



# Analysis of March's crossover voting

*Registered Democrats more "libertarian" than expected*

by Christopher Schmidt

One interesting side-effect of Prop 198 (the blanket primary initiative) is that we can gain some insight into party affinity by examining the crossover vote in the March 2000 primary election (not previously possible, but now reported). Contrary to an oft-stated assumption, Republicans were only the *fourth* largest group (17% of our Presidential vote total) to cast their votes for Libertarians, following Libertarians themselves (37% of the total), Democrats (23%), and voters who Decline to State a party affiliation (19%).

Crossover Vote	decline								Total
	Libertarian	Democrat	Republican	AIP	Greens	Natural Law	Reform	to state	
Harry Browne	8852	4245	3528	385	110	37	236	3432	20825
Dave Lynn Hollist	781	585	414	70	10	7	21	599	2487
L. Neil Smith	1080	776	474	91	18	8	28	690	3165
Larry Hines	927	749	521	75	17	12	23	660	2984
Kip Lee	717	1447	708	101	23	15	20	978	4009
Total	12357	7802	5645	722	178	79	328	6359	33470

Republicans were loathe to cast crossover votes in any other party (only 8% did), but this is probably because their own primary (Bush vs. McCain) was the most exciting this year. (In fact, more Libertarians voted in the Republican primary than in our own—true of most other parties' voters as well!)

*Continued on page 2*

# May meeting notes

by Christopher Schmidt

*As Publisher, I'd like to apologize for the late mailing of the May newsletter. Two different contingency plans for getting the printing done while I was out of town fell through, and my hours were stretched too thin when I was in town. Please remember that the newsletter is produced entirely by volunteers, and sometimes, well, delay happens!*

As a consequence of the lack of notice, May's meeting was not a formal central committee meeting, and the business scheduled for that meeting will be taken up at the June meeting, if still appropriate. (Note: the initiative to change county supervisor elections to district elections (previously submitted for our consideration) has since been withdrawn.)

As it turned out, we had some potentially contentious executive committee business to take care of in May anyway.

## Chairship in debate

Spurred by a dispute concerning Jack's eligibility to serve as an LPSM delegate to the LPC convention back in February (and consequently as an LPC delegate to the upcoming LNC (Libertarian National Committee) convention in July), an LPC officer from outside our region had asked

the LPSM to examine the question of Jack's eligibility to be elected LPSM Chair last January. (Regional Chairs are delegates to the LPC convention ex officio.) Although technical opinions varied on that question, and on the related procedural issues, no action was taken, since no one saw any compelling benefit to the LPSM. (Jack's eligibility to serve as Chair today is unambiguous, following his election to the central committee at the March primary. Previously, he was an appointee.)

## Independent hears our views

Bob reported that the *Independent* picked up his press release announcing our officers elected at the Annual Meeting. Jack reported that the *Independent* honored him by inviting submission of guest editorials for future issues. *Congratulations, Jack!* To date, two of his columns have appeared in their Peninsula publications.

## Vice Chair appointment

Linden Hsu was appointed to serve as Vice Chair by a unanimous vote of 7-0-0. *Welcome aboard, Linden!*

## Mailing list change proposal

Bob suggested that this newsletter might poll readers on issues of the day to promote more community. Someone replied

# Formation of a Libertarian supper club?

by J.R. Prohaska

Interested in the idea of a monthly supper club or café club where politics, political issues, political philosophy are discussed (with a libertarian bent, of course)? I'm kicking around several ideas and am looking for partners to help me define, organize, launch, and run a monthly get together.

If you are interested please call J.R. Prohaska at 650/323-2808. For some interesting background on some of my thoughts point your favorite web browser at the following article:

<http://www.britannica.com/bcom/original/article/0,5744,4999,00.html>

Watch this newsletter for the latest information! ☺

that the web is better suited to polling, and I responded that maybe we should switch our mailing lists from listbot.com to egroups.com (which supports polling and other features not available on listbot.com). I'll be polling list subscribers to determine their interest level.

## Additional business

At the June central committee meeting, we will conduct elections to fill some vacant offices. (Three officers are presently serving as appointees of the executive committee, on an interim basis.) We may also entertain motions to formally endorse or dis PAVE2000; Tim Draper's competing "voucher" initiative; Quackenbush's recall; and the Prop 26 re-run getting the fast-track from government insiders. ☺

## NEXT BUSINESS MEETINGS:

**Tuesdays, June 13; July 11**  
Hobee's Restaurant  
1111 Shoreway Road  
Belmont

*(off Ralston on the bay side of 101)*

### Dinner (optional):

6:00-7:30PM in the dining room alcove

### Business meeting:

7:30-8:45PM in the dining room alcove

Libertarian Party

Region 41-San Mateo County
http://www.california.com/~lpsm/

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Crossover voting—

(continued from page 1)

Libertarians were more likely to vote in their own primary (33%), however, than all small parties' voters save the Greens. Only 5.8% of Reform Party voters voted in their own primary (a 5-way race, like ours), revealing only minimal loyalty among that party's registrants.

In contrast, 9.5% of the Natural Law Party's voters voted in their party's primary—and it was uncontested! Cf. only 3.1% of the American Independent Party's voters did the same for their single candidate. Commentators have long suggested that most people in the AIP are registered in that party by accident (because of the name 'Independent').

So whom should Libertarians recruit? Clearly, (of current voters) the big numbers can only come from the big blocs: Democrats, Decline-to-States, and Republicans. The other parties are not just small, but they lack a mitigating propensity to cross over our way. Relative to their numbers, however, Reform Party members were the most likely to vote for a Libertarian, followed closely by Natural Law, Decline to State, and AIP. Greens were less than half as likely as those parties' registrants, and Republicans and Democrats were half as likely as the Greens to do so.

Are these numbers statistically significant? Not really. It's kind of like judging the popularity of motion pictures by counting the people who switch screens in a multiplex after the features have started. They probably tell you something, but I'm not sure what!

March ballot proposition results

Table with 11 columns: Proposition, Yes, No, Y%, N%, A%, Yes, No, Y%, N%, A%. Rows include Tribal Gaming, Parks and Water, Drinking Water, Library Construction, Crime Labs, Veteran's Homes, Lotteries and Raffles, Murder, Peace Officers, State Lottery, Juvenile Crime, Limit on Marriage, None of the Above, Campaign Finance, Local Majority Vote, Congressional Term Limits, Repeal Tobacco Tax, Indian Gaming, Insurance Lawsuits, Insurance Amendments.



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June 2000

- Analysis of March's crossover voting
To form a Libertarian supper club?

Membership Form

(includes membership in the national, state and local Libertarian Party)



The Libertarian Party
of San Mateo County

853 Middlefield Road #4, Palo Alto, CA 94301-2919

Please print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Libertarian Party is the Party of Principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business.)

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I choose to set my dues at:

- \$10 Local newsletter only (signature/pledge not required)
\$25 Basic
\$100 Sustaining
\$250 Sponsor
\$500 Patron
\$1,000 Life

Plus an additional contribution to the San Mateo Region:

- \$ Monthly Pledge
\$ One-time Donation

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment method:

- Check (payable to the Libertarian Party)
Visa MasterCard

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_