

Republican Liberty

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

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Kaza Exploring Congressional Bid

by Mike Holmes

Greg Kaza, one of the most successful of the second generation of libertarian Republican politicians in the nation, is seriously considering a run for Michigan's 9th Congressional district seat, currently held by a 22-year Democrat incumbent.

Kaza, 36, would be the first of the post-libertarian-movement generation to win federal office, should he successfully follow through with plans to run in the 9th CD in 1998.

In recent newspaper columns, and in an interview with *Republican Liberty*, Kaza cautiously outlined his thinking about the matter.

"Basically, right now I am visiting with various groups and individuals about my chances, including Rep. Paul and a number of others whose opinions and help I value," the three-term Michigan House member says. "Running at this level will take a lot of support and I want to make sure I have the support before I decide."

Kaza is term-limited out of his current position, as would incumbent Democrat congressman Dale Kildee be were it not for the recent Supreme Court *Arkansas* decision which overturned Michigan's constitutional term limit amendment for federal, but not state, office.

Kaza has a long history of involvement with libertarian issues and politics, and was one of the earliest supporters of the Republican Liberty Caucus. He successfully defeated a five-term GOP

incumbent in his path-breaking Oakland County state house primary bid in 1992, and is a successful practitioner of both principled libertarian politics and the "shoeleather" school of campaigning.

With a 52 percent GOP edge, the 9th CD is considered a swing district and is one of three in Michigan to be targeted in 1998 by the Republican National Congressional Committee. While the incumbent Democrat will not face a primary challenger, Kaza says he "expects a tough primary" though other visible GOP challengers are also as yet unannounced.



Michigan State Rep. Greg Kaza

(Continued on page 6)



Thomas Walls

Tom Walls New RLC Director

Former RLC State Liaison Thomas Walls has assumed the reins of the RLC, as Executive Director Mike Griffin has announced his resignation in order to pursue other opportunities, including a possible political race.

"While I will remain an active member in the RLC, I can no longer devote the time necessary to run an organization of this size effectively," Griffin said.

Walls has big shoes to fill.

During Griffin's tenure, RLC membership exploded, the RLC's

PAC repeatedly broke its contribution records, the number of RLC-affiliated Congressmen rose to 12 and former RLC Chair Ron Paul was elected to the Congress. Griffin also helped establish a Washington DC presence for the RLC, cementing relationships with libertarian-leaning Congressmen.

Walls says he hopes to continue and expand the projects Griffin and the previous director Eric Rittberg put into motion. Beyond this, his primary goals are to expand RLC membership and strengthen

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE

RLCer Turns Cameras on Waco Tragedy.....	2
Ron Paul Update.....	3
RLC Shines On-Line.....	4



WACO: Rules of Engagement

by Mike Holmes

RLC member Dan Gifford and filmmaker William Gazecki have produced a chilling - and credible - indictment of the federal assault on Mount Carmel which killed 80 men, women and children. Their thesis: After losing four of their own, the remaining FBI agents wanted every Branch Davidian dead.

Disturbing. Very disturbing. That adjective will occur in every review you read about this three-hour long, theatrical documentary produced by William Gazecki and Dan Gifford.

Gazecki has solid Hollywood film credentials as does Gifford, who is also an RLC member and speaker at two past national RLC conferences. But the sentiments which motivated them to produce and distribute this film are anything but traditional Hollywood left. Nor are they traditionally Republican.

The ugly incident which occurred in Waco, TX, in 1993 is one of the defining moments in American history which separates libertarians from conservatives. When four federal BATF agents were killed in the initial raid on the religious community outside of heavily Baptist Waco, it was all too easy for the government to convince traditional conservatives that tough, firm punishment was in order for this weirdo group whose self-proclaimed messiah seemed to mock both conventional family life and religion itself.

Yet only the most blind and naive observer and, of course, Dan Rather and the newsmag, could fail to see that every federal agent at Waco after the initial raid wanted David Koresh and everyone else inside dead. Just what the "rules of engagement" were in the nearly two-month siege is the subject of this compelling and sometimes horrific documentary.

Some will find three hours of this as overly long, made

necessary partly due to the *au courant* documentary style of having an uncredited off-screen narrator serve as only the thinnest link between interview subjects and often dramatic footage of events.

While this minimally intrusive style popularized by Ken Burns and his *The Civil War* PBS series lets witnesses and events tell their stories without obvious bias, it does force the filmmakers to sometimes tediously develop their story through indirect means.

And certainly, this is no mere propaganda film. Government spokesmen and defenders, such as the loathsome N.Y. Democrat Rep. Charles Schumer (who comes across like a prosecutor at Stalin's show trials) are given plenty of opportunity to justify their view of the Davidians as demented cultists oblivious to reason.

The film is roughly chronological, with initial background about the history of the Davidians and the reasons for the raid described by a number of observers and experts, ranging from professors of religion to the crusty sheriff of McLennan County. Much of the documentary also consists of news footage, CSPAN hearings, news clips and stock footage seen before.

One problem with this story is that there are no real heroes. This is probably why the government has largely succeeded with its lies and cover up. TV-addicted America needs TV-simple plots with

(Continued on page 6)

Tom Walls...from page 1

the RLC's state affiliates.

"As the state liaison, it was my job to keep in touch with all the local organizations," Walls told *Republican Liberty*. "This network is the skeleton for a far larger and more effective grass roots RLC."

To take advantage of it, Walls said the national RLC needs to support state chapters with the greatest potential for rapid growth, such as California and Massachusetts. Walls also said the national RLC needs to keep the lines of communication open between the RLC Board and the states, encourage the creation of college affiliates and motivate new state chapters to organize and recruit.

Walls is a travel consultant and writer living in Gainesville, Fla. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1993 with a major in German area studies and a minor in business administration. He studied at the University of Hamburg and later was an intern at the Bundestag, the German parliament, and the U.S. Embassy. Walls is president of the Alachua County Young Republicans and a member of the Alachua County Republican Executive Committee.

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Congressional Update



Rep. Ron Paul, former chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus

U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas has returned to Congress in the same way he left it - always willing to pick a fight with the leviathan state

Back in the Saddle Again

Oh, the irony. U.S. Ron Paul (R-TX), long a critic of the Federal Reserve system, has been assigned to oversee it as a member of the Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit Subcommittee.

He was given the assignment in early February at a meeting of the Banking and Financial Services Committee on which he serves. Rep. Paul was also assigned to the Domestic and International Monetary Policy subcommittee.

Rep. Paul has long been a critic of the private Federal Reserve, arguing that money should be controlled - as required by the U.S. Constitution - by the government and backed in gold. Under the current system, money has no backing.

Rep. Paul has refused to sign up for a congressional pension - giving up the chance to make more than \$50,000 a year once he retires. "I hope everyone in the 105th Congress will do as I have done: reject the pension and prepare for retirement without burdening taxpayers for decades to come."

According to the National Taxpayers Union, some 350 former congressmen are receiving the pension benefits - for a total of about \$17 million per year.

On March 20, Rep. Ron Paul introduced the Second Amendment Restoration Act of 1997 to the House. The bill, H.R. 1147, would repeal the prohibitions relating to semiautomatic firearms and large capacity ammunition feeding devices. He is also author of a bill that calls for the "complete withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations" and one (the *The Privatization of Art Act, HR 122*) that calls for the abolition of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Council for the Arts.

Paul is also author of the *Congressional Responsibility Act of 1997, HR 1036*. The purpose of the act is to force Congress to comply with its Constitutional role. Article One of the Constitution limits the power to make certain laws solely to Congress. However,

federal agencies - like the IRS, the EPA, the Department of Education, Health and Human Services, the Labor Department, etc. - make rules which carry the full effect of law. This legislation will end the arbitrary rule-making authority of agencies. When an agency decides a rule is needed, they will be required to submit that rule to the House and Senate for a vote like any other law.

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Ron Paul has confided to staffers that some in Congress he hoped would be supportive are more conservative than libertarian. But, surprisingly, the congressman Ron Paul feels most close to this spring is none other than California's Tom Campbell, who represents the high tech silicon valley area. He and Ron are on the same subcommittee and spent a lot of time discussing developments from the libertarian perspective.

This isn't totally unexpected. Campbell was singled out in the late 1980s by the Libertarian Republican Organizing Committee (LROC), a now defunct organization which pioneered libertarian Republicanism. Several LROC leaders actively worked for Campbell, who left Congress in the early '90s to unsuccessfully seek a U.S. Senate nomination. He later successfully ran for state senate and returned to Congress in 1994.

Another congressman showing signs of considerable interest in libertarian thinking, according to Paul, is Florida's Cliff Sterns, who represents the Ocala area. "He wants to be more libertarian, and often asks me questions about it," Paul notes.



Rep. Todd Tiahrt

Rep. Tiahrt Urges Energy's Abolition

RLC Advisory Board Member Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) has introduced a bill to abolish the Department of Energy, despite its inclusion in the so-called balanced budget currently being crafted.

Tiahrt and cosponsor Sen. Rod Grams (R-MN) say abolishing the department would save more than \$20 billion over five years. The department, born during the 1977 energy crisis, was ostensibly created to safeguard the nation's energy supply.

RLC Shines On-Line With Website, Lists

by Gordon Mohr

One effective recruiting tool for the Republican Liberty Caucus has been its web site. Numerous new members and at least one state coordinator were introduced to the organization simply by surfing the World Wide Web.

Recognizing this, the RLC has expanded its web page, temporarily located at www.designmaster.com/rlc. In addition to the introductory and contact information, the new site includes press releases, articles from *Republican Liberty* and links to the state affiliates.

The RLC E-Mail Lists

The RLC also continues to sponsor its e-mail lists, RLC-NEWS, RLC-DISCUSS and RLC-DIGEST. These lists are maintained primarily for members and subscribers (guests are asked to join the RLC or subscribe to *Republican Liberty* to become permanent participants), and help keep RLCers informed of the RLC's progress as well as keep RLC leadership in touch with the views and priorities of the membership.

RLC-NEWS: Occasional messages from RLC officers about Caucus activities and political news of interest to libertarian Republicans. Traffic is typically several messages per week.

RLC-DISCUSS: All RLC-NEWS items plus open discussion of issues relating to libertarian Republican politics. Appropriate topics include, but are not limited to: upcoming campaigns, interesting GOP candidates, pending legislation, and RLC activities and strategy. Traffic is often several messages per day.

RLC-DISCUSS-DIGEST: A digested version of RLC-DISCUSS, which thus includes all -NEWS and -DISCUSS messages in



a batch message sent out every few days.

Discussion List Guidelines

The list is only semi-actively moderated, so we ask that participants respect the following guidelines:

A) Be brief. Avoid forwarding lengthy documents obtainable elsewhere to the list. Provide a pointer instead.

B) Be civil; avoid personal insults; don't use vulgar language gratuitously. Wind down discussions once your points have been made.

C) When signing messages, use your real name and note any organizational affiliations that might be of interest to readers of your post.

D) Do not "carbon-copy" messages to RLC-DISCUSS which are going to other lists.

E) When quoting previous messages, include only the minimal amount to establish context. Avoid messages where your original content is shorter than the material you quote, or where your content is shorter than your message-bottom "signature."

F) Remember that these are public forums which may have the attention of those just learning about the RLC, libertarianism, and even the world of e-mail. Try to make a good impression for yourself and any organizations with which you are affiliated.

G) Try to keep discussion focused on issues of relevance to libertarian Republicans using electoral politics and the media to advance freedom. Ask yourself: "Does my topic help libertarian Republicans decide what political actions to take?" If the answer is no, the topic may be too abstract or tangential to RLC activities.

H) Messages should not begin with lines that contain the word "from." This can confuse the digest software.

Subscription Procedures

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send a message to LISTNAME-request@lists.best.com with the following line in the message body (not subject line): `[un]subscribe`

Where LISTNAME is RLC-NEWS or RLC-DISCUSS. Note that the -DISCUSS list automatically includes the -NEWS items as well, so you only need to subscribe to one of the two.

When subscribing to RLC-DISCUSS you will be subscribed to the digest version by default. If you wish to receive individual rlc-discuss messages you must subscribe with the command *subsingle* instead of *subscribe*.

This sign up procedure requires that commands be authenticated. Your sign up message will be transmitted back to you with the keyword *reject*. If you wish to authenticate the sign up, change the keyword from *reject* to *accept* and leave the remainder of the subject line intact. Not responding to the authentication request or leaving *reject* in the keyword area will invalidate your attempt to sign up. This procedure is used to verify that you want to subscribe, and precludes attempts to unwillingly sign you up by a third party.

Farewell to a Friend

Former New Mexico state Senator and RLC member Ken Kamerman died unexpectedly April 7, 1997, of an apparent heart attack. He was 65.

Kamerman was a member of the state senate from 1987 to 1992 and was a former vice chairman of the Bernalillo County Republican Party.

Kamerman believed "there are no shortcuts to a free society" and this was what motivated him to enter politics and later to join the RLC. Ken was concerned about ethics controversies in the state legislature and drafted a voluntary "code of conduct" to address these problems.

He was a sincere friend of freedom and will be missed by his family and many friends in New Mexico.

Media Notes

Bill Clinton: *Libertarian?*

Bill Clinton is a libertarian.

Not really — but that was the premise of a joke the president made recently at the annual meeting of the Radio & Television Correspondents Association in Washington, DC. As part of a light-hearted speech to hundreds of the nation's leading media luminaries, Clinton said his staff had made a list of suggestions on how he could break through the media "din" and get more attention.

At the top of the list: "We'll take a cue from Ellen. I'll announce at the last press conference of the year that my character will become a libertarian," the president quipped.

Clinton's reference was to the television sitcom *Ellen*, in which actress Ellen DeGeneres announced that her character is really a lesbian.

Clinton's quip was met with polite applause. Perhaps more amusing is the response Clinton got from Bill Winter, the director of communications for the Libertarian Party:

"Give him credit for one thing: He managed to work into one sentence two words not normally associated with Bill Clinton - libertarian and character."

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On the Monday night, Mar 31 edition of ABC-TV's *Politically Incorrect* commentator Hugh Downs made the following two quotes:

1. "This country is a one-party country. Half of it is called Republican and half is called Democrat. It doesn't make any difference. All the really good ideas belong to the Libertarians."

2. "As though Lincoln would be today's Republican. He wouldn't. He would be a Libertarian."

Or, perhaps, Hugh, he would be a member of the Republican Liberty Caucus.

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Kurt Russell, star of such motion picture blockbusters as *Escape from New York*, *Stargate*, and *Executive Decision*, used the Cato Institute's gala 20th anniversary celebration in Washington, DC, last month as an opportunity to go public with his support for libertarianism.

"I'm a libertarian," Russell said in a May 2nd *Washington Post* article about the Cato bash.

Surrounded by 2,000 Cato supporters, Russell continued, "It's fun to be in a room of people who think like you do. I think a lot of people are libertarians and are afraid to admit it — or don't know."

According to the *Post*, other guests included Steve Forbes, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, writer William F. Buckley Jr., House Majority Leader Dick Armey, ABC correspondent John Stossel, columnist Nat Hentoff and author Nathaniel Branden.

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According to United Press Syndicate columnist Georgie Anne Geyer in her May 9 editorial, the "dominant position on immigra-

tion since the last election has been taken over by the libertarian Republicans."

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In the April 21 edition of the *Weekly Standard*, author David Frum, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, discussed the libertarian/social conservative divide in "The Libertarian Temptation." In it, Frum reacts to criticism of the *Weekly Standard* by editor Virginia Postrel of the libertarian *Reason* Magazine.

Some of its more interesting excerpts:

"Over the past five or six years, social and religious conservatives have taken gleeful pleasure in an increasingly emphatic rejection of free markets and limited government. Patrick Buchanan rocked the Republican Party with two presidential campaigns that attacked free markets...Family Research Council president Gary Bauer has printed articles warning he will go AWOL if the Republican Party gets serious about Social Security privatization. And generally you hear more and more of the ambient snarkiness toward economic freedom quoted by *National Journal* in January, in which Bill Bennett worried that 'unbridled capitalism is a problem ... for human beings' and the National Fatherhood Initiative's Don Eberly complained that 'decadence is brought to us by the marketplace.' 'I am,' Eberly went on to announce, 'anti-Wal-Mart.'"

"[Many years ago] the *National Review* columnist Frank Meyer proposed a famous formula to paper over the differences that existed ... between libertarians and social conservatives. He contended that it was government, and especially the federal government, that should be blamed for American moral decay. 'In a conservative society,' Meyer wrote, 'libertarian means will achieve traditionalist ends.'"

"Charles Murray has argued that a society that legalized drugs but freed landlords to eject tenants who use drugs, school principals to expel drug-taking students, and employers to fire drug-taking employees will do better at fighting drug abuse than a society in which drugs are barred at the border but in which drug addiction is a prohibited grounds for discrimination. That's persuasive. What isn't persuasive is the claim that snorting cocaine is some sort of fundamental human right."

"The good news is that this feud wouldn't be happening if liberalism weren't in so much trouble. This is a squabble over the spoils of victory."

Notable Quote

"Cyberspace is not politically neutral. It favors the political ideals of libertarian, free market Republicans: a highly decentralized, deregulated society with little common discourse and minimal public infrastructure. This symbiosis between cyberspace and conservative Republicanism is perhaps the oddest, most unexpected, and least understood aspect of the information revolution...The digerati are helping conservative Republicans create the world they have been after for a long time."

- David Shenk, from his book *Data Smog: Surviving the Information Glut* (HarperCollins, 1997).

Waco...from page 2

identifiable heroes. Waco lacks heroes, though villains are plentiful. RLC Advisory Board member Rep. John Shadegg of Arizona comes across as one of the few congressmen trying to pry the truth from the smug FBI and BATF witnesses. Gazecki and Gifford are best at letting the villains hang themselves with obvious lies and evasions. Even to the untrained eye, you can see Janet Reno, *et. al.*, lie through their teeth.

Three never before seen pieces of footage stand out, and ultimately make *Rules of Engagement* the powerful indictment it surely is. We see, with film rolling and words transcribed, excerpts of 911 and subsequent telephone calls between the local law enforcement, the FBI and Davidians during key moments.

We also see never before shown (to my knowledge) video made by Koresh and several other Davidians, heartbreaking scenes with women and children, during the latter stages of the siege. The FBI provided the camera and film as a tactic, but the results belie government attempts to demonize Koresh. While admitting his polygamous family life, Koresh and his followers are clearly sincere and suffering, not demonic militants who deserve extermination.

The most dramatic footage comes at the fiery conclusion.



Aided by a detailed narration of one of the inventors of the technology, we see nearly 20 minutes of overhead FLIR (Forward Looking Infrared) pictures taken by an airplane circling two miles overhead while FBI manned Bradley fighting vehicles flatten the Davidians's flimsy wooden structure and pump poisonous CS powdered gas inside the closely packed buildings.

With breathtaking clarity, the narrator calmly describes a half dozen or more shots of muzzle flashes from the Bradleys and nearby, of what clearly seems to be automatic weapons fire and incendiary grenades. This type of film captures heat signatures. You can clearly see for yourself and decide. The FBI claims they did not fire. Your eyes tell you otherwise.

This documentary won't end the Waco controversy. But if enough people watch it, it will keep the heat on. Don't be surprised if this becomes a cult hit. It was held over at the university area theatre I attended. It merits nomination for an Academy Award.

And as the nation watches the trials for the Oklahoma City federal building bombing, allegedly perpetrated in revenge for the Waco massacre, it may be worth noting this fact. As with any outrageous government act which wounds the soul of a free people, violent action invites reaction. The victims of this tragedy did not all die in Texas in 1993. Let us hope there are no more of them.

Greg Kaza...from page 1

"I've gotten a lot of local GOP support," Kaza notes, which will clearly be helpful since his current state house district has the largest population of the three counties in the 9th Congressional district. Northern Oakland county, Genesee and Lapeer counties make up this northern Detroit suburban district, which is headquarters to Chrysler and numerous auto industry suppliers.

Himself the son of an auto worker, Greg Kaza isn't the typical union bashing Republican nor does he wince when the local media repeatedly tags him with the "maverick Republican" label. With his distinctive libertarian outlook, Kaza has often found himself on the outs with the GOP establishment, including Gov. Engler, whose expected third-term race for governor may well buoy the chances of other Republican candidates in 1998.

"I have a history of seeking out and working with Democrats who agree with me on specific issues, such as civil liberties, open government, corporate welfare and NAFTA," Kaza explains. In fact, he expects his focus on any future congressional bid would be on the "need to reform our political and economic system," specifically including NAFTA and other managed trade legislation.

While the incumbent Democrat can be described as a typical liberal union Democrat, Kaza has always worked for the union vote and has vowed that any congressional race would be about the issues, not personalities.

He says the incumbent has had three well-run GOP challengers since the 9th CD was redistricted in 1992, but that Kildee has a practice of unleashing big money, heavy negative personal attack

media onslaughts in the last two weeks of his campaigns. "If I run, I will need to be prepared for that," Kaza observed.

While working full time as a Michigan legislator, Kaza is pursuing a master's degree in international finance and also pursues his hobby of climbing the tallest mountain or hill in every state.

Politically, running against a long entrenched Democrat in the AFL-CIO's back yard may be the tallest obstacle yet to surmount for Kaza, but one which he contemplates without fear. "I have a pretty good track record so far," he responds matter-of-factly. "And this year marks my most significant legislative year of my past four."

Despite Democrat control of the state house and Republican establishment hostility to many of his ideas, Kaza cites four areas in which major legislative progress was achieved with his help: greatly expanding the Freedom of Information Act at the state level, defeating mandatory seat belt laws, stopping "corporate welfare" such as federal-state job training programs, and important compromises on environmental legislation in which he persuasively convinced environmentalists to keep results of environmental audits of government entities open to the public.

"I've always tried to reach out and work with Democrats and their major constituencies, because as a libertarian Republican, I don't necessarily see issues through the typical conservative blinders," he concludes.

Like Ron Paul, Kaza is also pro-life on the abortion issue, which shouldn't hurt his chances in this culturally conservative area.

Kaza stresses that no decision has been made. No contributions are being accepted. He can be reached at: Greg Kaza, 284 Woodside Ct. # 187, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

RLC Notes

California RLC Elects Officers

The **California** RLC held a meeting in conjunction with the state Republican convention in February and officers were elected: Laura Crockett-Gordon, chair; Douglas Lorenz, North CA coordinator; Matt McDonald, South CA coordinator; and Nikola Mikulicich, secretary.

Representatives of the CA RLC also attended the CA College Republicans convention in Walnut Creek.

The CA RLC made plans to increase their membership to 200 by the end of the year and want to host the next RLC national convention in 1998.

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In **South Florida** on April 12, RLCer Alan Turin shared the podium with Rob Kampia of the national Marijuana Policy Project at a rally sponsored by Florida marijuana activist Toni Leeman. Kampia spoke at December '96 RLC convention in Arlington, VA. Turin reports that he felt - although he "did not have a census taken" - that he was the only Republican in attendance. Turin informed the crowd that "the only person for whom drug legalization had become an issue in his race, stated his complete rejection of the drug war and got elected, was Ron Paul. A Texas Republican." Turin also told them that "efforts to achieve medical marijuana have the support of the Republican Liberty Caucus and that Rep. Paul has joined with Barney Frank on that bill."

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In **May, Massachusetts** Chair Alan Cousin attended the annual fund raising and awards dinner of the prominent Citizens for Limited Taxation and Government, and was accorded, on behalf of the Mass. Republican Liberty Caucus, the unexpected honor of head table seating and public introduction from the group's co-director, Barbara Anderson.

Ron Levin, who had done media and policy consulting for Republican campaigns in the last election cycle, joined the MA RLC executive committee to help choose issues on which to focus in the near term. Two issues were chosen right away: a pending bill in the legislature to increase the cap on charter schools in the state, and a proposal in the governor's budget recommendations to repeal the 12 percent tax on unearned income, so that it would be taxed like other income at 5.95 percent.

On the issue of charter schools, MA RLC Chair Alan Cousin submitted written testimony to the legislative committee considering the bills, wrote letters to editors and legislators, and sent members and friends a "legislative alert" encouraging them to contact their legislators to urge support for the bills.

Cousin has also contacted 55 local Republican committees around Boston seeking permission to address their meetings. The mailings to local committee chairs included a fact sheet about the RLC. Cousins first featured address was May 21.

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The **Texas** RLC is continuing its Free Texas! project, an electronic newsletter "published irregularly and with malice aforethought." The price to be included on the e-mail list is "free to those who publicly profess belief that the rights of the individual, as enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, U. S. Constitution and especially the Bill of Rights, are absolutely sovereign over the



Tony Strickland, candidate for the California Assembly District 37, with California RLC Chair Laura Crockett-Gordon at the California State Republican Convention.

power of government. All others: \$1,000/yr." For more information, email Lonnie Brantley at rlc-tex@juno.com.

Acting chair Brantley made a lobbying trip to Austin, TX, on April 8, and delivered a press release stating strong opposition to HB2061 to several state representatives. This bill, authored by Letitia von de Putte of San Antonio, would force draft age Texas men to have registered for the Selective Slavery System before enrolling at any "institution of higher learning."

The TX RLC is sponsoring a Texas Liberty Rally on July 19, from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Georgetown, TX, La Quinta Inn off of I-35. Admission is \$35 including refreshments and guests will include former Cong. Steve Stockman, RLC treasurer Mike Holmes, Tom Glass of the Lone Star FIJA and others. Call (281) 479-6477 or (281) 479-2710 for more information.

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Virginia RLC members Rick Sincere and Stephen Foerster attended the Virginia Young Republicans' annual convention March 15 in Fair Oaks, VA. It was the first experience either had had with the Young Republicans organization and while neither knew what to expect both were pleased with their reception.

"I was excited and encouraged by how many positive conversations I had as a result of my 'libertarian Republican' sticker," said Foerster. "This is definitely fertile ground for RLC expansion."

"I was particularly pleased that so many people were eager to learn more about what we believe in," agreed Sincere.

Virginia being an off-year election state, the two also strove to meet Republican candidates for statewide office. They spoke with Delegate Jay Katzen, a candidate for Lieutenant Governor; and State Sen. Mark Earley and Gil Davis, candidates for Attorney General. Sincere and Foerster were also invited by several YR local leaders to speak at local YR meetings.

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