

Republican Liberty

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

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Special Convention Issue

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RLC Convention Celebrates GOP Victories

by Mike Holmes

Veteran's Day weekend 1994 in Gatlinburg, Tenn., saw the historic first national Republican Liberty Caucus convention convene in the wake of the stunning Republican recapture of both houses of the U.S. Congress. Hosted by Michael and Brenda McCroskey of Gatlinburg, where Mike also serves as the Sevier County GOP chair, the RLC event was attended by over 70 members and speakers who assembled for a day and-a-half of RLC business, discussion and debate.

Friday evening featured a welcoming hospitality celebration at the River Resort and Conference Center hosted by PAC Chairman Roger MacBride and the McCroskeys. Situated at the northern entrance of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and nearly a mile high, the cool clear air of Gatlinburg was a bracing and invigorating tonic for RLCers focused on the details of organization building, limited government and coalition politics.

The prior week's revolutionary electoral results were so fresh that attendees had to compare notes to determine how many of the



Local GOP County Chair Michael McCroskey, Log Cabin Federation President Abner Mason, RLC President Clifford Thies, and Republicans for Choice Chair Ann Stone discuss intra-party politics at the 1994 RLC National Convention in Gatlinburg, Tenn. For more photos from the event, see pages 4-5.

most closely watched libertarian Republican races turned out. It wasn't until Saturday morning that it was learned that 57 percent of the candidates backed by the RLC PAC won, including all of the U.S. Congress candidates as well as the single Senate candidate, Tennessee's own Fred Thompson.

Saturday's session began with reports from the national RLC director, treasurer and the PAC, reviewing progress made in 1994. RLC Director Rittberg reviewed the status of RLC goals established by

the national RLC Board at their April 1994 meeting in Miami, which included funding a paid national director, publishing six newsletters a year, expanding the RLFCF PAC and supporting suitable candidates, strengthening local affiliates (with particular emphasis on California), meeting budgetary objectives and holding the first national RLC convention.

The efforts in meeting these objectives were favorably reviewed, with RLC Treasurer Mike Holmes reporting that financial objectives were close to target and that the Tennessee convention itself was going to be a financial success. The PAC report given by Holmes, who also serves as RLFCF treasurer, indicated that nearly two-thirds of the PAC money went to successful campaigns and even in losing races the vote margins were narrow. Finding good libertarian Republican candidates to support is no longer difficult.

RLC chair Roger MacBride chaired the session on RLC by-laws revision, which had been updated from earlier by-laws by RLC General Counsel Alan Turin. The basic RLC organization structure remained largely unchanged. The national RLC Board was expanded with the addition of alternate members, and the board was

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Pataki Suggests Drug War Alternative

by Philip Blumel

George Pataki, the Republican governor of New York, has joined the growing list of prominent conservatives and libertarians that support alternatives to Draconian drug laws.

In January, Pataki persuaded a number of fellow Republicans in the New York Legislature to try to scrap the state's second-felony-offender law that has filled New York prisons with small-time drug users and sellers. The second-felony offender law hikes sentences of anyone convicted of two felonies within 10 years. Due largely to this law, drug felons make up 44 percent of new inmates, while violent criminals make up only 35 percent.

Pataki would allow judges more discretion in sentencing,

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empowered to select its own officers. State affiliate charter rules were spelled out and membership rules were slightly modified. Overall, with occasional spirited but good-natured debate, the by-laws were ultimately passed with general assent. A separate RLC Constitution was also approved, ratifying the existing trustee arrangement, which oversees in a general way the entire organization.

After lunch, a book signing by Roger MacBride (for his latest in the *Little House* series) and opening remarks by Jay Taylor, the election of the RLC Board was held. Re-elected to the board were Clifford Thies, Roger MacBride, Mike McCroskey, Laura Kotelman and Mike Holmes. Newly elected were Alan Turin and Melinda Pillsbury-Foster. Elected to the newly created alternate board slots were Dr. Jeffrey Singer, Laura Crockett-Gordon and Jack Brantley Lightfoot. Existing RLC Trustees MacBride, Thies and Bill Hunscher were also ratified. All votes were unanimous.

Immediately following elections the panel on "Dealing with the Religious Right" was held. In addition to Clifford Thies and Mike McCroskey of the RLC, longtime GOP consultant and Republicans for Choice founder Ann Stone and Log Cabin Federation president Abner Mason also presented their views. As in the

GOP at large, both the abortion and gay issues provided the most controversy of the convention, particularly in the subsequent questions by the audience. Overall, the consensus was reached that "big tent" Republicanism was a necessary ingredient for long run GOP electoral success.

Former network TV reporter and Los Angeles based actor and Dan Gifford next gave an enlightening talk on "Bias in the Media." He focused on the slanted presentation of the gun rights issue in the mainstream media.

Up next was the Post Election Analysis panel featuring newly elected Massachusetts State Sen. Bob Hedlund, term limits consultant Alan Lindsay, PAC treasurer Mike Holmes and RLC Director Eric Rittberg.

Holmes reviewed the RLC's election successes with its PAC while Rittberg provided an overview of libertarian themes in the recent GOP victories. Lindsay reported on the overwhelming support for term limit proposals across the country and how this reform is liable to change politics fundamentally in the future.

Senator Hedlund recounted in detail how he managed to

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Publisher: Roger L. MacBride **Senior Editor:** Mike Holmes **Editor:** Eric J. Rittberg **Asst. Editor:** Philip Blumel **Contributing Editors:** Clifford Thies, Gene Berkman, Andrew Murphy and T. Franklin Harris. **Contributing Writers:** Brian Doherty, Gordon Mohr, Michael McCroskey, Linda Rawles, Tom McClintock, Mark Uncapher, Fred Stein, James Robbins, Laura Kotelman and Matthew Hogan.

A Note from the Editor

Since we are at the beginning of a new year, I thought I'd take care of a little housekeeping.

First, some bad news: Due to our friends at the post office, we will soon be raising our membership/subscription rates. Nothing major, just a small increase. But this does mean it is an excellent time to renew.

As for renewals, please make sure you check your label with every issue. On the bottom right corner, your expiration date is listed. We cannot afford to send out too many renewal notices, so a regular check of your label is important for uninterrupted service.

And please send in your address change cards if you move - it costs us if you don't.

For your information, we disseminate about 2,000 to 3,000 newsletters with each issue. Most of that, of course, goes to subscribers and members. But we also do some prospecting, set some out at bookstores and hand them out at selected events. If you have a friend or acquaintance who has gotten a sample issue from us, please urge them to subscribe!

Speaking of friends, we are open to sending a sample issue to individuals who you think might be interested in us. Send along their names and addresses.

Better yet, how about taking out a gift subscription in their name. For a limited time, we will offer such gift subscriptions for \$10 each.

On occasion, we rent or lend our mailing list to other groups and candidates, so if you don't wish your name passed on, please let us know.

A word about membership. As you know membership numbers are crucial to any organization. Please recruit as many members as you can to the RLC. Be aggressive. Go to their home or business, pick up their check, help them fill out the form, and mail it to us yourself.

Also, please note, we do have a membership category for couples. Two can sign on for only an extra \$5 for the second person. So, husbands and wives, girlfriends and boyfriends, dogs and cats - mail in that \$25 check!

Finally, we very much want to hear from you. Particularly if you are having a problem with your subscription, torn copies or late delivery, give us a call.

Also, we welcome questions, comments and suggestions. So phone or fax us (904) 878-4464 or e-mail us at Compuserve 71562,120.

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Alternative Convention Report:

Young RLCers At Large in Gatlinburg

by Thomas Walls

On the edge of the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains and not far from Knoxville is the busy little town of Gatlinburg, a tourist magnet of 5,428. The RLC held its first national convention there on the second weekend in November 1994, in the wake of the national Republican landslide.

Tennessee was part of that landslide, with libertarian-oriented lawyer/actor Fred Thompson (aided by the RLC PAC) and doctor Bill Frist elected to the U.S. Senate, and Don Sundquist recapturing the governor's seat.

I drove up from Florida with RLC Director Eric Rittberg, his wife Barbara Jean, and Miami attorney and RLC General Counsel Alan Turin. We rendezvoused en route with libertarian GOP commando Jay Taylor in Gainesville, Ga.

We entertained ourselves with heated discussions of politics, gender, intelligence, music and godawful puns on the 12-hour trip. As we entered the Great Smoky Mountains National Park there was the standard government-issue, yellow-paint-on-wood sign ordering "National Park. Buckle Up!" I remarked that if this were a *National Review* park, we'd have to "Buckley Up!"

We arrived Friday night at the River Resort and Conference Center and enjoyed good food, refreshments and conversation with newly arriving RLCers and old friends since my main volunteer duty was to drive convention VIPs to and from the Knoxville Airport, my first assignment was to pick up Eric Field, chair of the Colorado Freedom Republicans.

One striking thing about this convention (in contrast to other libertarian events of a similar kind) was that the speakers and participants were not a gaggle of fruitcakes and nerds. Instead they were thoughtful, intelligent, articulate and were all in some way connected with real-world politics. I had the exclusive opportunity to visit with many of them for an hour or two each while on the airport runs.

Every trip to the airport required passing through colorful (an understatement) Pigeon Forge. Blinking Christmas lights adorned the medians and lampposts. The whole town was lit like a big tree. We were too, later. In Pigeon Forge, you can visit Hollywood Hank Williams Jr. Historic Car Museum, Earnest Tubbs' Country Music Store and the Elvis Museum, which I shamefully did not visit. I later got some postcards from the gift store, where you could also get a Tennessee driver's license with the King's DOB, address and unmistakable mug on it.

Traffic was slow, punctuating conversations with philosophical discussions and commentary about the relationship of traffic

signals to traffic flow.

Ann Stone, head of Republicans for Choice, revealed that she was motivated into politics in the 1960s by the erection of the Berlin Wall and the novel *Atlas Shrugged*. While in college in Washington DC she helped, along with other College Republicans, to staff Nixon's office and got to accompany the White House personnel on engagements and junkets.

While working for the U.S. Embassy Office in Berlin last summer, I got to work with President Clinton's staff for about two weeks, although unlike Nixon, we didn't have to barricade him from screaming leftist protesters.

Richard Cowan, head of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) spoke of his early Young American for Freedom (YAF) days

with Bill Buckley and the highs and lows of decriminalization politics.

On Saturday night Jay accompanied me on a return run and in the slow traffic we hooted at some Tennessee belles who couldn't smile and wave enough at the two young men in suits in the new Ford Explorer with the flashy Thompson-Frist-Sundquist bumper sticker on the back.

When we returned the banquet was under way with awards being presented and a short speech by Mass. State Sen. Bob Hedlund on his recent victory.

The highlight, however, was former GOP congressman Ron Paul's address on the incoming GOP controlled Congress. He was frank and had some doubts about just how committed to the free market the new Congress would be, especially in the area of monetary reforms. But generally, he was hopeful.

Later we socialized and along with RLC secretary Laura Kotelman of Illinois, heard a fascinating discussion with State Rep. Greg Kaza about fighting for freedom in the Michigan Legislature.

On the following morning we headed back, stopping at a scenic route stop. True to the struggling songwriter myth, we met a drifter with a guitar looking to make it big in Nashville, singing his heart out by a rushing brook. Jay and I joined in, and we considered heading back north with him, if only for a moment.

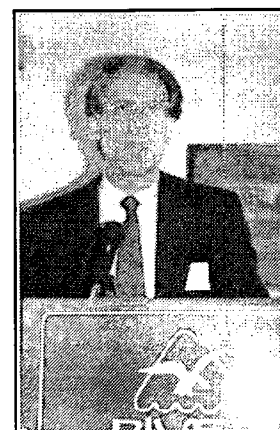
It was a lucky twist of fate that the first RLC convention was held in a state which afforded the GOP such great victories. Our Tennessee hosts had told us of canvassing their neighborhoods and making signs reading "Less Government. More Fred." I got the sincere feeling that libertarian Republicans know how to enjoy themselves and have a good time and that they no longer have to worry about being a closeted minority within the Grand Old Party.

The 1994 RLC Na



Above: NORML President Richard Cowan explains how the right can promote alternatives to the drug war.

Below: Emcee Alan Turin gives "Activist of the Year" award to Laura Kotelman. At head table, Roger MacBride, Brenda and Michael McCroskey.



Above: Former CNN and ABC news reporter Dan Gifford explains media bias and gun owners' rights.

*Below:
Eric R
Alan T*



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regain his state senate seat (after a two-year absence) in the most heavily Democratic state in the nation. Although libertarian-oriented Gov. William Weld helped the Hedlund campaign, Hedlund's victory was the only Republican pick-up in the Bay State legislature and was won despite establishment GOP indifference.

The final Saturday presentation was given by National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) chairman Richard Cowan, who outlined the dangers of the drug war to constitutional freedoms and property rights. He discussed the current NORML strategy of re-legalizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes, which is currently banned under the existing drug prohibition laws. While both major parties have backed the ineffective drug war, Cowan was hopeful that liberty-minded Republicans will recognize the need for change.

Following a lively social hour, the Saturday banquet featured a number of awards presented as well as remarks by State Sen. Hedlund and former Texas Republican congressman and Libertarian Party presidential candidate Ron Paul.

RLC chairman Roger MacBride was presented a plaque for "Lifetime Achievement for Liberty" and Michigan State Rep. Greg Kaza was awarded a plaque as "Legislator of the Year." Certificates of achievement were also given to Eric Field of Colorado, for

best state RLC affiliate, to Illinois law student Laura Kotelman for best RLC activist, to Dave and Mary Maas of Washington State for best new state affiliate, to Gordon Mohr of California for best state coordinator, and to Dr. Jeffrey Singer of Arizona for exemplary performance on behalf of the Republican Liberty Federal Campaign Fund.

Bob Hedlund introduced former Congressman Ron Paul, noting humorously that, in 1988, Massachusetts GOP higher-ups told him to replace his office portrait of Ron Paul with that of George Bush. Naturally, he didn't. Paul's banquet speech drew upon his four terms in Congress, including his freshman stint with fellow freshman Newt Gingrich. He discussed the political climate and the problems and pitfalls facing the newly empowered Republican Congress. While not necessarily optimistic about the ability of the new Congress to permanently beat back the long entrenched interests of big government, particularly with so much of the economy under the control of government subsidies and Federal Reserve monetary policy. He concluded that chances were better now than ever before. Libertarian Republicans, he said, should face politics with sober but hopeful realism.

Also during the banquet, Alan Turin read a statement by Hal Barbour, the chairman of the Republican National Committee, congratulating the RLC for its efforts: "The Republican Liberty Caucus does the real work of advancing limited government; you don't just talk about it, you go out and help elect pro-limited government

tional Convention

ttberg, Cliff Thies and Roger MacBride and
urin at the conference table.



Above: Former Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) meets Michigan Rep. Greg Kaza's aide Leon Drolet.

Below:

Patriotic folk singer Craig Franklin.



Photos by Mike Holmes

Republicans. And I believe the Republican victory on Tuesday - the largest midterm majority sweep of this century - proves the American people share your view. Please give my congratulations to your Chairman Roger MacBride and your National Director Eric Rittberg. I appreciate all your efforts and your contributions to take our country back from big government, tax and spend, and 'big lie' Democrats. What you do really makes a difference."

The evening concluded with the RLC's own freedom folk singer Craig Franklin leading a sing-along with several of his original compositions on guitar.

Sunday morning saw the conclusion of the convention, leading off with Michigan State Rep. Greg Kaza's detailed campaign training seminar, packed with details ranging from door-to-door techniques, campaign issue themes and attack and counter-attack strategies.

He noted that for many libertarian Republicans, the real battles occur in the primaries, where conventional candidates can be out-worked and defeated with populist themed economic issues. The final presentation was given by Advocates for Self Government president Carol Ann Rand, who leads this educational non-profit libertarian group from Atlanta. Her thorough presentation centered around two recent major polls conducted by CNN/USA Today and the Los Angeles Times.

Although conducted separately based on different criteria, Rand's analysis showed that the poll results indicate a growing and

demographically appealing emerging libertarian electorate.

The newly elected RLC Board also met, selecting Roger MacBride as chairman, Clifford Thies as president, Laura Kotelman as secretary and Mike Holmes as treasurer.

The 1995 financial and membership goals were established and priorities were set in the areas of state affiliate development and Advisory Board involvement. The establishment of a recognizable Liberty Caucus in the U.S. Congress, centered around RLC Advisory Board congressmen and other liberty-minded Republicans, was selected as the key political goal along with similar development of state-level caucuses.

Melinda Pillsbury-Foster volunteered to host the 1995 RLC national convention in Santa Barbara, Calif., in November. In addition to panels and RLC business, the focus of that event is a planned Republican presidential forum featuring all GOP contenders. After official business concluded early Sunday afternoon, those who stayed on were able to enjoy a brief sunny afternoon tour of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the nation's most visited.

Melinda Pillsbury-Foster and Craig Franklin started what may become an RLC tradition, by hosting a Sunday evening appreciation dinner for Tennessee convention hosts Mike and Brenda McCroskey. Enjoying the fellowship and good food of the occasion, it was evident that more than one tradition had been born that weekend in the clean mountain air of the Volunteer State.

In Memoriam

Murray Rothbard, "Mr. Libertarian"

by Clifford Thies and Mike Holmes

On Saturday, Jan. 7., Murray Rothbard, long known as "Mr. Libertarian" and the dean of the contemporary "Austrian School" of economics died suddenly of a heart attack while going about his business in New York City. He was 68 years old.

A prodigious author, Rothbard's scholarship spanned several disciplines including economics, history and philosophy. His books include *Man, Economy and State*, *Power And Market*, *For a New Liberty*, *America's Great Depression* and his three-volume history *Conceived in Liberty*. He also edited the *Journal of Libertarian Studies* and the *Review of Austrian Economics*.

Rothbard's many contributions to scholarship included his reinvigoration of John Locke's theory of property, his support of a "100 percent" gold standard and his identification of Anne Hutchinson as America's first libertarian. Rothbard advanced the unified discipline of political economy more through the integration of economic doctrines than through their origination.

He was a young member of the movement he long championed, the "Old Right" of H.L. Mencken and Albert Jay Nock, and served as youth director for Sen. Robert Taft's 1952 GOP presidential nomination bid. He joined with William F. Buckley Jr. in the founding of *National Review* and later for a brief time was a member of novelist Ayn Rand's inner circle. During the late '70s and early '80s he was a member of the Libertarian Party's National Committee and was vice president of academic programs for the Cato Institute and, later, for the Ludwig von Mises Institute.

While his public persona was often quite partisan, Rothbard was very charming and sweet-natured in person. He especially enjoyed gossip, which he called the "concrete details of history," and was known in libertarian circles as The Great Labeler for his penchant to group and label people. For example, he once described members of a faction of the Libertarian Party as "luftmenschen," or air-people, for their lack of both political realism and visible means of financial support. Another defining characteristic was his love of the city, particularly New York City.

The collapse of communism abroad and the recent Republican triumph at the polls here excited him. "Elections are our means of peaceful revolution," he noted in a telephone conversation just weeks before his death. "Who would have thought that we would see these things so soon?" Then, customarily moving on to the battle with only the briefest pause to celebrate victory for liberty, Rothbard said that with the GOP Congress secured and the presidency likely within Republican grasp, that it was time to turn our attention to rein in the federal judiciary. "We've got to repeal the Judiciary Act of 1797!" he concluded.

Murray, just what is the Judiciary Act of 1797?

The academic world will never forget his life's work of scholarship and uncompromising libertarian analysis of the world around us. We who had the privilege of knowing him personally will always remember him fondly as a happy warrior for a free, civilized society in which each of us can strive to become our best.

Notable News

MTV's Kennedy GOP "libertarian"

A February issue of *US* magazine has an extensive interview with MTV's *Alternative Nation* veejay Kennedy. In it she poses with an elephant in the buff and in another risqué photo whipping an obviously Democratic donkey. Kennedy confides that she has always considered herself to be a libertarian, "somewhere between Ayn Rand and P.J. O'Rourke" on the political map.

She also confides that she has a Republican elephant tattoo in a private spot.

Wall Street Journal: Front Page

The Friday, Jan. 20 issue of the *Wall Street Journal* featured a long, 30-paragraph article by reporter Gerald Seib: "Libertarian Impulses Show Growing Appeal; Mixed Blessing for the GOP." The article details growing disenchantment of voters with government: "Though many voters don't realize it, much of the angry sentiment coursing through their veins today isn't traditionally Republican or even conservative. It's libertarian." Seib highlights how libertarianism is a cutting-edge philosophy attracting a great deal of support from individualists in the computer world. He describes a new libertarian bulletin board, *DigitalLiberty*. The 23-year-old Bruce Fancher, president of Phantom Access Technologies Inc. and a subscriber to the board, is quoted as follows: "Being involved in computers or the Internet, you inevitably move toward being a libertarian."

The article quotes two RLC members. Newly elected Congressman J.D. Hayworth of Arizona said of the growing libertarian philosophy, "It's not doctrinaire ... it's inherently practical." Hayworth's campaign aide and RLC National Committee member Dr. Jeff Singer of Phoenix said "it seems like people have lost faith in government as a solution to problems in general, be they social problems or economic problems." Also discussed were the Libertarian Party, Cato Institute and Institute for Justice.

The article contained a heads-up call for Republican leaders, however. Perot voters are posited as essentially "soft libertarians," being "conservative on fiscal matters, hands-off on social issues." It categorized baby boomers as returning to the "do your own thing" beliefs of their youth and also young people as libertarian: "Indeed, when the Gallup polling organization last year asked questions about government's role ... it categorized 22 percent of the public as libertarian. The article warns that if the GOP goes the religious right-route on social issues, that these voters could be turned off."

Study Finds Libertarians Had Permissive Parents

Page one of the *Living* section of the Jan. 28 *Orlando Sentinel* featured an article on the relationship of childhood discipline to adult political views. The article "What Shapes Our Politics?" by *Sentinel* staffer Lorraine O'Connell highlights a recent study by psychology professor Michael Milburn of the University of Massachusetts. The study identifies the amount of childhood discipline

received from one's parents as the main factor that influences a person's ideology. Other factors cited which are of lesser importance are socio-economic status, geography, gender, race and education level.

Political Science Professor John Kuzenski of Vanderbilt University sketches the ideological rift created by different forms of upbringing. On the one hand, conservatives and populists were described as having parents who were strict and punitive, often using corporal punishment. Parents of populists tended to be over-protective and suspicious, while parents of conservatives brought up their children under a "strict moral code."

On the other hand, parents of liberals and libertarians were listed as surprisingly similar. Both had parents who "let them explore different ideas on their own rather than imposing predetermined values." Both also set guidelines and limits rather than punishment. Parents of libertarians, Kuzenski speculated, were the most willing to allow their children to express their opinions and placed strong emphasis on independent thinking. As a result, libertarians tend to be highly educated individualists.

University of Central Florida Professor Stuart Lillie, co-author of *Beyond Liberal and Conservative: Reassessing the Political Spectrum* affirms the diametrical opposition of libertarians and populists. "Libertarians would go Democratic on social issues, Republican on economic issues," while he observed populists would do the opposite.

RNC Disowns CRs

The Republican National Committee has cut off its auxiliary, the College Republicans, from financial support due to "irresponsible conduct," according to the Jan. 28 edition of the *Houston Post*. The RNC was not pleased with a recent article in a CR publication by conservative giant Howard Phillips calling for the consideration of a third party. CR membership director Fred Bartlett speculated that the RNC was merely looking for an excuse to distance itself from the increasingly hard-right younger GOP group.

Booknotes Notes Libertarians

In recent weeks, two libertarian authors have appeared on C-Span's *Booknotes*, hosted by Brian Lamb. On the program discussing the 50th Anniversary edition of Friedrich Hayek's *The Road to Serfdom*, Lamb interviewed distinguished economist Milton Friedman, who penned the foreword. During the broadcast Friedman pronounced himself both a "libertarian" and a "Republican with a capital R." On a later *Booknotes*, Charles Murray described himself as basically "libertarian" while discussing his controversial new work *The Bell Curve*.

A host of other books of interest to libertarian Republicans have been published in recent months. Of course, *American Spectator* columnist David Frum's *Dead Right* wins praise from all corners. In many instances, the book refers to the libertarian movement and its growing influence on Republican politics.

A lesser known political science text is *The Liberty Crises* by New Jersey RLC member Bruce Siminoff (Glenbridge Publishing, 258 pp.) Says RLC Board Member and New Jersey State Senator John Scott, "While the words of our founding fathers still remain today, many of the hard-won protections they earned for us have slowly, yet continuously been eroded. As you read *The Liberty*

Crises you will quickly recognize that we have circled back nearly 200 years to confront some of the same issues that had been once decided by the American Revolution of 1776."

Two other RLC members have recently published books. Individualist feminist Tama Starr, owner of Manhattan-based Artkraft Signs, has penned *Eve's Revenge: Saints, Sinners and Stand-Up Sisters on the Ultimate Extinction of Men* (Harcourt, Brace & Co.). At first glance, the book appears to be an anti-male rant. One soon discovers Starr's intention of humorously highlighting the absurdities and tribulations of the gender wars.

Maryland RLCer Michael Kellet takes on a more serious subject in *The Murder of Vince Foster* (CLS Publishers). Kellet details 24 solid items of evidence in a painstaking manner. The evidence clearly suggests that Foster's death did not occur in the park, that the body was transported and that efforts were made to make it look like a suicide, leading the reader to the unmistakable conclusion that Foster's death was a murder.

A second edition of *Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle* (Sunstarr Press) by libertarian scientist Dr. Mary Ruwart is out on the market. The new edition is much improved in appearance and content. Says former Republican Congressman Ron Paul of Texas, "through its winning approach, *Healing Our World* bridges the gap between conservatives and liberals, Christians and New Agers ... with practical solutions to our economic, environmental and societal woes." The book contains a favorable mention of the RLC and its efforts to promote "non-aggression within the establishment" on page 280.

Finally, Sheldon Richman of the Cato Institute has introduced an effective and comprehensive analysis of the failures of public schooling, *Separating School and State* (Future of Freedom Foundation). Says Dr. Walter Williams, "if we need more proof that government schools are in shambles and that privatization and parental choice are the solutions, this book makes a powerful contribution."

Pataki ...from page 1

permitting them to sentence drug abusers to treatment programs which are less expensive than incarceration and free up needed prison space for violent offenders. Pataki is winning praise from all corners for his proposal, which is part of a package of anti-crime measures including the death penalty and prohibiting work-release programs for violent offenders.

"Tough sentencing may sound like the only way to stem the drug trade ... but it has been tried and drugs are as available as ever," wrote conservative columnist Stephen Chapman in early February. "Gov. Pataki understands that toughness for its own sake is stupidity. How long will it take for other Republicans to figure that out?"

Other conservatives and libertarians who support drug war alternatives - from relaxing sentencing laws to outright legalization of drugs - are Milton Friedman, U.S. Rep Chris Cox (R-CA), former U.S. Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX), William F. Buckley, Thomas Sowell, Walter Williams, L.A.'s Richard Riordan, George Schultz, Martin Anderson, Paul Craig Roberts and P J. O'Rourke.

RLC Briefs

In January, U.S. Rep. Jack Metcalf agreed to join the RLC board of advisors. This brings the number of RLC congressmen up to four: Reps. Mark Foley of Florida, John Shadegg and J.D. Hayworth of Arizona. Others who have recently joined the advisory board include state Rep. Clay Aurand of Kansas, Assemb. Steve Baldwin of California and Florida Reps. Bill Sublette of Orlando and Jeff Stabins of Spring Hill. Also joining were political consultant Ann Stone and Reason Foundation President Robert Poole.

The RLC-NEWS and RLC-DISCUSS computer forums have taken off like a rocket. System operator Bob Reinhardt of Maryland reports that there are over 170 subscribers so far.

RLC members can log on for free at RLC-DISCUSS-REQUEST@tomahawk.welch.jhu.edu.

David Davis of Council Bluff is now organizing an Iowa affiliate. Davis is hoping libertarian Republicans will have an influential role in the all-important Iowa caucuses. Also in the Midwest, RLC member Bill Voorhees of Kansas City is laying the groundwork for the launching of the Missouri RLC.

Arizona RLCers had a booth at the recent state convention. State Chair Terry Allen reports an excellent response. Of note, many higher-ups in the AZ GOP stopped by and expressed their support for the growing libertarian Republican movement. Allen was also a guest talking about RLC on a top-rated Phoenix radio talk show. He and Jeff Singer attended a reception at the Phoenix home of RLCer Ross Levater held for the CATO Institute. Over 100 attended including Gov. Fife Symington, who praised Cato for its effective and influential public policy work. Also, a liberty caucus is in the works for the state senate.

In Florida, longtime RLC member Joel Dalafave of Tallahassee has been elected chairman of the Leon County Republican Party. RLC Director Eric Rittberg was quoted in opposition to Florida's Advance Disposal Fee (2 cents tax on beverage containers) in both the *Tallahassee Democrat* and the *Ocala Star-Banner*.

In the last two months, the RLC has received mention in several publications, including NORML's *Active Resistance*, the *Joe Knight Letter*, *Freedom Network News*, *Libertarian Lines* and *LP News*. Also *Republican Liberty* received favorable mention in *Small Press Review* and *Alternative Press Review*.

The Republican Liberty Caucus

General Store

... is now open!

The following items are available from the RLC:

- Libertarian Republican t-shirts with logo (large and extra large, blue and black lettering), \$15
- Video of 1994 RLC National Convention. Intro, five panel discussions and concluding remarks, \$25.
- RLC manual, *Blueprint for RLC Activists*, \$12.
- Libertarian Republican stickers, \$6/sheet of 10.
- RLC outreach brochure, \$10/packet of 50.
- *Republican Liberty*, latest issue for outreach, \$5/packet of 10.
- Back issues of *Republican Liberty*. Limited number available of each issue from Summer 1990 (RL Vol. I No. I) to present, \$3/each.

Coming soon . . . Libertarian Republican bumper stickers!

Send cash, check or money orders to the RLC. Sorry, no credit card orders. Florida residents add 6 percent sales tax.

Membership Form

- _____ Subscription Only \$15
- _____ Gift Subscription, \$10
- _____ Student/Military \$10
- _____ Regular \$20 (Couple \$25)
- _____ Associate \$50
- _____ Sustaining \$100
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