

Republican Liberty

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

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Special Double Issue

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Murray the Giant Killer

Sabrin's NJ Senate Campaign Surges as Gov. Whitman Drops Out

by Clifford Thies, RLC Chair

On Sept. 9, the liberal Republican Governor of New Jersey, Christine Todd Whitman, announced she would not seek the U.S. Senate seat of retiring liberal Democrat Frank Lautenberg. But why? Governor Whitman had already raised \$2 million, and the polls showed her ten plus points ahead of her potential Democratic rivals.

The only thing standing in her way was RLCer Murray Sabrin, the 1997 LP candidate for governor who had re-registered as a Republican and filed for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate. Could it be that Gov. Whitman's tax-and-spend policies, her veto of a ban on partial birth abortion, her assault on



gun rights and her repeated disrespecting of New Jersey state troopers and firefighters didn't sit well with the rank-and-file Republicans who will decide the party's nominee in the primary? Not only did Gov. Whitman withdraw from the race, but former Gov. Tom Kean, another liberal Republican, could not thereupon be persuaded to jump in. No wonder the *Bergen Record* on Oct. 10 called Murray Sabrin "the Giant Killer."

Gov. Whitman's explanation for her withdrawal is that she would have to spend an inordinate amount of her time raising the money necessary to run a credible race. However, as

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CQ: Ron Paul Among "50 Most Effective"

Congressional Quarterly magazine has announced its issue featuring the first ever "CQ 50." The magazine chronicles 50 of the most effective members of Congress, and included in that list is U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, R-TX. The list includes just 50 members of Congress, both from the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives.

In the story titled, "50 Ways To Do the Job of Congressman," the magazine notes Paul's effective advocacy of a strict interpretation of the Constitution and his consistent application of that standard through his votes on the House floor.

"When CQ first contacted my offices some time back saying I would be named one of the 50 most effective legislators in Congress, I was obviously pleased to be recognized by this important institution. It is indeed gratifying to be honored in this way. It is sometimes difficult to take a strong and principled stand in light of how Washington operates, but I think my being included in this list goes to show that a person can stick to his principles and still have an effect on the direction of the country," Paul said.

Over the past year, Paul has had a number of significant legislative accomplishments: he introduced legislation to take away regulatory authority for the "know your customer" banking regulations (these were later rescinded). Paul also introduced amendments to end the pursuit of a federal identification card as well as to ban

federal teacher tests, both of which successfully made their way into federal law.

Paul has also introduced and co-sponsored numerous bills aimed at reducing federal taxes. His tax reduction efforts have been aimed at parents and educators, senior citizens, agricultural producers, health care consumers and public safety personnel. And the first bill Paul introduced this Congress was the Social Security Preservation Act, calling for all Social Security receipts to be kept in a separate fund so that they might not be used for other spending.

Commenting on his goals for the remainder of this Congress, Paul said "I start every day the same. I do the very best I can to represent the people of the 14th District, to look after their interests and help them with the problems they have with their federal gov-

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Feedback

Dear Editor:

About the RLC Notes section of your May/June issue: When are you guys going to stop deluding yourselves that school vouchers are anything remotely resembling an honorable political position?

As everyone must be aware, any school finance system based on free government financing is an anti-libertarian institution.-- which means that all schemes featuring continued entitlement-type school finance are off limits.

Government school vouchers may have some connection to Republicanism, but they certainly don't fit into any coherent brand of libertarian ethics.

John Simons
Sheffield, VT

Editor's Note: Your points about the defects of vouchers are recognized even by voucher supporters.

But most libertarians embrace tax cuts not because they approve of taxes, but because they recognize that by decreasing them we are taking steps today to improve our situation.

Likewise, vouchers are not the ideal way to fund education, but libertarian voucher supporters recognize that they can improve our situation today by improving education for large numbers of children, encouraging students to leave government-run schools and neutralizing the influence of the teachers unions.

Libertarians disagree on this issue, but it is testimony to the growing success of our movement that vouchers – an idea created and popularized by libertarians – has made such inroads in the Republican Party.

Republican Liberty

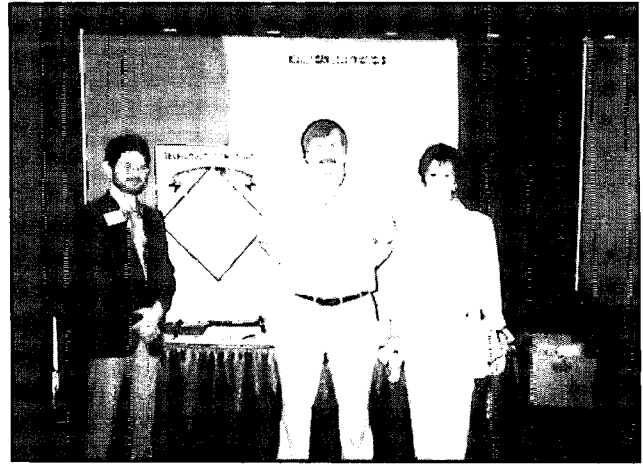
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RLC Notes



The Victory 2000 RLC contingent: FRLC Chair Jeff Palmer, South Florida RLC President Ed Rahn, and FRLC Acting Secretary Cathy Smith.

Florida RLC Seeks “Politically Homeless” at GOP’s Victory 2000

Florida RLC members from around the state introduced more than 3,000 GOP activists to the Republican Liberty Caucus and to libertarianism at the Republican Party of Florida’s Victory 2000 state convention in Orlando in October.

“Operation Politically Homeless” quiz scores posted on a chart-sized Nolan Chart showed a broad distribution - clearly demonstrating to the social conservatives that the Florida GOP is a bigger tent than many had believed.

“The highlight of the weekend was the identification of a number of 100/100s and other solidly libertarian Republicans - several of whom are anxious to help in our drive to form new RLC local chapters around the state,” remarked Jeff Palmer, FRLC Chairman. “100/100” refers to perfect scores on both economic and personal freedom issues. An interesting note: *Miami Herald* editorialist Tom Fiedler stopped by and learned about the growth of the FRLC in the state. Mr. Fiedler’s “90/40” score identified him as a libertarian-leaning “left-liberal.” Surprised?

Ron Paul...from page 1

ernment. It is also my priority to keep the pledges I made to them when I sought this office, namely, to keep my oath to uphold the constitution of the United States and to protect their rights and liberties as well as America’s national sovereignty.” Paul said he would continue to advance this agenda throughout his tenure in the House.

¡Viva la Revolución!

RLC's Tom Walls Joins International Libertarians in Costa Rica

by Thomas D. Walls, RLC
Executive Director

In the last week and a half of August, I was lucky enough to attend a great conference in the paradise of Costa Rica.

The event was the 18th annual World Libertarian convention at the Hotel Herradura. It was hosted by the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) and Costa Rica's Libertarian Movement, known in Spanish as the *Movimiento Libertario*.

The attendees were approximately 50% U.S. libertarians, 40% Latin Americans and the rest Europeans and others.

I addressed the full assembly of the conference on the topic of "Working as a Libertarian in a Major Political Party." Vermont RLCer and former State Sen. John McClaughry spoke on the same afternoon about "Decentralization and Economic Prosperity." He was already well-known for his authorship of *The Vermont Papers*, a plea for community-based government.

Speakers at the convention included the current president of Costa Rica, Miguel Angel Rodriguez, an economist and author of a book on Friedrich Hayek. Supreme Court nominee and sitting appellate court Judge Douglas Ginsburg spoke on the tension between the environmental movement and liberty, and Milton Friedman addressed the conference live via satellite TV link and answered questions in real time.

My talk went over very well, and afterward an older couple who had moved abroad years ago, Judy and Tony Nagy (old-time Objectivists from the '50s), even invited me to dinner at the nicest Japanese restaurant in San Jose.

A lot of folks asked for and took RLC literature. I signed up a new Colorado coordinator, Gene Levy, who is a Republican precinct committeeman in Denver. I also found some prospects from California and elsewhere. (Libertarian Republicans are where you find them.)

I had very productive talks with Attila Csanyi of New Mexico. He is an LPer (former state chair) and worked for two-term Gov. Gary Johnson, who has made recent headlines by questioning the War on Drugs (see related story on page 9). Csanyi said he looked forward to working with NM RLC Chair Trent James again.

Veteran LPer from New Jersey Don Meinzhause approached me with the idea of running Gary Johnson for president (it turns out a group of LPers in New Mexico did approach him for that purpose recently; Johnson politely declined).



RLC Executive Director Tom Walls (left), Costan Rican Congressman Otto Guevara Guth and Professor Rigoberto Stewart, director of the Instituto de Libertad e Analisis Politico.

The Costa Rican *Movimiento Libertario* was very impressive. They were more professional than I could have ever expected. The electoral system provides for multiple parties, and although it is difficult to register a new party, it is much, much easier to elect a representative from a minority party since they don't have winner-take-all districts. Conference emcee Raul Costales, Cuban exile and former Florida LP chair, is the former secretary general of the party. He told me he thought the "Ron Paul strategy" of running as a Republican was the way to go in the U.S.

The *Movimiento Libertario* put on a great campaign in 1998 and succeeded in electing Otto Guevara Guth to their 57-member legislature. He is by far the most popular legislator in the country, he makes continuous headlines by filibustering against bad legislation or challenging it in the country's constitutional court.

The brains behind the operation (and the conference) is Dr. Rigoberto Stewart, economist and author. I later found out he attended my alma mater (University of Florida) in the '70s to earn a degree in agricultural economics. In a political strategy session Wednesday night they knocked us dead with the story of their campaign, showing us campaign materials, press clippings, and other propaganda.

The next ISIL conference will be in London, Ontario next July. I submitted some names of suggested speakers to the organizers, including myself, Clifford Thies and Ron Paul. Attila Csanyi suggested Gov. Johnson and RLC Advisory Board member Rep. Helen Chenoweth.

See you there!

They Got the Wrong Monopoly

"On Friday, a federal judge declared that a particular organization had used its monopoly power 'to stifle innovation, reduce competition and hurt consumers.' He is letting an anti-trust suit proceed against this organization. No, it's not the public school systems. It's Microsoft."

- Libby Sternberg, quoted in *GOP News and Views*, November 1999.

On Republics and Free Trade...

Pat Buchanan's "Economic Nationalism" Means Nationalizing the Economy

by Clifford F. Thies, RLC Chair

In the movie *Star Wars Episode 1: The Phantom Menace*, the Republic becomes corrupted by bureaucracy and high taxes; and, as we know from the original *Star Wars* trilogy, once corrupted, the Republic becomes a dictatorial and evil Empire. And what specifically, *Star Wars* fans, are the high taxes of *Episode 1*? High taxes on intergalactic trade!

This, actually, is how all the great civilizations in the past have slipped into tyranny. Starting with Rome, which as a Republic was a tremendous free trade zone, which had sound money based on the silver denarius, an army that suppressed barbarians and pirates and kept open the highways of trade, courts that stood for justice and the rule of law, respect for the working man, civic virtue and cultural diversity. But then Rome succumbed to high taxes, a debased currency, welfarism, bureaucracy, moral decline and military weakness and it turned into an Empire.

Even in our country, the attempt of the North to exploit the South through high tariffs, just as much as the inability of the South to find a peaceful resolution to the slave problem, diverted us from the principles upon which our country was founded. This led us eventually into the Civil War war and a hundred years of sectional isolation and racism.

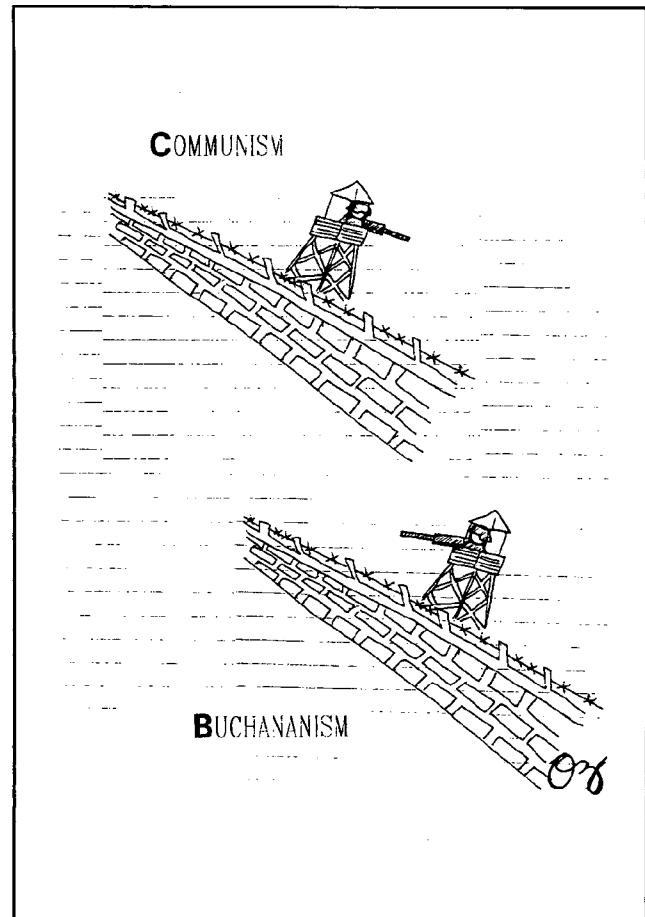
So why is Pat Buchanan, the economic nationalist, who opposes free trade agreements such as NAFTA and GATT, asserting in his new book that we in danger of becoming *An Empire, not a Republic*?

Part of the reason is that we are and will always be in such danger. There is simply no way to forever guarantee that we will not slip into tyranny. When at the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was asked the form of the proposed new government he answered, "A Republic, if you can keep it." The English statesman, Edmund Burke, put it this way: "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

We are just now coming through one of the most serious challenges to Constitutional government in the history of mankind. For the past century, the ideology of the all-powerful State, whether of the dictatorial form or of the democratic form, hovered over humankind like a specter. Embodied in Fascism and in Communism, it threatened the entire world. But, with our victory in WWII over the Fascists and our victory in the Cold War over the Communists, we now have real cause for hope.

This is another curious thing about Buchanan. Why does he say we should have stayed out of WWII after Germany turned on its ally, the Soviet Union? I actually agree with him that the other wars in which we have gotten involved were stupid, such as WWI, the Vietnam War and of course Kosovo.

In fact, I think every American can be proud that not only did we save the world in WWII, but we were generous with our en-



emies, re-constructing them and accepting them as allies.

Every American can be proud of our vigilance over a 50-year time span, from WWII to the end of the Cold War, a vigilance that continued through changes in government, and from one generation to the next.

My older uncles served in the military during WWII, one a first-generation American of German descent, and two first-generation Americans of Italian descent. My father served during the Korean War era and I during the Vietnam War era.

Today we are engaged in a new round of re-constructing, not only of formerly Communist countries, but of our own country. We're getting our fiscal house in order, ending welfare, returning to the traditional virtues, and — yes! — we are extending the borders of free trade, so that they now encompass almost the entire world.

Now, we are facing a new foe, the democratic form of big government. In this contest, we will need to win victory at the ballot box, and not in any one election, but in one after another election, for president, governor, Congress, the state legislature, etc.

But Pat Buchanan says if he can't be our party's candidate for President, he doesn't want to play with us anymore. He wants to pick up marbles and go home.

To this, many Republicans who have not tired of keeping the faith and fighting the good fight say "Go, Pat, Go!"

And Equality and Cooperation...

Ward Connerly's Bid for Equality a Boost for Florida RLC/LP Harmony, Effectiveness

The Republican Liberty Caucus of Florida has taken its first steps toward endorsing the popular Florida Civil Rights Initiative, a referendum that would prohibit racial discrimination by the state government on the basis of race.

In October, the FRLC co-sponsored an appearance by Ward Connerly, the California civil rights activist who was the architect of that state's successful anti-affirmative action initiative in 1996.

The speech was delivered as the finale of the Libertarian Party of Florida's 1999 convention in West Palm Beach. Following Connerly, the FRLC held an informal state meeting in which the assembled members adopted a resolution to urge the FRLC board to formally endorse the Florida Civil Rights Initiative. The delegates of the LP voted nearly overwhelmingly to do the same.

Connerly told the attendees that America is turning its back on its racist past and the time has come to treat all individuals equally under the law.

"We have racists, but we are no longer a racist nation," he said to applause.

Nearly 200 people attended the Connerly speech and stories with pictures appeared on the front pages of all three of the South Florida major dailies: the *Palm Beach Post*, the *Miami Herald* and the *Sun-Sentinel* (Fort Lauderdale).

The Associated Press story ran in most of the state's other major dailies and even the *USA Today* covered it in their state news roundup page. The event was also extensively covered by local TV and state-wide radio.

The explosion of interest in Connerly's appearance is due to three facts: One, the Republican Party of Florida is officially opposed to the FCRI and Connerly was rudely denied entrance just the day before to the Republican Party's state convention in Orlando; two, a Zogby poll in February showed that 83 percent of Floridians support the initiative, including a majority of both major parties; and three, few organizations have been brave enough to sign on to the effort so far.

The state Republican Party opposes FCRI on the basis that, in Gov. Jeb Bush's words, the initiative is "too divisive." More importantly is that fact that party leaders fear that a battle over FCRI would bring more minority voters to the polls in November 2000, hurting Republican candidates at all levels.

The frustration of rank-and-file Republicans over the party's timidity is palpable and most feel that when the point comes that FCRI clearly cannot be quashed – either by the state Supreme Court tossing out the referendum or by supporters failing to collect the required signatures to put the referendum on the ballot – the state GOP will reluctantly embrace it.

The RLC is taking a leading role in making sure that happens. In the meantime, the only party officially supporting the FCRI is the Libertarian Party.

Working with the Florida LP

Florida is unusual around the country in the symbiotic relationship between the RLC and the LP. Both organizations have the same aim – to elect libertarians to office and advocate libertarian solutions to public problems. But in many states, this simple fact often gets obscured by shallow partisanship. While pockets of party-first zealotry exist in Florida as well, the South Florida LP and RLC groups have a history of magnifying efforts through cooperation.

The Connerly event marked the largest LP convention event in state history, and it is acknowledged that this could not have been achieved without the overt marketing to Republicans with a Republican co-sponsor on the invitations. Last year, a successful Palm Beach fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) was cosponsored by both the Libertarian Party of Palm Beach County, the Florida Republican Liberty Caucus and the *Voices of the Florida Taxpayer* newsletter – the same three cosponsors of this year's Connerly event. The result was similar – the event was far more successful than it would have been if any one of the three organizations would have monopolized the event.

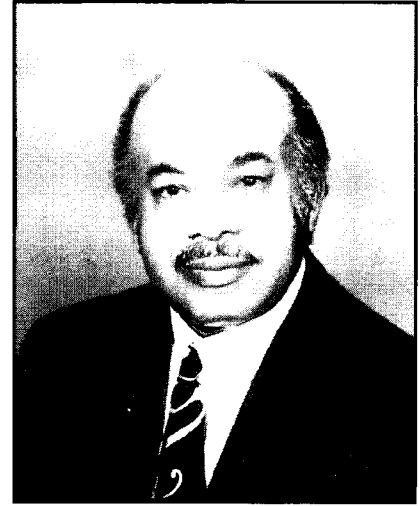
In working to raise money to re-elect libertarian Republican Ron Paul, the LP and FRLC achieved all their aims: promoting libertarian solutions, electing libertarians to office and organization building. A mutually beneficial partnership was begun. Hence, when the RLC was asked to co-sponsor the Connerly event, the FRLC enthusiastically agreed. Philip Blumel, a member of both the FRLC and LP, was chairman of the event.

What Next?

The FCRI is expected to be successful in Florida. Polls, finances and organization are all working in its favor. The crusade is right philosophically, and it is right politically. The FRLC is betting on a winning horse.

So far, FCRI forces have collected 60,000 signatures - enough to get the state Supreme Court to consider this proposed constitutional amendment for the ballot. The Supreme Court is currently reviewing the language of the referendum. Altogether, the FCRI needs 435,329 signatures to get a constitutional amendment on the ballot.

"The very people who are in control of the good old boys network are the very people who are fighting me," Connerly said. "We have one thing going for us - that's the people. The people of this state believe in equal treatment under the law for everyone."



Ward Connerly

Murray Sabrin...from page 1

a *Wall Street Journal* editorial of Sept. 9 candidly stated "Also weighing on Whitman's mind had to be the continuing problems she had connecting with core Republican voters."

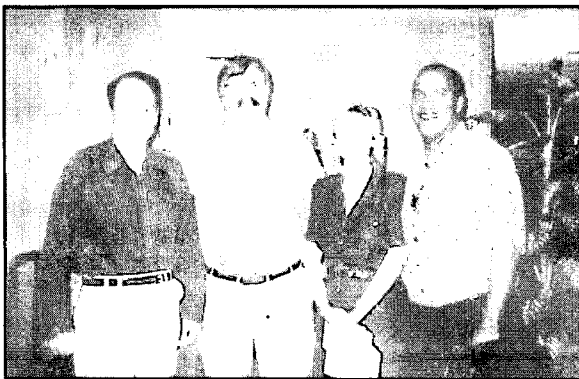
"I've never believed she was as strong a candidate as some people thought she was," says GOP consultant Stephen Salmore. "Whitman won both her races for governor with less than an absolute majority, and in a GOP Senate primary she would have taken hits from pro-life candidate Murray Sabrin." Make no mistake, raising money is a challenge for every candidate who is not a multimillionaire. Our affiliated PAC, the RLFCF, has already made a \$1,000 donation.

The likely Democratic nominee billionaire Jon Corzine, a former co-chair of the investment banking firm Goldman Sachs, is promising to give away gobs of money if he is elected. Not his own money, of course.

On his website, he promises universal everything for everyone. Sabrin, on his website, has a link to Corzine's website, just so you can see why he's in the race. Corzine is the kind of candidate Democrats love to run for the Senate. Someone who can reach into his pocket for \$10 to \$20 million in order to finance his own campaign.

But, before Sabrin faces off against the billionaire socialist from Sachs, he'll have to beat five or so moderate-to-liberal Republicans in the GOP primary.

The good news is that Sabrin is the only real Republican in the race, appealing to the grass-roots conservatives and libertarians of



The Florida RLC's flagship chapter is the South Florida Chapter in greater Miami.

"We helped defeat the recently proposed county sales tax increase and are currently working to force the County Commission to drop its lawsuit against gun manufacturers," noted SF-RLC president Ed Rahn.

The group has already mailed more than 3,500(!) advocacy letters on these and other issues. The group has also been actively helping to lay the groundwork in a forthcoming State House District 108 campaign by RLC member Reggie Thompson.

SF RLC members include, left to right, author Bob Dowd, President Ed Rahn, Vice president Jackie Fernandez, and Reggie Thompson.

the party. The other side looks like it will be split several ways.

Recently he spoke before Phyllis Schafly's Eagle Forum in St. Louis, MO, and the Christian Coalition in Washington, DC. And he is maintaining a full schedule of appearances before local Republican groups, gun owners, right to life groups and other organizations in the state.

A recent survey of probable voters in the Republican primary showed none of the six Republican candidates with more than 10 percent support, and 60 percent undecided. In other words, anything can happen.

One final point: Some conservatives and libertarians have asked Steve Forbes to drop out of the race for the GOP presidential nomination, and carry our banner into battle against Corzine in the New Jersey Senate contest. Forbes would certainly be able to match Corzine dollar-for-dollar. He has thus far declined, indicating that his focus is on the White House.

Sabrin picks up Endorsements

Shortly following the 1999 elections, Morris County Assemblyman Michael Carroll, New Jersey's leading conservative voice in the state legislature, endorsed Murray Sabrin in the six-way contest for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

"Murray Sabrin is the strongest candidate Republicans can nominate for Senate next year. As the only pro-life conservative, supporter of the Second Amendment and opponent of affirmative action in the race, Murray Sabrin will bring the Reagan Democrats back into the GOP while his opponents will not," Carroll said.

"With the prospect of either [former Governor] Jim Florio or the ultra-left Jon Corzine as the Democratic nominee, Republicans need to run a candidate who will stand up to the Democrats, not someone who will agree with them on most issues," added Assemblyman Carroll.

Mike Carroll represents the 25th legislative district in Morris County. He was first elected in 1995 in a Republican primary where Carroll, like Sabrin today, was ridiculed by the liberal media as "too conservative." He was re-elected to his third term on Nov. 2 with 62 percent of the vote.

On Nov. 8, Denville Republican Councilman Ted Husa, who had previously endorsed Congressman Bob Franks for the Senate, switched his support to Murray Sabrin.

"If Republicans continue to ignore conservative voters, Democrats will continue to win U.S. Senate races in New Jersey. Frank Lautenberg and Bob Torricelli sit in the United States Senate today because many conservative voters, who are 40 percent of the state's electorate, saw no difference between them and their Republican opponents," Councilman Husa said.

"Republicans need to nominate a candidate who will excite conservative voters and stop defections to a third party candidate."

Help Elect Libertarian Republicans to Office

To help elect good libertarian Republican candidates, send your contributions to the RLC's PAC, the RLFCF, 10878 Westheimer #395, Houston, TX 77042. Individuals can contribute up to \$5,000 per year. No corporate contributions. The FEC requires we request employer and occupation information. The PAC financial reports are on file in Washington, DC.

Republican Liberty Caucus

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

December 1, 1999

Dear friend of the RLC,

Like you, I have been anxiously awaiting this issue of *Republican Liberty*. Because our editor Phil Blumel was extremely busy with the Florida RLC event featuring Ward Connerly (see related article), for this and other considerations we opted to do a double issue this time.

Traditionally the period we're in now, about a year prior to major national elections, is fairly quiet politically. But as you can see from the news in this issue libertarian Republicans have been the exception to the norm.

Our state RLC chapters are doing better than ever, with more states now qualifying for dues sharing to help build their organizations. If you live in New York, Massachusetts, Texas, Florida or California, a portion of your annual dues is earmarked for your state group. Other state chapters such as Idaho and Nevada have made considerable strides and are making their presence felt. And the hundreds of inquiries we receive from our website monthly tell us that if we only had more resources, we would quickly become a major force in Republican politics.

The RLC is on a calendar year dues system, so now is the time to "re-up" for next year. Our continued progress is only limited by our ability to fund needed services, and we are funded entirely by our membership. We are still searching for our first software billionaire "angel" (if you know of one we should call, drop me a line...). In the meantime, your regular or premium membership dues are what makes all of our efforts possible.

To everyone who has helped in the past, my sincerest thanks. We look forward to your continued participation.

Peace and freedom,



Mike Holmes, RLC Treasurer

Complete and mail with check or credit info to: RLC, 10878 Westheimer #395, Houston, TX 77042. Thank you!

Yes! I'll renew my membership (see page 12 of newsletter for details). Enclosed is \$ _____.

Yes! I'll help the RLC with a contribution of \$ _____.

Yes! I want to join the Minuteman Pledge Program at \$ _____ per month.

Name _____ Phone _____

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RLC Notes

Sam Steiger: Prescott Arizona's new mayor

by Roy Miller, Arizona RLC Coordinator

Editor's note: Former U.S. Rep. Sam Steiger was elected mayor of Prescott, AZ, on Sept. 6, garnering 52% in a four-way race, ousting a two-term incumbent. He took office in November.

There are many ways to be effective in the cause of liberty. One can run for public office, write letters to the editor, publish a newspaper, speak out on the radio talk shows, be the host of a radio talk show, shoot burros for publicity, or nicely and pleasantly suggest to politicians where their positions on issues may be in error. Sam Steiger has tried them all, except that last one.

I first met Sam in the early 1970s when he was a congressman from northern Arizona. By then he had already developed a reputation as a defender of free markets both in his business activities (mostly ranching in Northern Arizona) and in his service as an Arizona state senator.

Sam never let grass grow under his feet and I was immediately impressed by his enthusiasm, his candor (some would choose other descriptive words), and his gut level understanding of the fundamental principles of liberty. That was over 25 years ago and I con-

tinued to be impressed as result of his activities during the intervening years.

Sam could likely have been in Congress as long as he wanted to be because even though he stuck to his principles, he always did so in a way that made it hard to dislike him even when you disagreed with him. However, he went for the brass ring and tried to join the most exclusive club in the world, the United States Senate. He wound up losing a very bitter primary battle to the other conservative congressman from Arizona, John Conlan.

After that defeat Steiger jumped into several business ventures, also a newspaper, talk radio, and many other activities. But he always found time to speak for the cause of liberty. For a couple of years he joined a group of us that meet monthly to discuss libertarian issues. He was always the life of the party.

Also during this period he consented to run for governor of Arizona as a Libertarian (yes, the "capital L" kind). He re-registered Libertarian (for six months), ran a great campaign, and got the required 5% of the vote which qualified the Libertarian Party for ballot status for the next two elections without having to undertake the arduous signature gathering process.

He certainly will not be tame. As Betty Davis said in that famous line from the movie *All About Eve*, "you better fasten your seatbelts." Whatever he does he will advance the cause that readers of *Republican Liberty* believe in.

Texas RLC Hosts Campaign Workshop

Texas RLC chair Lonnie Brantley hosted a one-day campaign workshop/seminar in Austin at the DoubleTree Hotel on Aug. 14. Freedom Campaign 2000 featured over a dozen speakers and was professionally videotaped for use in a forthcoming candidate workshop video series intended to assist RLC candidates.

Brantley, assisted by national RLC treasurer Mike Holmes, conducted a series of 10-minute interview segments with a number of Texas political and issue activists, who shared their insights before a live audience of about 30. Also featured was Cato Institute senior fellow Doug Bandow, who presented a keynote speech of constructive criticism of the GOP at the national level.

Nevada RLC chair and professional political consultant Charles Muth also presented an hour long version of his well received "Grassroots 101 Politics" seminar before the audience, which detailed precinct and district level voter analysis and tips and techniques for vote maximization and candidate fundraising. RLC advisory board members Texas Rep. Suzanna Gratia-Hupp and former Texas State Sen. Jerry Patterson were also on hand to discuss the practical realities of handling constituents and the news media when dealing with controversial



Cato's Doug Bandow

subjects, such as concealed carry firearms legislation.

In addition to background and overview comments, Texas RLC hosts Brantley and Holmes discussed the need for Republicans to learn from the successful efforts of candidates like Reform Party Governor Jesse Ventura, U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, and the impact of the Internet on political communications. Brantley noted, "the future of politics is the world wide web, and we need to understand this and exploit the opportunity to take our message directly to voters and activists." RLC Treasurer Holmes stressed the need for the GOP to be the "party of the optimistic future," not mere "cranky supporters" of the culture wars.

Among the other participants interviewed were Dan Byfield, president of the American

Property Rights Association, former state candidate and sponsor of AllTexas.net web news service Don Loucks, conservative student publisher Marc Levin, Cato Institute representative David Hutzelman, Fully Informed Jury Association spokesman Tom Glass, and Initiative and Referendum activist Mike Ford.

Texas RLC chair Brantley expects to have the edited two plus hour tape set available for distribution by early next year.

Profile in Courage

NM Gov. Gary Johnson Latest Objector to Government Drug War

By Tom Walls, RLC Executive Director

A Republican questioning the War on Drugs? Dissenters in the government war on narcotics libertarians are ecstatic over New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson's recent comments about the futility of the war on drugs. The Republican Liberty Caucus recently passed a resolution commending Gov. Johnson for his sheer courage, as has the Libertarian Party and other groups interested in reforming our wrongheaded drug policies.

Johnson has received heavy flak from his own party, especially in New Mexico. The state GOP Executive Committee issued a strong rebuke shortly after his initial statements. But the governor is standing his ground; Johnson was the keynote speaker at the libertarian Cato Institute's Oct. 5 conference on drug policy in Washington.

Referring to the failure of drug war, the 46-year-old Johnson remarked in June that "It needs to get talked about, and one of the things that's going to get talked about is decriminalization. We really need to put all options on the table." Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura is the only other governor, to my knowledge, who has suggested that legalization of marijuana should be discussed. While some view the Democratic Party as better on civil liberties issues, there are no Democratic governors advocating legalization. The National Governors' Association remains strongly opposed to the mere mention of any options other than locking up as many drug users and dealers as possible.

Is Johnson sincere about this? When I first heard of his statements, I thought he might be of the same breed as one of those liberal northeastern Republicans, who might favor some personal liberties but are still worshippers of the State at heart. But it seems that Gov. Johnson has a background in the ideas of freedom and individual liberty. My friend Attila Csanyi, former chairman of the New Mexico Libertarian Party, thinks he is sincere.

Beginning about 15 years ago, Csanyi held a regular libertarian educational seminar called the "Liberty Forum," and says Johnson was a frequent attendee (along with other New Mexico Republi-

cans, including a state senator and a former governor). Johnson even put LPer Csanyi on his transition team when he first took office in 1994, as well as on his platform committee. The RLC helped place at least one intern on the governor's staff. So, we have some reason to believe that his interest in a real libertarian solution to the war on drugs is genuine. And a review of his pronouncements on the issue seems to back that up.

In the Aug. 22 broadcast of "Meet the Press," Johnson stated "I happen to think that the war on drugs is a real failure in this country, that we need to re-examine that war."

And a re-examination is more timely than ever. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the number of drug offenders in prisons on the state and federal level has skyrocketed from 12,475 in 1980 to over 281,000 in 1997, an over 2,000 percent increase. Note that this does not include drug arrests, which totaled 1.6 million in 1997.

Johnson continued, "When it comes to this particular issue, we're talking about electing representatives who are promoting policies that are sending people to jail for drug use.... this is a real nerve issue in my opinion because there is an hypocrisy to it. Seventy-eight million Americans have

tried illegal drugs. That's not an excuse... I think we should be redirecting ourselves toward the goal, which is reduced drug use and not locking up so many people. How many are locked up in New Mexico jails? Not only in New Mexico jails, but across this country. We've got thousands, tens of thousands of people incarcerated for cocaine use [or] sale."

In an Aug. 28 radio interview with Don Imus, Gov. Johnson said that "anyone that wants to be honest about it will say it's a failure." He went to cite the example of Singapore, where there drugs aren't easily available but people are sent to jail for life or given the death penalty. "Most people in this country would agree with this statement: You should not go to jail for smoking marijuana."

With the recent National Institute of Health (NIH) and National

Resolution

The Republican Liberty Caucus National Committee (RLC NC) passed the following resolution unanimously, as declared by the RLC NC Secretary, Robert Roy Booth, Jr., on Oct. 5, 1999.

WHEREAS the war on drugs has been a failure, with increasing use of illegal drugs by our youth, increasing violence associated with illegal drug trafficking, increasing compromise of our Bill of Rights, and the undermining of democracy in several Latin American countries;

WHEREAS it is now undeniable that (leaf form) marijuana has medical value, and citizen initiatives demonstrate overwhelming support for legalizing medical marijuana;

WHEREAS only we in the Republican Party, who advocate individual freedom and personal responsibility, can provide the nation with the leadership that will be necessary to adopt a new approach to the problem of drug abuse;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the National Committee of the Republican Liberty Caucus applauds Gov. Gary Johnson of New Mexico for his forthright and principled position on drug policy.

(Continued on page 10)

RLC Notes

Sen. Haynes Joins CA RLC Ad Board

California State Senate Majority Whip Ray Haynes is the newest member of the California RLC and the CA RLC Advisory Board.

Haynes is a member of state legislature's Liberty Caucus, which includes current RLC Advisory Board member Tom McClintock. Sen. Haynes is the current representative from the 36th SD, serving San Diego and Riverside Counties.

He had previously been elected to the CA Assembly from the 66th AD and is now a candidate for the Republican nomination to run for Dianne Feinstein's U.S. Senate seat. He has received the endorsement of most state legislators, as well as the CRA, YRFC, CFTAR and CaYAF.

As Republican Whip in the state Senate, Haynes drafts the party commentary on all pending legislation. He is the current National President of the American Legislative Exchange Council, a bipartisan association of state legislators.

American Spectator Features Holmes, RLC

In the November issue of *American Spectator*, libertarian journalist Brian Doherty puts the spotlight on U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, the former national chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus. In doing so, some light landed on our own Mike Holmes.

"Paul insists there are no hard feelings, and it's hard to find GOP colleagues who will openly say bad things about him as person or legislator. Still, he isn't much of a coalition-builder. Mike

Gary Johnson...from page 9

Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine (IOM) studies that positively substantiate arguments for allowing medicinal use of marijuana, as well as the pro-medical marijuana ballot initiatives passed in six states, it's time to open the national dialogue on this previously one-sided issue.

Johnson is to be congratulated by all lovers of liberty for standing up to the pervasive "we-must-not-capitulate" attitudes of almost all elected officials or those vying for elected office. After billions and billions of dollars spent on interdiction and incarceration, the war on drugs is a sorry failure. The human costs of the drug war aren't measurable in dollars. And millions of Americans are still doing illegal drugs - virtually every day.

It's time to explore solutions that work, and most importantly, as a reasonable first step, to stop arresting people who use drugs for medical purposes.

Holmes, a Texan and treasurer of the Republican Liberty Caucus, which supports and advocates more libertarian-leaning Republicans of Paul's ilk, thinks Paul is a victim of his past as a complete outlier in the Congress of the late '70s and early '80s.

"Ron's not the type to reach out with other congressmen and form alliances. He crafts legislation and it goes to committee and gets squashed. He doesn't want to work the back rooms of Congress. Since he's not into patronage and pork, he lacks the motivation to make these deals. Congress isn't made up of individualist heroes, it's made up of deal brokers."

Hobbs Aims for Florida House Seat

David Hobbs, former vice chair of the Libertarian Party of Brevard County, FL, announced his candidacy for the Florida House primary, District 32. He has raised \$3,000 in the first six weeks of his campaign.

Asked why he became a Republican, Hobbs said "As a Libertarian, I routinely found myself fighting for liberty side by side with Republican activists. I gradually discovered libertarian ideals were shared by many within the Republican Party." Earlier this year, Hobbs decided to join the GOP where he feels he will have greater impact on governmental policy. Hobbs, a 22-year resident of Merritt Island, will run a campaign stressing "less taxes, less government and more freedom." Hobbs says to accomplish this he will push for tax reduction, sunrise and sunset legislation and oppose legislation which limits Constitutional freedoms. To contact Hobbs, email davidhobbs@bigfoot.com.

Libertarianism's Sharp Image

The Sharper Image prides itself for being on the cutting edge of consumer technology. It seems the hi-tech retail outlet is cognizant of other cutting edge trends. Consider this blurb from their September 1999 catalog: "Libertarians may not rejoice, but the 'time' is what our government says it is - via radio signals from the U.S. Atomic Clock... The U.S. Atomic Clock [is] accurate to within one second ever million years(!) and when it speaks, the handsome new Atomic Clock Watch listens with a tiny receiver hidden in its case... water and shock resistant... rugged case... \$199."

Nevada Governor Appears at RLC Breakfast

Republican Gov. Kenny Guinn was the featured speaker at the October edition of the Nevada RLC's "Breakfast of Champions" series. Gov. Guinn set the stage from day one of the 1999 legislature by reaffirming his commitment to holding the line on taxes and forcing government to live within its means. Indeed, the first bill the Governor ever vetoed was a tax increase - which earned him the prestigious "Taxpayer Hero" award from Americans for Tax Reform last April.

RLC Notes

Muth Manager for Republican Playmate

Playboy magazine, in their Media Buzz column, also remarked recently on the seemingly tireless Muth: "In a previous installment of Media Buzz, we told you about Miss May 1976 Patricia McClain's bid for U.S. Congress. Now meet her manager, Charles Muth. Though McClain is running for the Republican nomination in the 23rd District of California, her candidacy - and Playmate heritage - caught the attention of Las Vegas-based campaign consultant and conservative Muth.

Chairman of the Nevada Republican Liberty Caucus, a political action committee devised to draw libertarians into the Republican Party, Muth contacted McClain about speaking to his group as a 'Republican rising star.' The two immediately hit it off. 'Patti is a terrific candidate, is great on the issues and Republicans will love her,' says Muth. Before she knew it, McClain had found herself a much-needed campaign manager... Along with digging up research on McClain's opponent in the upcoming March primary, one of Muth's first tasks is to send McClain to campaign school...at the (Arlington, VA) Leadership Institute. 'It's probably the best training organization in the country for Republicans,' says Muth, who's been through the school twice. ... McClain should have more fun with the TV appearances she may soon make. She's been invited to be on Fox News' *Judith Regan Tonight* and says she's been contacted by *Politically Incorrect*..."

McClain will challenge seven-term incumbent Rep. Elton Gallegly for the Republican Party nod in the March 2000 primary election. McClain opposes more gun control laws, believes abortion should be decided at the state level, supports school vouchers and wants a strong military.

Rep. Salmon Torn by Rawls Run

Arizona U.S. Rep. Matt Salmon, a member of the RLC Advisory Board, reluctantly endorsed Republican Gov. Hull, but confessed to KFYI Radio AM 910 that his "political philosophy is probably closer to that of likely Libertarian Party candidate Tom Rawles than to Hull. Still, he said, he will support the governor." For the full story, see <http://www.accessarizona.com/news/1998/08/30/salmon.html>.

Atlas Shrugged to be TNT Miniseries

From Jon Osborne's Miss Liberty online news service:

"Big, big news: TNT is developing Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* as a four-hour miniseries!

Albert S. Ruddy, who has produced over 20 films, will be executive producer for the \$15-20 million drama. Ruddy has apparently been after the film rights to *Atlas Shrugged* for a long time. According to *Variety*, he tried to buy the rights 25 years ago, but when Rand insisted on final script approval, he backed away from the deal. His strong interest is probably a good sign. However, Ruddy's record as a producer is spotty.

On the one hand, he produced the blockbuster Academy Award winning movie *The Godfather* in 1972, which won Best Picture. On the other hand, he's also produced a lot of middling films, including at least one that Leonard Maltin rated a "bomb."

Susan Black, who wrote two made-for-TV movies (*Married To A Stranger* (1997), and *State of Emergency* (1994)), will write the screenplay for *Atlas*. The director and cast are to be announced "shortly." It's expected that TNT will begin production in summer 2000. No airdate has yet been scheduled."

If you wish to receive Miss Liberty's Film & TV Update, send an email message to requests@missliberty.com with the words 'subscribe update' in the body or header. For more information on this online newsletter, and libertarian film and video generally, see <http://www.missliberty.com>.

Paul, Metcalf take on Executive Orders

RLC Advisory Board Members U.S. Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) and Rep. Jack Metcalf (R-WA) recently introduced legislation (H.R. 2655 - The Separation of Powers Restoration Act) to stop the long-time abuse of presidential executive orders. H.R. 2655 would:

1. Prohibit a presidential executive order from having the effect of law.
2. Suspend all states of national emergencies declared since 1976 (the last time Congress canceled such declarations).
3. Grant legal standing to individual members of the United States Congress, state officials and private citizens who believe a presidential executive order is unconstitutional.
4. Repeal the 1973 War Powers Act.

For more information, see: <http://www.ExecutiveOrders.org>

Pro-Choice in Education

"A truly open, competitive environment would witness all kinds of new suppliers coming to the fore, which would result in the establishment of many secular schools. The possibilities are endless. Schools might be established by profit-making corporations, by cultural institutions such as fine arts or science museums, or by universities. To refuse to let such potential suppliers compete with a government monopoly on a level playing field is not only wrong, it is senseless. We have seen what state-sponsored monopolies have produced in terms of cars like the Yugo or airlines like Aeroflot. There has never been an industry, a business or a product that competition has not improved. The product here is the child."

— Ted Forstmann, CEO of the Children's Scholarship Fund, *Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 9, 1999.

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