

## Freedom: The Final Frontier

### Libertarianism on the World Wide Web --by Robert Giedt

In this day where truly free speech can be sometimes swept aside by the government and increased "moral" censorship is increasingly imposed by the Religious Right, one frontier still stands mostly untarnished from interference--the Internet. Despite the failed efforts of the so-called "Communications Decency Act" to regulate this publishing revolution, the Internet remains a global community, easily accessible, where freedom-loving individuals can still speak their peace without the vice-grip of Big Brother Government.

What follows is a brief list and description of a few Web sites describing libertarian-based research and policy groups, entertaining diversions and informative e-mail mailing lists. Many of these sites have Web links of their own combined, they form a consciousness net for libertarian ideals.

#### The basics

##### [The Libertarian Party](#)

This site is maintained by the national Libertarian Party and contains a wealth of info including the Party Platform, current press releases, lists of state affiliate parties and a nationwide calendar of libertarian events. A good reference point for party doctrine.

##### [Reason Foundation](#)

This Los Angeles-based research institute is familiar to many libertarians, and its Web site is home to a vast array of policy studies from its subgroup the Reason Public Policy Institute (RPPI). The site also contains a link to <http://www.reasonmag.com>, the online version of their popular *Reason* monthly magazine.

##### [Cato Institute](#)

Another public policy foundation, the Cato Institute preaches "market liberalism" and directs its energy at major government issues. Social Security, NATO, the federal budget and international trade are familiar targets. The organization publishes a monthly magazine, *Regulation*, which is available from the Web site. Their subsidiary site (<http://www.socialsecurity.org>) has detailed studies on the privatization of that government program.

##### [Advocates for Self-Government](#)

Creators of the famous "World's Smallest Political Quiz," this independent organization is a great producer of libertarian material: pamphlets, audio and video tapes, wearables and more. Their material helped get me involved in libertarianism perhaps it can do the same in your community.

#### The locals

##### [Libertarian Party of San Mateo County](#)

It's us! Our home page contains an online version of this newsletter as well as a number of libertarian-related links. It also serves as a reminder for upcoming meetings.

##### [Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County](#)

Our neighbors to the south also have their own Web presence off the main Libertarian Party site. Their site contains bylaws, meeting information, an online version of their newsletter and some snazzy photos of their elected officers.

#### The mailing lists

##### *Libertarian Party News*

##### [announce-request@lp.org](mailto:announce-request@lp.org)

The official mailing list of the national Libertarian Party. Provides press releases and other related info. To subscribe, send e-mail to the above address and include the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

##### *Liberator Online*

##### [liberator-request@lists.best.com](mailto:liberator-request@lists.best.com)

The mailing list for the Advocates for Self-Government. Just send an e-mail to the above address with the word "subscribe" in the subject line to receive the biweekly newsletter.

#### The unique

##### [Good Links for Libertarians](#)

Not a lot of description on this page, but it is a HUGE list of Web links to various and sundry pages. You could easily surf for hours from this page alone.

##### [Thomas Jefferson on Politics and Government](#)

Quotes, quotes, quotes! Also contains a vast list of reference materials on the Constitution, various libertarian and freedom-based Web sites and tangentially-related liberty sites. Very well organized and thorough.

##### [L. Neil Smith's Webley Page](#)

The home page of libertarianism's foremost science-fiction writer (author of the immensely-popular novel, *The Probability Broach*). He's also the editor of an online newsletter, *The Libertarian Enterprise*--a soapbox for his group to express libertarian ideas. Although not entirely "party line," Smith is nonetheless entertaining, intelligent and a darn good writer.

If anything, this should give you a good start into the libertarian Web. If you have your own libertarian Web site or know of a particularly good one, let me know at [spaceman@best.com](mailto:spaceman@best.com). We'd be happy to share it with the rest of the county!

## Entertainment Books Now Available

by [Margret Schmidt](#)

This is the fourth year we will be selling the very popular "Entertainment Books" as a fundraiser for our chapter. The books cost \$40 and for each one we sell, we keep \$8 for our treasury. The book is full of 50% off or two-for-one coupons for restaurants, theater, sports, movies, travel, museums and half-price discounts for over 1,500 hotels nationwide! Choose either the *San Francisco/San Mateo County* book or the *San Jose/Santa Clara County* book.

Send a \$40 check payable to the Libertarian Party of San Mateo County, 853 Middlefield Road #4, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Questions? Call Margret Schmidt at 650/833-1300. Thank you for your support!

## Quotes & Notes

"A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government, and this is necessary to close the circle of our felicity."

--Thomas Jefferson

*First Inaugural Address*

"The very purpose of the First Amendment is to foreclose public authority from assuming a guardianship of the public mind. In this field every person must be his own watchman for the truth, because the forefathers did not trust any government to separate the truth from the false for us."

--Thomas v. Collins,

*323 U.S. 516 (1945)*

"The Strength of the Constitution lies entirely in the determination of each citizen to defend it."

--Albert Einstein

## August Meeting Notes

by [Christopher Schmidt](#)

As planned, August's meeting was dedicated mostly to review of old treasury business, but extended to planning for the future and touched on other subjects as well. In Mary Steiner's absence, new Vice Chair Lacy Nelson chaired the meeting, with Steve Marsland guiding portions of the discussion.

### Past treasury business

After debating each category of Mary Steiner and Mike Moloney's past expenditures at length (with a view to voting on each item at the end of the night), Mike was asked how he would like to proceed. He proposed that instead of a potentially divisive vote, he would be willing to donate \$750 (\$500 in 810 days and \$250 before October 1), which, added to his donation last month of \$500, would total \$1,250--replenishing most of the \$2,038 awaiting retroactive ratification.

In addition to these personal donations, he would also work to raise enough money from those in agreement with his spending to cover the balance. Mike's offer was contingent that nobody construed his donations as an admission of wrongdoing. Acceptance of his offer was unanimous! Mike reiterated his request that we hold him responsible for the decisions and not Mary (the Treasurer at the time). Now that he is paying for the lion's share of the cost, to him also belongs the greatest share of the credit for the good this money was used for. A partial list would include: a mailbox, voicemail, signs, Browne campaign literature, and copies of *Libertarianism in One Lesson* that Mike has been handing out.

Steve Marsland said he also will work to raise money to cover our past spending and make similar measures possible in the future. Several of those present made donations after the meeting.

### Treasurer's report

Margret handed out Treasurer's reports detailing past and present costs of printing the newsletter, recent expenditures and potential upcoming monetary needs.

### Other news

Steve distributed an article about fund-raising that he picked up at a meeting on the subject. His goal is to vastly improve our fund-raising efforts in the coming months...Mike said he would take over our old mail drop for use as his campaign address...Steve brought in a preliminary copy of our proposed chapter bylaws for those in attendance to see. After a handful of comments, Steve reported that he will make revised copies of our proposed bylaws available to any interested person before our next meeting...Congrats to Mike and Bernie! They got a letter to the editor published recently in the *San Mateo County Times*...Mike continues to hit the streets three, four and even six (!) days a week to promote his campaign, and is seen by as many as 15,000 cars...Margret offered \$5 packets of the Advocates for Self-Government's "World's Smallest Political Quiz" for sale...I recounted the story of our region's Crockett-Bunce award.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, September 17  
Prime Time Athletic Club  
1730 Rollins Road, Burlingame (between Broadway and Millbrae Avenue)  
Informal chat: 6:30-7:30pm in the cafe  
Business meeting: 7:30-9:00pm in the multipurpose room

The front desk can direct you to either location. Come on by for either or both events!

## **A Call for Articles!**

by **Robert Giedt**

The county cannot live by my words alone! The *San Mateo Libertarian* is looking for free-lance writers willing to write on libertarian issues they feel passionate about. No reasonable offer refused!

If you have an article to contribute, just fire off a note to me at my e-mail address ([spaceman@best.com](mailto:spaceman@best.com)) with your story or story idea and we can work things out. In general, articles run from 150-400 words, with most falling into the 250 word range. (250 words fills up approximately half a printed page on a standard word processor.) In addition, if you have an article idea or news story in your local area, but don't feel comfortable writing it yourself, just send the tidbit our way. We'll assign someone to the story and it'll get some press.

Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month so they can be edited and included in the upcoming issue. Flex your writing muscle! You can make a difference!

## **Sponsors Sought!**

Would you like to support the Party while reaching fellow Libertarians with your message? We need more advertisements to fund this monthly newsletter. Rates are \$5 per month, or \$50 per year. Send your business card size ad (or tiff/eps file) along with your check to:

*Libertarian Party of San Mateo County, 853 Middlefield Road #4, Palo Alto, CA 94301*

Questions? Call Margret Schmidt at 650/833-1300.

Don't have something to promote, but want to sponsor our efforts? Use the membership form on the back of this newsletter to send us a one-time donation, or sign up to send us a monthly pledge!