

# California Freedom

November 2005

The official publication of the **Libertarian Party of California**

## Get Out and Vote on November 8!

by Aaron Starr  
Chairman, LPC

**F**or the first time in memory, the Libertarian Party of California is supporting more ballot initiatives than we are opposing.

And while there are no candidates for statewide office this time, many of the initiatives will have a significant impact on the future of the state. It's very important that you take the time to vote on November 8 in our special election.

The only measure on which we decided *not* to take a position is Proposition 73, which would require parental notification before a minor can have an abortion. A two-thirds' vote of the Executive Committee is needed for the LPC to take a position on a ballot measure.

First, let's discuss the measures we are supporting.

**Proposition 74** increases from two years to five years the waiting period for government school teachers to achieve tenure, and it makes it easier for school districts to fire teachers who are performing poorly. While this initiative is a very moderate move in the right direction, it is opposed by the teachers' unions, who hold our children hostage in a failed system.

**Proposition 75** requires that government employee unions



obtain written permission from each union member before having political contributions taken from his or her paycheck and using them in political campaigns. The government employee unions are frightened by this proposal, because they realize that in other states where similar measures have been implemented, most of their members do not grant their consent to having their money spent on political campaigns.

**Proposition 76** puts new spending limits on government spending and grants the Governor the power to unilaterally reduce spending to eliminate any budget shortfalls. It also reduces the mini-

mum guarantees for funding of K-14 government schools. Our state government doesn't have a revenue problem—it has a spending problem. Proposition 76 recognizes the reality that every household understands: in the long run, you can't spend more money than you bring in.

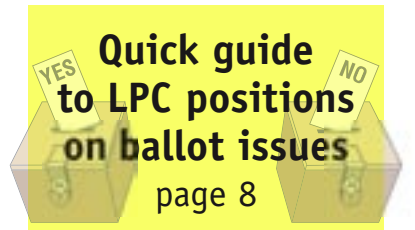
**Many of the initiatives will have a significant impact on the future of the state.**

**Proposition 77** changes the way political districts are drawn in California. Today, they are drawn by politicians, who are only interested in creat-

ing safe, non-competitive seats for themselves. This initiative will require that the districts be drawn by a panel of retired judges, who are required to minimize the splitting of counties and cities and cannot consider political party affiliation of voters in their plans. The proposal will then go to a vote of the people.

Now, let's discuss the measures we are opposing.

Both **Propositions 78** and **79** attempt to use the force of the state to lower the price of prescription drugs. Proposition 78 purports to be a voluntary program. But to create a voluntary program, you don't need to pass a law! Proposition 79 is the more heinous of the two. It outlaws "profiteering" on the sale of drugs, but fails to define that. Companies currently offering prescription drugs in



California would have every reason *not* to sell them here, hurting the very consumers this act seeks to help.

**Proposition 80** creates a new regulation scheme for electricity in California. It purports to end deregulation of electricity. In truth, the state never did deregulate the industry! This proposal will only serve to provide even less incentive for companies to invest in new power plants—the only way to increase energy supplies and reduce energy costs.

Let's get out and vote on November 8! ●

### ■ Election 2005

## Crucial Time for California

by Jon Coupal  
President, HJTA

**D**uring these weeks preceding the November 8th special election, Californians are going to be hit with an intense blast of political advertising. There are two reasons most of this advertising will be paid for by the government union opponents of the Governor. First, these groups represent the best-financed special interest in California, and second, they view this as the best (and maybe last) opportunity to take Arnold down a peg or two.

The media blitz will, of course, cause voters to complain about negative advertising and how it seems that we now have elections every year. These complaints have at least some basis, given that we have now had elections for four successive years.

But California voters need to



remember how dysfunctional California was just a couple of years ago, and stay focused on continuing the long journey of reform.

First, let's stop complaining about "ballot fatigue." We live in a democracy and, as such, we have a responsibility to participate in the political process. If Afghans and Iraqis can weather snipers, artillery shells, and suicide bombers on the way to the voting booth, then surely we can get off our comfortable American posteriors to do likewise.

Second, there is a perception that the issues on the ballot are neither sufficiently substantive nor pressing to warrant a special election. As to the substance, a case could be made that the issues on the ballot really aren't radical enough. Indeed, from our vantage point,

most of these messages should hardly garner controversy at all.

Proposition 74 would merely extend the probationary period for public school teachers before we give them tenure for life. Proposition 75 (despite the howls of protest from union bosses) simply requires that employee organizations get their members' permission before using members' dues to advance political causes with which the members might disagree.

Proposition 76 is very modest budget reform. Although it is not a true spending cut, which many of us fiscal conservatives would have preferred, it nonetheless represents a positive step in the recovery of California's financial health. The proposal just says that, as a state, we cannot spend more money than we take in. What is so radical about that? This simple reform also would give the Governor and the Legislature

the ability to make mid-year adjustments in the budget if revenues take a precipitous fall.

**Voters should remember how dysfunctional Calif. was just a few years ago, and stay focused on continuing the long journey of reform.**

Far from being a "power grab" as the unions allege, this simply gives the Governor the power that other governors around the nation already have, and which previous California Governors, including George Deukmejian, had just a few years ago.

Proposition 77 merely calls

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#### E-Mail: SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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• January 2006: Due 11/20/05  
• February 2006: Due 12/21/05  
• March 2006: Due 1/18/06

Advertising orders and artwork are due eight weeks and four weeks, respectively, prior to the month of publication. We reserve the right to refuse advertising.

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When the national Libertarian Party decided to lower their dues to zero, that meant the California LP would not be able to receive a portion of those dues—60% of zero is, after all, zero. That meant also that the local county parties would receive—let's do the math: 60% of California's zero.

Some predicted dire financial consequences. But, they don't know California Libertarians as well as I do! Thanks to an incredibly dedicated and tireless team on the Executive Committee, we were able to send a mailing

# Sign Me Up!



to our first group of members. I won't bore you with the details of selection, graphics, spreadsheets, and printer's requirements. Suffice it to say that within a week, a mailing went out to over 1,600 Libertarians.



As of October 11, 371 California Libertarians have renewed their party membership! That response rate is phenomenal. Even more gratifying is the fact that so many of those Libertarians believe so strongly

in our mission that they far exceeded the basic membership requirements, becoming Sustaining and Life Members. Some even added a pledge of monthly support to their memberships.

Obviously I want to thank our members who are willing to "put their money where their mouth is," so that we can continue our vital work of keeping the politicians' hands out of our pockets and away from our freedoms.

But a huge round of thanks goes to those Executive Committee members who spent many sleepless nights and put

their personal lives and careers on hold so this effort could succeed. Those would be: **M Carling, Bruce Cohen, Mark Johnson, Richard Newell, Kevin Takanaga**, and, of course, our Chairman, **Aaron Starr**.

If you haven't yet renewed your Party membership, please fill out and send me the form on the facing page, so I may add you to our growing army of freedom fighters.

—Dave Ruprecht  
Executive Director

# Avast, Me Libertarians!

by Dave Ruprecht

Executive Director, LPC

I am so excited about our 2006 LP of California convention, *Liberty at Sea '06*. I hope you'll join me when we weigh anchor 5 P.M. on Friday, February 24 from San Pedro harbor in Southern California and return at 8 A.M. on Monday.

Of course, family, friends, and significant others are encouraged to come along—I think this convention will be more attractive to them than any other we've ever had.

Our business meeting and speaker events will take place on Saturday, as we sail to Mexico. Non-Libertarian friends and significant others who may not want to attend the whole convention may enjoy the newly redesigned Monarch of the Seas' full-size pool, huge spa and fitness center, rock climbing wall, casino, lounges, and shops.



• **Dave Ruprecht (left) relaxes with Aaron Starr at the national Libertarian Party Chairs Conference earlier this year.**

On Sunday, everyone will be free to appreciate quaint

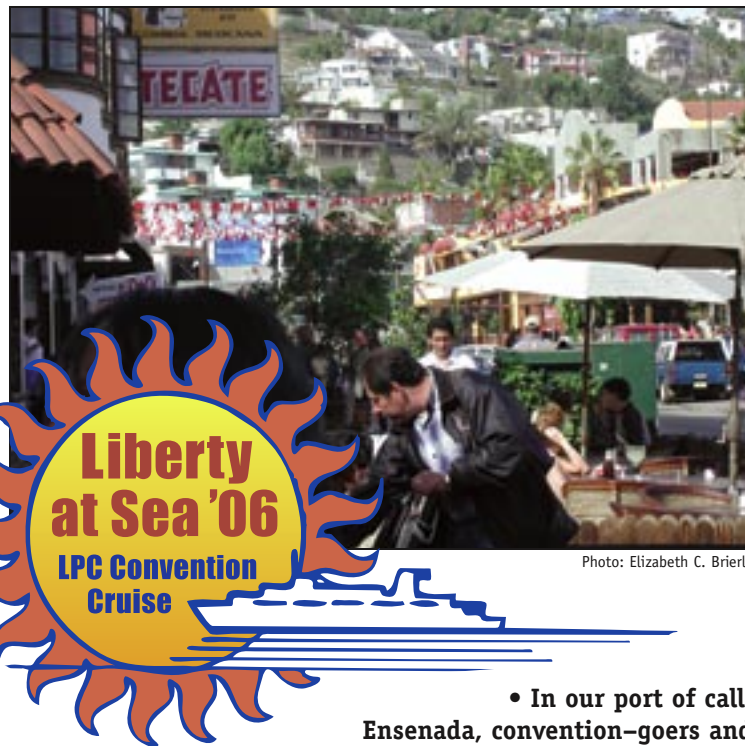


Photo: Elizabeth C. Briery

• **In our port of call, Ensenada, convention-goers and their companions can enjoy the change of pace that sunny, picturesque Mexico offers.**

Ensenada, Mexico, and its lush surroundings. Whether it's shopping for colorful handicrafts, dining on fresh seafood, visiting the winery, or sipping cervezas in lively cantinas, it promises to be a Libertarian outing like no other.

All three evenings will be free for dining, enjoying the ship's shows, lounges and casino, dancing, or just strolling the deck.

We have negotiated a terrific rate for those attending. The cost is approximately the same as the "full package" was for the 2005 Convention...except that the room, entertainment, and meals are all included. That's \$299 for the first 40 who sign up and send their \$100 deposit. (Deposit is fully refund-

able until December 15).

As our chairman, **Aaron Starr**, said, "Our convention will provide a balance of fun, sun, politics...and more fun." Here's what participants in previous shipboard conferences and conventions have had to say:

"I thought the entire experience was exceptional."

"This has been a raging success."

"...a pleasant change of pace."

"The most networking I have seen."

"What a delightful blend of business and pleasure."

For more information, please visit [www.CA.LP.org/convention](http://www.CA.LP.org/convention). You may also call the booking agent at 1 (800) 422-0711, or me at 1 (877) 884-1776. ●

for fair political boundaries. All voters need to know about this is that some Democrats call it a Republican plot and some Republicans call it a Democrat plot. The folks most upset about this are incumbents in safe districts who don't want to work for reelection. Anyone who favors more responsive elected officials should support this measure.

Clearly, from the above, these proposals are modest in scope. But let's not underestimate the importance of this election. This may be one of the few elections in which the perception of the outcome becomes the reality. If Schwarzenegger wins some or all of these proposals, it will lay the foundation for some of his other proposals which, because of an intransigent Legislature, gained little ground. His efforts to revamp the ponderous state bureaucracy come immediately to mind.

We also hope that Californians understand that the progress we have already achieved—closing the deficit, workers' comp reform, a better business climate, and a better state credit rating—are due to the perseverance of our Governor. Oh—and by the way, he hasn't raised taxes.

Fortunately, we don't believe he will be shy about reminding voters where we were compared to where we are now. ●

JON COUPAL is an attorney, and president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, California's largest taxpayer organization, with offices in Los Angeles and Sacramento.

Reprinted with permission; originally published the week of September 26, 2005 by Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. See HJTA's web site for more information: [www.HJTA.org](http://www.HJTA.org).

## I Want to Join the Libertarian Party!

**Yes!** I want to become a proud dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party of California. I'll receive 12 monthly issues of *California Freedom* and a membership card. Please sign me up at the following membership level:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 Life Member                         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Basic Member                           | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Patron      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Basic Member (introductory rate*)      | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Sponsor     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Other amount (\$50 minimum)         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sustaining  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Monthly Pledge (\$10/month minimum) |  |

\* Special offer, available if you have never been an LPC member

**The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.** To publicly affirm what we believe – and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles – we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP ONLY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Check or money order enclosed. Monthly pledgers please include a voided check to authorize automatic monthly payments.  
Or: Please bill my  Visa  MasterCard  AmEx  Discover

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# Advocates Gather and Get Inspired

The nonpartisan organization Advocates for Self-Government celebrated its 20th anniversary over the weekend of Oct. 14–16. Offering many notable speakers and plenty of camaraderie, the gala drew many Libertarian Party activists, as well as “small L” libertarians, including a few who made the trek from California.

Former LP Presidential candidates were featured: **Harry Browne** (1996, 2000), **David Bergland** (1984), both formerly of California, and **Dr. Ron Paul** (1988), now a U.S. Congressman (R. Texas). Browne spoke on the “Seduction of Force”; Bergland spoke on “Libertarianism 101”; and Paul spoke on how he is “Fighting for Liberty in the Belly of the Beast” in D.C.

LP cofounder **David Nolan**, who recently moved from Calif. to Arizona, served on a panel about the “future of the libertarian movement.” Nolan cautioned that the U.S. has crossed an invisible line giving an excuse to those who believe in big government. However, fellow panelist **Vince Miller**, president of Int'l Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL), based in San Francisco, was far more hopeful, citing dozens of worldwide inroads of ISIL's libertarian books and scholarships. ISIL's vice president, **Jim Elwood**, was also in attendance.

LPC Southern Vice Chair **Mark Selzer** worked on the event's video team, helping capture speeches on tape; promoted his TV talk show, *The Libertarian Alternative*; and conducted interviews, adding to his repertoire of programs available to cable stations nationwide. He's pictured interviewing **Robert Ringer** (far right), the author of the libertarian classic, *Restoring the American Dream*—one of the most influential libertari-

anism books ever, with crew-member **Doug Scribner** (below left), an LP activist formerly of Orange County.

Ringer, in his keynote address, “Action! How You Can Make Liberty Happen,” cited Einstein's



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

• **LPC's Mark Selzer (center) interviews Robert Ringer for *The Libertarian Alternative* TV show.**

tenet that “nothing happens until something moves,” and asked us to eschew the perceived

need to be motivated in order to accomplish change. “Action is the causation of change,” he said, explaining that it's been scientifically proven that when we take action, atoms in our brains start moving. Only then do the unmotivated among us become motivated; so taking that first action—of whatever size—is critical.

Other speakers included **Hugh Downs**, cohost of ABC's *20/20* from 1978–1999), **Mary Ruwart**, author of *Healing Our World*, and **Marshall Fritz**, President of Alliance for the Separation of School & State.

About half the talks focused on tools we can use to convey persuasively the principles of individual liberty—and its benefits—to non-libertarians, so that all of us will be better “advocates” for self-government. Advocates for Self-Government can be found on the web at [TheAdvocates.org](http://TheAdvocates.org). ●



## Welcome Aboard!

The LPC would like to give a big welcome to these 24 members who joined the party during September. They include engineers Michael Barbaro and Marcel Elias-Prues, Shana Fassett, who owns a retail business, project manager Christopher Millner, and customer service rep Nicolas Adjuder. We hope to get better acquainted with all of you at your regional LP events, as well as our annual state party convention in February.

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Contra Costa County</b>    | Nicolas Adjuder..... San Pablo<br>Chadwick Saxedid ..... Concord   |
| <b>Fresno County</b>          | Jonathan Richter ..... Fresno  |
| <b>Kern County</b>            | Brian Trubey ..... Bakersfield   |
| <b>Los Angeles County</b>     | Shana Fassett ..... La Puente<br>Steven Kelly ..... Hermosa Beach<br>Mark Nixon ..... Topanga<br>Chris Roberson..... Long Beach<br>Donna Shank..... Rosemead |
| <b>Montgomery County</b>      | Richard Bolling..... Mt. Shasta  |
| <b>Orange County</b>          | Ryan Gaytan..... Placentia<br>Madison Porzion ..... Tustin<br>Matthew Wilson ..... Los Alamitos  |
| <b>Placer County</b>          | Stephen Muff ..... Auburn  |
| <b>Sacramento County</b>      | Greg Foley ..... Sacramento  |
| <b>San Bernardino County</b>  | Christopher Millner ..... Victorville  |
| <b>San Diego County</b>       | Thomas Bruner ..... San Diego<br>Marcel Elias-Prues..... Lemon Grove   |
| <b>San Francisco County</b>   | Michael Barbaro ..... San Francisco<br>Nicholas Hodulik..... San Francisco<br>Mathew Kelly..... San Francisco  |
| <b>San Luis Obispo County</b> | Matt Apalategui..... Santa Maria   |
| <b>Santa Clara County</b>     | Jonathan Yaste..... Santa Clara  |

## Libertarian-Minded Events this Month

You don't have to travel all the way across the country for your libertarian inspiration. Check out these two events happening in northern California this month.

### Pacific Research Institute 12th Annual Gala Dinner

On behalf of San Francisco-based free-market think tank PRI, former Governor **Pete Wilson** will present the Celebrating Liberty Award to Ambassador **Howard H. Leach**, California farming and timber businessman, University of California Regent, and Ambassador to France.

The keynote address will be given by **P.J. O'Rourke**, political satirist, journalist, and best-selling author of *Parliament of Whores, Eat the Rich*, and many others. The emcee will be **Dan Schnur**, Founding Partner, CommandFocus, LLC, and Lecturer of Political Science, U.C. Berkeley.

When: Nov. 16, 6:30-9:00 P.M.  
Where: Ritz-Carlton Hotel,  
San Francisco  
Fee: \$300 per person  
To register, call Cindy Chin at

(415) 955-6110 or e-mail  
[CChin@PacificResearch.org](mailto:CChin@PacificResearch.org).

### Gold, Freedom, and War

**The Burton S. Blumert Conference Benefiting [LewRockwell.com](http://LewRockwell.com)**

**Lew Rockwell**, founder of the Mises Institute in Auburn, Alabama, and vice president of the Center for Libertarian Studies in Burlingame, is editor of a web site opposing the central state, its wars and its socialism. This two-day conference examines a variety of topics. Other speakers include:

- **Ron Paul**, former Libertarian Presidential candidate and current U.S. Congressman
- **Justin Raimondo**, AntiWar.com
- **Eric Garris**, LewRockwell.com
- **Anthony Gregory**, Independent Institute

When: November 18–19  
Where: Radisson Villa Hotel,  
San Mateo

Fee: \$200 per person  
To register, call (800) 348-8001.  
For more information visit  
[www.LewRockwell.com/blumert/blumert108.html](http://www.LewRockwell.com/blumert/blumert108.html). ●

## Comments? Photos?

See your own viewpoint in print right here at *California Freedom*. Send your letters, photos, essays, write-ups about local libertarian events, volunteers or personalities, etc., to either address below:

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or  
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P.O. Box 611021  
San Jose, CA 95161-1021

## ■ Taxpayer Watchdog

# The Bounty Hunter Approach to Slashing Local Government Waste

by **Michael Cloud**  
Speech Writer and Author

**W**ould you like to drastically cut waste from your local city budget?

Would you enjoy getting rid of government pork, patronage, and overspending?

What if you could make it profitable for private citizens in your community to look for, find, and help get rid of waste from your city government budget?

You can do it with two simple things: Open Books Government and a Bounty for Getting Rid of Government Waste.

### Open Books Government

Put your city budget on the Internet in a taxpayer-friendly form, readable by any twelve-year-old school child. Taxpayers should be able to see exactly how much we're paying for supplies and services. How much are we paying for each piece of office furniture? For janitorial services? Filling potholes? How much for materials? For labor? Police car tires? Health insurance? Retirement pay for government employees?

Taxpayers shouldn't have to be Certified Public Accountants or trained Business Auditors to follow the money in city government.

You should be able to find out easily what the city's paying for photocopies, computers, paper clips, gas for government vehicles, or parking spaces.

You should be able to quickly see what they're paying for travel, "professional conferences," consulting, outsourced services, bookkeeping, and

cleaning.

Closed Books government is wasteful government.



Open Books Government is accountable government.

Open Books Government is the first step toward reducing and removing government waste.

### Bounty for Getting Rid of Government Waste

Waste is bad for government and bad for taxpayers.

There are at least three kinds of waste:

- Paying champagne prices for beer quality.
- Paying champagne prices for champagne—when you only need beer.
- Buying champagne or beer items when you don't need either.

All three kinds of waste balloon government spending and keep taxes high.

The Bounty Hunter Program targets all three.

Bail bondsmen and law enforcement agencies offer bounty hunters juicy rewards for tracking down, capturing, and bringing in bail jumpers and at-large criminals. They pay bounty hunters for results.

The Bounty Hunter approach works the same way.

Offer a bounty of 10% of the first year's savings for removing the wasteful government spending. A citizen gets rid of \$100,000 a year in needless government spending, and he or she gets a \$10,000 bounty. Immediately refund the other \$90,000 to taxpayers. The next year and every year after, taxpayers get the whole \$100,000 savings.

How many private citizens

will scour the city budget, comparison shop what the city is paying for goods and services, and determine whether it's prudent and thrifty spending—or waste?

How many small business owners and employees will put city spending under a magnifying glass? How many retirees will stop playing the Lottery—and start seeking out city government waste?

Why will they do it? For the chance of getting a \$5,000 bounty, a \$10,000 bounty, a \$50,000 bounty, or more.

Why will taxpayers love it? Because 90% of the first year's savings go back to the taxpayers. And 100% of every other year's savings go to them. Less government spending. Lower taxes.

## What if you could make it profitable for private citizens in your community to look for, find, and help get rid of waste from your city government budget?

The process would be simple.

1. The Bounty Hunter would find the waste in the budget,

put together evidence that it is waste, and put the item on the agenda of the next city council meeting. Or school board. Or other local government body.

2. The Bounty Hunter would be given 5 to 10 minutes during the meeting to present his facts and figures, his testimony and evidence. City council members could ask him questions to make sure they are properly informed.

3. The city council would have until the next meeting to look into the matter.

4. At the next meeting, the city council members would provide the Bounty Hunter with their findings, and conduct a roll-call vote on whether to remove the spending from the budget.

5. If they voted to remove the spending, it would take effect immediately. 10% would go to the Bounty Hunter. 90% to the taxpayers. Immediately.

6. If they voted to keep the spending, voters could decide whether they were right or wrong, responsible or irresponsible. Which ones deserve to be re-elected—and which ones need to be voted out.

To make the Bounty Hunter Program fair, to remove even the appearance of conflict of interest, we would exclude all city government employees, retired city government employees and their families. We would also exclude those who work for businesses who sell supplies or services to the city govern-



ment.

Would you like Open Books Government and the Bounty Hunter Program for your city government? Your county government? Your local public school district budget?

Run for city council on an Open Books Government and Bounty Hunter Program—as a first step toward making government small. Or run for school board. Or any other local office that controls budgets.

Propose these policies. Publicize them. Promote them.

Or make a small government candidate in your city or state aware of this simple and powerful proposal.

It will make government open and accountable to the taxpayers. It will increase citizen involvement in local government. It will increase voter participation.

Every concerned citizen should support this. Every liberal, moderate, and conservative should support this. Every caring government employee should endorse and support this. ●

*MICHAEL CLOUD is a professional speech writer and cofounder of Center for Small Government. In 2000, he won the Thomas Paine Award as the best Libertarian communicator in America. His book, Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion, is available exclusively from Advocates for Self-Government. Visit them at [www.TheAdvocates.org/secrets.html](http://www.TheAdvocates.org/secrets.html).*

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[www.SafetyFirstAcademy.com](http://www.SafetyFirstAcademy.com)

## Activist Appreciated

- On Sept. 16, Sacramento LP Chair D.A. "Art" Tuma presented **Steven Watanabe** (right) with an award of appreciation. Tuma thanked Watanabe for all the good work he's done, including serving as Chair of LP of Sacramento (2000–2002), running for Sacramento City Council in 2001, and collecting petition signatures to quality other Libertarian candidates for the 2002 ballot. The token of appreciation included payment of Watanabe's LPC membership dues.



Photo: D.A. Tuma

**Which LP activist in your county deserves recognition?** If you have a volunteer who's gone the extra mile in the fight for liberty, send *California Freedom* those kudos, and let's give credit where it's due!

■ Election 2006

# 45 Candidates Announce for 2006 Election

by **Ted Brown**  
Chair, LPC Candidate Recruiting

Already, 45 California Libertarians have announced their candidacies for the 2006 election! That's just as of press time, of course. Our goal is a full slate of 165 candidates. The LP always outdistances the other alternative parties in quantity of candidates—and quality—and I expect we'll do so again this year.

Several candidates from past years are running again in '06. **Dale Ogden** is running for Insurance Commissioner, one of seven statewide offices. These statewide races are very important, since to keep our ballot status in California, we need to win at least 2% of the vote in a statewide race.

Also among the veterans who are running again are **Frank Manske** of Concord for State Assembly, District 11, **Maureen Keedy** of San Bernardino for

State Senate, District 32, and **Andrew Favor** of Laguna Niguel for State Assembly, District 73.

Our very welcome newcomers include **Murray Levy** of South Pasadena for State Senate, District 22, **Jose Aguilar** of East Los Angeles for State Assembly, District 46, and **Aaron Purther** of Upland for State Assembly, District 63.

I expect many more dedicated Libertarians will be signing on shortly for the upcoming campaign. The first day to take



## Weissman Announces for State Attorney General

**Kenneth Weissman**, a Beverly Hills attorney, has announced his candidacy for the Libertarian nomination for Attorney General, the State of California's top lawyer. The incumbent, Democrat Bill Lockyer, is term-limited out, so this will be an open race.

Weissman, 47, is a native of Connecticut who graduated from Colby College in Maine, then moved to California in 1979 to attend USC Law School. He has been practicing since 1982. He has a general law practice, including business litigation, entertainment law, and family law.

Weissman has been a candidate for the Libertarian Party of California once before, in 2002 for State Board of Equalization. ●

out papers for the 2006 election is December 30, 2005, so if you are a potential candidate, decide soon whether you'd like to run. If you are interested, let's talk! Please contact me by phone, at (626) 286-6124, or via e-mail, at [TedBrown1776@hotmail.com](mailto:TedBrown1776@hotmail.com). ●

*TED BROWN not only has run for public office more often than any other California Libertarian—with 13 races under his belt—but has served as LPC Chair. He has been our prime candidate recruiter since the 1988 election, helping to grow libertarian pioneers throughout the state. Currently he serves our LPC Executive Committee as chairman of the Platform Committee and Candidate Coordinator. You may contact him at [TedBrown1776@hotmail.com](mailto:TedBrown1776@hotmail.com).*



■ Web Watch

## Downsize D.C.

[www.DownsizeDC.com](http://www.DownsizeDC.com)  
[www.DownsizeDC.org](http://www.DownsizeDC.org)

**B**ig Government hurts, but Voluntary Action leads to Human Progress."

That's the tenet of Downsize DC, whose mission is to "persuade, convert, and recruit a substantial number of Americans" of that very tenet, "so that we can actually reduce the size of government to the point that it's so small, we wouldn't even need an Income Tax." That's music to our ears!

Downsize DC's cofounders include two-time Libertarian presidential nominee **Harry Browne**, and fellow former LP activists and officers **Jim Babka**, **Steve Dasbach**, and **Perry Willis**. The twin organizations' boards of directors include our own **Dave Ruprecht**, LPC Executive Director, and **Gary Nolan**, a radio host and one of the LP's Presidential candidates in 2004.

Entries are posted nearly daily on the site's web log (or 'blog), with such tempting titles as "They shoot horses, don't they?" about whether we're being protected to death, and "Good news! Your children are getting safer!" about how the voluntary sector will almost always do a superior job when compared with the coercive-government sector as a whole.

The goal of Downsize DC Foundation is to "reduce the federal government to a tiny fraction of its current size, decentralize power, end deficits, federal borrowing, and mon-

etary inflation, and eliminate most federal taxation and the IRS."

To achieve these ambitious goals, they've set up a system that makes it easy for every American who believes in small,

### Downsize DC offers a campaign to suit every visitor who's disgruntled with the federal government.

Constitutional government, decentralized power, civil liberties, and low taxes to petition Congress and the President to vote against or veto bad laws and programs, and to repeal old bad laws and programs. They notify subscribers of new laws that should be either supported or opposed; enable them to send a message quickly to elected representatives via the web site; provide them a second message to forward to friends and colleagues, to invite them also to e-mail their representatives. This last component is designed to cause the petitioning effort to grow.

And grow it will, since Downsize DC offers a campaign to suit every visitor who's disgruntled with the federal government: from "Just say no

to the new 'New Deal,'" about President Bush's response to Hurricane Katrina, to "The politicians want YOU—to be a snitch," about HR 1528, which would force Americans to inform on their neighbors if they have any knowledge of drug-related activity; from "Free the Internet," which would exempt Internet communications from regulation under the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, to "No Child Left Un-drugged," about policy enabling mental-health screening of children as young as pre-school age.

Of course, they also distribute regular reports of their progress. But Downsize DC has another plan as well: to tell America stories, through the web site and elsewhere, of "great things happening without a dime of government confiscated money."

Their e-mail newsletter, *Downsizer Dispatch*, alerts subscribers to the petitioning campaigns via e-mail. You may subscribe on the site. ●



*In general,  
the art of government  
consists in taking  
as much money  
as possible  
from one class  
of citizens  
to give to the other.*

— Voltaire

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## ■ Poli-Tips

# Money Makes The World Go 'Round: Funding the Campaign

The one thing of which there is never too much in a campaign is money.

In today's media-driven, electronic world, a successful candidate must raise as much money as possible. It is never pleasant, and while the candidate feels as if he (she) is the only fool to ever go through such an ordeal, he (she) can take solace in the fact that every candidate feels the same way.

The primary difference between success and failure in raising money is a professional, organized approach to the fund raising effort. Following such a path, the candidate will quickly gain experience in fund raising. Remember, however, the candidate has to ask for the money; no one can do it for him (her).

Finally, the campaign must create a reliable budget for the campaign. Knowing how much the campaign must raise, however frightening at first, will make the fund raising chore do-able.

### Budget Process

Nothing kills an effective campaign quicker than a blown budget. Just when the campaign

gels, you unexpectedly run out of funds. "Why didn't I know?" "How did it happen?" "Who was responsible?" These are the questions you'll ask yourself if you don't establish an appropriate budget and budget process.

### Budget Pointers

**1. Establish three budgets.** The campaign should establish three budgets: bare bones, medium, and ideal—and determine how the campaign funds will be spent under each budget.

**2. Shop before you buy.** Unless a campaign has unlimited funds, it will need to stretch its budget as far as possible. Do some window shopping in the Politically-e store, so that you have an idea what various campaign materials will cost before you set up your low, medium, and high budgets.

**3. A penny saved is a penny earned.** This adage is just as true in a political campaign as in any business or household budget. A tendency in most campaigns is to hire staff or consultants, or to buy campaign materials before they are needed. That is

why a well-designed campaign plan, with three possible levels of spending (low, medium, and high) is essential. Every dollar saved for political advertising is a dollar earned for that purpose.

### 4. Set aside a percentage of all funds raised for most important needs.

If a campaign plan calls for two-thirds of all campaign funds being used for direct mail and television advertising, put two-thirds of each dollar raised into a separate account so that it will be available when needed. This will force frugality in other areas of campaign spending.

**5. Just say "no."** If a candidate and his or her advisors have put together a good campaign plan, they should stick to the plan and just say "no," when asked to purchase some form of political advertising or merchandise not included in their plan. Campaigns and candidates are targets for numerous salespeople, all of whom have "just what you need" to be elected. (There are thousands of former candidates around the country who have boxes of bumper stickers and refrigerator magnets in their basements.)

**6. "Double Spend" your money.** Buy things from vendors who will return the favor and contribute to your race, or who will actively support your campaign. Many business people are enthralled with politics, but won't support someone who doesn't do business with them. Beware, however, of the salesman who will promise anything to close the sale.

### Fund Raising

In political campaigns, fund raising separates the wheat from the chaff. Considering today's political climate, you must have sufficient funds to get your message out. If you don't, much of your other efforts will be wasted. It is tough work and feels demeaning to most candidates, but it is not viewed that way by the vast majority of those you solicit, even if they turn you down. They know it is a necessary evil of politics and actually probably admire you for having the courage to hold your nose and make the request. Even if you can fund the campaign totally, get out there and raise a significant portion of your budget. Many voters resent a candidate who doesn't have to ask for money, and

often will not vote for him.

Most candidates agree that the most difficult part of a political campaign is raising the necessary financial support. No one likes to ask friends and family members for money, and few people are willing or able to totally finance their own campaigns. So, how does a campaign go about raising the dollars necessary to get the candidate's message to the voters?

**1. The candidate is the best (only) fundraiser.** In most cases, it is the candidate who will need to make the requests for contributions, particularly from large donors. For that reason, much of the candidate's time should be scheduled for making phone calls to, or meeting with, potential contributors.

**2. Make a list of potential contributors.** The candidate should make a list of every friend, acquaintance or relationship, business associate, and family member who might be willing to contribute to his or her campaign. If a candidate really believes in his campaign and in his ability to serve, he should be able to ask others to support that campaign with their contributions.

**3. Check lists of lobbyists.** "Lobbyist" is not a dirty word. These men and women represent organizations of many types and may be very interested in contributing to your political campaign. A list of all lobbyists in most states can be obtained from the Secretary of State's office, Elections Division.

**4. Organize the candidate's calls.** If possible, a family member or someone on the campaign staff can help organize the candidate's solicitation calls so that the candidate can spend all of his time on the phone actually talking to potential contributors, rather than looking up phone numbers or being kept "on hold."

**5. Fund raising events can work.** Sometimes holding a political "event," such as a wine tasting, can help motivate peo-

ple to contribute to a candidate. However, these events take a lot of organization and cost money to put on. The campaign needs to weigh the potential benefits of such events against the time and effort needed to make them successful.

**6. Set goals.** As part of its finance plan, the campaign should establish daily, weekly, and monthly fund raising goals and monitor the results carefully.

**7. Monitor results.** Each component of the finance plan, such as candidate phone calls, events, and direct mail solicitations, should also be assigned a goal and monitored for results.

**8. Never give up!** Just as with any life endeavor, there are many disappointments in political fund raising. Do not dwell on refusals. As it happens to you, rest assured it is happening to your opponent, too, even though he or she is publicly saying the effort is "going great."

**9. "Early Money is Like Yeast."** The sooner you start, the sooner you lose the fear and anxiety associated with asking for contributions, the sooner you have the money you need to get the campaign off the ground and the sooner your potential constituents know that you mean business. You, too, can then truly boast that the fund raising is "going great."

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### What's Up this Week?

For the latest activities, discussion groups, meetings, parties, and demonstrations of the Libertarian Party of California, and to link to your local region's site, visit our web site:

[www.CA.LP.org](http://www.CA.LP.org)



■ The Libertarian Perspective

# Government's Disaster Relief Failure and Its Free-Market Remedy

by **Fred E. Foldvary, Ph.D.**

Author and Lecturer, Santa Clara University

The world has been aghast at the U.S. federal government's dismal, belated response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Unfortunately, Americans appalled by this government failure are not drawing the proper conclusions. They put the blame on the chiefs of state, which is appropriate, but they do not delve deeply enough into the reasons that government failed.

The study of economics teaches us to examine the incentives of a system, in order to understand its outcomes. Our political system is mass democracy, in which millions of people vote. With little chance of one vote determining the outcome, the typical voter has little incentive to spend much effort. The candidates need thousands and millions of dollars to influence the voters. The demand for campaign funds is met partly by citizen donations, but most funds come from special interests seeking influence. (To see who is providing money to whom, visit [www.OpenSecrets.org](http://www.OpenSecrets.org).)

Once elected, officials cater to the special interests who put them in office, by providing privileges, subsidies, and protection from competition, at the expense of the taxpayers, consumers, and now, tragically, the safety of the public. This is a



systemic problem, caused by the structure of government, and explains why we get officials who fail to allocate our scarce resources to secure us most effectively from natural disasters.

The federal government's failure in Louisiana goes back decades. Well over a century ago, it took over from the state responsibility for the levees and flood walls. The Army Corps of Engineers built canals that broke up the marshes, bayous, and barrier islands which provided a natural protection from hurricanes. With less fresh sediment, coastal wetlands vanished into the Gulf of Mexico. Recently, the federal government made the problem worse by shifting funds from flood control to politically favored anti-terrorism projects.

No matter where the blame is placed for the failure to prevent the hurricane's effects, could voluntary effort have done better in the relief effort? The irony is that not only did government fail, but government prevented some charitable efforts from helping! Homeland Security prevented the American Red Cross from entering New Orleans with food, water, and boats, because officials wanted instead to evacuate people ([www.PostGazette.com/pg/05246/565143.stm](http://www.PostGazette.com/pg/05246/565143.stm)). Homeland Security even prevented Canadians from entering the U.S. to provide aid ([StoriesInAmerica.dailykos.com/storyonly/2005/8/31/235829/261](http://StoriesInAmerica.dailykos.com/storyonly/2005/8/31/235829/261)).

But isn't central planning

necessary to finance and coordinate the huge task of disaster recovery? What incentives would private enterprise have to do so?

The key to understanding the free-market remedy is to realize that the contrast is not between government and market, but between voluntary governance

**The gov't failure in the Hurricane Katrina disaster should make Californians think about restructuring the state's emergency response programs.**



and imposed government. The spontaneous order of a free market consists not only of individual consumers and firms, but also of voluntary associations. Folks would be organized in cooperatives, homeowner associations, neighborhood clubs, and proprietary communities, such as shopping centers and apartment housing. Today, services such as streets, security, transit, and parks are being provided already by such private communities.

Neighborhood communities, in turn, would associate to provide services that are best provided in a larger territory. Higher-level associations, elected from the local community boards and councils, would receive funding from the local communities and would coordinate mutual aid, such as en-

abling the local police to enter other jurisdictions to capture criminals. Such a bottom-up governance structure was proposed in 1752 by David Hume in his essay, "Idea of a Perfect Commonwealth." Hume's idea was that voting would take place only for the local governance, and that power would flow from the bottom up. At first, the U.S. government was somewhat like Hume's idea, but later become more of a mass democracy, with Senators being elected by voters rather than by state legislators.

Instead of a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), there could have been a CEMA, a Continental Emergency Management Agency, financed and operated by the states. CEMA would not have been stifled under the control of the federal Department of Homeland Security. As a bottom-up organization, it would have been more responsive to the needs of the states, rather than to the political priorities of the federal chiefs.

The government failure in the Hurricane Katrina disaster should make Californians think about restructuring the state's emergency response programs. A huge earthquake would make the state vulnerable to the same political failure that has afflicted the response to the New Orleans flooding. Changing the

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Libertarian Party members are also welcome to join the list and receive our media e-mail missives!

earthquake preparations to a bottom-up structure would provide the incentives to more effectively minimize the damage from a big earthquake. ●

FRED E. FOLDVARY earned his Ph.D. in Economics at George Mason University, and now teaches economics at Santa Clara University, where he is also an associate of the Civil Society Institute. His areas of research include social ethics and the economics of real estate. He has written several books, including *Soul of Liberty*, *Public Goods and Private Communities*, and *Dictionary of Free-Market Economics*.

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*Remember, too, it is the individual who is of supreme worth. His morale and character must be safeguarded if America is to continue as a great nation. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence. It is a basic principle that you cannot help a man permanently by doing for him what he could do and should do for himself. Dependence upon the state for sustenance means the eventual surrender of political freedom. Therefore, shrink not from your duty in these important matters as your responsibility as an American is made clear to you.*

—Ezra Taft Benson  
Secretary of Agriculture under President Eisenhower  
*So Shall Ye Reap* p. 153

## Meeting Notice

The next quarterly meeting of the LPC Executive Committee will be held on **Saturday, November 19, 2005**. The Bylaws Committee will meet on Sunday, Nov. 20. Both meetings are at the

**Four Points by Sheraton, Sunnyvale**  
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■ Bylaws Committee

# Bylaws Changes to be Proposed at Feb. Convention

by **M Carling**

Chairman, LPC Bylaws Committee



Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierty

The Bylaws Committee for the 2006 LPC convention has been hard at work since being elected in May. We're following the same model of openness and transparency that we pioneered last year.

Our first public meeting was held on August 21 in Los Angeles. Our draft report is available for download and perusal at [www.CA.LP.org/bylaws/](http://www.CA.LP.org/bylaws/). We will adopt our official Report to the convention at our next meeting—on November 20 in the San Francisco Bay Area. Check the URL above for the exact time and location of the meeting.

This timetable will give everyone three months to consider the proposed changes prior to the convention. The Bylaws Committee will meet one last time at the opening

of the convention, so that our Report can be amended if any serious problems or errors are found with any of our proposals, or if any urgent and important issues arise.

As usual, our Report will start with the No Debate items, limited by Convention Rule 12 to uncontroversial, technical clean-ups and corrections. This year, these include moving from the Convention Rules to the Bylaws language which properly belongs in the Bylaws, resolving ambiguities, and removing language from the Convention Rules that conflicts with the national LP Bylaws or LPC Bylaws.

The Libertarian National Committee's decision to end the Unified Membership Program (UMP) necessitates a clean-up of Bylaw 7, which falls just outside what is permissible for a No Debate item. The clause

that allows the state or county organization who recruits a new member to keep the first-year dues would cease to be effective once the last UMP check has been received from the national LP (probably September 2006). This is needed to maximize both the incentive to, and the affordability of, new membership acquisition at both the state and county level. Our proposal simplifies the language and removes the dependency on the national Party.

The end of UMP also affords an opportunity to free ourselves from remaining Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (BCRA) problems. You may recall that the last convention passed five proposals to reduce potential problems the LPC and the county parties might have with the BCRA. By putting into our bylaws a proscription on federal election activities in which we currently do not engage but which could potentially get us into trouble with the FEC, it

will be easier to convince the FEC that we don't engage in such activities. Passage of this proposal would mean that as long we comply with our own bylaws, we have no risk of FEC problems.

Many convention delegates have complained that more of our time at conventions should be allocated for resolutions. It has also been observed that convention delegates have spent hours debating over commas in the Program because the Program Committee has been thrown together at the last minute before the convention, while the Executive Committee passes resolutions that should be passed by the convention. Therefore, we offer a proposal to have the Program Committee exist year-round, and to submit proposals to the Executive Committee for approval. This way, we'll be able to respond in a timely manner

to hot topics, such as eminent domain, and allow more time for resolutions during the conventions.

Another proposal is to codify in the Bylaws the recent practice of the Bylaws Committee of meeting early and often, and publishing draft reports on the web site. The proposal would also apply the same openness and transparency to the Platform and Program committees.

At the same time, it would allow all convention delegates to participate in the process.

In order to help protect against a hostile takeover attempt, we are proposing to make five years of membership an eligibility requirement to serve on the Judicial Committee.

If you have a proposal to make, please e-mail it to me ([M@Idiom.com](mailto:M@Idiom.com)) at least a week prior to the November 20th meeting. After that, we'll consider proposals that are urgent, important, uncontroversial, and unlikely to have unforeseen consequences. Proposals received after our November meeting that are unimportant, controversial, less urgent, or risk unforeseen consequences will be deferred to next year's Bylaws Committee, when they will have time to receive due consideration. ●



■ California Special Election

## The Libertarian Party of California Voter Guide for November 8:



|                 |  |     |                      |
|-----------------|--|-----|----------------------|
| <b>Prop. 73</b> | <b>Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy</b>  | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the California Constitution be amended to require notification of the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated, pregnant minor at least 48 hours before performing an abortion on the minor?  |     | (No position taken.) |
| <b>Prop. 74</b> | <b>Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status. Dismissal</b>  | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the probationary period for public school teachers be increased from two to five years, and should the process by which school boards can dismiss a permanent certificated employee be modified?  |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 75</b> | <b>Public Employee Union Dues. Restrictions on Political Contributions. Employee Consent Requirement</b>   | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should public employee unions be required to obtain annual written consent from each member in order to use a portion of that member's dues for political activity?  |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 76</b> | <b>State Spending and School Funding Limits</b>  | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should Californians make major Constitutional changes to create an additional state spending limit, grant the governor substantial new power to unilaterally reduce state spending, and revise key provisions relating to Proposition 98, school and community college funding, and transportation funding authorized by Proposition 42? |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 77</b> | <b>Redistricting. Initiative Constitutional Amendment</b>  | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the Calif. Constitution be amended to change the process of redistricting Calif's State Senate, State Assembly, Congressional and Board of Equalization districts, transferring the implementation of redistricting from the Legislature to a panel of three retired judges, selected by legislative leaders?                     |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 78</b> | <b>Discounts on Prescription Drugs</b>   | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the state adopt a new state drug discount program to reduce the costs of prescription drugs for Californians at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty level?  |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 79</b> | <b>Prescription Drug Discounts. State-Negotiated Rebates</b>   | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the state of California create a new prescription drug discount program for residents at or below 400 percent of the federal poverty level, and change state law to make it illegal to engage in profiteering from the sale of prescription drugs?  |     |                      |
| <b>Prop. 80</b> | <b>Electric Service Providers. Regulation</b>  | Yes | No                   |
|                 | Should the state expand its regulation of the electric industry?   |     |                      |

M CARLING earned a degree in Political Science from U.C. Berkeley and has worked as a research assistant at the Hoover Institution. He has authored two books and has run his own software development firm. Carling has been a generous donor—of both time and money—to the LPC. Currently he serves as a member of both the Libertarian National Committee and the LPC Executive Committee.

*Hold on, my friends,  
to the Constitution and  
to the Republic  
for which it stands.  
Miracles do not cluster  
and what has happened  
once in 6,000 years,  
may not happen again.  
Hold on to the  
Constitution,  
for if the  
American Constitution  
should fail, there will be  
anarchy throughout the  
world.  
— Daniel Webster*