

Republican Liberty

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

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'90 Election Report

by Carl Nicolari and Eric Rittberg

The final results and analysis are in from the November 1990 Election, and by all accounts, it looks as though it was a great year for libertarian Republicans! RLC endorsed candidates, and friends of Liberty, were elected to offices at all levels. Many others ran highly principled campaigns which held the banner of Liberty high.

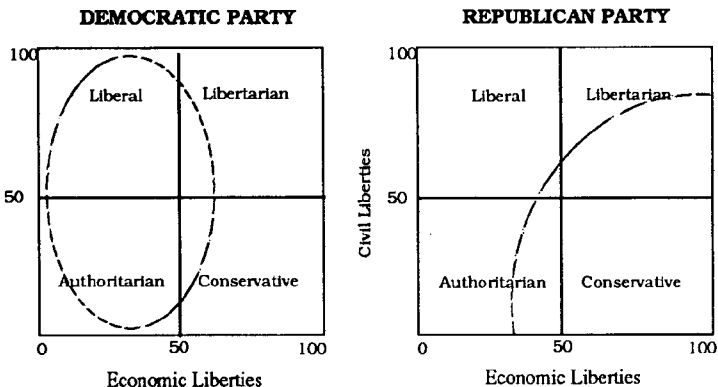
Perhaps the greatest victory was that of State Senator Richard Zimmer in his U.S. Congressional bid. Zimmer, who was featured in the Fall issue of this Newsletter, ran on traditional libertarian themes of strong support for free market principles, opposition to tax increases, and tolerance in social areas. Libertarian Republicans, including the RLC's NJ Coordinator Fred Stein, were active in his campaign.

Another major victory was that of William Weld for Governor of Massachusetts. The contest was a classic match-up. Weld had endorsed the MA tax initiative (Prop. 1), opposed gun control, and favored abortion rights. His opponent, Boston University President John Silber, ran on a "fiscally liberal/socially conservative" platform. Also in Massachusetts, free marketer Michael Murphy won a seat on the Governor's Advisory Council. Bob Hedlund, a self-described libertarian riding the anti-tax fervor, won a seat in the State Senate.

In neighboring Vermont, four "hardcore" libertarian Republicans won election to the Legislature; Sen. John McLaughry of Concord, Tom Bahre of Vergennes to the Senate, Rep. Kittredge Haven; also from Vergennes and Rep. Steven Webster of Randolph to the House. In a heartbreaking loss, long-time Libertarian Ron Court of Essex Junction lost a recount for a Legislative seat by 13 votes.

Moving south, North Carolina RLC Co-Founder Rep. Art Pope won reelection to a second term in the State House with a 50.6%. Although it was a close one, it should be noted that his north Raleigh District is solidly Democratic. So much so in fact, that Republican Senator Jesse Helms lost the District by over 17,000

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Libertarians Identified in Congress

by Clifford F. Thies

Don Ernsberger and I have analyzed Congressional voting on 24 key issues, 12 on issues of economic liberty and 12 on personal liberty. Don identified the issues and tabulated the votes, and I conducted the statistical analysis. What we wanted to do was construct a libertarian index of Congress. The index was to be more than an average of liberal and conservative indexes, but was to identify Congressmen who tended to vote for liberty in both economic and personal matters. On the latter, issues covered included: Flag burning, pornography, war on drugs, immigration, financial privacy, gambling, and regulation of T.V. programming. The economic issues included: Trade, consumer bans, S&L bailout, Amtrak subsidies, minimum wage, transportation subsidization, privatization and foreign aid.

What we found out is very interesting to those considering the libertarian Republican strategy. Almost without exception, we found that Democrats scored low in both economic and personal liberty. Republicans, on the other hand, had no identifiable center.

Democrats are concentrated in the southwest, Authoritarian quadrant of the New Political Spectrum (Continued on page 3)

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90 Election...from 1

votes. In Florida, first-term incumbent, and self-described libertarian, Rep. Dick Graham won reelection in his Daytona District with 68%.

California

Of course, the big news was the victory of U.S. Senator Pete Wilson over Democrat Diane Feinstein in the Gubernatorial race with 48.8% of the vote. Tom Campbell (12th CD), David Drier (33rd CD) and Chris Cox (40th CD) were reelected to their Congressional seats by comfortable margins. In the State's most northern Congressional District, Republican Frank Riggs who is a supporter of drug legalization, won unexpectedly against an entrenched Democratic incumbent because of the presence of a candidate from the Peace and Freedom Party who polled 14%. Margie Handley, the GOP's nominee in the 2nd State Senate Dist. beat incumbent Barry Keene. Sen. Ed Royce won reelection. And in the Assembly, pro-choice GOP incumbent Tricia Hunter (76th AD) won. Newly-elected Paul Horcher (52nd AD) is a socially tolerant Republican who could be one to watch.

Final Election Results

The following is a list of Libertarian Republicans (LR) and other fiscally conservative/socially tolerant Republicans who ran for Federal and State office in November, 1990, along with their vote percentages. Abbreviations are: C.D. - Congressional District; S.D. - State Senate District; A.D. - State Assembly District; H.D. - State House District.

Arizona

Bob Stump - C.D. 3 57% (w)

California

Pete Wilson - Governor 48.8% *(w)
 Frank Riggs - C.D. 1 43% (w)
 Tom Campbell - C.D. 12 60% (w)
 David Dreir - C.D. 33 63% (w)
 Al McCandless - C.D. 37 49% *(w)
 Christopher Cox - C.D. 40 67% (w)
 Dana Rohrabacher - C.D. 42 59% (w)
 Barbara Gallewski (LR) - C.D. 8 38.1% (l)
 Mark Patrosso (LR) - C.D. 10 37% (l)
 Margie Handley - S.D. 2 48% *(w)
 Lori Kennedy (LR) - S.D. 12 41% (l)
 Ed Royce (LR) - S.D. 32 61.2% (w)
 Carey Rogers (LR) - S.D. 18 34.8% *(l)
 James Rinehart - A.D. 20 31.7% *(l)
 Eric Garris (LR) - A.D. 21 28.9% (l)
 Ron Granada - A.D. 24 37.8% *(l)
 Elizabeth Michael - A.D. 45 28.4% *(l)
 Geoffry Church (LR) - A.D. 46 24.2% *(l)
 Tricia Hunter - A.D. 76 58% *(w)
 Jeff Marston - A.D. 78 43.5% *(l)

Colorado

Hank Brown - U.S. Senate 57% (w)
 Wayne Allard - C.D. 4 54% (w)
 Joel Heffley - C.D. 5 59% (w)

Florida

Cliff Stearns - C.D. 6 59% (w)
 Scott Shore - C.D. 14 34% (l)
 Ben Campen (LR) - S.D. 6 34% (l)
 Dick Graham (LR) - H.D. 28 68% (w)

Illinois

Phil Crane (LR) - C.D. 12 82% (w)

Iowa

Fred Grandy - C.D. 6 72% (w)

Maryland

Jack Jones (LR) - S.D. 22 22% ** (l)
 James Brewster - S.D. 43 46% (l)
 Larry Monaghan (LR) - S.D. 45 8% ** (l)
 Tomas Estrada-Palma (LR) - H.D. 19 9% ** (l)
 Robert Menas (LR) - S.D. 43 17% ** (l)
 Peggy Monaghan (LR) - H.D. 43 3% ** (l)

Massachusetts

William Weld - Governor 52% (w)
 James Rappaport - U.S. Senate 43% (l)

Publisher: Roger Lea MacBride, Editor: Eric J. Rittberg, Editorial Advisor: Mike Holmes, Founding Editor: Stan Ayers, Contributing Editors: Clifford Thies, Gene Berkman, Carl Nicolari, Fred Stein, Norman Kirk Singleton

Note from the Editor

I am very pleased to announce that a man of great stature within the libertarian movement has joined our organization; Mr. Roger Lea MacBride.

A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, Mr. MacBride was elected to the Vermont Legislature in 1962. In 1964, he ran as a libertarian Republican for VT Governor. In 1972, he made political history as a Virginia GOP Elector, by casting his vote for the first Libertarian Presidential ticket which included a woman, the first ever to receive an electoral vote. Subsequently, in 1976, Mr. MacBride was the Libertarian Nominee for President on 32 state ballots. He finished fourth with over 176,000 votes. Having left the Libertarian Party in 1983, Mr. MacBride became active once again in Republican politics, and more recently, in the struggle to liberate Communist Albania. Additionally, he is a

noted author, and co-creator of the hit NBC-TV series "Little House on the Prairie," and the series, "Young Pioneers."

Mr. MacBride, who now resides in Naples, Florida, will be taking a very active role in the RLC. He has accepted the position of Publisher of this Newsletter. In addition, he will serve as an At-Large Member of our newly appointed National Committee. Once again, it is a great honor to have a man of his stature joining our effort!

I am also pleased to announce that other prominent libertarians have joined our effort including; noted author and Professor of Philosophy at the University of Auburn, Tibor Machan, Florida Representative Dick Graham (R-Daytona), and well-known Draft Resistor, Petitioner, and Initiative Organizer Paul Jacob. All three will serve on the RLC Advisory Board.

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Michael Murphy - Governor's Advisory Council	(w)
Bob Hedlund (LR) - State Senate	(w)
Joe Onorato (LR) - State Senate	(l)
Michigan	
Rich Birkett (LR) - S.D. 18	36.1% (l)
Missouri	
Jack Buechner - C.D. 2	49% (l)
Montana	
Ron Marlenee (LR) - C.D. 2	63% (w)
New Hampshire	
Roger Heath - H.D. 3	(w)
New Jersey	
Christine Whitman - U.S. Senate	48% (l)
Howard Berkely (LR) - C.D. 10	21% * (l)
Richard Zimmer (LR) - C.D. 12	64% *(w)
New Mexico	
Steven Shiff - C.D. 1	70% (w)
New York	
Elizabeth Ivory-Greene (LR) - A.D.	28% (l)
North Carolina	
Art Pope (LR) - H.D. 61	50.6% (w)
Oregon	
Bob Smith - C.D. 2	68% (w)
Pennsylvania	
Richard Caliguiri (LR) - C.D. 14	28% (l)
Texas	
Joe Barton - C.D. 6	67% (w)
Dick Arney - C.D. 26	70% (w)
Utah	
James Hansen - C.D. 1	54% (w)
Vermont	
John McGlaughry (LR)	83% (w)
Tom Bahre (LR) - S.D. Addison	(w)
Steven Webster (LR) - S.D. Orange	(w)
Kittredge Haven (LR) - H.D. Addison 1	(w)
Ron Court (LR) - H.D. Essex	(l)

* Denotes more than two candidates in race.

** Denotes multi-member districts.

Libertarians in Congress...from 1

Republicans are scattered about an axis that begins in the Authoritarian quadrant and proceeds roughly east-by-northeast. Republicans, relative to Democrats, tend to be either Conservative or Libertarian, although to widely varying degrees.

We identified 19 Congressmen that could be labeled "libertarian" or "leaning libertarian." These Congressmen got scores of at least 100 in our index. All 19 were Republican. Tied for the best were Phil Crane of Illinois and Ron Marlenee of Montana. In contrast, we identified seven Congressmen that scored absolute zero in both economic and personal liberty. All seven are Democratic.

(Our index equals the sum of the percent of the time they voted libertarian in the areas of economic and personal liberty, if both percents are over 50. For Congressmen scoring at least 25 percent in both categories, but less than 50 percent in one or the other, one point was subtracted from their total for each point they fell short of 50 percent. This is to insure that a person voting very pro-liberty in one area but very anti-liberty in the other wouldn't be identified as "libertarian" or "leaning libertarian.")

Congress as a whole voted pro-liberty 25 and 26 percent in the economic and personal areas.

Republicans outscored Democrats by a wide margin on economic liberty, 43 to 13 percent. Republicans outscored Democrats by a narrower but still significant margin on personal liberty, 31 to 23 percent.

In a quest for a "libertarian" Democrat, we identified two Democrats (out of 258). They got 72 and 73 points. If we let a score of 70 indicate "libertarian" or "leaning libertarian," then 50 Republicans (out of 175) would qualify as such.

One interpretation of these findings is that there is only one identifiable political party in the United States: the Democratic Party. It is the party of the political establishment, the pork barrelers, the special interest groups including the AFL-CIO and the NEA, and those wanting to use the powers of government to regulate others including the intervention-oriented environmentalists and the affirmative action-oriented civil rightists.

The Republican Party, on the other hand, is a hodge podge collection. The libertarians genuinely oppose the authoritarian character of the Democrats. A group we'll call reformers are not necessarily libertarians but do oppose the special interest politics of the Democrats. The conservatives and nationalists have an alternative agenda for state intervention into people's lives.

This interpretation sees the Republican Party not so much as pro-libertarian but as a convenient vehicle for access to the ballot and, under the right conditions, victory in the general elections.

Eds. Note - Clifford Thies is a Professor of Economics at the University of Baltimore. Don Ernsberger is a public high school teacher in Warminster, PA. It should be noted that a similar article by Ernsberger in the January issue of L.P. News, failed to mention that Thies was a co-participant in the study.

"Libertarians" in Congress

			Economic <u>Liberty</u>	Personal <u>Liberty</u>	<u>Combined</u>
AZ	03	Stump	83	45	124
CA	14	Shumway	55	50	105
CA	33	Dreier	75	50	125
CA	39	Dannemeyer	73	42	106
CA	40	Cox	88	33	104
CA	42	Rohrabacher	88	33	104
CO	05	Hefley	67	50	117
FL	06	Stearns	50	50	100
IL	12	Crane	91	45	132
IA	06	Grandy	50	50	100
MO	02	Buechner	55	50	105
MT	02	Marlenee	82	50	132
NM	01	Schiff	50	50	100
NM	02	Skeen	33	100	117
OR	02	Smith, B.	50	58	108
TX	06	Barton	70	42	103
TX	26	Arney	83	42	117
UT	01	Hansen	55	55	109
WI	09	Sensenbrenner	92	42	125

A Call to Action; The Real Story behind CA's Prop. 140

By *Dr. Bruce A. Daniel, DDS*

Prop. 140 is almost purely a libertarian creation involving members at the highest levels of the California Libertarian Party, as well as many libertarian-type Republicans. Those who had an instrumental part included: John Vernon, 1989 CALP Chair; J.G. "Mike" Ford, Marin County Tax Payers Association Chairman; Michael McCarthy, Vice-Chair CALL TO ACTION; Marion McEwen, CA FIJA Coordinator; Bill Sullivan, Chairman of OPERATION NEW BROOM; Col. Lee Phelps [ret.], Pres. of ACTIV, a statewide, dynamic, anti-tax organization; Lew Uhler, Chairman of the National Taxpayers Limitation Committee; Ralph Morrell, Chairman of Operation Slush Fund; and myself.

Proposition 140 did not just happen, but was the result of a long-planned, carefully executed strategy that incorporated the following steps: [1] Organize a political action committee of libertarians and give it a name and logo designed to accomplish a certain political goal. [2] Select a latent issue with potential wide-spread political appeal that will take things the direction we want to go. [3] Develop a working coalition composed of the leaders of single issue organizations, and insert libertarians into leadership positions within the coalition. [4] Keep the thrust of the coalition focused and on course. [5] Be prepared to put significant time and money into the effort.

The History of Proposition 140

In the fall of 1988, a number of prominent California LP members were invited to my home near Sacramento to organize a Libertarian political action committee designed for dynamic and focused political action on a statewide basis. This was necessary because the CLP is incapable of focused effort, and generally lacks credibility with potential targeted groups. The resultant organization, CALL TO ACTION [CTA], selected its objective: limited terms of state legislative office.

The 35 Libertarians in CTA were more than sufficient to put together enough money and credibility to get a difficult-to-obtain display table and access to all proceedings at a tax-payer's congress held in Rocklin, CA in May of 1989. By involving Col. Phelps (who knew all of the leaders of the various tax-payers groups personally and who enthusiastically supported the idea by becoming co-organizer and coauthor of the effort) into the strategy, and asking him to head up the meeting, CTA was able to establish credibility. Of the almost 25 attendees, about half were members of the LP. Most of the rest were libertarian-type Republicans. At that meeting, it was agreed to press for a term limitation initiative and the basic elements were established.

Another general meeting was held in July 1989 at Aptos, CA where the major concepts of the initiative

were decided, the organized named OPERATION NEW BROOM, the logo outlined, and the official leadership elected. Bill Sullivan was elected Chairman, and Vice-Chairs were Col. Lee Phelps, J.G. "Mike" Ford, Bruce Daniel, and Secretary, Janet Daniel. Other meetings were held by the Executive Committee to refine the initiative, and by late August, it was ready to submit to the State Attorney General.

Lew Uhler came on board as Honorary Co-Chair of OPERATION NEW BROOM, and brought the welcome resources of his national organization with him. With Lew, a critical turning point occurred. He knew of a Los Angeles County Supervisor who was retiring, was interested in term limitations, and had money: enter, Republican, Pete Schabarum. By ourselves alone, there was no possibility of gaining our political objective. We had to use the system – in this case the initiative process – and persuade good people who may not be libertarians that it is in their best interest to help.

Further changes were made in the wording of the initiative, and a major faction in ONB rejected them. There was a separation, and a new organization with an additional limitation of terms initiative, including grandfathering, headed by Schabarum, Uhler, and Ford [SUF] resulted. As it turned out, ONB with its statewide organization, but little money, did not have enough organization to gather the required number of signatures in the time permitted [about 950,000], and its effort was abandoned after about six weeks. SUF, with no statewide organization, but with money [about \$700,000] did not have enough, at about a dollar a signature, to get them either. The coalition recombined to work for the SUF initiative. The result was that 110% of the required number of petition signatures were gathered.

As it turned out, Prop. 140, that had an approval rating of almost 70% at the beginning of October, went into decline when the opposition started its anti-Prop. 140 campaign. Opposition leader, Speaker of the Assembly Willy Brown, enjoyed the vigorous cooperation and assistance of most legislative office holders, State Party Leaders, legislative staffs, many major business leaders, many in the entertainment industry, and all of the labor union organizations and teachers organizations.

We had little to counter the millions of dollars spent with the exception of a very few TV commercials, and an abbreviated mailing effort. Our greatest asset was the print media – pro and con – which could not avoid the simplicity of the initiative which was only about one page long; many radio talk-show hosts, and especially, the cynical, often criminal political gyrations of an almost hated California Legislature.

Although Prop. 140 was initiated and kept on track by members of the Libertarian Party (especially early on before it gained momentum) it would not have been a success were it not for many other libertarians, most of whom were affiliated with the Republican Party.

Dual Political Strategy

Advancing Liberty Through The GOP

by Mike Holmes

The growing movement for individual liberty - be it called libertarian, classical liberal, or limited government conservative - has been first and foremost an intellectual revolution. The modern political expression of this movement began with the Republican presidential bids of Ohio Senator Robert Taft in 1952 and in the 1964 Goldwater campaign.



Those of us who founded the Libertarian Party in 1972 believed it was necessary to create a catalyst for practical political change. Most of us realistically believed that the LP's role would be largely indirect, as an important intellectual influence on the two dominant political parties.

No LP candidates have been elected to partisan office in five years. Last year, the National LP officially notified the Federal Election Commission that aside from seeking ballot status, it did not intend to influence federal level election campaigns anymore. The LP can claim only a few dozen non-partisan city and county level victories.

Many longtime LP activists in places as diverse as California, Alabama, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas and Nebraska are now looking seriously at the Republican Party as a new home base for political activism. Nearly the entire Vermont LP state committee, one of the LP's most energetic state parties, recently voted to formally endorse the goals of the Republican Liberty Caucus.

The LP's most recent presidential candidate -- Ron Paul -- had a distinguished political career in the GOP. And the LP's first two presidential candidates, John Hospers and Roger MacBride, both returned to the Republican Party over frustration with the LP's political marginality.

Libertarians, LP members or not, should support libertarian candidates in politics whenever and wherever they appear, irrespective of party label.

No political party has a monopoly on libertarian political ideas. Politics is, after all, a means to an end. Libertarians should not let party labels interfere with the important business of putting libertarian ideas into practice.

Eds. Note - Mike Holmes is a C.P.A. from Katy, TX. He is a founding member of the Libertarian Party and former Editor of the Libertarian Party News. Artwork by Rexwood Curry, Esq.

R.L. Perspective

A Plea for Unity and Cooperation

By Norman Kirk Singleton

Recently, a libertarian friend commented to me that "Milton Friedman is for drug legalization for the wrong reasons." Putting aside the merits of Dr. Friedman's argument, my friend's comment is symptomatic of a major problem among libertarians. Far too many engage in ideological hair-splitting refusing to join coalitions unless coalition members score a 100 on their ideological litmus test. Not only does such politbureau-like behavior run counter to the spirit of libertarianism, it retards its advancement within the Republican Party.

Most Republicans agree with libertarians on significant issues. However, there are few Republicans in total agreement. Insisting on purity alienates these Republicans. Thus insistence on ideological purity prevents the formation of coalitions which will enable us to reach significant goals. Furthermore, we lose the opportunity to convert our allies to a consistent libertarian position through reasoned persuasion.

Many libertarian Republicans are interested in aligning themselves with the "paleo-conservatives." Although the "paleo-cons" agree with us on limited government at home and abroad, there are differences between them and libertarians on abortion, drugs, immigration, and other civil liberties matters.

In contrast, although the "neo-conservatives" are the leading intellectual force behind many statist proposals within the GOP, they are also the leading proponents of the new civil rights consisting of school choice, tenant ownership of public housing, and expanding economic opportunities for the underclass by eliminating government barriers to entrepreneurial activity. Many other libertarians have chosen to work with the "neo-cons" in these areas.

While forming coalitions with non-libertarians let's not bash fellow libertarians because they prefer working with the paleos instead of the neos or visa versa. Dissent is valuable as it prevents libertarianism from becoming a brain-dead list of "truths" quoted slavishly from "little red books," like the philosophies of the loony left. However, we should confine our differences to the intellectual and academic worlds, and stand together in the political realm. We must be willing to work together and form alliances with all sympathetic groups within the GOP. Otherwise, we risk wasting this historic opportunity to advance liberty first within the Republican Party, and then throughout America.

Eds. Note - Norman Kirk Singleton, 25, is a Law Student at the University of Pittsburgh. He has worked for the National Taxpayers Union, and as a volunteer for "Youth for Reagan." Currently, he is Pres. of the U. of P. Federalist Society.

Activist News

Since the Fall, the RLC has progressed a great deal; Membership has risen dramatically, we have added six more states, (NE, AL, VT, OR, GA, and IN), and have worked up a detailed organizational plan, "Goals & Strategy for the '90's." In December, the Founding Committee, made up of the Executive Committee members of the NC and FL Chapters, plus the appointed Coordinators from 17 other states, approved a set of By-Laws, by a vote of 16 to 3. Also, a National Committee has been appointed by the FC. Members include: Chairman Eric Rittberg; Vice-Chair Alan Lindsay (Houston); Secretary Norman Kirk Singleton (Pittsburgh); Treasurer Fred Stein (Dayton, NJ); and At-Large Members Ron Courtney (Locust Hills, VA), Carl Nicolari (San Francisco), and Roger MacBride.

What the FC is looking at the possibility of holding a National Caucus in a Southern location in March or April. Delegates to the "mini-convention" will make the final ratification of the By-Laws, and approval of the National Committee. (Further details will be mailed to all RLC members.)

Virginia

By Ron Courtney

Early in December, I met with the vice-chairman of the Middlesex County Republican Party to discuss the current state of the party in Virginia and to find out if libertarians would be welcome in the local Republican Party. Phil Friday, an elected Town Councilman in Urbana, Va. who also happens to be a Libertarian who is interested in joining the Republican Party, accompanied me. The Republican vice-chairman is a free-market conservative with definite libertarian leanings, pro-choice, and seemed quite familiar with the libertarian philosophy. He made it very clear that he would welcome us with open arms because the Republicans in Virginia desperately need new energy and ideas and because many Republicans at the state and local level have libertarian or semi-libertarian attitudes on many issues.

The vice-chairman also explained how easy it is to take over the operation of a local Republican Party chapter. The officers (chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer plus several at-large committee members) are all elected at a county Republican mass meeting, which is held periodically. All you need to get yourself elected to one of the offices is to have more votes than the other candidates, which is easily done in a small local party chapter by having all your friends attend the meeting and vote for you. I don't know how this works in other states, but we intend to give it a try at the next mass meeting in March.

Our thinking is that if we can easily take over our

county Republican Party, then so can libertarians in other counties. Once that happens we can form a network and start to assert some influence in district and statewide Republican meetings. If we can get enough county party organizations under our control, we can eventually become a major voice in state Republican Party policy. If this same strategy works in enough other states, the RLC could become a force to contend with in the national Republican Party, with influence far larger than our actual numbers would allow. Stay tuned!

Florida

By Charles Lipseg

The Florida RLC held its first official organizational meeting on December 8th, at the Philosophy Store (free market bookstore/coffee shop), in Gainesville. Fourteen individuals attended including; The Tallahassee contingent consisting of Eric Rittberg, Curtis Dieterich, and Ken Steen, Andy Showen and his wife from Orlando, a number of college students from the University of Florida, and a representative from the Libertarian Party, Mike Fender. Goals and strategy were discussed at length. It was decided that the FL RLC would concentrate its efforts in '91 on making contacts, building the organization, and recruiting candidates for '92. Curtis Dieterich gave a talk on his statewide efforts to oppose GOP Chairman Van Poole. Mike Fender, a University of Florida Law Student, stressed that LPers and Libertarian Republicans should work together, and mentioned that many within the LPF would be willing to help elect libertarian-oriented Republicans. Finally, an ad-hoc Executive Committee was selected consisting of Chair Eric Rittberg, Vice-Chair Andy Showen, Secretary Chuck Lipseg, and Treasurer Curtis Dieterich. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in Tallahassee during Session in March, and that Rep. Graham would be invited to speak.

Tampa RLC Coordinator Rex Curry is the co-producer and host of the cable television program, (Paragon Channel 33), "Young Republican Digest." On December 5th, Rex invited Curtis Dieterich and former GOP State Comptroller candidate Chris Comstock to appear on the program to give their views on the current anti-Poole effort. Comstock stressed how Poole had let down statewide candidates besides Bob Martinez, by not coming through with promised support. Curtis, in response to a callers question, commented about the ideological differences he and others had with Poole, saying that Poole represented the Religious Right and Establishment types, while the future of the FL GOP lies with the libertarians, and the RLC!

Andy Showen will be hosting an Orange County RLC organizational meeting in mid-February. For details contact Andy at (407) 898-2266. Rex Curry is

planning a Hillsborough and Pinellas County meeting for the Spring, (813) 238-5371. For details on the Tallahassee meetings contact Curtis Dieterich at (904) 681-0634.

Nebraska

By Harry Jacob Thode

We have quite a situation going on in the Douglas County Republican Party of which Omaha is a part. The state organization is conducting a palace coup to replace the Douglas County Chairman who is an ardent pro-lifer. They have changed the locks of the Douglas County headquarters and given the key to their choice of a replacement. Time will tell what will happen; but the timing of the RLC may well be right if this palace coup is successful.

I have recently learned that a young man who worked with me on my late, ill-fated campaign for city council is now a member of the Douglas County Committee. This young man is pro-life; but I believe that I can present him with a significantly strong case to swing him over to us. I am at present also continuing to work with the state L.P. They are well aware of my affiliation and this does not bother them. Correspondence with others will commence after the first of the year.

I will contact my contacts within the radio media. I am known to several talk show hosts from my appearances on their shows during our attempt to promote the Fully Informed Jury Amendment last spring. If I am successful this will give us at least two hours of radio exposure. From there I may be able to gain access to several TV appearances.

Hopefully we can do some good in Nebraska. But we are not going to do it overnight. We need to start with small successes and the big successes will logically follow.

Eds. Note - Harry Thode is a Goldwaterite who served in various positions as a GOP functionarie in the '60's. He recently resigned as Chairman of the Libertarian Party of NE and accepted a position as RLC Northern Plains Coordinator.

Other States

On Dec. 8th the Libertarian Party of Vermont held an "emergency convention" in Montpieller. They voted 28 to 3 to "endorse the libertarians goals of the RLC." State LP Chair David Dana, John Simons, David Atkinson and others are now setting up an RLC Chapter. In New Hampshire, RLCer Chris Tremblay is getting active in efforts to oppose George Bush in the Presidential Primary. Tremblay will be attending the upcoming GOP State Convention in the Nation's first Primary State.

In Pennsylvania, State Coordinator Norman Kirk Singleton, has been giving talks about the RLC and

libertarianism to meetings of the College and Young Republicans. Singleton, has also passed out hordes of RLC literature at these meetings. He is planning an RLC meeting for the Pittsburgh area for interested students, with the help of Richard Caliguiri and local LP head Leo Alman.

North Carolina RLCers are preparing for the upcoming Young Republican Convention (March 22/23, Winston-Salem). A hospitality suite, and info table are being planned, and an NCRLC meeting will be held in conjunction. Other RLC Meetings are being planned for February and March in New Jersey, Arkansas, Arizona, and Texas. For details contact the State Coordinators.

NOTABLE NEWS BRIEFS

by R.L. Special Correspondent

Pete du Pont recently organized an "issues oriented" political committee to suggest ways in which the Bush Administration can take a greater free market approach. However, many are speculating that du Pont's Committee is in actuality a Presidential Exploratory Committee. Americans for Tax Reform have formed an "Anti-Value Added Tax Caucus" in Congress. 54 Republican Congressman have signed on (with only 3 Dems), including newly-elected Cong. Dick Zimmer who is already proving to be a great friend to the American taxpayer! Junior White House Aide James Pinkerton is creating quite a stir with his "New Paradigm" proposals. Pinkerton, a libertarian, was publicly attacked by Budget Director Richard Darman who called the agenda of market incentives, choice, and decentralization, "impractical," and "pretentious," (Houston Chronicle, Dec. 3, 1990).

Media Notes; In late October, RLCer Gene Berkman of Riverside, CA received major press (L.A. Times, Orange County Register, New Republic ect. . .), for his comments concerning Cong. Dana Rhoranbacher (R-Ca) hypocritical stance on the drug war. Berkman charged that Rhoranbacher, now a "drug warrior," had smoked marijuana many times, and had even used LSD, in his younger days. Punk Rock Republican? The Oct. 1, 1990 issue of Insight Magazine ran a story on "self-professed libertarian conservative," John Buckley, ("Seeking Amnesty for a Generation") Buckley, 33 is the nephew of William F. Buckley, Jack Kemp's former Press Secretary, and Spokesman for the GOP Congressional Committee. The article cited his admiration for the music of the Sex Pistols, Clash, and Damned, and his stint as a music critic for Rolling Stone and The Village Voice.

In the Next Issue; A Profile of NC Representative Art Pope, and "Inside the New Paradigm."

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*Note - Membership in Sustaining and above categories entitles member to all minutes of RLC National Committee Meetings, and full voting power at State and National Conventions.

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How to get Involved

- 1) Become a State or Local RLC Coordinator.
- 2) Find out when your State GOP Convention and meetings of GOP groups are held, (Executive Committees, Young Republicans, College Reps., and other clubs), and attend. Pass out literature, and/or give a short talk.
- 3) Get involved in campaigns.
- 4) Run for Party or public office.

* Note - State Republican Party requirements and/or State Division of Elections requirements must be met, in order to start your RLC Chapter.

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