



# Gulf Coast Liberty

Defending liberty in southeast Texas in the Spirit of San Jacinto

November 2003

## UH Daily Cougar Covers Daiell Speech

"Libertarian Calls System Unfair," was the headline for a Friday, October 10 article in the University of Houston's student paper the Daily Cougar. The article written by Ray Hafner reported on Jeff Daiell's speech to the College Libertarians at UH titled "The Good, the Chad, and the Ugly."

"Libertarian Jeff Daiell, who ran for Texas Governor last year, said that the laws and practices that make

up the American electoral system are unfair to third party candidates, partially because those laws were created by the two dominant political parties," Hafner wrote.

Jeff's speech detailed a number of problems with the current system including the undue influence of special interests, vote tampering, low voter turnout and the barriers to non-major party candidates. Jeff also of-

fered a number of solutions including increasing the number of districts for a more accountable representation, extending voting hours and creating a two day weekend election day, and using alternative voting systems such as instant run-off voting.

The article did mention that the speech was "sparsely" attended. However, there was a photograph included.

## Free State Project Picks New Hampshire

Aiming to preserve one bastion of freedom in the age of intrusive government, members of the Free State Project (FSP) have made a crucial decision. Voting via mail-in ballot after months of debate, Free Staters chose New Hampshire as their future home.

Founded in 2001, the FSP's goal is to concentrate 20,000 liberty-oriented voters in one state. There they will work to enhance and extend its existing culture of liberty. But until October 1 it was anyone's guess whether that state would be Montana, Wyoming, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Alaska.

The membership election took place using Condorcet's Method, which allowed voters to rank all states and selected the state that received a higher ranking than each other state from a majority of voters. The runner-up state was Wyoming, which defeated every other state but fell to New Hampshire by the decisive margin of 55 per cent to 45 per cent. The vote was counted and certified by EEMBC Certification Laboratory [www.ebenchmarks.com](http://www.ebenchmarks.com).

"New Hampshire is clearly the consensus choice of Free Staters," said FSP President and Yale political science professor Jason Sorens. "New Hampshire won a plurality of first-preference votes from every region of the country except the West."

"It's not difficult to see the reasons for New Hampshire's victory," adds Vice-President Elizabeth McKinstry. "The state boasts the lowest state and local tax burden in the continental U.S., the leanest state government in the country in terms of government spending and employment, a citizen legislature, a healthy job market, and perhaps most important, local support for our movement."

Over 100 New Hampshire residents have signed up for the Free State Project already, willing to move elsewhere but hoping to bring the movement to their home state. Governor Craig Benson even pledged to support the aims of the FSP, and several members of the legislature have signed up as members.

According to FSP Director of Member Services Tim Condon, Free Staters should also be a boon for the

New Hampshire economy. A member survey conducted with the vote showed 50% of members have at least a Bachelor's degree. Seventy-five per cent are under age 50. Almost half the membership earn \$60,000 or more per year. "The clear picture that emerges is one of a largely young, well educated, upwardly mobile group, said Condon.

Several hurdles still face the movement, which currently has about 4,500 members pledged to migrate to New Hampshire. Challenges include recruiting another 15,500 members and continuing to build support for their cause within New Hampshire. If current recruitment trends continue, the group expects to reach 20,000 commitments by 2006, after which point members have five years in which to move.

But Condon notes, "The member survey shows that 53% of members plan to move within three years, not waiting for the 20,000-member benchmark. Early movers should help recruitment by building a record of success."

For more on the Free State Project visit [www.freestateproject.org](http://www.freestateproject.org).



# Gulf Coast Liberty

Volume 11 Issue 11  
November 2003

Gulf Coast Liberty is published monthly by the Harris County Libertarian Party. P.O. Box 27932 Houston, Texas 77227. 713-271-1776.

Visit us on the web at <http://www.lptexas.org/harris>  
Online discussion group:  
to join send email to [HCLP-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HCLP-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Chair Anthony Garcia  
281-997-8141  
[Anthony@LibertyWorks.org](mailto:Anthony@LibertyWorks.org)

Vice Chair: Jeff Daiell  
713-777-1776  
[JeffDaiell@yahoo.com](mailto:JeffDaiell@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Kristin Thompson  
713-680-1291  
[Kristin@alfheim.org](mailto:Kristin@alfheim.org)

Treasurer: John Kormylo  
713-772-8416  
[elfsoft@mindspring.com](mailto:elfsoft@mindspring.com)

Editor: Laura Coker-Garcia  
281-997-8141  
[Laura@LibertyWorks.org](mailto:Laura@LibertyWorks.org)

San Jacinto Supper Club: Bob Lockhart  
713-475-0092  
[boblock@flash.net](mailto:boblock@flash.net)

Texas Liberty Club: Tom Clark  
713-722-9032  
[texaslibertyclub@aol.com](mailto:texaslibertyclub@aol.com)

College Libertarians at Univ. of Houston  
Monica Granger  
832-259-2830  
[uhlibertarians@yahoo.com](mailto:uhlibertarians@yahoo.com)  
[www.uhcollelibertarians.org](http://www.uhcollelibertarians.org)

North Harris College Club:  
Paul Hansen 281-209-1664  
[valetudo13@yahoo.com](mailto:valetudo13@yahoo.com)

Sam Houston State Univ. Club  
Brian Drake [brian@briandrake.com](mailto:brian@briandrake.com)

## In the mail

Samuel Pratt Jr. recently wrote in response to the question "What Libertarian issues do you think the LP should stress?" Samuel suggests "decriminalization of marijuana, open jails to release those imprisoned for minor offences in this category."

Jeremy Davis wrote in to suggest selling naming rights to public works projects. For example "Toyota Courthouse" or the Grand Toyota Belt."

Irvin Owen wrote in to ask "is there a national party?" The answer is yes. Membership in the National Libertarian Party is \$25 a year. A lifetime option is also available for \$1,000. You can join online at [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org) or you can print out a form from the state party website at [www.lptexas.org](http://www.lptexas.org) and mail it.

Or you can send your name, address, and occupation (to satisfy federal law) along with a check for \$25 to either HCLP (in our enclosed envelope) or directly to The Libertarian Party, 2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100, Washington D.C. 20037. For membership you need to include the following statement: "I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals," and your signature.

With dues-paying membership you will receive the monthly newspaper LP News and a membership card. You should also receive upcoming issues of the state party newsletter Lone Star Liberty.

Most LP campaigns are woefully under-funded. There aren't enough gung-ho LPers to provide the sums needed, and we aren't going to get much special-interest funding.

So: if the folks who agree with you can't provide much money, and the folks who want to use you won't provide any, who's left?

Your relatives.

Most of us have siblings, parents, offspring, cousins, spouses, in-

laws who may not be libertarians, but might kick in a check or two each because of affection or family loyalty.

An LPer running for State Representative sent his relatives a letter saying, "You may not agree with me, but send me money because you love me." The contributions came to \$1,500 - not a huge amount, but more than most LP candidates for such an office spent back then.

And, of course, these weren't funds that might otherwise have gone to another LPer; they represented a 100% net influx into the cause.

Is it easy asking family for contributions? Usually not. But make yourself, because it could make a difference in the effectiveness of your campaign.

Jeff Daiell

Following is a letter I sent to U.S. Representative Chris Bell, District 25. Please email your House Congresscritter and let them know that this is unacceptable! That women in China have control of their bodies where American women do not is unacceptable, given the "difference" in the forms of government in the two countries. I find the FDA's actions to be personally insulting, they are probably even more heinous for those women who need such an operation currently.

In today's issue of the New York Times, there was an article regarding women's' right to become pregnant. Visit: [www.nytimes.com/2003/10/14/science/14CELL.html?th](http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/14/science/14CELL.html?th).

I was appalled to learn that an innovative technique that allows women who could not previously become pregnant without the use of another individual's eggs, to become pregnant with a child from their OWN DNA has been expunged from this country as a result of FDA strictures! This is an outrage! That American women's' reproductive rights would be limited in such a manner due to sheer ignorance is, alas, not an un-

# Give Now for 2004 Ballot Access Effort.

Here is my best donation: \_\_\_\_\_\$15\_\_\_\_\_ \$25\_\_\_\_\_ \$50\_\_\_\_\_ \$100\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Tired of missing all the really cool activist opportunities? Send us your email and we'll let you in on all the details: \_\_\_\_\_

common scenario from United States history.

Please do what you can to remedy this situation: perhaps by removing the "oversight" that the FDA claims to have, as stated in the NY Times article.

Please let me know of any steps you take toward correcting this measure.

Monica Granger

## HCLP Activism

The Harris County LP Executive Committee sent a press release October 23 with our position against Metro's transit referendum.

The faxed release urged a vote against the rail bond issue—even by supporters of the rail plan itself. We argued that bonds raise the price of any endeavor and quoted Jeff Daiell: "Voters should remember that the referendum is not on Metro's plan itself, but on whether the plan should be financed with bonds, rather than on a pay-as-you-go basis."

The release also noted that Libertarians would vote against the bonds for another reason, as well, a belief that transit is properly a matter for the private sector.

Our other effort this month was action against the drainage fee. Thanks to everyone on our email lists that called or emailed council members. Unfortunately, the drainage fee passed adding about \$2 per month to our tax load.

The one-cent tax rollback also considered during the same council

meeting failed to pass 8 to 7—after two Council members (Bert Keller & Gabriel Vasquez) shifted sides and voted against it.

## Correction

Texas delegates to the LP National Convention will be chosen by the State Libertarian Executive Committee (SLEC) at the February 21, 2004 meeting. (Not in March as previously published.)

Libertarians interested in being delegates should plan to attend this meeting—tentatively scheduled to be held in Austin. Anyone who would like to be a delegate, but who will be unable to attend may have a SLEC member submit their name and speak on their behalf. Interested Houstonians should contact John Kormylo at 713-271-1776 to be added to the list.

## Bake Sale

Where can you simultaneously help a needy Libertarian group—participate in a political statement—and get a tasty dessert item? Why, at CLUH's Affirmative Action Bake Sale November 17th of course!

"The sale will focus on exposing the hypocrisy and hatred at the root of affirmative action policies in an innovative way, by translating the principle of affirmative action policies to a smaller scale: a bake sale," says CLUH President Monica Granger.

The sale will take place at the Agnes Arnold Breezeway on the UH campus Monday, November 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Prices will vary depending upon the race and sex of the buyer.

## Thanks Donors!

The Harris County Libertarian Party would like to thank the following recent donors:

**A.B. Benson**  
**P. Blondeau**  
**Eleanor Culberson**  
**Jeremy Davis**  
**Charles Edmondson**  
**J.P. Friedman**  
**Terence Murphree**  
**J. Reichwein**

See the form in this month's Lone Star Liberty—candidates, volunteer petitioners, and ballot access financial supporters needed!

**Robert F. Lockhart**  
**Certified Public Accountant**

P.O. Box 1398 Pasadena, Texas 77501

**713-475-0092**

Libertarian Party of Texas  
Gulf Coast Liberty  
P.O. Box 27932  
Houston, Texas 77227

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HOUSTON, TX  
PERMIT NO. 06478

Address Service Requested

## Libertarian Activities November 2003

**Nov. 4 (Tues.) Election Day** for Houston Mayor, City Council, HISD board, Houston Community College District bond referendum, transit (rail) referendum.

**Nov. 6 (Thur.) 7-9 p.m. College Libertarians at UH (CLUH) meeting** in the Aegean, University Center. Contact Monica Granger at uhl libertarians@yahoo.com or 832-259-2830 for information.

**Nov. 8 (Sat.) 1 p.m. Second Saturday Libertarian Lunch** at Star Pizza in the Heights. Contact Laura at Laura@Libertyworks.org or 281-997-8141.

**Nov. 11 (Tues.) 7 p.m. Brazoria County Meeting** at Golden Corral, Hwy 388 Business, Angleton. Contact George Harper at Gharper@sat.net or 979-964-3693.

**Nov. 12 (Wed.) 9:30-1:30 p.m. CLUH Operation Politically Homeless Booth** in the Satellite Lobby on the UH campus.

**Nov. 17 (Mon.) 9:30-2:30 p.m. CLUH Affirmative Action Bake Sale** in the Agnes Arnold Breezeway on the UH campus.

**Nov. 18 (Tues.) 6:30 p.m. Jefferson County Meeting** at the LogonC@fe, 3805 Calder Ave., in Beaumont. Contact John Gossage at che\_prof@hotmail.com or 409-860-4499.

**Nov. 19 (Wed.) 9:30-1:30 p.m. CLUH information**

**table** in the PGH Breezeway on the UH campus.

**Nov. 20 (Thur.) 7 p.m. San Jacinto Supper Club** at Top China Buffet, 3630 Spencer Hwy. in Pasadena. Contact Bob Lockhart at 713-475-0092.

**Nov. 20 (Thur.) 7 p.m. Montgomery County Meeting** at the South County Community Center, 2235 Lake Robbins Drive, The Woodlands. Contact Ron Hard at ronhard54@msn.com or 281-363-9211.

**Dec. 4 (Thur.) 7-9 p.m. Candidate Recruitment at College Libertarians at UH (CLUH) meeting** in the Aegean, University Center. Anyone (student or non-student!) thinking of running for office or helping with a campaign is encouraged to attend. Contact Monica Granger at uhl libertarians@yahoo.com or 832-259-2830.

**Dec. 6 (Sat.) 1-4:30 p.m. SLEC meeting** in Austin. Cepeda Branch Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley Road. For information contact State Chair David DeLamar at think@door.net.

**Dec. 7 (Sun.) 11:30 a.m. Harris County Meeting** at 9614 Oregano Circle (off Corporate Drive.) For information contact John Kormylo at elfsoft@mindspring or 713-271-1776.

**Jan. 2 (Fri.) 5 p.m. Deadline for Filing Application** for the Libertarian Party Nomination for offices up for election in the 2004 November General Election.