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# SHOW ME FREEDOM

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Winter 2000

## Missouri Libertarian Party names Executive Director

### Report by Jim Higgins

At the last executive committee meeting, the state party named Greg Tlappek of Cape Girardeau to the newly established post of Executive Director. "This is a milestone for the Missouri Libertarian Party," said state chair Jim Givens.



**Greg Tlappek has run for Congress twice, served as county chair, and is a long-time member of the state and executive committees.**

"During this presidential election year we need a person like Greg to make the most out of interest in our Libertarian candidates," Givens said. "Our membership and contributions have reached a level where we can support a paid position like Greg's which can be critical to party growth and the ultimate success of Libertarians at the ballot box in Missouri."

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## Three Libertarians to run in Presidential Primary

*Vote in the first presidential primary ever in Missouri on March 7*

For the first time in history, Missouri voters will participate in a presidential primary. Libertarians can take part in this historic event by picking up the Libertarian ballot and casting their vote for one of the three contenders who filed: Harry Browne, Larry Hines, or Dave Hollist. You can even vote "uncommitted"!

The primary vote will not bind our delegates to the Libertarian Party's presidential nominating convention, scheduled for June 30-July 4 in Anaheim. According to the bylaws passed at the last state convention, delegates will be selected via congressional district caucuses during the upcoming state convention in St. Charles on June 2-4. However, voting on the Libertarian ballot will clearly convey your dissatisfaction with the policies of the other parties and help generate media coverage of Libertarian candidates and positions.

To help you decide which candidate to vote for, statements from each campaign are provided below. For more information, visit the MoLP's web page at [www.lpmo.org](http://www.lpmo.org), which provides links to each of the candidates' web pages.

### Harry Browne

I am running for President because it's obvious that no Democrat or Republican is going to stop the relentless growth of the federal government. No one but a Libertarian will reduce your taxes dramatically, allow you to live your life as a free American, and restrict the federal government to its Constitutional limits. I am running for President because the Republican and Democratic candidates argue only about which of them can best run your life. I believe you know best how to run your life.

Today (according to the U.S. Census Bureau) federal, state, and local taxes take 47% of the national income. The Republican and Democratic candidates are deciding whether that figure should be raised to 48% or lowered to 46%. I want to cut it in half at the very least and do the same to your tax burden.

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Tlapek has been functioning as the Executive Director unofficially without pay for over a year. "I am honored and pleased to accept this position," said Tlapek at the meeting. "The 2000 election year will present many opportunities for us and I plan to make the best of the them."

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### 1-877-VOTE-4-US

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*Want more information about the party? Interested in being a candidate or part of your county committee? Call the number listed above from anywhere in Missouri—toll free.*

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Tlapek agreed to be flexible on his compensation which will be based on contribution levels. At the meeting Tlapek was provided with an initial budget of \$2000 to be used for outreach and fundraising activities.

Tlapek has been active in the Missouri LP for over 10 years. In 1992 he was instrumental in getting ballot access and established status for the party, and was made an elector by the 1992 LP presidential candidate Andre Marrou. In 1994 and in 1996 Tlapek was the MoLP candidate for congress from southeast Missouri (District 8).

In recent years Tlapek has organized numerous outreach activities for the MoLP and is the contact for the in-state toll-free hotline number (listed above). He coordinated the booth at the 10-day Missouri State fair last summer. The fair booth generated several hundred inquiries for the MoLP.

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*I am proud to be the full time Executive Director for the Missouri Libertarian Party.*

*I once had a job where my immediate supervisor limited me on the number of times I could say "thank you" in one conversation. "Thank you for letting me say thank you," he would gibe.*

*Have I said "thanks" yet?*

*I am FIRED UP. We will turn the Libertarian Party label—a spot on the Libertarian Party ticket—into something candidates for public office fight to win. We will build a base of Libertarian voters. And in the end we will have created a political mechanism capable of electing Libertarian candidates.*

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The Missouri Libertarian Party is currently recruiting candidates in Missouri for all offices in the 2000 elections. ❖

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ST. CHARLES COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING

PLACE: JJ'S RESTAURANT ON THE SOUTH SERVICE ROAD IN O'FALLON.

TIME: FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, 7 P.M.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 3. Call 922-0570 for meeting topics.

### SPRINGFIELD AREA LIBERTARIAN MEETING

PLACE: IMO'S PIZZA

TIME: SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, 7 P.M.

Next meeting on February 9. Call 882-4229 for details.

### JACKSON COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING

PLACE: TORRE'S PIZZA IN THE WESTPORT SECTION OF KC

TIME: THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, 6:30 P.M. FOR DINNER, SPEAKER AT 7

Next meeting is on Wednesday, February 16. Call 913-383-7777 (24-hour hotline).

### ST. LOUIS CITY COMMITTEE MEETING

PLACE: LOCATION VARIES, CALL 997-8585 FOR INFORMATION

TIME: THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, 7 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16.

### EASTERN MISSOURI LIBERTARIAN CLUB MEETING

PLACE: STRATFORD INN, FENTON

TIME: THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:30 P.M. (OR ARRIVE EARLIER FOR DINNER & SOCIALIZING)

The club includes Libertarians from St. Louis County, St. Louis City, and Jefferson County. The next meeting will be held on February 18. Call 997-8585 for program details and other events in the St. Louis area (24-hour hotline).

### STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

PLACE: MONROE PLAZA HOTEL, JEFFERSON CITY

TIME: THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 1 PM

The next meeting will be held on February 20. A breakfast buffet is available prior to the meeting.

### FILING FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE AND COUNTY COMMITTEES

TIME: LAST TUESDAY IN FEBRUARY THROUGH LAST TUESDAY IN MARCH, FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 28.

Candidates for state offices file at the Secretary of State's office while county committee candidates file at with their county clerk. Details about filing are on Page 4.

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# St. Louis County Phonathon

In an attempt to boost membership, members of the St. Louis County Libertarian Central Committee sponsored a phonathon in January. The goal – contact each of the members in St. Louis County and ask for a referral.

Dick Illyes, St. Louis County Chair and a 2000 MoLP candidate for governor, generously offered his office space for three evenings in January. The database available on the MO LP website was downloaded, and queried for members. We looked up phone numbers for those that had no number listed. We also looked up township/precinct information. LaDonna Higgins prepared a script for the callers and a sheet for notes.

In addition to asking the member to refer us to a nonmember friend, we asked them if they would like copies of Dick's libertarian position booklet, and if they might be interested in being a candidate, and lastly, for a donation to cover the booklet. A mailing was sent to those who wanted booklets, or would consider making a donation.

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*Interested in doing a Phonathon in your county? You can get the most up-to-date database for your area from the party's website at [www.lpmo.org](http://www.lpmo.org). Party organizers can obtain a password from webmaster Hugh Emerson by e-mailing to [hemerson@trib.net](mailto:hemerson@trib.net).*

*It's a perfect time to contact your county party members about running for office and filing for your county committee.*

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St. Louis County has around 180 dues paying members. We actually succeeded in talking to just over 50% of the members. Between 5-10% were unlisted, so we were unable to contact these. The remaining were answering machines, no answer, or bad phone numbers. We did discover some useful information to pass on to National – one member had passed away – along with address changes and corrections.

Of the members contacted, most wanted several copies of the booklet to distribute to friends and over \$200 was raised. Two people committed to being candidates and hopefully the calls planted seeds of candidacy in the minds of many others.

St. Louis County members who participated included Dick Illyes, Jim and LaDonna Higgins, Eric Harris, Arnold Trembley, Joan and Wally Werner, Ron Johnson, and Frank and Dorie Nugent. ❖



**Members of the MoLP Executive Committee plan strategy at the January meeting in Jefferson City.**

## Vermont Project Launched

The MoLP was the only political party in the state to endorse Proposition B, which would have created a system whereby law abiding citizens of Missouri could obtain a permit to carry a concealed firearm outside their homes for personal protection. The measure was defeated in a special election last April, mainly by votes from St. Louis and Kansas City.

“If the Vermont Project has its way then Prop B will be back in November – only this time with an attitude,” states project organizer Steve Umsheid, who recently spoke at a St. Louis City Libertarian Committee meeting.

The Vermont Project is currently collecting signatures on initiative petitions to place on the November ballot the repeal of the laws against concealed carry in Missouri. “No permits, no medical record checks. This is the way it works in Vermont,” says Umsheid. “Vermont never saw the need to pass laws against its own citizens taking reasonable measures to protect their own lives. Vermont enjoys one of the lowest crime rates in the nation.”

Right now the Vermont Project is seeking volunteers willing to circulate petitions in their neighborhoods. The volunteers will be given lists of about 200 people who voted on the issue in the April, 1999 special election. The ones who voted in favor of Prop B are likely signatories of the ballot petition. The Vermont Project's goal is to have every volunteer collect about 50 signatures. The petitions to get the issue on the November ballot must be submitted by the end of April.

If you are interested in collecting signatures, you can sign up at project's web page, [www.vermontproject.org](http://www.vermontproject.org). Organizer Steve Umsheid notes that time is critical, with only a few months remaining to collect signatures. “We do this for one reason – to save lives,” he said. ❖

## THE 2000 ELECTIONS

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RUNNING

#### from the County Chair Manual by LaDonna Higgins

##### FEDERAL OFFICES

In 2000, Missouri will elect a U. S. Senator (John Ashcroft is the incumbent). A candidate for senator must be at least 30 years old and have held U.S. citizenship for nine years. Missouri will also elect representatives to serve in all nine congressional districts. Candidates must be at least 25 years old and a U.S. citizen for at least seven years. The filing fee for U.S. Senate is \$200 and \$100 for Representative.

##### STATE OFFICES

For statewide office, Missourians will elect a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Treasurer. The filing fee to run for a statewide office is \$200.

Candidates for governor and lieutenant governor must be at least 30 years old, U.S. citizens for at least 15 years and residents of Missouri for at least 10 years. Candidates for Secretary of State must be at least 25 years old and Missouri residents for at least one year. The Treasurer must be a U.S. citizen and a Missouri resident for one year. The Attorney General must be at least 30 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a Missouri resident for one year.

All state representative and the odd state senate districts will be up for election. State representatives must be at least 24 years old, a Missouri resident for two years, and a district resident for one year.

State senators must be at least 30 years old, a Missouri resident for three years, and a district resident for one year. State senators serve a four year term, while state representatives serve a two year term. The filing fee for state senate candidates is \$100; for state representative candidates, \$50.

##### HOW TO FILE

To file to run for any of these positions, go to the Secretary of State's office in Jefferson City, file a declaration of candidacy, and pay a filing fee. Note that the fee is forwarded to the MoLP. A paid receipt from the treasurer of the MoLP (Doug Pado) may be presented as proof that the filing fee has been paid.

Candidates must file for these offices between Tuesday, February, 29 and Tuesday, March, 28, 2000 – the last Tuesday in February through the last Tuesday in March –during regular office hours. ❖

## Why you should run

### By Jim Higgins, Recruitment Chair

What will be your political legacy? No, I am not talking about Bill and Hillary Clinton. I am talking about you and the Libertarian party. What will be your legacy and what legacy will the Libertarian party leave at the turn of the millennium?

Historians of the future will look back and analyze trends at the end of the second millennium. How will they view the Libertarian Party? You have a chance to influence what they will say, and at the same time include your name as part of that legacy. With your help the year 2000 will set records for Libertarian candidates, Libertarians elected, and party growth.

The national Libertarian Party has set a goal of running 2000 candidates in 2000. Can you pitch in and help carry the ball? We have US Senate, Governor, Lt. Governor and most of the congressional candidates lined up. Candidates are being sought for Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Attorney general. Plus there are 17 state senate seats up for reelection, and all of the 163 state representative seats.

More than one Libertarian can file for the same office. Multiple candidate result in a contested primary in August, which generates even more publicity.

Filing for office starts soon (see requirements at left). If you intend to run please contact me, Jim Higgins, via e-mail at [higginslp@aol.com](mailto:higginslp@aol.com), monopoly snail mail at PO Box 3231, St. Louis, MO 63130, or leave a message on the state-wide hotline, 1-877-VOTE-4-US.

We can live in society free from political privilege and bureaucratic harassment. Please help make it happen. ❖

### Committee Men and Women Also Needed!

The MoLP is an established political party in Missouri. That means our county party committeemen and committeewomen are elected in the August primaries, just like the Ds and Rs.

Every party member should file for a committee spot – it doesn't cost anything except a trip to your county clerk's office (exceptions: Jackson and St. Louis counties charge filing fees). Wouldn't it be great if there were official Libertarian Party Committees in all the counties in the state?

Filing is usually during the same period as filing for elective office, but double-check with your county clerk (in the county listings of your phone book). Help build the new majority party for the new millennium today! ❖

# News Briefs

## Missouri newspapers cite Libertarian affiliation

For the first time ever, the Missouri Blue Book lists two "Libertarian" newspapers. The Official Manual of the State of Missouri, commonly referred to as the Blue Book, publishes a list of newspaper organizations by county as a reference for Missouri citizens. The Libertarian papers are the St. Joseph Telegraph of Buchanan County and the Sedalia Democrat of Pettis County.

Until the 1999-2000 edition of the Blue Book, political affiliations had been limited to R, D, Ind., and NP (non partisan). Thanks go to MoLP webmaster Hugh Emerson, who contacted the Missouri Press Association to suggest that they include L for Libertarian as an affiliation option and predicted that it would be selected by the two papers.

Thanks go also to Buchanan County Chair Mike Bozarth, who has written editorials for the St. Joseph telegraph for the last 7 years, and to the newspaper's owner and publisher, Scott Johnson. Until recently, Bozarth produced an editorial for every weekly issue. Now another columnist alternates with Mike on the editorial page, and the Op-ed page offers alternating editorials from Llewellyn Rockwell of the Ludwig von Mises Institute and Congressman Ron Paul. ❖

## Free membership report

As hoped, the offer of free membership is helping to grow the state party. Previously, prospect mailings to leads gathered at events such as the Missouri State Fair drew a minuscule response in the form of new members at \$25 per membership. Since the free membership policy was put into effect this fall, 550 prospect mailings (including mailings to this year's state fair leads) have drawn 88 responses, for a return of 16%.

A warm welcome to all our new members! You will have plenty of opportunity in this election year to show the political establishment that you are fed up with politics as usual by voting for Libertarian candidates in the upcoming primaries and elections. Every Libertarian vote makes the politicians think twice about raising taxes or passing new regulations restricting our personal and economic freedoms.

A free membership includes a bumper sticker, a Missouri Libertarian Party (MoLP) membership card and a six-month subscription to Show Me Freedom (SMF). So don't delay!

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*Interested in becoming a FREE member of the Missouri Libertarian Party? Call toll-free from anywhere in the state: 1-877-VOTE-4-US.*

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If you wish receive SMF year-round, be an official member of the National Libertarian Party (NLP), and receive the monthly LP news published by the National LP, the joint MoLP/NLP membership is still available for \$25. Both options are offered in the mailing you will receive when you call. ❖

## St. Joseph Libertarian on talk radio

Mike Bozarth of St. Joseph would have been at the Executive Committee meeting on January 16, but instead spent his time being interviewed on radio stations KSFT 105.1 FM and KKJL 1550 AM. Both stations broadcast "The Open Line," hosted by Ken Beck from 9 to 10 a.m.

The program's focus was Libertarianism, and Bozarth made good use of the opportunity to let the listeners know that Harry Browne, Larry Hines and Dave Hollist will be their Libertarian choices in the upcoming March 7 presidential primary. He also mentioned Dick Illyes as the party's gubernatorial candidate and Grant Stauffer as a potential US Senatorial candidate.

Kevin Wisneski, a 24 year old Libertarian, was one of the callers. He represented himself and the Party well as he spoke about his planned run for a State House seat in the St. Joseph area, reports Bozarth. ❖

## Project Number 1 takes off

Project Number 1 is the first of a series designed to make it easier for members to make direct contributions to party growth. "A Libertarian Title in My Local Library" is the focus of the project, which will see that for every \$20 contribution a copy of David Boaz' "Libertarianism: A Primer" is placed on the shelf of a Missouri Library.

The project was conceived by the Executive Committee members from the 8<sup>th</sup> District, Mike Gardner and Greg Tlapkek (now also executive director). After investigation, they were surprised at how few Libertarian titles were available in their local libraries and how much red tape it takes to even get a library to accept a book donation! So they did their homework to make it easy for you to participate and ensure that this book gets into Missouri libraries.

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If you did not receive the mailing for this project, you can participate by mailing a check for \$20 per book donation, made out to the Missouri Libertarian Party and with the notation "Project 1," to MoLP, P.O. Box 78623, St. Louis, MO 63178. If you wish, you can also indicate which library or libraries you wish to receive the book. ❖

## News that's fit to print

Noticed that the Libertarian Party is getting more mentions in the media? Of course, more media means more exposure for Libertarian ideals. More sympathetic journalists. And more voters requesting more information about the party.

The National Libertarian Party has achieved remarkable success in riding the media wave through a constant barrage of press releases. Monthly media interviews and the number of stations carrying Libertarian news have more than tripled since the last presidential election year in 1996. You can help extend their reach with a minimum of effort.

MoLP public relations coordinator Jim Higgins relays NLP and MoLP press releases to a list of newspapers and radio and TV stations which he has compiled and maintains. Call the Missouri talk shows you listen to and newspapers you read. Get their fax numbers and e-mail addresses. Pass that information along to executive director Greg Tlapek at the party's toll free number 1-877-VOTE-4-US and he'll make sure Jim Higgins gets the information. If you include your e-mail address you'll get an e-mail version of the news release at the same time your radio station or newspaper does. You can pay special attention to see if you're making news. ❖

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## Presidential Primary

I am running for President because the federal government has stuck its nose into virtually every area of your life, with no Constitutional authority. It has made a mess of our health care system, of education, of welfare, and of law enforcement.

If we get the federal government out of all these activities, not only will they work much better, but we will no longer need a federal income tax – and we won't need to replace it with a new tax. The money collected today from tariffs and excise taxes is enough to finance a strong national defense, the federal judiciary, and all the other functions actually authorized in the Constitution – just as those taxes did for America's first 124 years.

I am running for President because I want to propose to every American the Great Libertarian Offer: Would you give up your favorite federal programs if it meant you'd never have to pay income tax again? I hope you say "yes" to this offer because – most of all – I want you to be free.

## Larry Hines

Larry Hines believes the year 2000 presents a phenomenal opportunity for self-expression and showing of presence on a national level of persons concerned about individual liberty and the erosion of the U.S. Constitution by divisive forces and the politicians who pander to those forces. Hines wants to be a part of and a catalyst for that national visibility.

Beginning his presidential campaign as an independent candidate and after many months of intensive research, Hines' intellect and inherent ideas have led him to the Libertarian Party. The Libertarian Party platform offers a model of society well worth aspiring to – a potential not recognizable in the major party platforms.

If you want real issues and real solutions addressed in the 2000 presidential campaign and eventually in Washington D.C., register as a Libertarian, become a member of your local Libertarian Party and support Larry Hines as the Libertarian Party nominee for president in 2000.

## Dave Hollist

Our nation has grown very strong because we are the first people to restrict our politicians. I would like to persuade you that we need to add another restriction to sustain the health of our nation.

The worst abuse of power by most politicians is taxation. They start by taking a small amount of money from a few citizens. Then, because every living thing tries to grow as strong as possible, these politicians take more and more money from everyone. To insure the survival of our nation, we should add the following to our list of restrictions: Our government will not tax.

**I would like to offer you a trade. If you vote for me to become the President, I will work to protect all Americans from anyone who tries to rob us. I will introduce contract insurance, which is a way that we can operate our government without taxation. During the last century, Americans eliminated the disease of slavery from our beautiful nation. This century, we should eliminate taxes. ❖**

# Success '99 held in St. Louis

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The NLP-sponsored Libertarian Leadership Training Seminar was held November 20-21 in St. Louis. Pictured above are some of the MoLP attendees, who were joined by Libertarians from as far away as Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas and Canada.

Due in part to the seminars, the LP ran 300 candidates for public office in 1999, more than twice as many candidates as ALL other "3<sup>rd</sup> parties" combined. This resulted in 34 newly elected Libertarians. Libertarians now hold 168 elective offices, plus an additional 112 appointed ones. Preliminary work is underway to arrange a Success 2000 seminar to be held in Jefferson City sometime during the filing season. ❖

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MISSOURI LIBERTARIAN PARTY STATE CONVENTION

PLACE: HOLIDAY INN ST. CHARLES/ST. PETERS

TIME: JUNE 2-4, 2000

It's not too early to start planning to attend this year's state convention. Get the early bird rate – sign up using the form on Page 7.

### YEAR 2000 NATIONAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY CONVENTION

PLACE: ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

TIME: JUNE 20 THROUGH JULY 4, 2000

Events include nomination of the LP presidential candidate. For more information, check the LP News, call 800-272-1776 toll free, or e-mail to LPCONV@aol.com.

If you would like to be a convention delegate from Missouri, contact MoLP state secretary Lisa Schaper by phone at 314-481-1776 or by e-mail at molp\_ss@swbell.net.

Show Me Freedom  
PO Box 32731  
Kansas City, Mo 64171

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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