The law secures peace by proscribing choices injurious to others, ensures justice by holding all accountable to the law in accordance with fair procedures, and secures the general welfare through the passage of laws that regulate and coordinate social intercourse to the benefit of all. In exchange for these advantages, citizens must fulfill their obligations to sustain and support the government. In the end, the environment of freedom is enhanced and expanded through good government.

"Nevertheless, governments are often oppressive and act to restrict freedom and establish privileges for the few by arbitrarily setting up public rules and applying them unevenly without proper safeguards. The abuse of political power is most offensive and bondage nearly complete when freedom of conscience and its expression in free speech are restricted and the right to worship God openly according to one's own beliefs is abridged. LDS are encouraged not only to support constitutional government and the processes it establishes but also to work for laws that bring about freedom and encourage virtue."

### Where We Differ

Given the statements of doctrine above, I believe many, if not the majority of Mormons are receptive to Libertarian ideas. However, Mormons will never buy into the Libertarian Party if we continue pursuing an "anything goes as long as it doesn't harm others" philosophy. Two examples help illustrate the kinds of things that happen in our Party that will tend to keep Mormons away.

1. A fellow in California recently told me he gets discouraged because a large part of the California crowd sees the Libertarian movement as a way to secure the legalized use of marijuana.

2. A couple of Utah Libertarians suggested we change laws that recognize marriage between one man and one woman to a sterile legal arrangement between any two (or more than two) consenting adults.

In the first case, decriminalization of drug use may be more effective at reducing drug use than the "war on drugs," but if it is our loudest banner, Mormons will turn away.

In the second case, I disagree with the proposal on the basis that giving preference to a legal arrangement that contributes to the general welfare and success of our society is very different than coercion. In other words, I would not force homosexuals into heterosexual relations or otherwise persecute them, but neither would I reward their degenerative behavior with the legal privileges of marriage. And as a practical matter, given the official and recent Church Proclamation on the Family, there's hardly an active Mormon that would associate with the Libertarian Party should it adopt such a position.

On one issue I agree with the Utah Democrats: Republican Party needs to be challenged. The Democrats will never be much of a force in this state because of the position the Democrats take on social issues that the majority in Utah finds reprehensible. The Libertarian Party is the most likely organization I find that can mount a substantial challenge to Utah Republicans.

But to do so, the LPUtah must do more to appeal to the Mormon population. Without support from the LDS membership in large numbers, the Libertarian Party will never be more than a side note in Utah politics. While I focus on appealing to Mormons, in the process, I believe we will also appeal to most people of faith in the state.



## Notes From The Chair

by Jim Dexter

**Run for Office!** Whether you run a serious campaign or not, filing is the best way to help make Utah voters aware that there are real choices on the ballot. If there's no candidate in the race, many people assume there's no Libertarian Party. Call your county chair ASAP.

**State Officers Needed:** The state executive committee is in a state of flux. If you are interested in helping your Party succeed on the state level, please call me at (801) 963-1028.

**Radio Liberty:** Live libertarian talk along the Wasatch Front in afternoon drivetime. Host: **JIM DEXTER** (see above). Guests: Articulate spokespeople for their libertarian causes or well-known Libertarians. Wanted: Callers. From SLC: 254-5855; Utah: 470-5855; Davis/Weber: 670-5855. KTKK-AM 630, Thurs & Fri, 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Tune in. Turn on. Call in. Also listen to **JIM KIRKWOOD** M-W-F 3:00 to 5:00 PM and call.

**Council Candidates:** Nine Utah Libertarians ran for local office last November. Thanks to the following (by county) for keeping their names before the electorate: Davis - **DON KINGSLEY** (Syracuse) and **NORMAN PARKER** (Layton); Salt Lake - **ROBERT COMSTOCK** (Salt Lake City), **JIM DEXTER** (Taylorsville), **CHARLES HARDY** (Sandy), and **JOHN PACK** (Sandy); Washington - **DAVE SEELY** (St. George) and **SETH STINSON** (St. George); Weber - **DAVID SPACKMAN** (Plain City). Congrats to their counties for racking up the BIG points (250 per candidate).

**Y2K Convention:** Our Year 2000 State (Presidential) Nominating Convention will be held on May 20 at the Salt Lake County Commission Chambers. Mark your calendar. Bray Dinner that night, too.

**12 Delegates!** Two years ago we only had five (5) delegate slots at the LP's national convention (NatCon). With official membership up to **256!** at the end of November, we qualify to send 12 delegates to Long Beach next July. I hope you'll consider being one.

**County Party Sponsorship:** The LPUtah will pay \$100 to each county party that directly assists in the establishment of a county party organization where none currently exists. We will donate \$50 to the new county party to allow the immediate establishment of a bank account. There is still no party in Weber County.

**\$50K by Y2K:** If you have ached to become a monthly contributor but needed a form to fill out, rejoice! The form to the right works perfectly. Thank you for your monthly support. With the elections coming up, we need all the money we can get.

**Politics & Religion:** This issue contains two important articles by David Spackman and Charlie Bonsall relating to this topic. I hope you will read both and be guided by them in your recruiting efforts.

**Pictures vs. Words:** Both have value and you'll learn a lot more by reading the captions and cutlines under the photos on page 7.

**Legislative Season:** No Utah's wallet or holster is safe while the legislature is in session. Be sure to read the newspaper and urge your state senator and rep to vote against any more freedom-restricting laws or increases in taxes. A Libertarian legislature will repeal laws and taxes. But we'll never get there unless you run for office (hint, hint).



## 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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## JOIN THE LPUTAH TODAY!

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. Pay dues monthly via your credit card (at least \$10 a month) and you'll enjoy additional benefits, such as no charge for our annual awards banquet.



### JOIN TODAY

- 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 local and state 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.
- Annual Dues** — My check/money order (pay to: LPUtah) for \$25 is enclosed.
- Monthly Dues** — I authorize the Libertarian Party of Utah to charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ (minimum \$10) to my credit card each month. I understand that as a monthly dues member, I will be invited and admitted to all LPUtah activities—including the annual awards banquet—at no charge as long as my dues remain current.

### 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 print neatly or type. Thank you.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Please sign me up for the LPUtah's Online Forum. I understand I can unsubscribe at any time.

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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# Libertarians Are Better for Our Churches

by Charles A. Bonsall

I fear that much of our discussion about making the Libertarian Party more attractive to people who are active participants in their churches reflects the weakened state of most churches and church members, and that perception by most citizens. In truth, churches and church members should be strong Libertarians . . . and would be if they really understood the appropriate role of both religious institutions and our federal, constitutional republic.

The role of churches as social institutions in our society is not simply to try to teach people to be good—but to act positively and aggressively to save people, body and soul, and help them become productive members of society today. (Not to mention eternity.) Many churches are shriveling in size and influence simply because many citizens see them as ineffective, uncommitted, social clubs—and they are right.

## Gov't vs. Church

Churches should be the most active elements of our society opposing government growth and intrusion. Almost every area in which governments have become more intrusive are those where governments have usurped the responsibilities and roles of churches.

In the past, churches built, owned and operated the hospitals, schools, orphanages, homes for unwed mothers, rehab centers and similar institutions. It was churches that provided welfare for the sick, injured, widowed, orphaned, etc. (and were better able to detect fraud and malingerers). It was the churches that supported the temperance movements. It was the churches that provided emergency relief to victims of disasters and violence. It was churches that used persuasion

most effectively to achieve goals of morality and personal responsibility.

## Churches Seek Power

Unfortunately, today many churches put most of their effort into trying to gain influence for their priorities through political power. Instead of directly serving the people in our society, they act to get the government to do what they want done through force.

Libertarians should work to persuade churches that they must strive to restore their important roles in society and get the government out of their business. The churches will be much more effective in most of these roles than a government, especially a large federal government, can hope to be and without sacrificing all our liberties, including our religious freedoms.

Look at the history of churches: The Jesuits have traditionally established and operated the finest schools in the world. Other Roman Catholic orders have established many of the other schools and hospitals. The Mormons developed what amounted to a new nation in the desert. Most of the major Protestant churches established many of the biggest and best schools and hospitals in our country. Church missions have served Indians and other isolated populations in our nations history. What little organized opposition there was to the Nazi horrors within Germany and Poland came from Jewish and Christian churches.

## Who Really Helps?

Who really serves the down and out in our urban centers more effectively—the government or the Salvation Army? Who really serves the victims of natural disasters more effectively—the government or the Red Cross?

Who really rehabilitates addicts more effectively—the government or the Alcoholics Anonymous? Which welfare system really serves our neighbors in need—the government or the LDS Church?

Who really gets homeless people off the streets and permanently sheltered—the government or Habitat for Humanity? Who really teaches children morality and responsibility more effectively—government pamphlets or the Boy Scouts of America? Who really helps the needy common people in foreign lands—the United States State Department or groups like overseas church missions or the Wycliff Bible Translators? All of these effective organizations are either parts of established churches or were originated by, or with the support of, churches.

## Should Be Your Choice

Sure there have been some abuses of these roles by churches, but certainly no less than by governments. Are you concerned about schools teaching morality or not, allowing prayer or not, teaching sex education or not, handing out certain types of punishment or not, emphasize music/sports/science/evolution or not, etc., etc.? Instead of fighting to get the public schools to run things

your way, why not get the government out of the education business and send your kids/grandkids to the school of your choice.

If the government were out of all these areas (and many more) and the taxes were reduced in proportion, the churches could expect to get the resources in funds and people to do them better and with the priorities they decided. In my church (Methodist) right here in Sandy, Utah the government gets in the way of our few little services to the community in many subtle ways—we have a pre-school that has to be regulated by several layers of government which wastes limited resources. We let Alcoholics Anonymous meet in our facility but have to meet a number of inefficient government requirements concerning liabilities, safety, etc. - and, like any institution, it costs/wastes a great deal to provide handicap access to some areas when the church could easily simply adapt by changing meeting places, etc.

The Libertarian Party should be the only party supported by people who are active committed members of any church in our society. All the other parties are statist and will continue to destroy all churches.



## Libertarians On the Air

**Jim Kirkwood**

Monday - Wednesday - Friday  
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**Jim Dexter**

Thursday & Friday  
5:00 PM - 7:00

**KTALK** AM 630  
The Voice of Utah

## Our Basic Rights Still Need Protecting — Part 2

by Bob Lee, KALL — AM 910 (Mon–Fri; 3:00–6:00 PM), as presented at the 1999 Karl Bray Memorial Banquet

One of my favorite clichés is “if we learn anything from history, it is that we learn nothing from history.” So, with your indulgence, let me review a recent chapter in American history, and then look at the parallel we’ve seen in the last month.

On April 19th, 1995, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a bomb ripped the face off of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, killing over 168 people. We all agree with the President’s characterization of the perpetrators of this mass murder: “evil cowards.”

On Monday, April 24th, 1995, less than a week later, the President spoke to the American Association of Community Colleges, meeting in Minneapolis.

In that speech, the President said: “You ought to see . . . the reports of some things that are regularly said over the airwaves in America today.”

Bill Nichols reported in *USA Today*: “[The president’s] remarks created an instant firestorm and we quickly seen by some as an effort by him to capitalize on reaction to the horrendous bombing . . .

“To some, that immediately brought to mind radio talk show hosts, whom Clinton has bitterly complained about in the past for their savage criticism of his personal life and their successful efforts to kill specific administration goals, such as health reform.

“But White House officials, rushing to the press briefing room after a wire service report made that connection, denied the president had that intent and sought to play down the ‘airwaves’ reference.

“The incident shows while the White House has been trying to avoid politics in dealing with the death in Oklahoma City, the incident likely will have some ef-

fect on political debate and Clinton must be careful how he handles it.” (*USA Today*, March 25, 1995, p. 7-A.)<sup>3</sup>

Did the president intend to start a national debate about talk radio? About freedom of speech. Why yes he did!

### Purveying Paranoia

Not long after that, I was quoted on more than one CBS Radio Network newscast, expressing my outrage that the President would paint every talk show host in America with the same brush. I was thinking of having my business cards reprinted: Bob Lee—purveyor of paranoia.

Nationally syndicated radio talk show host Michael Reagan said it best in this statement issued April 24th, 1995:

“Our feelings of grief and sadness in the face of the tragedy in Oklahoma cannot be expressed with mere words. Our anger toward those responsible is tempered only with our belief in God’s justice. And yet, even as rescue workers continue to risk their lives in the wreckage of the Federal Building, our President lashes out indiscriminately at those of us who make our livelihoods from listening to and talking with the American people.

“It is unfortunate, but not unexpected, that this President chose to do a political dance even before those killed in this tragedy are laid to rest. After listening to the hateful rhetoric that the President spoke today, I ask the President to either name me or exonerate me, but not to paint me with his broad brush. I ask the President to personally apologize to me and my listeners.”

If I sound partisan, forgive me. My mother always told me never

to discuss politics in public. Now that was an abridgement of my free speech! I’m not trying to pick on a Democrat president. If a Republican or a Libertarian had said the said things Mr. Clinton has said, my reaction would have been the same.

### Not Just Free Speech

But his remarks aren’t just about freedom of speech, and that’s what’s so very troubling.

Here’s some more of what he said in that same speech:

“Well, people like that [people who talk over the airwaves] who want to share

our freedoms must know that their bitter words can have consequences, and that freedom has endured in this country for more than two centuries because it was coupled with an enormous sense of responsibility on the part of the American people. If we are to have freedom to speak, freedom to assemble, and yes, the freedom to bear arms, we must have responsibility as well.

And to those of us who do not agree with the purveyors of hatred and division, with the promoters of paranoia, I remind you that we have freedom of speech, too.

And we have responsibilities, too. And some of us have not discharged our responsibilities. It is time we all stood up and spoke against that kind of reckless speech and behavior.” Notice what he said? He linked speech and behavior.

### Washington Post Editorial

The President’s advisors should have read the lead editorial in *The Washington Post*, which ran the previous day, Sunday, April 23rd.

“. . . in man-made national ordeals, ranging from assassinations and assassination attempts

to insane shooting sprees and premeditated acts of terror [a distinctly unpleasant reaction] seems to occur. The bodies will not have been hauled away from the rubble or the survival chances of the assassins’ target yet been determined or the carnage even cleared away when it begins.

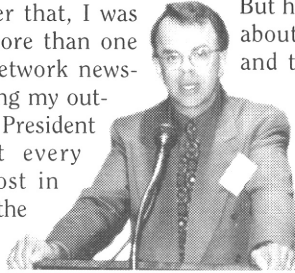
“It is an insidious airing in the press, from the pulpit, on the radio and TV talk circuit and in private conversations of an underhanded, only half-articulated charge: The criminals who committed the acts of destruction either were or could well have been incited to do so by the rhetoric of one side or the other in our national political debate. The insinuation is generally either mindless or transparently self-serving or plain malicious and often manages to be all three.

“You hear it beginning already in relation to the Oklahoma City bombing. Couldn’t that inhuman act—it is portentously asked—have been inspired to some extent by the antigovernment harping and hyperbole of the political right?

“Before long others all over the spectrum with different projects to promote and different causes to raise money for will find in the bombing some justification for whatever ax they are meaning to grind. But it seems a pretty safe bet, from what has already drifted into the political atmosphere, that it will be the high-pitched, anti federal government theme of so much conservative Republican oratory that gets fingered this time around—the attempt by one side in a political argument to make the other appear complicit somehow in an unpardonable crime.”

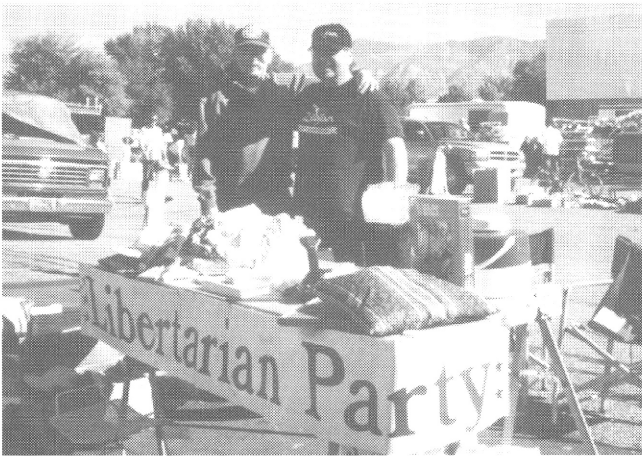
Remember, this is *The Washington Post*, lead editorial, Sunday, April 23rd!

*Continues in the Next Issue*



Bob Lee @ Bray

## Scenes from the LPUtah Album



### Davis Raises Funds at Swap Meet

Don Kingsley (l) and Dan Nelson (r) set up a table at the swap meet in Riverdale on Sunday, September 26. The event cleared nearly \$120 for the Davis County Libertarians and they handed out lots of literature to prospective members.



### Salt Lake City Gun Show

Chauna Pierce, Kitty Burton and Don Johnston (l-r) at the Salt Lake City gunshow held at the Salt Palace on September 25 & 26. The event raised \$62, brought in two new members and generated 52 leads. Samuel Sherwood spent all day Saturday greeting visitors and autographing his book, *The Little Republics*, which he offered free with paid membership. John Pack, William Jones, Jim Dexter and Ron Amos also participated.



### Utah County Holds First Annual Freedom Shoot

Stan King, Chuck Bryant, Andrew Howard, Kayle Castleton and Steve Thomas (l-r) at the LP of Utah County's first-ever Annual Freedom Shoot held on September 11 at RangeMasters in Springville. The ambitious, half-day event broke even. A similar fun event is planned for this March 18th.



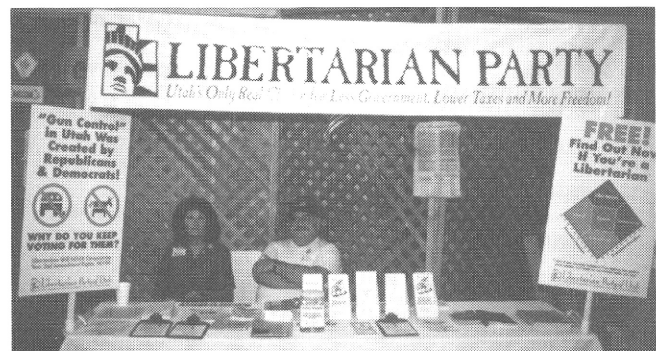
### Success '99 in SLC

LNK national director Steve Dasbach (standing) teaches Utah Libertarians how to run successful political campaigns at the Success '99 seminar held in Salt Lake City, August 27 & 28. National political director Ron Crickenbarger also participated.



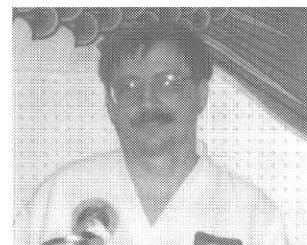
### Salt Lake's Indoor "Yard Sale"

Todd Gunter, Chauna Pierce and Kitty Burton (l-r) at the Salt Lake County party's first-ever yard sale, which was mostly held inside a trailer on Kitty Burton's "farm." The event, held on Saturday, September 11 raised \$170.



### Weber Gun Show

Kitty Burton and Lynn Clayton at the Weber gunshow held on Nov 27 & 28 at the Golden Spike Arena in Ogden. The event raised \$60 and netted 17 prospects.



### The Best Shot

Neil Wyllie took top honors at the Utah County party's First Annual Freedom Shoot.



### Runners Up

Utah county chair Andrew Howard (c) congratulates #2 finisher Dennis Tolley (l) and #3 Richard Mack (r) at the First Annual Freedom Shoot.

## How To Write LTEs

by John Pack, Secretary, LP of Salt Lake County

**T**he keys to writing letters to the editor that won't suffer changes are:

1) Keep your letter short. And I mean VERY short. 150 words is a good upper bound. Editors want to print as many letters as possible and frequently need to trim letters to fit the space. In fact, long letters are often not printed at all.

2) Keep paragraphs short (2-3 short sentences). Otherwise, for readability, the layout editor will change your paragraphs (often making letters less intelligible).

3) Keep the reading level low. Use short, simple words and short sentences. Complex sentences cause readers to lose interest OR *your* train of thought.

4) Focus your letter on one point. If everything in your letter drives at a single point, the

loss of a paragraph to editorial license will injure your letter less. Furthermore, if you make one point in a short, concise letter, the chances of being edited at all drop substantially.

5) Proofread, proofread, proofread. And then have someone else go over it. If your grammar or spelling are poor, readers (including the editor) automatically reduce their respect for your opinion. And, of course, the editor is more likely to make "innocent" changes.

6) Sit on letters for at least a day. Then proofread again. Letters sent in the "heat of the moment" are usually much more poorly written. Plus you'll catch more of your own mistakes and be able to take advantage of any insights you come up with while the topic is on your mind.

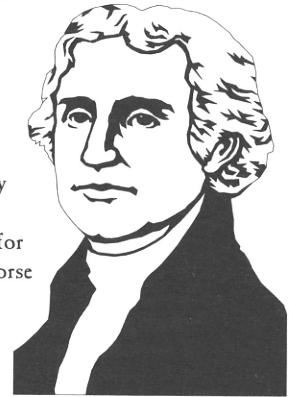
## On Taxes

"If we run into such debts that we must be taxed in our meat and in our drink, in our necessities and our comforts, in our labors and our amusements, in our callings and our creeds, as the people of England are, our people, like them, must come to labor sixteen hours in the twenty-four, and give the earnings of fifteen of these to the government for their debts and expenses; And the sixteenth being insufficient to afford us bread, we must live, as they now do, on oatmeal and potatoes;

Have no time to think, no means of calling the mismanagers to account; But be glad to obtain subsistence by hiring ourselves to rivet their chains around the necks of our fellow sufferers;

And this is the tendency of all human governments. A departure from principle in one instance becomes a precedent for a second, that second for a third, and so on till the bulk of society is reduced to be mere automatons of misery, to have no sensibilities left but for sinning and suffering . . . And the forehorse of this frightful team is publick debt. Taxation follows that, and in its train wretchedness and oppression."

—Thomas Jefferson



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