



1998: Record Victories, Candidates Pace Greens

by Mike Feinstein,
Green Party of California

If it is true that modest but consistent growth foreshadows greater success, then 1998 was a very promising year for the Green Party. Following a pattern that started in earlier years, Greens are running more candidates and winning more races with each passing electoral cycle.

A record 125 Greens ran for office in 1998, including 112 in the November election. Eighteen won their races, a single-year record. Among them were 12 city council members and three county board of supervisors. With each step forward, Greens are gaining more experience, attracting more attention and becoming a more established part of the US political landscape.

Local races: Currently, there are 62 Greens holding elected office in 15 states (up from 42 in 12 states after 1996). Included in those numbers are 16 city council members in California alone (three of whom are also mayors of their cities). What unites Green candidates is a focus on sustainability, a commitment to social and economic justice, and a vision for a democratic, inclusive society.

Voters not only are electing more Greens in more cities, but they also are returning Green incumbents to office. This suggests that voters believe Greens have substantive

ideas and that they can govern. Since 1993, 16 of 19 Green incumbents for city council and board of supervisors have been re-elected. The three who lost were narrowly defeated by 50 votes all together.

In 1998, all four city council incumbents were re-elected: **Alan Drusys**, Yucaipa, CA; **Cris Moore**, Santa Fe, NM; and **Steve Schmidt**, Menlo Park, CA, all to their second terms. In Berkeley, CA, **Dona Spring** was elected to her US Green record fourth term. (Spring's first three terms were for two-years each. Berkeley since has changed its laws to provide for four-year terms.)

In Santa Monica, CA, Greens picked up their second city council seat with the election of **Kevin McKeown**. His victory followed on the heels of the city's first Green win in 1996 by **Mike Feinstein**. In Point Arena, CA **Debra Keipp** held onto the Greens' second seat in that city, replacing outgoing Raven Earlygrow.

On the Big Island of Hawai'i, **Julie Jacobson** won a partisan seat in District 6 on the nine-member Hawai'i County Council. She is the second Hawai'i Green to win a partisan election **Keiko Bonk** was elected to the county council in 1992 and 1994.

Another measure of the Greens' success are the coalitions the party is building: Green-Labor alliances helped elect McKeown, Moore and

Tim Fitzmaurice (Santa Cruz, CA) to city council seats.

And then there is the amount of opposition to Green candidates in the United States. For the first time, several Green candidates were targeted by well-financed, negative 'green-bashing' direct mail pieces. Winning city council candidates Drusys and McKeown were hit the hardest, as well as Pennsylvania Congressional candidate **Bill Belitskus** (who received 15%).

State and Federal races: Greens ran for governor in seven states: Alaska, California, Maine, Minnesota, New York, Oregon and Texas. Maine's **Pat LaMarche** had the highest percentage of the vote at 6.9%, re-qualifying the Maine Greens for ballot status. California's **Dan Hamburg** had the most votes overall, with 104,179.

In Alaska, Maine, Minnesota and Oregon, Green gubernatorial candidates appeared in at least one televised debate for the first time. In California however, winning candidate and now Governor Gray Davis went to great lengths to exclude Hamburg (a member of Congress from 1992-4) from a series of televised debates, fearing Hamburg's appeal to voters.

In two state house districts, Greens finished second, ahead of the Republican but behind the Democrat - **Ben Meiklejohn**, Portland, ME, (24.7%) & **Stan Kahn**, OR, (19.0%).

In four other races - two Congressional, one state legislative and one county supervisorial, Green candidates received more votes than the margin by which the Democratic candidates were defeated, suggesting a growing leverage by Green voters. The highest percentage in these races was the 15% garnered by **Bob Anderson** in a special congressional election in the Albuquerque, NM district.

In 10 other races, mostly state legislative and congressional, Greens were the only opposition to the incumbent party's candidate, in races that would have otherwise been unopposed.

When competing with candidates from other third parties, Greens generally finished first, including for both Governor and Lt. Governor in California.

Sara Amir's 3% was the highest third party total for California Lt. Governor in 60 years. The 247,897 votes she collected also made her the second highest vote-getter for any office ever sought by a US Green candidate.

Nationwide, the states in which the most Green candidates ran were California (41), New Mexico (15), New York (10) and Oregon (8).

The numbers of Green candidates running for specific offices were: Governor (7), Lt. Governor (6), Attorney General (1), State Comptroller (1) Secretary of State (2), State Treasurer (2), State Auditor (2), other statewide offices (8), US Senate (3), US House of Representatives (18), State Senate (4), State House/Assembly (17), County Council/Supervisor/Board of Supervisors (16), City/Town Council (30), Rent Stabilization Board (1), School Board (5), Planning Boards (2), Sheriff (1) and District of Columbia representative (1). +++

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ASGP Builds For The Present...

...and Plans For The Future

by Dean Myerson, ASGP Secretary

The Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) was formed in late 1996, to help strengthen and create independent Green parties in the 50 states and the District of Columbia, and to prepare for the creation of a national Green Party in the US. The inaugural ASGP meeting was held in Virginia in November, 1996. Subsequent meetings have occurred in Portland, OR (April 1997), Topsham, ME (October, 1997) and Santa Fe, NM (April, 1998). The next meeting is scheduled for Connecticut in June, 1999.

The ASGP currently has affiliates in 24 states, the three newest being

California, Georgia, and Minnesota. Each state has two delegates on the Coordinating Committee (CC). In addition, there is a five member Steering Committee with three co-chairs, a secretary and a treasurer. There are also a number of standing committees, including Accreditation, Communications, International, Platform and Presidential Exploratory.

The ASGP is a charter member of the recently formed Federation of the Green Parties of the Americas and also works closely with the Partido Verde Ecologista in México. The 30 member-nation European Federation of Green Parties has chosen the ASGP as its United States

partner, and the two worked together to craft a Common Ground statement for presentation at the EFGP's February, 1999 Congress in Paris.



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Green Party Candidates For Governor In 1998

Desa Jacobsson Alaska

In Alaska, the Green campaign for governor was a nail-biter, wrought with uncertainty and surprise. In the end, Desa Jacobsson received 3.01% and 6,608 votes, 12 more than needed to retain ballot status for the Green Party of Alaska until 2002.

Jacobsson, a 52-year-old Yup'ik and Gwich'in subsistence activist with roots in villages and towns across the Alaska, campaigned on increasing in-state hiring, furthering the state's recognition of tribal governments, and improving basic rural sanitation by running water and sewer systems into villages.

Her overarching issue was 'subsistence', a recurring theme in Alaska's elections, from downtown Anchorage to remote Eskimo villages. Jacobsson herself was raised in tiny Hooper Bay on the Bering Sea, where subsistence hunting and fishing are primary sources of protein for the people who live there, and which Jacobsen believes should be guaranteed as a primary right. "Subsistence is about more than food," she said. "It provides the foundation for family relationships. It is about our survival as a people."

Combining her message with a frank style and quick wit, Jacobsson fared well in candidate forums before the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, the Alaska Federation of Natives and on C-SPAN. Jacobsson criticized the state's elected officials for ignoring the wisdom of the elders. She argued - as the elders do - that declining oil prices should be no great worry for most Alaskans, because a can of Tlingit-styled smoked sockeye is worth more than one barrel of oil'.

Jacobsson came to the Green Party through unusual circumstances. In 1989, she was part of a group protesting a one-net subsistence fishing policy and was briefly jailed for violating state subsistence fishing rules on the Kenai Peninsula. The one-net policy in many cases limited several hundred people to the fish caught with just one net.

While many individuals came to her aid, the only political party to take a stand was the Greens, approving a resolution that named her a political prisoner. Her supporters included a Juneau Green named **Robert Willard Jr.** - a man Jacobsson never forgot. The charges against her were eventually dropped, and after her release, Jacobsen visited Willard to thank

him. In a remarkable twist of fate, the two eventually married, Jacobsson registered Green and then became the Green gubernatorial candidate seven years later.

On election night, Jacobsson had 2.9% of the vote, just short of the 3 percent needed to keep the Green Party on the ballot. But her fortunes (and those of the party) improved after votes from the last rural villages were counted, along with the absentee and provisional ballots. Together, they put Jacobsson over the 3 percent threshold by the slimmest of margin. Had she failed to receive 3 percent of the vote, the party would have lost its ballot status and could not have regained it until 2002. That is, unless a voter registration drive raised the party's total from its current 3,300 to 6,596 (3% of voters who cast ballots for governor).

The narrow survival at 3.01% was a reprieve for the party, which ran a low key campaign with fewer activists than it has in previous elections. In 1990, the Green Party of Alaska became the first US state Green Party ever to receive ballot status, when Sykes received 3.3 percent for governor. In 1994 he ran again, receiving 4.4 percent. Other strong candidacies for the party have included:

- Kelly Weaverling, mayor of Cordova, 1991-93 (non-partisan)
- Mary Jordan, US Senate, (8.3%), 1992
- Joni Whitmore, US House (10.5%), 1994
- Jed Whittaker, US Senate (12.5%), 1996, (finishing second ahead of the Democrat).



Pat LaMarche Maine

Across the United States, Maine Greens have been among the first Greens anywhere to organize, with their roots going back to 1984. By 1992, they began to run candidates. By 1994, they qualified for ballot status, with the party's gubernatorial candidate Jonathan Carter receiving 6.5%, easily surpassing the 5% needed threshold.

In 1996, the party was thrown off the ballot, after its presidential candidate Ralph Nader received only 2.5%. Maine Greens contested this

ruling by the Maine Secretary of State. Since Maine law says "gubernatorial or presidential" in its wording, they claim the 5% requirement should only apply every four years to the gubernatorial elections, not to the presidential elections in the intervening two years, which would require the party's presidential nominee also to receive 5%.

Maine Greens argued they should not be penalized within their state, for the status of the Green party on the national level. This case is now under constitutional appeal at the Federal First Circuit Court in Boston. The Greens contend that Maine Green Party member's rights un-

ing out among the other four candidates, all men, and winning the hearts and minds of many, including a lot of 'fence-sitters'.

Many of LaMarche's big issues — universal health care, child care for welfare moms, higher salaries for teachers, more progressive taxation and corporations paying their fair share — were aimed at helping Maine's women and poorer people. She also supported small business, while standing at the same time for workers rights.

LaMarche received the endorsement of the Maine chapter of the National Organization of Women

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der the First and Fourteenth amendments of the U.S. Constitution guarantee the Greens the right to form and maintain a political party and that the laws of the state of Maine violate these rights. The state contends that running candidates as "Independents" is sufficient and thus no rights are abrogated. A ruling is expected by the end of March, 1999.

Regardless of that ruling however, for at least the next two years, the Maine Greens are back on the ballot, thanks to Pat LaMarche and her impressive 6.9% in a five-way race for Governor.

LaMarche, 37, has brought strong family, community, and ecological values to her work, from being Director of Eastern Maine Medical Center's Children's Miracle Network, to serving as the Forest Ecology Network's spokesperson and outreach educational director for its recent campaign to end massive clearcutting,

A strong campaigner, LaMarche spoke at community centers, factories, and on the streets. She brought many new people into the party, gained a lot of attention for the party from the media, and participated in all of the candidate debates (including the six televised ones).

Long-time Maine Green organizer John Rensenbrink observed, "Pat came across as a person of insight, integrity, and intelligence, stand-

(NOW), the first time a NOW state chapter has endorsed a Green candidate for statewide office.

JoAnne Dauphinee, a member of the Maine NOW board of directors, said "while creating a new view of what a leader can and should look like, Pat is making the connections that economic justice, child care, education, affordable and accessible health care and environmental concerns are not just our issues or women's issues - they are issues all Mainers care about". The Green Party also fielded two candidates for the state legislature in 1998 and both did very well.

Betsy Marsano ran in a two way race in Portland's District 30, receiving 28%. A long time community activist, she canvassed the district's famed Munjoy Hill neighborhood, an diverse urban area of different ethnicities, recent immigrants, yuppies, and poor people. To everyone who opened their door, she presented her platform of education, health care, living wages and community-based economic development within a healthy environment. Former president of the student body at the University of Maine in Orono, **Ben Meiklejohn** ran in District 31, the west promenade area of Portland. With a solid door-to-door campaign, he received 25% in a three-way race, finishing second, beating the Republican.

After the election, newspaper editorials in the *Bangor Daily News*, go to next page

STATE-BY-STATE ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado Greens Reach New Heights

With over 1,000 Green registrants, the Green Party of Colorado became a ballot status, minor political party during 1998. During June, they held their first nominating convention as a ballot status party, in the historic Chautauqua Auditorium in Boulder.

Two candidates were nominated for partisan office: **Dean Myerson** for University of Colorado Regent at large, a statewide office, and **Nancy York** for Larimer County Commissioner. Myerson is a member of the Boulder Green Alliance and York, a member of the Poudre Valley Greens living in Fort Collins.

Myerson finished with 3.6%, the highest of any third party candidate for state office in Colorado. York finished with 15%, among the highest for third party candidates for any office in Colorado in a three-way race.

Myerson vowed to focus on the secrecy and backroom dealings of the Regents. Endorsing his candidacy, the *Boulder Weekly* wrote 'Dean Myerson, the Green Party candidate going after (incumbent) Martin's regent seat, confronts these issues directly in his crusade against "crony democracy" at work on the board. Myerson is a capable candidate from an exciting third party. He and other Greens, unlike the CU Regents, do not evade ethics in their approach to policy; they embrace it.'

York was endorsed by the main paper in her county, the *Fort Collins Coloradoan*, which wrote "York would bring a good balance and fresh perspective to the county commission... As a native of Larimer County who has lived here much of her life, York knows the people, the history and the needs of the county. And, as evidenced by her candidacy on the Green Party ticket, she has a deep passion for the environment."

The *Coloradoan* editorial board continued, "York speaks eloquently of the need for sustainability and says she would use the commissioner's chair as a bully pulpit to talk about sustainable plans and ideas. She has a long history of service on local boards and commissions, experience that would serve her well as a county commissioner. We believe that, as a commissioner, she would be an advocate for alternative, innovative solutions."

Myerson also received endorsements from local alternative newspapers around the state, including the *Colorado Daily*, a sort-of student newspaper that is actually independent of the university and students, but is distributed daily all over Boulder. The *Boulder Daily Camera*, Boulder's daily newspa-

per, endorsed the incumbent Republican but acknowledged Myerson's campaign issue of the secrecy of the Board of Regents.

Myerson raised about \$1,500, all from individual donors. He was accepted into all of the statewide debates, as the new, more liberal third party laws focused attention on the Greens and the other alternative parties, and making it easier for them to be included. York raised \$5,000, which was more than the Democrat who finished ahead of her. Since the election, three new locals have started in Colorado and some Greens are looking at the possibility of county commissioner and state house races in 2000.

DC Greens Get Ballot Status On First Try

In the nation's capital, the Green Party took a major step forward in 1998. They set three goals for the fall election: (1) introduce the Greens as a local political force and highlight their issues; (2) get ballot status; and (3) win the election.

Green candidates did inject their issues into the political discourse, advocating small-scale, locally owned, environmentally sound

neighborhood development; attacking big business projects such as the new convention center being built at Mount Vernon Square; and supporting statehood and the medical marijuana initiative.

Neither Green candidate - **Scott McClarty** (City Council, Ward One) or **Mike Livingston** (shadow rep-

resentative to US Congress) actually won their race. But each gained 8% of the vote and Livingston received 9,191 votes, easily surpassing the 7,500 necessary to achieve ballot status for the DC Greens. The Sierra Club endorsed Livingston, and the DC Statehood Party endorsed McClarty. Each endorsement lent important credibility.

...York speaks eloquently of the need for sustainability and says she would use the commissioner's chair as a bully pulpit to talk about sustainable plans and ideas..

The Green Party now becomes the District's fifth "major party," along

we did get ballot status," said **Steven Donkin**, a member of the DC Green steering committee that leads the local Green Party. "It was particularly impressive that we accomplished this the first time out" added McClarty.

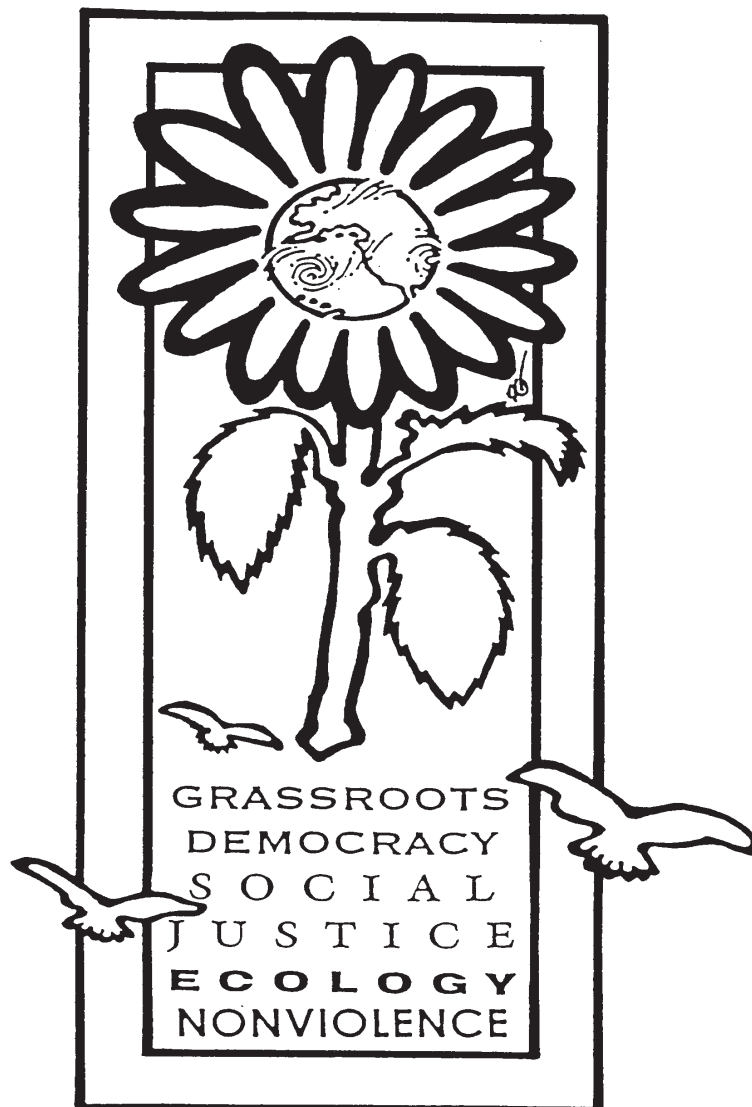
New Jersey Greens Grow Fast

In only their second year of running candidates, New Jersey Greens gained momentum and stature in 1998. Their candidates averaged 1% of the vote, up from .5% in 1997. They blanketed central New Jersey and Atlantic County with their distinctive lawn signs, gained many new members and appeared in the press more prominently than ever before.

In the 12th Congressional District, **Madelyn Hoffman** received 0.8 percent of the vote, almost twice as much as the Reform or Natural Law Party candidates. Among all third party candidates, she came in second to the Libertarians. In the 6th Congressional District, **Carl Mayer** became the first New Jersey Green to finish first among third party candidates, with 0.9 percent. In the 4th Congressional District, **Nick Mellis** was close behind the Conservative and Libertarian Party candidates, receiving 0.7 percent.

Fred Disque and **Paul Williams** became the first New Jersey Green candidates to get more than 1% of the vote. Running for Freeholder in Burlington County, Disque was endorsed by the NJ National Organization for Women and NJ Environmental Federation and received 1.5% of the total. Williams, running for the at-large Freeholder seat in Atlantic County, received 1.1%.

As the strongest progressive 'third party', the Greens were seen by the Democrats as their most serious threat, particularly in Hoffman's and Mayer's races. This helped them generate more press than the other third party candidates.



**The Green Party
is a global movement,
existing in at least 80
countries on six continents**

STATE-BY-STATE ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

A former 'Nader's Raider', Mayer came to the Greens after attempts to win the Democratic Party primary for U.S. Congress failed in 1996 and 1998. He had started his political career running for Congress and State Assembly as an Independent. He had been a Consultant to the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Investigations, then was elected to the Princeton Township Committee in 1995 as an Independent.

Thinking he would be able to win a Congressional seat running as a Democrat, Mayer tried twice, then concluded that party bosses would always stand in the way of someone they felt to be too reform-minded and "ultra-progressive." In Mayer's past campaigns for Congress and the state assembly, he had been endorsed by the Sierra Club, the New Jersey Environmental Federation, the National Organization for Women, the Mercer County Women's Political Caucus, and the Mercer County Greens.

After receiving 37% of the vote in the spring, 1998 Democratic primary in the 12th District, Mayer accepted the Greens' invitation to become their candidate in the 6th District. At that point the Democrats joined a motion filed by the Attorney General to invalidate Mayer's petition on the basis that he should not be allowed to run in the 6th after having lost a primary in the 12th. That motion was ultimately denied.

Having high visibility as a "formerly serious Democratic contender", Mayer was included in most candidate forums and debates. He focused on financial security and quality health care for seniors, and on toughening the Superfund program and cracking down on corporate polluter. The district's most important daily newspaper, *The Home News Tribune*, said Mayer's positions and performance in the forums were "the best" — but in the next sentence told readers not to vote for him because 'his motives for running were suspect'.

All three Green congressional candidacies ran in adjacent districts, covering approximately the same media market. This resulted in quite a bit of synergy between the three campaigns. They fundraised together, spending about \$10,000 in total, and ordered uniform lawn signs, with only the name different from one district to the next. This meant the distinctive Green Party signs "seemed to be all over the place" in central New Jersey.

According to long-time organizer Steven Welzer, after only two years of running candidates, the New Jersey Greens have become the third most significant alternative party in the state. Although still trailing the older, more established Conservatives and Libertarian parties, they beat the Natural Law

Party, Reform Party, and Socialist Workers candidates consistently. After the election, several progressive and environmental organizations made a point of asking the Greens to discuss future campaign strategies. Internally, the Greens also experienced a significant jump in new membership applications, renewals by old members, and requests for information during the campaign.

Grassroots Organizing Wins Ballot Line for New York Greens

by Howie Hawkins

According to Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News*, New York state has 90% of the ballot access lawsuits in the US. The only way to qualify there for a full party ballot line, is to win 50,000 votes for governor/lieutenant governor.

Over the last eight years, New York Green have had to circulate nominating petitions that require many more times the number of signatures than the candidates of ballot-qualified parties. At the same time, even these signatures are routinely challenged by Democratic Party 'hacks', trying to drive Green candidates off the ballot (sometimes being successful). To survive such challenges, one often has to have double the number of signatures required.

But in the next election, the hacks will be disappointed. The Green ticket of "Grandpa" **Al Lewis** for Governor and **Alice Green** for Lieutenant Governor received

52,533 votes, enough to give the Green Party of New York State a ballot line for the next four years.

The Greens faced a number of obstacles on the road to 50,000 votes. The most formidable was the competition from eight other independent parties appealing to progressive voters, all seeking the same prize. Two of these parties were organized by Greens formerly active with the Green Party of New York - the Green Choice Party (which failed to get enough signatures to make the ballot) and the Marijuana Reform Party. Other parties which drew progressive votes were the Unity Party (initiated by the Independent Progressive Politics Network); the Working Families Party (established to replace the Liberal Party as the second ballot line for Democrats under New York's peculiar tradition of fusion politics); the Liberal Party (a party shell degenerating into a patronage machine); the Independence Party (conservative on economic issues, liberal on social issues/good government), and the Libertarians and Socialist Workers.

The Greens relied on 240 volunteers to collect 33,010 signatures, which they turned in a week early, the first day of the week-long filing period. They hoped to surprise the Democrats and catch them unprepared to challenge Green petitions within the allotted two weeks, which could have cost them up to \$1 million to do.

Once on the ballot, the main competition for progressive votes came from the Working Families Party. Working Families went \$100,000 into debt, spending \$500,000 (not counting the over \$10 million spent on their own by the Democratic candidates they endorsed), and received a little over 50,000 votes. Unity spend \$10,000 for fewer than 10,000 votes. The Greens spent \$15,000 (and had \$1,000 left over), receiving slightly more votes than Working Families.

Green Slate of Ten Candidates: As the beloved "Grandpa Munster" of TV sitcom fame, Green gubernatorial candidate **Al Lewis** had the name recognition to get people's attention. Then people found he was an 88-year old lifelong radical, who cut his political teeth on the campaigns to save Sacco and Vanzetti and the Scottsboro Boys in the 1920's and 1930's. Lewis had been a union organizer with textile workers and sharecroppers in the South, and with the maritime union as a merchant marine during World War II. He also had worked with the Black Panthers. Today he is still active with his own political talk radio show on the Pacifica affiliate in New York City.

Lewis' running mate was Alice Green, a well-known African American activist in Albany, who organizes against police brutality and racism in the criminal justice system.

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Julie Jacobson Wins County Council Seat Waves "Aloha" To Incumbent Republican

In a major step forward for Hawai'i Greens, **Julie Jacobson** won a partisan County Council seat on Hawaii's Big Island, reclaiming a seat for the Greens held by **Keiko Bonk** between 1992 and 1996.

District 6 is 120 miles from one end to the other, and three times as large as the island of Oahu. Jacobson won there by 200 votes, her losing margin in 1996. Her victory in part was a result of a two-year Green registration drive, which led to 500 more votes overall for Jacobson.

Her incumbent opponent was Republican John Santangelo. The battle was over development. Jacobson campaigned for true cost, community-based development. Santangelo 'talked the talk', but voted a corporate line.

Jacobson's campaign manager was Bonk. Bonk budgeted the campaign for \$20,000 to win, and laid out a specific fund raising strategy. She was right on the money. In a district that by a large margin went Republican in the governors race, Jacobson ran ex-

plicitly as a Green, and showed that the Green concept of sustainability has a wide appeal.

Jacobson covered hundreds of square miles on foot going door to door, attending every community event, standing on the roads waving signs, running radio commercials and newspaper adds, and doing several mailings. Jacobson campaigned against building a large prison in Kau, against privatization of county services, and against the building of a nuclear food irradiator, an initiative which failed by less than 1% of the island-wide vote. This effort garnered a lot of support for Jacobson among the newer Haole residents, but broke up part of the agriculture coalition Bonk had built.

Jacobson did consistently well in all debates. The Sierra Club and the Conservation Voters of Hawaii endorsed her. She ultimately won with a rural coalition of Anglos (Haoles), Hawaiians and other ethnic groups, against an older pro-business status quo coalition that was also ethnically diverse, but more conservative.

Hawai'i Greens feel they have the best County Council now in many years, and that this gives Jacobson a chance to bring about real positive change. On the nine-person council, there is a Green, Green/Republican native Hawaiian, a Filipino Democrat, and a newly elected Anglo female Democrat, who all support community based economic development. Since Bonk's first victory in 1992, local Greens have successfully changed the local political frame of reference.

For the long-term, Jacobson's victory demonstrated that a Green other than Bonk can win. Combined with Bonk's two previous wins and her near island wide victory for Mayor in 1996, the Greens are clearly a viable political force on the Big Island. In 2000 they hope to win one more seat and gain a Green/progressive majority on the council.

Bonk will also make a second run at Mayor, with the possibility that the Greens will have the ability between the council and mayor's office, to begin creating a model sustainable society.

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The ASGP also sent an observer to the first African/European Greens meeting, held in Nairobi, Kenya, in December, 1998.

At the Santa Fe ASGP meeting, a series of interim position statements were approved that serve as the ASGP's basic platform, until a full platform is approved. The Platform Committee is currently working on a draft 'Platform 2000'. The draft and interim statements are available at the ASGP's web site (see below). In Santa Fe, a report was also presented by the Transition Committee, on plans for future state representation in the ASGP and at a 2000 potential presidential nomination convention. Delegates also dealt with bylaw and rules changes relating to accreditation of new member states, and a policy for dealing with the Federal Election Commission.

The current ASGP Steering Committee was elected in Santa Fe by preference voting, a proportional representation system. The three co-chairs are **Nancy Allen** (ME), **Tom Sevigny** (CT) and **Anne**

Goeke (PA). **Dean Myerson** (CO) is Secretary while **Tony Affigne** (RI) is Treasurer. Since Santa Fe, the Steering Committee has been overseeing press relations. A strong showing in a special election in New Mexico led to extensive coverage in both the mainstream and progressive press, including the *New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, *the Nation*, and *In These Times*.

In December, 1998, the ASGP created a Presidential Exploratory Committee. Their task is to contact potential presidential candidates to determine if they are interested in running for President in 2000 on the Green Party ticket, and if so, how they would run their campaign. The committee will not be making any recommendations regarding candidates, but rather will pass on the information it gathers to all Greens.

The next ASGP meeting will be held June 4th-6th, at Sunrise Resorts near Moodus, CT. For more information, contact the state party nearest you or the ASGP.

Against All Odds: The Green Transformation of American Politics

By
John Rensenbrink
Leopold Press
New Book on the Green Party movement in the United States

A new book on the US Greens will be released April 1st, entitled *Against All Odds: The Green Transformation of American Politics*. It is written by long-time Maine and US Green organizer John Rensenbrink. The Foreword is by renown consumer activist and 1996 Green presidential candidate Ralph Nader.

In *Against All Odds*, Rensenbrink takes readers on a 15-year sojourn through US Green history, and places the US Green movement in the context of the American political scene. The general public will wonder why they never paid attention to what the Greens were saying, why they thought Greens

were anti-business, and why they thought Greens were only an environmental party.

Running through the book is the theme of the liberation of political terrain and the regaining of political freedom. Greens will discover the long road many dedicated people have been traveling to grow and develop a viable Green Party in the United States. Both Greens and non-greens will begin to appreciate how the Green Party, by strengthening democracy, will contribute to a stronger, more vibrant and healthy 21st Century. No caring citizen-activist should neglect this account of Green party politics and the dilemmas of American democracy at century's end.

To receive a copy of *Against All Odds* send check or money order for \$19.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling to Leopold Press, PO Box 1237, Raymond, ME 04071-1237. For more info, contact the publisher at draper@ime.net; (207) 655-4715.

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<http://www.greens.org/florida/>

Georgia Green Party

P.O. Box 5332, Atlanta, GA 31107-5332
800/447-6694 (vm & fax)
ggp@greens.org
<http://www.greens.org/georgia/>

Hawai'i Green Party

PO Box 3220, Kailua-Kona, HI 96745
(808) 324-7336
bbell@aloha.net
<http://www.greenhawaii.org>

Indiana Greens

PO Box 95, South Bend, IN 46624
(219) 289-9220
manderlik@igc.org
<http://www.michiana.org/greens/>

Chicago Greens (Illinois)

716 W. Maxwell St. Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 243-5619
brudner@arcologize.org
<http://www.chicagogreens.org>

Iowa Greens

411 N. Dubuque St, #2, Iowa City, IA 52245
(319) 337-7341
holly-hart@uiowa.edu
<http://www.greens.org/iowa/>

Louisville Green Party (Kentucky)

1326 Barret Ave. Apt. 4,
Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 479-3064

Green Party of Louisiana

7725 Cohn St., New Orleans, LA 70118
(504) 861-8832
lagreen@linknet.net
<http://www.greens.org/louisiana>

Maine Green Independent Party

PO Box 2046, Augusta, ME 04338
(207) 623-1919
greens@powerlink.net
<http://www.mainegreens.org>

Maryland Green Party

P.O. Box 461, College Park, MD 20740
(301) 277-3720
dmoore@crosslink.net
<http://www.wam.umd.edu/~millermn/mdgreens.html>

Massachusetts Green Party

PO Box 43, Lawrence, MA 01842
(978) 688-2068
massgreens@igc.apc.org
<http://www.envirolink.org/greens/massachusetts/>

Green Party of Minnesota

P.O. Box 582931, Minneapolis, MN 55458
(612) 871-4585
holleb@aol.com
<http://www.jimn.org/gpm/gpm.html>

Green Party of Michigan

548 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 663-3555
harvey@ic.net
<http://webscribe.net/greens>

Green Party of Nevada

PO Box 9127, Reno, NV 89507
(702) 849-3887
aclaws@worldnet.att.net
<http://www.rahul.net/cameron/nader/States/nev-pre.html>

Green Party of New Jersey

PO Box 9802, Trenton, NJ 08650-9802
(609) 278-4467/ fax (609) 393-5343
gpn@techie.com
<http://www.gpnj.org>

New Mexico Green Party

P.O. Box 22485, Santa Fe, NM 87502
(505) 473-3621
nmgp@nmgp.org
<http://nmgp.org>

Green Party of New York State

63-36 98th Place #5J, Rego Park, NY 11374
(888)-NY4-GREENS, (718) 459-1778
levner@panix.com
<http://www.greens.org/ny>

Green Choice Party

29 Middagh St., Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 522-0253.
esalzman@aba.org
<http://www.asan.com/users/dmarksband/greenchoice.htm>

Orange County Greens (N. Carolina)

33 Mt. Bolus Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 933-4254
marcoplos@aol.com
<http://www.jwp.bc.ca/rbueker/nc-greens/greennc.html>

Ohio Greens/Green Party of Ohio

2233 Parkwood, Toledo, OH 43620.
(419) 836-8331.
bkrompak@aol.com
<http://www.envirolink.org/greens/ohio>

Pacific Green Party (Oregon)

PO Box 1223 University Station,
Portland, OR 97207
(503) 293-5888
b2@peak.org
<http://www.pacificparty.org>

Green Party of Pennsylvania

Box 7413, Lancaster, PA 17604
(717) 394-9110
ajgoeke@igc.org
<http://petra.greens.org/pennsylvania/>

Green Party of Rhode Island

P.O. Box 1151, Providence, RI 02901
(401) 521-6454
affigne@providence.edu
<http://www.greens.org/rhode/>

Green Party of Texas

818 West 31st Streetm Houston, Tx 77018
(713) 880-3219
cobbweb@onramp.net
<http://www.harriscountygreenparty.org>

Green Party of Virginia

1 South River R, Buena Vista, VA 24416
(540) 261-4306
eric@rockbridge.net
<http://rockbridge.net/greens>

Seattle Greens Network (WA State)

P.O. Box 95515, Seattle, WA 98145-2515
(206) 215-1158
sgreens@boutell.com
<http://boutell.com/seagreens>

Green Party of Wisconsin

1001 E. Keefe, Milwaukee, WI 53212.
(715) 472-2728
peterson@win.bright.net
<http://www.excel.net/~pdrewry/email.htm>

Laramie Green Party (Wyoming)

2087 Van Buren St., Laramie, WY 82070
(307) 705-3266



In memory
Walt Bresette

State Green Party Ballot Status Update

Pennsylvania Greens Seek To Ease Ballot Access Law

The Voters' Choice Act was introduced into the Pennsylvania State House in February, 1999. Drafted by the Green Party of Pennsylvania, it would reduce the number of signatures necessary to qualify a candidate for a statewide race ballot from the current 30,000 to 4,500. It would also provide a realistic way for new parties to qualify for ballot status. The current law, passed in 1976 requires a party to register a number equal to approximately 15% of all registered voters, or about one million voters. The Voters' Choice Act would change that to requiring a party to get 1% of the vote in any statewide race.

Revision 11 Revolutionizes Florida Ballot Access Law

In November, 1998 Florida voters passed Revision 11, with 64.7% of the vote. It amends the Florida State Constitution to provide that ballot access procedures for minor party and independent candidates can be no more difficult than procedures by which the Democrats and Republicans have to follow. According to Richard Winger, editor, *Ballot Access News* "Revision 11 is the biggest victory for the ballot access reform movement in the US since 1968."



The old Florida procedures for minor parties and independent candidates were the most draconian in the U.S. For non-presidential statewide office, candidates had to submit 242,000 valid signatures, as well as pay a huge filing fee. If they did get on the ballot, no matter how many votes they polled, they had to repeat the same petition process all over again in the next election. To qualify a party for ballot status, the party had to have at least 5% of all the state's registered voters (no party, other than the Democrats or Republicans, have had 5% in any state since the 1910s).

Revision 11 is a product of the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC), which only meets every 20 years to consider changes to the Florida Constitution. The Green Party of Florida, together with a coalition of other minor parties, the ACLU of Florida and Common Cause, spent two years lobbying the CRC to recommend these changes.

Green Ballot Status as of 1998

In what speaks loudly about the results from the 1998 - and what bodes well for the future of the party in the United States - Greens gained ballot status for the first time in **Colorado**, the **District of Columbia** and **New York**. The party regained ballot status in **Maine**, and retained it in **Alaska**, **California**, **Connecticut**, **Hawai'i**, **New Mexico**, **Oregon** and **Wisconsin**. By not running a candidate in either, the Greens lost ballot status in **Nevada** and **Vermont**.

When the Florida legislature convenes in March, it will discuss the implementing legislation for Revision 11. Specifically, it will deal with the number of petition signatures due in lieu of filing fees, and amount of the filing fee itself. Based on how the Secretary of State handled four special legislative elections that occurred since the November election, it is expected that the legislature will lower the number of petition signatures to 1% of the number of registered voters in the district, and lower the filing fees to some as of yet not specified amount.

Florida has no filing fee for candidates for president. Major parties place candidates on their own presidential primary ballots simply by telling the state which names to print (the decision is in the hands of the state chair of the party, and the party's two leading state legislators). Therefore, if the legislature doesn't amend ballot access procedures for presidential primaries, minor party presidential candidates could be placed on the ballot in the same way. However, it seems likely the legislature will amend the presidential primary ballot access laws to avoid this outcome.

D.C. Greens Seek Qualification For Presidency

The Green Party of the District of Columbia qualified for the ballot by receiving enough votes in the November, 1998 election - except, that DC law provides makes this ballot status for every office except president. DC Greens are lobbying the DC City Council to change this.

Arizona Greens Test Landmark Ballot Access Law In Court

In 1996, Arizona Greens tried to get Green presidential candidate Ralph Nader on the ballot as a independent candidate, because they didn't have ballot status as a party. But they found that an Arizona law enacted in 1993 forbade them from getting petition signatures from anyone who is already a registered member of any ballot qualified party in the state (currently the Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians). This law substantially shrinks the

universe of eligible voters from which to gather signatures, and greatly increases the amount of work just to find voters that can sign such a petition.

Two and a half years later, Arizona Green Party members have received word that they will finally have their day in court. Green Party members Sloane Haywood and Carolyn Campbell filed suit in Federal Court following the June, 1996 deadline for turning in signatures to place Nader's name on the '96 ballot.

"Richard Winger, *Ballot Access News* publisher calls this case (Arizona) one of the two most important ballot access cases in the country..."

The Greens' attorney will argue a Motion for Summary Judgment on March 16 in the US District Court for the District of Arizona.

Richard Winger, *Ballot Access News* publisher calls this case one of the two most important ballot access cases in the country (the other is the case of the Maine Greens): "If this case is lost, we can expect to see other state legislatures also passing Arizona-type laws. Already, there is a similar bill pending in the Massachusetts legislature. If we can beat the Arizona law in federal court, that will nip these other attempts in the bud."

Greens & The Federal Election Commission

On January 29, 1999, the Federal Election Commission issued an Advisory Opinion granting the Hawaii Green Party status as a State Committee of a State Political Party of the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP). The Hawai'i Greens join the Maine Green Independent Party and the New Mexico Green Party as declared state committees of their respective state parties as affiliates of the ASGP. Others in the application process are the Green Parties of Rhode Island and the Pacific Green Party of Oregon. Each is seeking the same recognition, as a state party committee affiliated with the ASGP.

Green Voter Registration Totals As Of 1998

Alaska - 3,303
Arizona - 1,744*
California - 98,443
Colorado - 1,226
Connecticut - 194
Delaware - 14
Florida - 965
Louisiana - 89
Massachusetts - 311
Nevada - 713
New Mexico - 8,549
Oregon - 2,986

*Arizona data is incomplete.

Note: Maine had 2,600 Green registrants until they were knocked off the ballot by a ruling of the Maine Sec. of State. The Maine Greens are now back on the ballot and are beginning a new registration drive.

Where Can I Register Green?

According to Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News*, there are 26 states in which one can register "Green":

Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Nebreska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Mexico
North Carolina
New York
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
West Virginia
Wyoming

...in some states, the governments won't tally the registrations, until the party qualifies for the ballot

Maine Greens' Status Is In US Circuit Court
 (see *Maine Green Governor* article on page 2)

Green Party Members Holding Elected Office

Sixty-two Greens in thirteen states hold
elected office as of February, 1999

Arizona (2)

Alva d'Orgeix, City Council, Bisbee
Norm Wallen, City Council, Flagstaff

California (30)

Kerry Arnett, City Council, Nevada City, Nevada County
Colby Crotzer, City Council, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County
Leslie Dahlhoff, City Council, Point Arena, Mendocino County
Alan Drusys, City Council, Yucaipa, San Bernadino County
Mike Feinstein, City Council, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County
Tim Fitzmaurice, City Council, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County
Suza Francina, City Council, Ojai, Ventura County
Jennifer Hanan, City Council, Arcata, Humboldt County
Debra Keipp, City Council, Point Arena, Mendocino County
Kevin McKeown, City Council, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County
Bob Ornelas, City Council, Arcata, Humboldt County
Julie Partansky, Mayor, Davis, Yolo County
Larry Robinson, Vice-Mayor, Sebastopol, Sonoma County
Steven Schmidt, City Council, Menlo Park, San Mateo County
Dona Spring, City Council, Berkeley, Alameda County
Ryan Titchenell, City Council, Trinidad, Humboldt County
Ted Bertsch, Board of Education, Mendocino County
Carol Skiljan, Encinitas, Encinitas School Board, San Diego County
Cynthia Strecker, Monte Rio Union School District, Board of Trustees, Sonoma County
Scott Bugental, Lompico Water Board, Santa Cruz County
Lois Humpheys, Leucadia, Leucadia Water Board; San Diego County
Selma Spector, Rent Stabilization Board, Berkeley, Alameda County
Glenn Bailey, Resource Conservation Dist. of the Santa Monica Mtns., LA/Ventura counties
William Bretz, Crest/Dehesa/Harrison Canyon/Granite Hill Planning Group, San Diego Cty.
William Bretz, Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County
David Diehl, Ocean Beach Planning Group, San Diego County
Kip Krueger, Ocean Beach Planning Group, San Diego County
Barrie Smith, Ocean Beach Planning Group, San Diego County
Aaron Willett, Ocean Beach Planning Group, San Diego County
Timothy Moore, Ramona Planning Group; San Diego County

Colorado (2)

Art Goodtimes, Board of Supervisors, San Miguel County
Krista Paradise, Board of Trustees, Carbondale

Connecticut (2)

Karin Norton, Town Constable, Mansfield
Amy van Nunes, Town Constable, Mansfield

Hawai'i (1)

Julie Jacobsen, County Council, District 6, Island/County of Hawai'i

Illinois (1)

Marc Loveless, Local School Council, Alfred Sabin Magnet Middle School, Chicago

Iowa (1)

Karen Kubby, City Council, Iowa City

Maine (2)

Harold Hansen, School Board, Biddeford
George Lehigh, Town Council, Eastport

Massachusetts (1)

Bill Shay, Martha's Vineyard Commission, Oak Bluffs

Minnesota (4)

Debra Orton, City Council, Hermantown
David Abazs, Crystal Bay Township Supervisor, Finland
Annie Young, Parks & Recreation Board, Minneapolis
Dean Zimmerman, Parks & Recreation Board, Minneapolis

New Mexico (4)

Cris Moore, City Council, Santa Fe
Fran Gallegos, Municipal Judge, Santa Fe
Gary Claus, City Council, Silver City
Sherry Tippett, School Board, District 2, Santa Fe

New York (2)

Liz Simonson, Town Board, Woodstock
James Corrigan, Board of Trustees, Northport Village

North Carolina (1)

Joyce Brown, City Council, Chapel Hill, Orange County

Virginia (2)

Stephanie Porras, Natural Bridge Soil & Water Conservation District Board, Lexington
Phil Welch, Natural Bridge Soil & Water Conservation District Board, Buena Vista

Wisconsin (7)

Thomas Powell, Board of Supervisors, District 5, Dane County
Echnaton Vedder, Board of Supervisors, District 8, Dane County
Bill Anderson, Board of Supervisors, Douglas County
David Conley, Board of Supervisors, Douglas County
Bob Browne, Board of Supervisors, Douglas County
Bob Olsgard, Board of Supervisors, Washburn County
Scott Tice, School Board, Cumberland

Reflections Of A Recovering Democrat

Art Goodtimes: Sept. 18, 1998

Art Goodtimes is a District III County Commissioner in San Miguel County who recently switched party affiliation to the Green Party.

After considerable thought and reflection, I have decided to change my party affiliation from Democrat to Green.

This has been a difficult decision for me. I have been a Democrat for most of my voting life (except for a brief stint with the Peace and Freedom Party in the Sixties). Both my parents before me have been life-long Democrats. Although I did not always agree with every plank of the Democratic platform, I strongly supported the progressive wing of the party and its candidates. And understanding the basically two-party nature of the American political system for the past 50 years, even when I disagreed with the more moderate or conservative wing of the party, I usually preferred to side with any Democrat over a Republican.

But lately I have become very disappointed with the Democratic Party as an institution. Certainly, on the national level, the duplicity of Pres. Clinton has been a huge embarrassment to every citizen, Democrat or Republican. On the state level, the Democratic Party's failure to win a legislative majority in either house and its lackluster candidates for statewide office have marginalized its influence in Colorado the last few years. And, finally, the appointment of Avery McCracken to a position of local leadership on the San Miguel County Democratic Central Committee is in my opinion entirely inappropriate.

These factors have clearly contributed to my disenchantment with the Democratic Party as it is currently structured.

However, there are three main reasons for my changing parties in the middle of my term:

Colorado enacted a new law last year (which took effect this year) greatly easing the requirements for getting minority parties to qualify for ballot status. Instead of the cumbersome petition process required for each candidate, small parties have been able to get their candidates on the ballot by a one-time petition qualifying process. Once qualified, small parties can get ballot status for individual candidates by nominating them at a statewide convention. This has greatly simplified the ballot process for small parties, resulting in the addition of a number of small parties fielding candidates, starting this November, including the Libertarians and the Greens. From my perspective, it seems that small party affiliation is now a viable option and the small party movement will only grow in a state where independents seem to equal or outnumber Democrats and Republicans.

On a political perspective, I strongly feel that I am tired of aligning with candidates or party platforms that don't accurately reflect my personal beliefs simply because it's a matter of choosing the lesser of two evils. I have read and reflected on the Green Party's Ten Key Values and feel strongly that they are closely aligned with my own personal beliefs. If I am going to remain in politics, I think it's only right that I side with a party in which I can truly believe, not one that I think merely has the best chance of supporting some of my issues.

Finally, I believe the Green Party political phenomenon is an international movement that is growing in support and influence. I want to do what I can in this country to further that international effort.

I realize that changing my party affiliation to the Green Party of Colorado will put me in a minority position vis-a-vis San Miguel County voters. But I hope that local citizens will look to my record as a commissioner, and not merely my party label, should I decide to seek re-election in two years. I think the main themes of my present term in office — collaborative decision-making, sustainable economics and responsible stewardship — are issues that appeal to Republicans, Democrats and Independents in this county, not just Greens.

Green Party Candidates For Governor In 1998

Kennebec Journal, the *Times Record*, and the *Maine Times* lauded the Green Party's persistence and durability. They criticized the 5% presidential requirement as unfair and ludicrous. Afterwards, LaMarche and Democrat and President of the State Senate Mark Lawrence met to discuss the political situation in Maine.

Recognizing that the Greens are in a position to continue getting significant votes for Governor (and possibly preventing the Democrats from winning back the governor's seat), Lawrence has submitted a bill that would grant a party ballot status, if it registered as members, one half of one per cent of the residents of Maine (about 6,000 registrants). This would focus party efforts to register voters, rather than forcing parties to run for governor as their only option.

Whether this bill survives the Legislature, or is changed so the threshold becomes too high, is not yet clear. But if it passes, it would lessen the burden of staying on the ballot for the Greens significantly.

A simultaneous initiative is underway to persuade the major parties to consider strongly a change in the laws that would permit Instant Run-off Voting (IRV). Vermont is heading in that direction. A Ballot Access Coalition has formed in Maine among six small parties (Green, Libertarian, Reform, Taxpayers, Natural Law, and Labor), the Green Party being one of the chief initiators for the coalition. Greens hope that with IRV, the problem of the so-called spoiler-effect would lessen, voters would be liberated to vote their conscience, and the whole system might inch closer to proportional representation, which is the Greens more long-term goal.

At the party's post-election state convention, delegates also made a major party goal for the year 2000, to run 50 candidates for the state legislature. LaMarche will chair the committee. It is charged with developing and implementing a plan to accomplish this.

As for now, a twist of fate has led the Greens to officially be known now as the 'Maine Green Independent Party'.

A new law passed by the State legislature two years ago requires any Independent candidate running for governor who intends to bequeath his or her votes (provided they are more than 5%) to a political party for the purposes of establishing official ballot status for that

party, to put on their ballot line (up to three words) the name they wish to run on, and then, that name is the one the party must adopt.

LaMarche ran as an Independent because the Greens had been denied their ballot status. She put 'Green Independent' on her ballot petition. Now that is the party's new name.

Ken Pentel Susan Jasper Minnesota

Following upon a strong showing in 1996, when first-ever Green state legislative candidate Cam Gordon received 26% and finished second (beating the Republican), Minnesota Greens in 1998 ran their first-ever statewide candidacy

Ken Pentel was the party's candidate for Governor and Susan Jasper for Lt. Governor. They received 6,983 votes - 0.3% in a tight race in which Reform Party candidate and winner Jesse Ventura took a lot of youth and independent votes that normally might have gone to the Greens. (During one of the candidate debates, when each was asked 'if you couldn't vote for yourself, who would you vote for?', Reform candidate Ventura said he would vote for Pentel.)

"During one of the candidate debates, when each (candidate) was asked 'if you couldn't vote for yourself, who would you vote for?', Reform candidate Ventura said he would vote for Pentel."

Despite the low vote total, the campaign was a success, giving the Greens unprecedented statewide visibility, and momentum to form three new Green locals in the northern part of the state, as well as a quadrupling of the party's overall membership.

Pentel brought an 11-year background as a canvasser and field organizer for GreenPeace to the campaign, as well as having spent many hours at the state Capitol as

a lobbyist for environmental issues. Along the campaign trail, from downtown Minneapolis to Iron Range towns in northern Minnesota, he communicated a vision of sustainability for the state, in which wealth is redefined to include clean water and air, soil, habitats, peaceful communities, and a healthy, well-educated population.

In particular, safe renewable energy production was a key issue for Pentel. Minnesota spends \$8-9 billion a year on energy and imports 98% of it (coal, oil, gas, and uranium).

Pentel advocated an efficient locally-based renewable, energy system using solar, wind and biomass (crops grown for distillation into fuels). Pentel also advocated accelerating the development of mass transit systems, to "move people, not cars."

Faced with the canard of 'jobs vs. environment' while campaigning in northern Minnesota, Pentel received high marks with his 'sustainable forestry alternative' involving decentralizing the lumber mills, getting the highest possible value for forest products by developing local wood product industries, and promoting ecologically-friendly recreation & tourism.

Pentel appeared in several of the

early debates during the summer. But he was excluded later on when the race got tighter in the fall.

Pentel's running mate Susan Jasper joined the Green Party during the Nader/LaDuke campaign in 1996. A dancer, chef, mother and grandmother, Jasper has been active in women's and Native American issues all her life, and brought a commitment to the campaign to end institutional prejudice and protect the dignity and rights of

women, children and families, to such basic needs as food, housing, medical care and education.

In terms of electoral reform, both Pentel and Jasper advocated public financing of campaigns, spending limits and a switch from the winner-take-all electoral system to proportional representation.



Blair Bobier Oregon

A co-founder of the Pacific Party (Oregon's Green Party) in 1991, Blair Bobier became its first-ever gubernatorial candidate in 1998. With the state's rich forests and streams at risk from unsustainable logging practices, Bobier made the connection between economic security and a healthy environment a major focus of his campaign.

"If we cut the forests we are destroying one of the cheapest water filtration systems in the world," said Bobier. Logging on public lands threatens the pure, clean water from healthy forests that is a staple for a important industries in Oregon, including billion dollar salmon fisheries, high-tech companies, tourism-related businesses and recreation facilities.

Instead of paying loggers to take trees out of the forests, Bobier suggested Oregon should support reforestation programs that would create jobs. He supported a ban on clear cutting and supported legislation that would phase out logging in all national forests and provide retraining assistance to displaced workers.

Among his other campaign issues, Bobier advocated:

- shifting public spending from prison construction to education.
- taxing companies based on the amount of pollution they generate.
- investing in public transit and bicycle paths.
- creating a universal health care plan for all Oregonians.

Bobier's campaign soared from the start, as he took journalists on two aerial tours to witness the deforestation in Oregon's National For-



1998 GREEN PARTY

ALASKA (4 candidates, retains ballot status)

Governor/Lt. Governor

Desa Jacobsson/Mike Milligan (4th/5)6,608 3.0%

US Senate

Jeffrey Gottlieb (3rd/4)5,842 3.0%

U.S. House of Representatives

District #1

John Grames (3rd/3)..... 4,761 2.4%

CALIFORNIA (41 candidates, 12 wins)

Governor

Dan Hamburg (3rd/7)104,179 1.2%

Lt. Governor

Sara Amir (3rd/7)247,897 3.0%

State Board of Equalization

District #4

Glenn Trujillo Bailey (3rd/5)58,480 4.0%

U.S. House of Representatives

District #43 (Riverside)

Phill Courtney (3rd/4)5,508 3.7%

District #41 (Pomona Valley)

Cynthia Allaire(3rd/5).....3,597 2.8%

District #36 (LA South Bay)

Robin Barrett (3rd/5).....3,612 2.0%

District #31 (San Gabriel Valley)

Krista Lieberg-Wong (3rd/5).....4,377 5.0%

District #28 (San Gabriel Valley)

Walter Sheasby (4th/5).....1,954 1.2%

District #26 (San FernandoValley)

Maria Armoudian(3rd/4).....4,858 5.8%

District #5 (Sacramento)

Ken Adams (write-in 4th/4).....70 0.04%

State Assembly

District #51 (LA South Bay inland)

Rex Frankel (3rd/3)2,619 3.8%

City Council

Arcata (Humboldt County)

Bradley J. Freeman (3rd/3 for 2 seats).....2,099 28.9%

Berkeley, District #1 (Alameda County)

Budd Dickinson (2/2 for 1 seat).....1,786 38.3%

Berkeley, District #4 (Alameda County)

Dona Spring (3-term inc.) (1/2 for 1 seat).....3,273 80.4% **WIN**

Berkeley, District #8 (Alameda County)

Chris Kavanagh (2nd/2 for 1 seat).....1,768 42.1%

Chico (Butte County)

George M. Matthews (7th/12 for 3 seats)..... 3,012 8.2%

Eureka, Ward #3, (Humboldt County)

Nancy Lynn Abrams (2nd/2 for 1 seat).....2,796 46.3%

Grass Valley (Nevada County)

Bonnie Bennett (4th/6 for 2 seats).....1,019 14.6%

Menlo Park (San Mateo County)

Steven Schmidt (inc.)(1st/6 for 3 seats)5,650 20.8% **WIN**

Morro Bay (San Luis Obispo County)

Colby Crotzer (2nd/4 for 2 seats).....1,947 27.7% **WIN**

Point Arena (Mendocino County)

Debra Keipps (2nd/2 for 2 seats).....61 48.4% **WIN**

Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz County)

Tim Fitzmaurice (2nd/8 for 3 seats).....9,153 17.4% **WIN**

Santa Monica (Los Angeles County)

Kevin McKeown (2nd/10 for 3 seats).....12,169 16.3% **WIN**

Edward Muzika (7th/10 for 3 seats).....1,762 2.4%

Jon Stevens (9th/10 for 3 seats).....1,166 1.6%

Sebastopol (Sonoma County)

Larry Robinson (1st/6 for 3 seats).....1,468 21.5% **WIN**

Windsor (Sonoma County)

Bill Patterson (4th/6 for 3 seats)..... 2,766 16.8%

Yucaipa (San Bernadino County)

Allan Drusys (1st/5 for 2 seats)..... 4,775 25.4% **WIN**

Board of Education

San Francisco (San Francisco County)

Pamela Coxson (6th/12 for 3 seats)26,097 5.7%

Fremont Union High School District, Cupertino/Sunnyvale (Santa Clara County)

Mike Boyd (4th/4 for 3 seats).....18,398 23.0%

Mono County, Trustee District #3

Tim Fitzgerald (3rd/3 for 2 seats).....315 20.8%

Berkeley (Alameda County)

John Selawsky (6th/8 for 3 seats).....9,338 11.2%

Todd Chas (7th/8 for 3 seats)3,048 3.6%

Other Offices

Rent Stabalization Board, Berkeley (Alameda County)

Selma Spector (4th/10 for 5 seats).....1 5,598 10.6% **WIN**

Crest/Dehesa/Harrison Canyon/Granite Hills Planning Group (San Diego County)

William Bretz.....NA **WIN**

Resource Conservation District, Greater San Diego County

William BretzNA **WIN**

COLORADO (3 candidates)

University of Colorado Regent, Statewide At Large

Dean Myerson (3rd/5).....41,488 3.6%

Larimer County Commissioner, District 1

Nancy York (3rd/3).....11,539 14.6%

Board of Trustees, Sopris

Krista Paradise (incumbent, won , no election, only three candidates for three seats)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (2 candidates, gains ballot status)

City Council, Ward #1

Scott McLarty (3rd/4).....1,222 8%

U.S. Representative

(D.C. elects a "U.S. Representative" as a protest for its lack of representation)

Mike Livingston (3rd/3).....9,191 8%

GEORGIA (4 candidates, all votes write-ins)

Lt. Governor

Hugh Esco326 NA

Agriculture Commissioner

Hugh Lovel.....374 NA

Labor Commissioner

Kerrie Dickson.....292 NA

Public Service Commissioner

Chuck O'Neil.....129 NA

HAWAII (6 candidates, 1 win)

Hawai'i County Council

District #2

Lanny Sinkin (3rd/3).....806 13.2%

District #5

Rene Siracusa (3rd/3).....1,262 22.2%

District #6

Julie Jacobson (1st/3).....2,418 40.1% **WIN**

Maui County Council

Makawao District

Nikhilananda (3rd/3).....3,490 8.1%

South District

Joe Bertram, III (3rd/3).....1,615 3.7%

State House, District #18

Ed Schmitt 3rd/3).....213 2.6%

MAINE (3 candidates, regains ballot status)

Governor

Pat LaMarche (4th/5).....28,734 6.9%

State House

District 50

Betsy Marsano (2nd/2).....654 28.0%

District 31

Ben Meiklejohn (2nd/2).....500 24.7%

MASSACHUSETTS (1 candidate)

State House, District #8

Stephen Elliott (3rd/3).....1,393 11%

MINNESOTA (2 candidates)

Governor/Lt. Governor

Ken Pentel/Susan Jasper (4th/8).....6,983 0.3%

ELECTION RESULTS

NEW JERSEY (5 candidates)

U.S. House of Representatives

District #4
Nick Mellis (5th/5).....1,039 0.7%

District #6
Carl J. Mayer (3rd/5).....1,264 0.9%

District #12
Madelyn R. Hoffman (4th/6).....1,416 0.8%

Freeholder

Burlington County
Fred Disque.....1,351 1.5%

Atlantic County
Paul Williams.....511 1.1%

NEW MEXICO (13 candidates, retains ballot status)

State Auditor
Richard E. Haley, Jr. (2nd/2).....116,333 29%

Commissioner of Public Lands
Sam Hitt (2nd/3).....66,684 16%

Secretary of State
Damacio A. Lopez (3rd/3).....28,480 6%

U.S. House of Representatives

District #1
Robert Anderson (3rd/4).....17,116 10%

District #3
Carol Miller (3rd/3).....8,077 5%

District #1 (special election, June)
Robert Anderson, (3rd/5).....NA 14.9%

Public Regulation Commissioner, District #1
Clifton R. Bain (2nd/2).....30,337 30%

State House District #12:
Terry Mulcahy (2nd/2).....945 21%

District #19
Donald L. Thompson (3rd/3).....613 11%

District #26
Andrew Homer (3rd/3).....234 5%

Bernalillo County Commission, District #5
Jeremy Brown (2nd/2).....9,581 32%

Bernalillo County Sheriff
Geraldine J.M. Amato (2nd/2).....27,004 20%

Sandoval County Commissioner, District #1
John A. Uhrich (3rd/4).....749 16%

Grant County Commissioner, District #1
Gary M. Claus (3rd/3).....255 9%

City Council, Santa Fe
Cris Moore, (incumbent, 1/3).....NA 58% WIN

NEW YORK (9 candidates, gains ballots status)

Governor/Lt. Governor
Al Lewis/Alice Green (6th/10).....52,523 1.1%

U.S. Senate
Joel Kovel (4th/6).....14,111 0%

Comptroller
Howie Hawkins (5th/6).....15,227 0%

Attorney General
Johann L. Moore (5th/6).....20,662 1%

US House of Representatives, District #25th (Syracuse)
Yvonee Rothenberg (Dem/Liberal/Green) 2nd/2.....50,622 30.7%

State Senate, District 30 (Manhattan)
Julia Willebrand (3rd/7).....1,754 2.5%

State Assembly District #52 (Brooklyn)
Craig Seeman (4th/5).....819 3.2%

District #119 (Syracuse)

Maria Whittington (Liberal/GREEN) (3rd/3).....472 1.7%

Putnam County Executive

Martin Brech (3rd/3).....421 1.6%

Board of Trustees, Northport Village

James Corrigan, (finished 2/7 for two seats).....NA WIN

OREGON (8 candidates)

Governor

Blair Bobier (4th/7).....15,843 1%

U.S. Senate

Karyn Moskowitz (3rd/6).....22,024 2%

U.S. House of Representatives, District #5

Michael Donnelly (3rd/7).....3,637 2%

State Representative

District #12
Barry Joe Stull (3rd/3).....1,205 7%

District #14
Stan Kahn (2nd/3).....3,044 19%

District #17
Deborah Howes (3rd/3).....1,093 8%

District #26
Jody I. Robindottir (3rd/3).....338 2%

Marion County Commissioner, Position 2

Eric Dover (2nd/2).....17,906 25.0%

PENNSYLVANIA (2 candidates)

U.S. House of Representatives, District #5

William Belitskus (2nd/2).....17,556 15%

State House, District #42

Larry Zalewski (2nd/2).....400 2.0%

RHODE ISLAND (5 candidates)

Lieutenant Governor

Jeffrey C. Johnson (3rd/4).....8,852 3.1%

State Senate

District #2
Joshua T. Mandelbaum (2nd/2).....760 22.7%

District #33
William David Martin (2nd/2).....961 14.8%

District #48
Karen E. Johnson (2nd/2).....992 29.5%

North Kingstown Council

Dorman J. Hayes, Jr. (11th/11 for 5 seats).....1,107 3%

TEXAS (1 candidate)

Governor

Susan Lee Solar (write-in).....896 0%

VIRGINIA (1 candidate)

Harrisonburg City Council

Michael Key.....NA 30%

WISCONSIN (3 candidate, retains ballot status)

State Treasurer

Jeffrey Peterson (3rd/4).....31,329 2%

Board of Supervisors

District #8, Dane County
Echnaton Vedder, (1st/2).....NA 52.7% WIN

District #5, Dane County

Tom Powell (1st/2).....NA 76.9% WIN

WYOMING (7 candidates)

U.S. Congress, At Large, John Hanks (write-in).....NA

Secretary of State, Victor Pemberton (write-in).....NA

State Treasurer, Amy Moon (write-in).....NA

State Auditor, Kay Goblin (write-in).....NA

Sup. of Public Instruction, Sydney Spiegel (write-in).....NA

Laramie City Council (Albany County)

Berh Haggerty (6th/8 for 4 seats).....2,520 NA

Bill Smith (7th/8 for 4 seats).....2,310 NA

STATE-BY-STATE ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

New York Greens, cont.

The rest of the state ticket included **Joel Kovel** for US Senate, a Bard College professor of social theory and author-activist on anti-racist, anti-imperialist, and eco-socialist themes; **Johann Moore** for Attorney General, a gay activist veteran of ACT-UP and the NY Marijuana Buyers Club; and **Howie Hawkins** for Comptroller, a co-op business developer who campaigned for progressive and ecological tax, budget, purchasing, and investment policies.



No debates were held in the races for governor, though the Green candidates consistently called for them. Two debates for US Senate were sponsored by the League of Women Voters, but only for Democrats and Republicans. In protest, Kovel staged his own debates outside against 'Schumato', a two faced, double-talking puppet with an Al D'Amato face on one side of his head and a Charles Schumer face on the other.

Lower on the statewide ticket, Greens outpolled all the other smaller parties except Marijuana Reform, whose candidates for comptroller and US Senator did better than their gubernatorial candidate. It seems that 20,000 people voted Green for governor to qualify the Greens for ballot status, then voted for Marijuana Reform further down the ticket to make a statement against New York's corrupt war on drugs.

Media Politics: Working Families had the editorial backing of the largest liberal weeklies in the state, *The Nation* and the *Village Voice*. New York City-based and pro-Democrat, both attacked the Greens and backed Working Families.

Upstate, progressive weeklies in Albany, Syracuse, and Rochester gave the Greens good coverage. The Rochester Independent and Albany Metroland endorsed Lewis/Green. The Syracuse New Times, even though they didn't make endorsements, put Lewis on its cover right before the election, along with a favorable article. *Metroland* endorsed Hawkins for Comptroller.

It was more difficult to get coverage in the mainstream media. But Lewis' personality drew a considerable amount nevertheless. He was the first Green candidate to be covered in *The National Enquirer* (ironically, these stories were more issue-focused than most in the "objective" media). He also got a lot of coverage out of his failed court challenge to get him listed as "Grandpa" Al Lewis on the ballot.

Having got peoples' attention, Greens focused the media on Green issues, like one in four New York children living in poverty, while the richest 20% make 20 times more than the poorest 20%, making New York the most unequal US state.

Lewis fought to "Save NY's Kids", with demands for raising welfare benefits above the poverty line, creating jobs for all at living wages with the government as employer of last resort, establishing universal health care, and instituting progressive tax reform to fund quality public schools.

At two well-covered news conferences - one on the environment in the Legislative Office Building of the State Capitol in Albany, and another outside Kodak headquarters in Rochester (as they announced their high third quarter profits) - Green candidates called for revoking corporate charters of repeat offenders of labor and environmental laws. They also called for the municipalization of the New York Yankees, as an alternative to letting its owner blackmail the city for a new stadium, with threats to move the team to New Jersey.

Lewis and Green got the most coverage on criminal justice reform, establishing the Greens as a strong opposition voice to the growing prison-industrial complex in New York, where \$650 million in the state budget has been shifted from higher education to state prisons over the last ten years.

Lewis and Green spoke against the death penalty, against a new racially-biased law to eliminate parole and rehabilitative programs for violent felons, and against the war of drugs (which has become a war on black people that is filling New York's prisons faster than they can be built).

One of the high moments of the campaign was when Lewis was scheduled to be interviewed at a Buffalo TV station whose workers went on strike. Lewis talked to management, they 'hatched' a plan and Lewis went to do the interview. Five minutes from the end, he turned to the interviewer, said

now he had a question, pulled out a strike support sign, and demanded to know why the station wouldn't settle with the workers. The live interview was cut off by the station at that point, but it was too late. The labor movement in Buffalo loved it.

Local Green Groups Were Campaign's Strength: The key to the entire state campaign, was the more than 30 Green locals that were organized by the end of the campaign. This enabled the Greens to overcome the obstacles of competing against so many other alternative parties, having very little money, being excluded from debates, and limited media coverage. The locals provided the volunteer base to successfully petition for the ballot line, to distribute tens of thousands of leaflets, and then turn out supporters on election day from a base built over the last decade.

With such a narrow margin making ballot status (2,533 votes out of over four million cast), every vote, call, leaflet, and conversation made a difference. If this shows anything, it puts the lie to the notion that you can't make a difference.

Belitskus Makes First Green Run For Congress In PA

Pennsylvania's 5th Congressional District, in northern and central Pennsylvania, is rural, conservative but also independent-minded. It includes all or part of 17 counties.

Enter Bill Belitskus, the first-ever Green Congressional candidate in Pennsylvania. A 49-year old Vietnam veteran and special education teacher, Belitskus received 15% of the vote in a two-way race against

candidate. After mentioning that Belitskus was "a bit too liberal," the paper attacked Peterson on many of Belitskus' issues, from being too anti-environment to not protecting Social Security.

Belitskus also became the first US Green Congressional candidate to be endorsed by the national Sierra Club. He was one of only 19 other Congressional hopefuls challenging incumbents on the Sierra Club's endorsement list. They highlighted Belitskus' past work to end commercial logging on national forests, protect water quality, and prevent siting of a new nuclear waste dump in his district.

"Business-as-usual development threatens the future of our communities", said Belitskus. "Instead of clearcutting state and national forests for short-term gain, we must develop an economy based on sustainable forestry, recreation and tourism."

Peterson said he would debate Belitskus, but then never accepted any invitations. Peterson did however, send out a campaign mailer, stating that the Greens position on natural resource use was 'unAmerican'.

Belitskus did back-to-back candidates' statements with Peterson on AM radio and public TV. Belitskus' points on education, Social Security, and the environment were reasonably well known in the larger towns by Election Day. In State College, where Penn State is located, Belitskus won 43% of the vote. He won 26% in Centre County, arguably the district's most progressive area. He seemed to do best among young people and the elderly.

"Belitskus became the first US Green Congressional candidate to be endorsed by the national Sierra Club...Peterson (sent) out a campaign mailer stating that the Greens position on natural resource use was 'un-American'."

first-term incumbent Republican Charles Peterson, and his impact went well beyond the numbers.

By the end of the campaign, Belitskus was treated as a serious candidate. He received the endorsement of the second-largest newspaper in the district (Penn State University's student-run *Daily Collegian*). Perhaps as significantly, the largest newspaper in the district, the State College-based *Centre Daily Times*, declined to endorse either

Green Ticket Strong In Rhode Island

For the second time in four years, Jeff Johnson represented the Green Party of Rhode Island as its Lt. Governor candidate. A high-school science teacher who also volunteers at a group home for troubled adolescents, Johnson campaigned on 'putting a watchdog — not a lap dog — in the State House'.

STATE-BY-STATE ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Rhode Island Greens, cont.

Johnson won the endorsement of the weekly *Providence Phoenix* for the second time (also in 1994). It praised him as an issues-oriented candidate "willing to tackle politically unpopular issues." His constant pressure forced major party candidates to address vital issues such as lead poisoning in the inner cities and the commitment to poor and minority communities.

But apparently, this record wasn't deemed good enough to be included in the candidate debates. Early on, both Green and the Reform Party candidate rallied outside the Providence Chamber of Commerce, to protest unbalanced debates which only included Democrat and Republican candidates. In several public statements, Johnson railed against Channel 12 and Channel 36 (RI's only "public" television station) for routinely barring third party candidates from debates. The result was an invitation from a local TV journalist to appear on a "Newsmakers" forum to discuss whether the media was fair to third parties.

Newspaper coverage was slightly better. In its election edition, the *Providence Journal* called Johnson "a legitimate and knowledgeable candidate". They printed his press releases advocating universal healthcare, reducing the sales tax and touting views on the development of a local port. Johnson even called for a plan that the state offer free public transportation to all Rhode Islanders, as a way of reducing both traffic and pollution.

After receiving 6% in 1994, Johnson received 3% in 1998, possibly splitting last time's 6% with fellow third party candidate John Carlevale.

However, in areas where he focussed his campaign such as Providence and South Kingstown Jeff won over 10% of the vote while spending less than \$300, in a race where the mainstream candidates each spent around \$500,000.

In the state legislative race, more than half of all candidates for the General Assembly ran unopposed. Three Green candidates for the assembly ran as the sole opposition to incumbent candidates, and all three garnered significant votes. **Bill Martin**, running for state senate in Cumberland (Dist. 33) won 15% of the vote. **Josh Mandelbaum**, running for State Senate in Providence (Dist. 2), used a voter registration drive and a grassroots, door-to-door campaign against an incumbent, winning 23% of the vote. **Karen Johnson**,

running on a pro-environment and public safety platform for general assembly in Narragansett and South Kingstown (Dist. 48), received 30% of the vote.

Looking back at these results, Green Party co-chair **Erbin Crowell** summed it up this way: 'Greens should be very proud of these returns. All of these races were run with integrity, with a minimum of finances (all under \$400), no corporate backing or influence, and without an "old boy" political network to fall back on. Our candidates have shown that everyday people can run strong campaigns and make a difference in Rhode Island politics without lots of money or political connections.'



Historic Election For Wisconsin Green

For the first time ever in 1998, Wisconsin Greens had their own column on the ballot, thanks to Green candidates Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke, who met the 1% threshold (1.3%) in their 1996 bid for president and vice president.

Retaining that ballot status for the next four years was therefore an important goal for the party in 1998. Under Wisconsin law, a political party must receive at least 1% of the total vote cast for at least one statewide office every four years in order to maintain ballot status.

Green co-spokesperson **Jeff Peterson** was the party's candidate for state treasurer. His campaign focused on six main planks:

- Promoting a Green presence across the state, and elaborating upon a broad Green approach to sustainability, social responsibility, and democracy.
- Establishing a "Wastewatchers' Hotline" toll-free telephone number which could be used by government employees and citizens alike to report waste and inefficiency in state government.
- Giving public notice of future tax hikes disguised as fee increases; calling for public hearings before approval of any such increases.
- Challenging the governor's use of the partial veto, especially in

Walt Bresette's Seventh Generation Amendment:
The right of citizens of the United State to use and enjoy air, water, sunlight, and other renewable resources...shall not be impaired, nor shall such use impair their availability for...future generations."

cases where vetoes to appropriations bills result in spending cuts or increases not specifically authorized by the legislature.

- Creating new standards of wealth and value so that quality of life issues are factored into any calculations of Wisconsin's economic well-being.

- Speaking out for progressive taxation policies and socially and environmentally responsible investment policies for Wisconsin.

Several newspaper editors told Peterson off the record, that he had the most comprehensive, best thought out plan of any of the four candidates running for state treasurer. He did receive the endorsement of the *Amery Free Press*, a weekly paper with wide circulation in Polk County. The *Wisconsin State Journal* called the Wisconsin Green Party "feisty." In the November issue of national magazine *The Progressive*, Madison, WI-based writer John Nichols wrote that Peterson had "...written an impressive plan for using the treasurer's office to monitor state investments with an eye toward environmental and ethical concerns..."

In addition to issues directly related to the state treasurer's job, Peterson also talked about the need to amend the state constitution to allow for some form of proportional representation, as well as citizen initiative and referendum. He also advocated that a "Common Property" or "Seventh Generation"

amendment be added to the U.S. Constitution. This proposed amendment was crafted originally crafted by long-time northern Wisconsin Green organizer **Walt Bresette**, and also formed a key part of **Winona LaDuke's** platform. Its intent is to balance the private property protections already extant in the constitution with a parallel provision for the protection of common property. The complete text reads: "The right of citizens of the United State to use and enjoy air, water, sunlight, and other renewable resources determined by Congress to be common property shall not be impaired, nor shall such use impair their availability for the use of future generations."

Peterson raised about \$2000 from about 60 contributors. Even with these limited resources, 31,329 Wisconsin voters cast a Green ballot in. Peterson came in third out of four candidates, beating the Libertarian by about 3,000 votes. Not only did this campaign succeed in garnering the requisite 1% of the vote to maintain ballot status for; the Greens also outpolled every other third party on the ballot. This means that, in the 2000 elections, the Wisconsin Green Party will be listed third, after the Republicans and Democrats. (It is interesting to note that, while the Reform Party elected a governor in neighboring Minnesota, they failed to get 1% of the vote in Wisconsin, and thus lost their ballot status.) +++

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Green Party Candidates For Governor In 1998

continued from page 3

ests and private timberlands. The tours helped set a credible and professional tone for the campaign resulting in extensive television, radio and newspaper stories.

Bobier also made democratizing the electoral process and getting fair and equal treatment for all candidates a major component of his campaign. Because he 'rattled a lot cages and sabers', Bobier was invited to participate in one televised (and radio broadcast) live debate.

"Bobier took on the League of Women Voters and asked the IRS to investigate whether the group qualifies to retain its non-profit, tax-exempt status, if it engages in partisan activities by only promoting the Democrats and Republicans."

This resulted in the most exposure the Pacific Party has ever had, and most of the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

However, despite his strong performance in the first televised debate, Bobier (and all other 'third party candidates) were excluded

from the remaining three. Bobier fought back, filing a lawsuit to participate in the second debate, which attracted statewide media exposure, including the major television networks.

For the third debate, Bobier took on the League of Women Voters and asked the IRS to investigate whether the group qualifies to retain its non-profit, tax-exempt status, if it engages in partisan activities by only promoting the Democrats and Republicans. An IRS review is pending. For the fourth

debate, Bobier appeared outside and provided the perfect visuals for TV news - a huge American Flag and gagged protesters.

On the campaign trail, Bobier and supporters handed out 30,000 copies of his literature, distributing at

several college campuses, concerts and on the streets. He ended up with 1.4%, finishing fourth out of seven candidates and helping retain ballot status for the Pacific Party by gaining over 1%. With the Natural Law, Reform and Socialist parties not receiving 1% and thus falling off the ballot, the Pacific Party is now the only progressive party remaining.

Susan Lee Solar Texas

Of the seven Green gubernatorial candidates nationwide in 1998, Susan Lee Solar trekked perhaps the most arduous path - she ran as a write-in candidate in a state with ballot access laws that are prohibitive to 'third parties', and before the Greens were organized on a statewide basis.

Hoping to help build the Green Party throughout Texas, Solar focused her platform on healthy local economic development, mass transit, energy conservation and renewable energy, environmental

restoration and affordable housing. She opposed the death penalty and promised to stand up against what she called a century-old patronage system in the governor's office that has used the power of appointments to benefit corporate interests. If elected, Solar promised that her appointees would be chosen on the basis of social justice and diversity, and could come to office with records of curbing corporate abuses of workers and natural resources.

Perhaps the most galvanizing issue for Solar's campaign was her opposition to the proposed Sierra Blanca nuclear waste dump. Waste would be transported from states like Maine and Vermont to just outside of Sierra Blanca, a primarily Latino, and poor west Texas town. The proposed dump would be located only sixteen miles from the Rio Grande, on an aquifer, in an earthquake zone.

Solar believes that her stance against the dump helped push the Democratic candidate into opposing Sierra Blanca, which in turn turned up the heat on Republican Governor George W. Bush Jr. Solar challenged Bush directly on the issue, during a two-minute interview on the evening news in Lubbock, her only time on network news during the campaign. Bush ultimately reversed his position and supported the rejection of the license.

Beyond coverage she received in Lubbock and Austin, Solar found it difficult as a write-in candidate to attract media attention, although she did use public access television to her advantage. Fundraising was another challenge, yet even with her self-imposed contribution limit of \$100 (modeled after the new Austin campaign finance reform law, which was initiated by the Austin Greens), she raised more than \$5,000. She used these funds to print and distribute literature, to create a web site, and to position 30 second spots on late-night and early morning cable television. Solar ended up with nearly 1,000 write-in supporters, and her candidacy helped energize Greens statewide, particularly in rejuvenating the local in Austin.

IN MEMORIUM

Walt Bresette, Wisconsin

Long-time northwestern Wisconsin Green organizer Walt Bresette, an Anishinabe peace and justice advocate, died February 21 from a heart attack while visiting friends. A member of the Loon Clan, the 51-year-old Red Cliff Chippewa defended treaty rights and fought to prevent metallic sulfide mining, and to prevent acid from a mining operation being shipped across the state.

A US Army veteran, Bresette was a co-founder of the Witness for Nonviolence, Midwest Treaty Network, Anishinabe Nijiji, Lake Superior Greens, Wisconsin Greens, and was an inspiration to many others.

He was an elegant speaker and writer. Together with Rick Whaley, Bresette wrote "Walleye Warriors: An Effective Alliance Against Racism and for the Earth" The book tells the story about the interracial alliance that rose up in the 1980s at Wisconsin boat landings to protect Chippewa spearfishing, sovereignty, the land, and the water.

Walter and his wife Cass Joy ran a native crafts and art business called the Buffalo Bay Trading Company until a few years ago on the Red Cliff Chippewa Reservation. Their children are Claudia, Katie, and Robin.

At a meeting in Florida during the 1980s, Bresette received a special gift from an alert and agile old woman. It was the war club belonging to the Sauk leader Black Hawk, who more than a hundred and fifty years earlier fought the US Army trying to move him

and his people from their homeland. Bresette carried the club to ceremonies, boat landings, mining protests, and schools and churches until his death.

"He was like the north star," a friend says, "He held up the sky over northern Wisconsin and the people followed him."

Philip Hufford, Colorado

Colorado Greens mourns the loss of one of their founding members. Philip Hufford, who passed away from cancer on October 3rd, 1998 at age 50.

Hufford was the first Colorado Green candidate for governor, in 1994. He chaired the Denver Region Greens for years and focused on toxic waste issues, particularly a U.S. Army chemical weapons site near Denver. His background with labor, and his experience as Rocky Mountain Regional Director of the Fair Trade Campaign in opposition to NAFTA a few years back, meant that he brought more organizing experience to the Greens than almost any other party member. His commitment to a broad conception of Green Politics was strong and is one of his legacies in Colorado Green politics.

The will to fight the good fight was deep in Hufford. Near the end, though almost wheelchair-bound, he came to the party's June, 1998 nominating convention, and operated the tape recording of that event. Soon afterwards

there was a reunion at Hufford's place, which drew Greens whose family or work life had taken them out of active Green work. Despite knowing that Hufford's time was short, the party was a genuine celebration, as well as a farewell. Hufford is survived by his wife, Linda Gore.

Greens in Colorado and throughout the US, will sorely miss Phil's activism, experience and advice. But his inspiration will remain with us all.

Marc Sharon, California

A Russian émigré who founded the Westside Greens in the Santa Monica/Los Angeles area in 1988, Marc Sharon passed away in West Los Angeles in October, 1998. He admitted to being over 90. Sixty years earlier, he worked with Leon Trotsky in Norway.

Sharon's lifetime that took him from Russia, around Europe (including Spain during the Spanish Civil War), New York and San Francisco, before settling finally in Venice, California.

Sharon hosted many Green meetings in the community room of his senior affordable housing building. He remained very sharp of mind, always focusing on practical strategy. He was a voracious reader, and kept abreast of the Greens in Europe as well as the US. In 1990, he represented US Greens to the European Green Coordination meeting in Bonn, West Germany.

