

# San Mateo Libertarian

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## Mike Moloney '98 Campaign Underway

By **Bernie Jackson**

Mike Moloney, Libertarian Congressional candidate for the 12th district of California, has kicked off his 1998 campaign by literally taking his message to the people. Moloney has been mingling with voters--carrying his own campaign placard--at popular events all over the Bay Area, such as the Bay to Breakers, the Foster City Wine and Beer Festival, and the Burlingame Arts and Crafts Show.

"I enjoy meeting the voters face to face," said Moloney. "Even though the media virtually ignores Libertarian candidates, I have found that the typical voter is very receptive to our ideas in person." As many Libertarians are aware, quite a few public figures (such as Clint Eastwood, Kurt Russell, and Hugh Downs) have recently proclaimed their libertarian views, and the National Libertarian Party has touted this as evidence that the public will be ready to take Libertarianism seriously in the next elections.

Whether or not these figures announcements are responsible, Moloney is happy to report that the public mood is indeed shifting, and the voters he meets every week are more receptive than ever to the Libertarian message. Last week, his efforts even landed him a positive piece in the San Mateo Times.

"What I do at one of these events, is I stand there holding my sign and greeting the people who walk by," explains Moloney. "They are very friendly. They seem impressed that I am out there myself, interested in meeting them face to face, and many will stop to ask me some questions." When they learn that Moloney is a Libertarian, the response is positive. Most people say they have been hearing a lot about the party recently and correctly identify it as the "party of smaller government."

In preparation for these events, Moloney does his homework, too. His slogan is "Mike Moloney: he will tell you the truth," and this inspires many questions, for which he is prepared with facts and well-reasoned positions. "Voters will read the sign and say, "So, tell me the truth," explains Moloney, "and I say, what do you want to know about?" Then they ask me about their pet topic, like the deficit, or crime, or taxes, and I tell them all about it from a Libertarian perspective. We have good conversations."

Mike Moloney is also looking for volunteers to help him move his campaign forward. "As a Libertarian, I am up against Goliath, and I need your support," says Moloney to all Bay Area voters. "The political landscape is changing, one voter at a time, but I need your help to nurture this change and keep it going." In the spirit of true campaign finance reform, the Moloney campaign is not accepting financial donations. "Just give me your time, and your support," says Moloney, "and I'll do the rest." The Moloney For Congress campaign office in San Mateo can be reached at (415) 715-5419.



## Do You Subscribe To Your Local Paper?

By [Steve Marsland](#)

Hi. I'm Steve Marsland, your new Public Relations co-chair. I am presently working hard to get news about the Libertarian Party into the media--primarily into your local newspaper. I have a list of newspapers in San Mateo County and have begun to send news notices out to these papers. I have some knowledge of this, since I had the pleasure of being a weekly newspaper editor at one time.

One thing I need to do is to find out if the news notices I am sending to the local papers are actually getting published. I live in Pacifica, so I can check the Pacifica and Half Moon Bay newspapers. Some of the other officers of the local party are also checking their newspapers for me. But we still have some newspapers which are not covered.



Do you subscribe to the Boutique & Villager in Hillsborough and Burlingame? Or the Enquirer-Bulletin in Belmont/San Carlos? Or the Foster City Progress in Foster City? Or the Daly City Sun? Or the Palo Alto Weekly or Peninsula Independent in Millbrae? Or one of the Stanford newspapers?

*If so, I could use your help.*

Here is how it works. If you would like to help, call me at 415-738-5926 and give me your name, phone number, and what publication you subscribe to. You can leave me a message if I am not in. Then each time I send out a news notice, I will call you to let you know to look for it. If you see it published, just cut it out and send it to me at PO Box 585, Pacifica, CA. 94044, indicating what publication it came from and the date/page number it was printed.

Right now I am sending out about one news item per month, although it might go to two or three per month in the future. So this isn't really much work--especially since you are reading the local newspaper anyway! Also, I expect that once we have had several news items published in the local media, we won't need to check all the time, because the media will have gotten into the habit of publishing our news. So this is just a short-term assist that I need from you as we get started.

Through these efforts, we can cover over 200,000 households in San Mateo County for free!--This will certainly increase our visibility and help our party to grow.

I appreciate your help. Call me today if you can help me.

## Quotes & Notes

It is not the function of our Government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the Government from falling into error.

Robert H. Jackson  
*American Communications  
Association v. Douds*, May 1950

All communities are apt to look to government too much...The framers of our excellent Constitution...wisely judged that the less government interferes with private pursuits the better for the general prosperity.

Martin Van Buren  
message to special session of Congress, September 4, 1837

Bureaucracies are designed to perform public business. But as soon as the bureaucracy is established, it develops an autonomous spiritual life and comes to regard the public as its enemy.

Brooks Atkinson  
"September 9"  
*Once Around the Sun*, 1951

## June Meeting Notes

by [Christopher Schmidt](#)

*When it rains, it pours*: In addition to regular party business, we had not one, but two surprise guest speakers at June's meeting! Delmas Gault invited Wayne Nygren to talk about the mission of the Sovereignty Foundation, and Steve Marsland invited Steven Strayer to talk about his ideas for generating more interest in the Libertarian Party.

We began the meeting with an abbreviated version of our business session. Lacy Nelson reported that the San Mateo city council is busy with its budget now--so at least they aren't working to curtail civil liberties for the moment.

Bernie Jackson reported that he and Publicity Co-Chair [Steve Marsland](#) have been researching media contacts for promoting our meetings that feature guest speakers. Bernie will originate the press releases, and Steve will distribute them. They'd appreciate feedback, so if you see any mention of our activities in your local paper, send them some email.

*San Mateo County Times* columnist Jack Kneese included an item about Mike's campaign for the 12th district congressional seat in his June 6 column.

At this point in the meeting we exchanged various clippings and announcements. I passed around a sample of the "No on A" postcard we sent out...Steve Marsland showed us a letter of his that was printed in the *Pacifica Tribune* ("No on D")...I distributed a flyer promoting a June 28 [pro-freedom rally](#) in Sacramento (opposing Smog-Check-II, gun control, etc.)... Steven Strayer handed out copies of an article he wrote for the [Santa Clara Libertarian](#)...and Kate O'Brien circulated her new address in southern California (We'll miss you, Kate!!).

Wayne Nygren, our guest speaker from the East Bay (who met his wife at one of our meetings!) came to speak about the Sovereignty Foundation.



Last July, libertarians frustrated by the difficulties of living with big government founded this organization and dedicated it to identifying opportunities for freer living and to promoting the concentration of presently isolated libertarians in those situations. Their quarterly newsletter, *The Sovereign*, will report on big (non-libertarian) movements toward less government (like secessionists in Quebec and in Texas and in Washoe County Nevada) and small movements (such as voluntarily isolated communities in unincorporated San Mateo County). One of their projects is to systematically identify cities that are not saddled with big, meddling governments, have relatively low tax rates, and are small enough that an increasing number of libertarian residents might strengthen the tendency towards self-government. Tentative cities (based on statistical data) are Selinsgrove PA, Harriman TN, and Greenville OH. Member (and Libertarian) Terry Savage has already moved to Incline Village NV based on this research.

Many libertarians (and perhaps millions of people generally) "solve" the problems of big government by working hard and saving up enough money that they can ignore those problems personally. This approach does nothing to help others achieve independence and actually helps big government grow. If you are interested in the [Sovereignty Foundation's](#) approach (fostering intentional clustering of libertarians), you can visit their web site or attend their convention near Lake Tahoe next May (\$200/days).

Our second speaker, Steven Strayer (also from the East Bay), spoke about the problems he sees with Libertarian Party recruiting (too utopian) and made suggestions as to how we might reach out to disaffected non-voters and people who have been victimized by government (e.g. targets of civil asset forfeiture).

Our Chair and Treasurer, Mary Steiner, brought the Treasurers records to the meeting to turn over to [Margret Schmidt](#), who has volunteered to relieve Mary from double duty. If we have a quorum at this month's meeting, we may officially elect Margret to the office of Treasurer and/or fill the office of Vice Chair, vacated by Kate.

**This month's meeting** will be held Wednesday, July 16, at Prime Time Athletic Club, 1730 Rollins Road, in Burlingame. We'll meet

from 6:30 to 7:30pm for informal conversation, sandwiches, salads, and smoothies in the Cafe; then move to the Multipurpose Room for a short business session from 7:30 to 8:00pm; and finish the evening with a **special presentation**, from 8:00 to 9:00pm, featuring guest speaker Arnold Stamps. (Attendees may join us for only those portions of the program which interest them.)

**Arnold Stamps** is from the [Taxpayers Action Network](#) (an off-shoot of Citizens Against Government Waste). He is a retired sales professional (35 years with Champion Paper Co.) who has been associated with TAN/CAGW for the past three years and is also a member of several action-oriented foundations. He's agreed to make the drive from his east bay home and we hope you can make it!

## Don't Show 'Em the Money

By Delmas Gault

It's long been my belief that the road toward a smaller Federal government is best traveled without your wallet/

The State of California has seen a continuous onslaught of unfunded mandates ranging from schools to highways. The net result--California ends up a few ham sandwiches short of a full picnic basket. No news here you say? Well, State Senator Richard Mountjoy has responded with SB 1178--a bill which will require the State of California to respect the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution--even if our representatives in Washington don't.

In a nutshell, the bill requires the State of California to collect Federal income taxes directly from its citizens. The State Treasury holds onto the revenues and then is authorized by the State *how much* and *when* to send it onto Washington.



There are two major upsides to the bill. First, revenues for unconstitutional laws and requirements will be set aside in California's piggy bank until the courts and politicians work it out. Second, California will have an opportunity to put its own interests first. For example, stiffer Federal EPA standards may be down graded based on the perceived economic impact in California. Currently, lawmakers in California will do almost anything the Federal government demands of us just to get back *some* of the tax dollars we send to Washington.

Below is an excerpt from the digested version of the bill.

*BILL NUMBER: SB 1178 AMENDED 04/23/97*

*INTRODUCED BY Senator Mountjoy (Principal coauthor: Senator Johannessen) (Coauthors: Senators Haynes and Monteith) (Coauthors: Assembly Members Baldwin, Granlund, House, Margett, McClintock, and Oller)*

*LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST*

*SB 1178, as amended, Mountjoy. Federal taxes.*

Under existing law, the Federal Trust Fund is in the State Treasury and consists of money that is paid into it in trust, including all money received by the state from the United States, the expenditure of which is administered through or under the direction of any state agency.

This bill would create the Federal Tax Fund in the State Treasury. The bill would require any person liable for any federal excise, income, or consumer tax, as defined, to remit the tax to the Franchise Tax Board Treasurer for deposit. All moneys so collected would be transmitted to the Treasurer who would be required to deposit them into the fund on behalf of the persons who remitted the tax. The Treasurer would be required to transfer the moneys held in the fund to the Internal Revenue Service in payment of the tax obligation of the persons who remitted the taxes to the board . The bill would provide that if the federal government imposes sanctions of any kind on the state for failing to enact legislation called for by federal mandates, which the Legislature deems to be unconstitutional, by withholding state derived federal moneys, the Treasurer would be prohibited from transferring taxes held in the fund . If sanctions against the state are not lifted after 90 days, the state would utilize moneys in the fund for payment to continue project funding, thus constituting an appropriation , would be required to withhold all or part of the disbursement until the total is equal to the total federal sanctions, and transfer these moneys to the General Fund. The bill would penalize any person who fails to comply with it by a civil penalty of 150% of the tax owed for each day that the person does not comply under applicable federal or state statutes .

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

## The Tobacco Settlement is Bad News--Even if you've never Smoked a Cigarette

The biggest losers in the new tobacco settlement are not the tobacco companies or America's 50 million smokers--but the 210 million Americans who don't smoke, the Libertarian Party said after the settlement.

"You're next," the party's national chairman, Steve Dasbach, bluntly warned America's non-smokers. "This settlement vastly expands the power of the federal government--and whatever your bad habit is, the politicians and lawyers will come after you next."

"This settlement establishes a perilous precedent: That the government can levy massive punitive damages against a popular product because of the so-called public health consequences," said Dasbach.

"Ask yourself: Who's next? Will the government go after the fast-food industry for selling fatty hamburgers? Ban dangerous sports like hang-gliding and skate boarding? Outlaw alcohol again? Make it illegal to get a suntan?"

"Once the government has total power to punish or prohibit personal habits in the name of public health, it's only a matter of time until you're their next target. Thanks to this settlement, your right to choose may go up in smoke."



An equally frightening aspect of the settlement, said Dasbach, is the government's all-out assault on free speech in the name of restricting tobacco advertising.

"If Congress ratifies this agreement, Americans will suffer from the second-hand smoke of the Bill of Rights being torched," he said. "In their frenzy to control tobacco, politicians want the power to drastically restrict the First Amendment."

The agreement:

- Makes it illegal for tobacco companies to advertise on billboards or the Internet, and prohibits the use of human or cartoon images in cigarette advertising.
- Prohibits tobacco company sponsorship of sporting events, and prohibits tobacco product placements in movies and on TV.
- Makes it illegal to sell clothes that feature cigarette brand names.

"This is a free speech issue, plain and simple," said Dasbach. "Even if you don't like what tobacco companies advertise, its hard to imagine any American giving the government the power to outlaw t-shirts and baseball caps just because they feature the Marlboro Man."

But the settlement doesn't stop there, said Dasbach. It also expands the regulatory power of the Food & Drug Administration, giving it the ability to ban nicotine by 2009.

"Potentially, were just 12 years away from total cigarette prohibition," he said. "In 2009, the FDA can ban nicotine--which would create a thriving illegal black market in bootleg cigarettes. Hasn't the government learned anything from its last failed war: The War on Drugs?"

Congress must approve the settlement, and is expected to debate the provisions over the next several months.

"Even if you don't smoke, don't like cigarettes, and hate the tobacco companies, you should oppose this agreement," said Dasbach. "You should tell the politicians that you don't approve of their blackmail of the tobacco industry, and don't like this government power grab.

"Remember: The only winners are lawyers and politicians. The loser is every American who values freedom of choice for adults."