

# Green Party enjoys record growth & success in 2000, from local elections to the presidency

2000 WAS A YEAR of spectacular growth for the Green Party in the United States.

Greens ran more candidates, received more votes, elected more people, registered more Green voters, and achieved ballot status in more states than ever before.

The Green Party's growth was also about more than just numbers. Public consciousness about the Greens increased many fold - from the boardrooms of the New York Times and Washington Post, to the classrooms of high schools and universities across the nation. In just a few short years, the Green Party has become a meaningful

part of the nation's political lexicon. And among the nation's young, Greens are increasingly a preferred choice.

In addition to electoral growth, the Green Party grew organizationally in 2000, enjoying an enormous leap in skills, experience and contacts. This came from within, as internal leadership has developed. It also came from without, as new talent - attracted by the party's values, growth and potential - has joined the party, deciding for themselves that it was finally time to do independent third party politics. Many Greens even earned a living as activists in 2000, and some will not be going back to conventional careers as a result.

Much more than in 1996, Greens also worked together nationally on a common electoral project, building increased cohesiveness and professionalism in their grassroots structure. This proved to be an invaluable, maturing experience for the growing movement.

On the presidential level, the Ralph Nader/Winona LaDuke campaign helped make history - not only by accelerating the growth of the Green Party - but also by helping create one of the most narrow and controversial presidential elections in U.S. history. The closeness of that election - and the controversy it generated - has unexpectedly opened a door for potentially historic

electoral reform. Everything from voting machines to voting systems is now on the table for consideration, including Green goals of Instant Run-off Voting (IRV) and proportional representation.

In sum, the Greens' mixed strategy - of an emphasis on municipal races, combined with selected state and federal races, along with pursuing proportional representation and IRV - is succeeding. The party continues to grow on all levels. With the nation a generational/demographic shift away from a very different electorate - one *without* deep historical ties to the traditional major parties - the Greens' prospects only continue to look better with time.

## Electoral Success

- **The number of Green candidates increased to 274 in 2000, more than double the previous high of 131 in 1998.** The number of states in which Greens ran also increased, from 20 in 1998 to 32 (plus the District of Columbia and American Samoa) in 2000.

Nine states - AK, AZ, CA, MI, MO, NJ, NM, NY and WI - ran ten or more candidates. They were topped by CA, which ran a record high 58. The previous high was 49 by NY in 1999 and 46 by CA in 1992. Six states - DE, KY, LA, TN, TX, WY - ran candidates for the first time, as did the Greens in the U.S. territory of American Samoa.

Not only is the growth in the number of Greens candidates coming from within the party, but as consciousness of the Green Party grows, green-thinking people who had been considering running for office, are now realizing they should be doing so as a Green.

- **The number of victories also went to a record high.** Greens won a record high 35 races in 2000, eclipsing by far the previous high of 21 in 1998. Included among the 35 victories was a record 16 city council seats and 9 county supervisors.

What Green officeholders have in common is a commitment to sustainable development (including affordable housing and public transportation), social justice in their communities and increasing peoples' voice in the decisions that affect them.

California won the most races overall - 14, tying their record set in 1998. Wisconsin, which had the second most victories, impressively won all seven races it five races, and New Mexico and Oregon won twice each. Greens also won for the first time in four states - FL, MI, WA and WY - that are very different from each other, geographically and demographically, suggesting the base for Green politics in the U.S. is potentially very broad.

- **Greens win second-ever City Council majority** In Sebastopol, CA voters elected Greens **Craig Litwin** and **Sam Spooner** to the city council. Joining incumbent **Larry Robinson**, they now make up the second-ever-Green Party city council majority in the US, giving the Greens a chance to show how they can govern.

- **Greens are winning in larger cities.**

**Matt Gonzalez** was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in a breakthrough race for the Green Party, winning in a Democratic Party stronghold in one of the nation's major cities. At 750,000 people, the city/county of San Francisco becomes the largest U.S. city or county jurisdiction with an elected Green, surpassing Madison, WI (210,000) and Dane County, WI (430,000) as the largest of each.

Before 1999, the largest cities to elect Greens were Berkeley 110,000 and Santa Monica 93,000. Today there are five cities with 130,000 or more (San Francisco, Madison, Modesto, CA, Hartford, CT and Salem, OR)

Originally the Green Party was cast as a rural party that could not win in urban areas, on urban issues. Experience in recent elections is beginning to demonstrate otherwise.

- **Voters believe Greens can govern.**

Green incumbents for city council and county supervisor continue to be re-elected at a high rate. Since 1992, 38 out of the 43 Green incumbents have won re-election. Green officeholders and organizing are also having a coattail effect. There are now been eight U.S. cities in which Greens have at least two city councilmembers, as well as two counties that have at least two Greens on their board of supervisors.

Six Greens also became mayors in California in 2000, where the law in many cities has the city council choosing the mayor from within the council - **Kerry Arnett** (Nevada City), **Larry Barnett** (Sonoma), **Mike Feinstein** (Santa Monica), **Tim Fitzmaurice** (Santa Cruz), **Suza Francina** (Ojai) and **Larry Robinson** (Sebastopol). These choices demonstrate the respect that Green officeholders are generating from their colleagues. At 93,000 Santa Monica is now the largest U.S. city with a Green mayor.

- **The number of Greens holding elected office continues to increase.**

Since 1996, the numbers of Greens in office has nearly doubled. In 1996, after the November general election, there were 43 Greens holding elected office in 12 states. In 1998 there were 63 in 15 states. There are now 79 in 19 states. This growth is occurring despite the fact many Green officeholders elect not to seek mul-

tiples terms in office, in keeping with their philosophy of not being 'career politicians'. This means there is a continual influx of new Greens being elected with each cycle.

Greens are winning in a variety of communities, demonstrating a potentially broad appeal. Greens are winning in liberal coastal California and the Pacific Northwest, in conservative Wyoming and Florida, in small villages in Alaska, the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevadas; in the Hawaiian Islands, along Lake Superior, in poor urban neighborhoods and of course, in college towns across the nation.

- **Elected officials from other parties are joining the Greens.**

Just as more Greens continue to be elected, the number of people in office from other parties switching to Green also continues to grow. In 2000, three sitting city councilmembers switched to the Green Party - **Larry Barnett**, Mayor, Sonoma, CA, **Brian Laverty**, Borough Council, Blossburg, PA and **Katie Scheib**, Borough Council, Lewisburg, PA.

Two more switched in the midst of their campaigns, before they elected - **Anna Braun**, City Council, Salem, OR and **Matt Gonzalez**, Board of Supervisors, San Francisco, CA. Still one more switched to Green after being elected, but before being sworn in - **Marc Sanchez**, Board of Education, San Francisco.

- **Greens ran for a range of offices, impacting the political dialogue on all levels.**

Among the 274 candidates in 2000, four were for president, 13 for U.S. Senate, 48 for the House of Representatives, 78 for State Legislature, and 62 for city and town councils. Overall there were 154 candidates for state and federal

office and 120 for municipal and county.

On the local level, where the costs are lower, the scale more manageable and face-to-face 'retail politics' more viable, Greens won 26% of all city and town council races and 29% of all municipal and county races they contested overall.

On the state and federal level, while still running to win, Greens have used these races to highlight the difference on issues and approach between the Greens and the status quo parties. This affects the level of debate and attracts new people into the Green Party, after they realize that there is a positive alternative to the Democrats and Republicans.

- **In many state legislative races, Greens provide the only opposition to the incumbents.**

As for providing a real alternative, criticizing the 'winner-take-all' electoral system, Greens have long maintained that gerrymandered single-member districts lead to mostly uncompetitive races, in which there is little incentive sometimes, even for the opposition major party to run.

The November 2000 bore this out, as either the Democrats or the Republicans failed to run a candidate in 40.6% of all state legislative contests nationwide. This was not atypical. In 1998, there was no Democrat or no Republican in 41.1% of the state legislative races; in 1996, 32.7%; in 1994, 35.8%; in 1992, 32.8%.

The Green Party stepped into this void, running 22 candidates in such state legislative races, in IA, ME, MO, NM, NY, OR, PA and RI, providing an opportunity to more clearly differentiate the Greens from other parties and to develop the Greens as the main opposition force in those areas. (continued back page)



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# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis

## Greens win second-ever city council majority in U.S., in Sebastopol, CA

**Craig Litwin and Sam Spooner**  
**City Council**

On November 7<sup>th</sup> voters in the northern California town of Sebastopol elected Green Party members Craig Litwin and Sam Spooner to the city council. Joining incumbent Green **Larry Robinson**, they now make up the second-ever Green Party city council majority in the US, another milestone for Green organizing in this country.

With three candidates running for two seats, Litwin and Spooner both defeated an incumbent Democrat as well as a write-in candidate to win their seats in this progressive town, 50 miles north of San Francisco. The other incumbent – clearly the most conservative member of the prior council – chose not to run at all, sensing the Green shift in voters' preferences.

"I've knocked on virtually every door in town," said Litwin. "I've heard the concerns of Sebastopol, and am committed to making the council more inclusive, more accessible to the public."

A teacher and organic gardener, Litwin, 24, has a Bachelors of Arts degree in 'ecology and sustainability' (New College of CA, North Bay campus) with a focus on the local food movement. He co-founded Planting Earth Activation (PEA), a volunteer organization of young activists who have planted nearly 100 free, organic gardens in the community. The connections made and grassroots organizing experience he gained in that effort helped Litwin greatly in his campaign, particularly in involving young voters. "Tying generation gaps is an ongoing project of mine."

Like fellow Greens Spooner and Robinson, Litwin seeks to change Sebastopol's role from a bedroom community that is linked to nearby Santa Rosa, to a more self-sustaining, self-reliant one. "Our city should encourage more cottage industry and mom and pop owned businesses, to supply diverse goods

and services to residents without having to send our investment capital to Santa Rosa. This will empower citizens and give more people the option of working at home, which will help to alleviate traffic problems."

As a companion strategy, Litwin proposed an educational campaign to teach residents the value of buying lo-



*Sitting Green city councilmember Larry Robinson, right, speaks at press conference announcing new Green majority, flanked by newly-elected Greens Sam Spooner (center) and Craig Litwin (left). In December, Robinson became Sebastopol's new Mayor, one of five current Green mayors*

cally, in order to produce more sales tax revenue for their fiscally challenged community. Sebastopol suffers from an annual budget shortfall equivalent to 10% of its general fund, resulting in many basic, critical community needs going unmet.

Spooner, 43, runs his own engineering business and designs television studios. A newcomer to politics, he felt that Sebastopol was at a crossroads, and that a new vision was needed in city hall. "This city of 9,000 is faced with escalating housing costs and development pressures which threaten the small-town identity and economic diversity most residents cherish. The voters have made a clear choice for a future based on ecological values and a livable community for everyone. A walkable downtown and affordable housing are priorities here."

To accomplish affordable housing goals and at the same time maintain Sebastopol's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) (that was passed with 72% by voters in 1996), Spooner advocated developments with higher density through 'thoughtful infill' and mixed-use projects. "We must preserve our greenbelt for fu-

ture sustainability, and to accommodate a modest population growth, we must accept density close to our existing infrastructure."

It was Robinson in 1996 who chaired the UGB effort, which included drafting the UGB ordinance with the help of a legal firm, circulating a petition to qualify it for the ballot, then going door-to-door campaigning in favor of it. The UGB established that the then current sphere of influence (which has recently been shrunken further) would be the limits of any annexation – or extension of city services – for a 20-year period, unless amended by a popular vote. There were some limited exceptions made for affordable housing, parks and municipal facilities.

In the Green trio's first meeting, they voted to appoint Robinson – who was the top voter getter two years ago – as mayor for the next two years. In his first address as mayor, Robinson vowed to make Sebastopol a model of sustainability. Calling this a pivotal time in the community, he said, "It is time to move beyond the two-dimensional spectrum of left or right, of jobs or the environment. It is at the local level, in communities like Sebastopol, that we will make our choice."

Just as in Arcata, California – the first city to have a Green majority – some in Sebastopol have questioned whether the Greens' "global perspective" might take them away from addressing basic city needs. Robinson responds by saying that "our primary focus will continue to be on 'pothole issues', like any other city council. The major difference is that we hope to look at *all* our decisions through the lens of sustainability. We must always ask 'how will this decision impact the lives of our grandchildren and their grandchildren?' What sets the Greens apart is our willingness to consider the larger picture, both temporally and ecologically, and to remember that the foremost responsibility of government is to ensure the health and well-being of the land and of all its inhabitants."

Now that the new Council is seated, Robinson wants to start with the traffic congestion along State Roads 12 and 116, which intersect at the Sebastopol town center and lead to U.S. 101, the main north-south highway from San Francisco. He supports replacing traffic lights at both ends of a busy stretch of State Road 116 with traffic circles and narrowing the highway to two lanes from three and widen the sidewalks, in order to slow drivers and encourage people to walk or ride bicycles. Spooner agrees with this approach: "We are not going to move more cars through town, but we can make the trip more pleasant and make the roads friendly to pedestrians and bicycles."

The Sonoma County Greens local group donated \$500 each to Litwin and Spooner, phonebanked every Sebastopol Green on their behalf and knocked on a large number of doors citywide to hand out their flyers.

In addition to Litwin and Spooner's election, Sonoma County was a hotbed of Green organizing in 2000. The county had the most municipal Green candidates in the nation running in one county – seven. Nader/LaDuke got 7.3% in Sonoma County, the fifth highest county percentage in California. Sonoma County Green voter registrations also rose 40% from February to October 2000, to 6,500.

Across the entire state, California Greens hold 33 elected offices as of March, 2001 and have won over 70 elected offices since 1990. State Green registration has also risen to an all time high of 141,637 as of February, 2001.

**The first Green city council majority in the U.S. also took place in Northern California, in the town of Arcata (population 17,000) between 1996 and 1998. Jennifer Hanan, Jason Kirkpatrick and Bob Ornelas made up the majority there.**

**Eight U.S. Cities have had at least two Greens on the City Council at the same time - Arcata, CA 1996-2000; Fayetteville, AR 1996-1998, Madison, WI 2000-2001, Point Arena, CA 1995-96, 1997-2002; Salem, OR 2000-2002, Santa Monica, CA 1998-2002, Sebastopol, CA 2000-2002; and Santa Fe, NM 2000-2002.**

# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis

## Greens win historic Board of Supervisor seat in San Francisco - largest U.S. city ever to elect a Green

**Matt Gonzalez**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**San Francisco, California**

IN A BREAKTHROUGH VICTORY for the Green Party, Matt Gonzalez became the first Green elected in the city of San Francisco, winning a seat on the powerful San Francisco Board of Supervisors. San Francisco became the largest U.S. city yet to elect a Green and Gonzalez became the first Latino Green elected in a major U.S. city.

Gonzalez swept to victory in a December run-off election by a 66.1% to 33.9% margin, despite being overwhelmingly outspent by his opponent, who was backed by San Francisco Democratic Mayor Willie Brown's legendary political machine, and who benefited from over \$200,000 in soft money expenditures from San Francisco's development community.

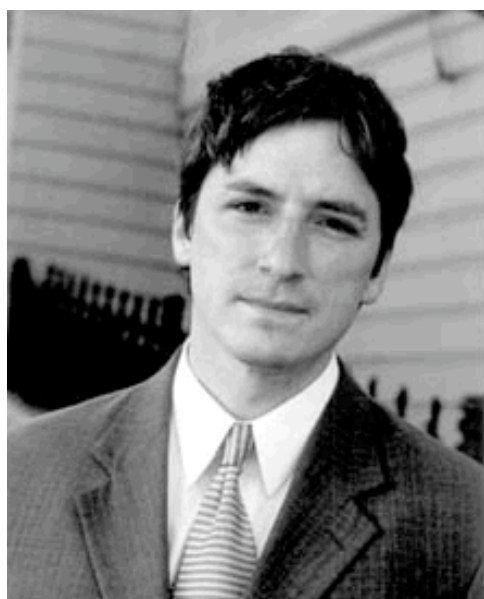
With the election of Gonzalez, San Francisco overwhelmingly becomes the largest U.S. city to elect a Green (750,000), followed by Madison, WI (210,000), Hartford, CT (130,000), Salem, OR (130,000) and Berkeley, CA (110,000)..

Gonzalez's victory came in San Francisco's liberal 5th District, which stretches from the Western Addition and Haight-Asbury to Japantown, and which contains many young, politically active voters, renters and a significant poor black population.

A public defender and affordable housing advocate, Gonzalez joined the Green Party in mid-campaign in October, after having been a Democrat for many years. He attended a rally for Green U.S. Senate candidate Medea Benjamin and became focused on the differences between the progressive Greens and centrist Democrats. He then realized he was in the wrong party. In an editorial "Why I Turned Green" that he wrote for the progressive weekly *The San Francisco Bay Guardian*, Gonzalez addressed whether his switch would hurt his chances in a district with 33,519 Democrats and 2,735 Greens.

"The Democratic Party in San Francisco includes sanctioned Democratic clubs that engage in massive soft-money campaigns against good progressive candidates. What do I have in common with these clubs and the tactics they employ? I don't have much in common with them at all. So I joined the Green Party. I decided I am not going to vote for

candidates who support the death penalty or oppose gay marriage. I'm not going to vote for candidates who oppose campaign-finance reform or value the corporation over the individual. Nor will I give the local machine party any legitimacy by remaining a part of it."



Some urged Gonzalez to wait to change parties until after the election. In his editorial, Gonzalez responded. "Why should I wait? Shouldn't the voters in District Five have the opportunity to vote against me because I'm Green? And what kind of impression would I be making on folks whom I'm asking to

trust me if I can't even be honest about my own party affiliation?"

The local Democratic Party at-

tacked Gonzalez with an ill-conceived direct mail campaign attempting to associate Gonzalez with the presidential vote situation in Florida - "it's about the Supreme Court, stupid" and "doesn't this guy get that Nader may have caused Gore to lose in Florida." They included a photo of Gonzalez' opponent with Tipper Gore - as if being seen with Ms. Gore were an asset in liberal Haight Asbury.

Long-time San Francisco Green organizer Ross Mirkarimi responded with an op/ed of his own - "Who's afraid of the Greens?" - also in the *Bay Guardian*. The California coordinator for Nader 2000, Mirkarimi defended Gonzalez and attacked his opponent for instigating a fear campaign similar to that used against Nader in the waning days of the presidential campaign.

Ironically it was Mirkarimi who earlier in 2000 was thought to be the most likely San Francisco Green to win a Supervisorial seat. He had experience working in the District Attorney's office, had

managed a successful DA campaign himself, and had worked on a variety of progressive issues and ballot initiatives in the Bay Area over the preceding 15 years. But Mirkarimi, a resident of the same district as Gonzalez, had decided earlier in the year to take a position with

Nonetheless, he has a certain star quality combined with a supple intelligence and concern for the underdog. He'll judge things on their merits - and not as a reflection of someone else's political agenda."

Gonzalez's campaign energized San Francisco Greens who were also

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the Nader campaign, rather than run against Gonzalez and possibly split the progressive vote, so that neither of them made the run-off. Then Gonzalez re-registered Green anyway. The result was that the Greens got a seasoned campaign manager for Nader and a newly elected official at the same time.

The *Bay Guardian* endorsed Gonzalez, saying: "his positions on the district's most pressing issues - gentrification, homelessness, tenants' rights - are solidly progressive and particularly well reasoned. A highly regarded lawyer, he's fluent in policy matters but never loses sight of the human consequences of political decisions. And he has brought a unique and thoughtful style to the stump, treating campaign events and debates not as occasions for sloganeering but as opportunities for discussion. He'd be an open, accountable, and engaged member of the board."

The mainstream *San Francisco Examiner* also endorsed Gonzalez, saying "his politics match those of his district: so far left he almost falls off the horizon.

active in the Nader for President and Medea Benjamin for Senate campaigns, and drew Greens from around the state to San Francisco to work for Gonzalez as well. Gonzalez and his volunteers walked the entire district, visiting almost every residence at least once, and ran an effective 'get out the vote' operation on election day.

Gonzalez' victory was more than just a progressive victory. It suggests something very profound about progressive voters - that on the municipal level, they will vote for progressive Greens over centrist Democrats - even in Democratic strongholds. Whatever grudges Democrats may hold over the Nader candidacy, it doesn't appear to prevent them from voting Green on the municipal level.

It also does not seem to prevent more Democrats from converting to Green. Emboldened by Gonzalez's decision. San Francisco Board of Education member-elect **Mark Sanchez** that he too was going Green. "I'm a little disenchanted with the Democratic Party," Sanchez said. "It's not progressive enough, and I agree with the values of the Green Party."

### Largest U.S. Cities to Elect a Green

San Francisco, CA	750,000
Madison, WI	210,000
Modesto, CA	180,000
Hartford, CT	130,000
Salem, OR	130,000
Berkeley, CA	110,000
Santa Monica, CA	93,000

# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis

## Julie Jacobson County Council Island of Hawai'i

One of ten Green incumbents to be re-elected nationally in 2000, Julie Jacobson won her second term on the island-wide County Council of Hawaii's 'Big Island', representing District 6. One of only a handful of US Greens to have ever been elected in a partisan race, Jacobson was elected first in 1998 by a slim 200-vote margin against a Republican incumbent in a three-way race. This time - running against the same former incumbent - she won more handily 51.7% to 43%.

Jacobson campaigned on 'respect for the environment and people', with a theme of 'honest planning for the future'. She fundamentally disagreed with her opponent on the key issues of the district. Unlike her opponent, Jacobson opposed further high-end resorts and residential developments - and their oceanfront impacts. She continued opposing new prisons on the Big Island - something her opponent promoted behind the scenes, but would not admit to publicly - particularly after Jacobson's efforts helped lead Hawaii's Governor to reverse his previously pro-prison stance after the election.

Jacobson opposed any further shopping malls in her district, and worked to protect endangered species and their habitat (although in some groups this was perceived as an anti-local issue). In the face of the significant development pressures, she promoted increased public input into the new Hawaii County General Plan. Faced with a flood of developers' cash coming to councilmembers before voting on their projects, she pushed for enforceable conflict of interest legislation to guide future decision-making and decision-makers.

The 6th District comprises about 16,000 residents, and is the poorest and most rural of the Big Island's nine council districts, with the highest rate of unemployment in the state. Culturally diverse, the population is comparable parts Asian, Hawaiian, and Caucasian. The local economy is largely based on agriculture, home businesses and professional skills.

Despite the low socio-economic level, many district residents prefer a clean, pristine island to the promised prosperity held out by large corporate development. Many people trade fish, fruit, vegetables, labor, tools and housing, and many other skills and resources. This kind of economy has been a strong island cultural tradition, as well as a practical accommodation to the subdivisions' lack of infrastructure. Still, a schism exists between those who

want a few big industries and the alliance of Hawaiians and activist newcomers who are working for a Green economy.

With the biggest town (Volcano) only about 2,000 people, and with most people living in agricultural subdivisions, "going to where the people are" was the cornerstone of Jacobson's campaign. Just as she had practiced in office, Jacobson showed up at numerous community gatherings, gaining respect from the district's residents as a true representative of the people. She appeared at farmers markets, rodeos, parades, reggae concerts, hula events and bake sales, and even got dunked in water at several events. She also spent hours 'talking story' with people at potlucks across the district.

Backed by a dedicated core of volunteers, Jacobson also staged her own events, featuring various local artists and musicians. She spent approximately \$18,000 overall, including mailing two district wide literature pieces to households of registered voters, plus one mailer to union employees touting her union endorsement. She did radio and print ads, and had 500 yard signs posted across the district. With a well-organized phone operation she reached voters where they lived. She also reached them when they travelled, standing by the side of the only road that goes through the district together with her husband Bob and volunteers in rain or shine for weeks, displaying beautiful silk-screened campaign signs.

Jacobson's funding came from small contributions from the district's residents. Her opponent's funding was comparable in amount, but came largely from corporations not individuals, and only one contribution coming from within the district. Her opponent ran numerous large newspaper ads. He also wrapped his campaign literature within official charter commission handouts - a questionable practice, given that he had just recently left the charter commission as a member.

Jacobson was endorsed by both of the island's major mainstream papers - the *Hawai'i Tribune-Herald* out of Hilo in the east and the *West Hawai'i Today* from Kailua-Kona, as well as the *Hawaii Island Journal*, an island-wide bimonthly alternative publication.

She was also endorsed by the Sierra Club and the League of Conservation voters, as well as one of the major public employee unions - the Hawaii Government Employees Association - a 48,000 member white collar labor union, which is the also local branch of AFSCME.

As part of the state of Hawaii - named by National Geographic magazine as the endangered species capital of the world - the island of Hawaii's Sixth District is one of the more topographically interesting districts a U.S. Green has represented. It comprises the southern 1/3 of the island - 1,200 sq. miles of desert, mountains, rainforests, lava tubes, an erupting volcano, hundreds miles of coastline and two national parks. The altitude varies from sea level to 13,000 ft. Most people live on individual household rainwater catchment water systems. Many depend upon photovoltaic and wind power and solar hot water. Jacobson successfully promoted biodiesel made from used cooking oil to power local cars, trucks and boats - the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park vehicles now use it - while at the same time stopping the illegal dumping of cooking oil in her district.

The future will be challenging for Jacobson and the

Greens, as redistricting along with new non-partisan county elections, may make it harder for Greens to get elected on the Big Island. Democrats hope to redraw districts in 2002 to eliminate the Greens entirely from office. At the same time non-partisan elections were approved by

Goodtimes, and several properties in conservative Norwood sprouted green-colored 'More Goodtimes' lawn signs alongside their Bush/Cheney ones. At the same time, Green presidential candidates Ralph Nader received 17% in San Miguel County, the highest county in the U.S

Despite the low socio-economic level, many district residents prefer a clean, pristine island to the promised prosperity held out by large corporate development. Many people trade fish, fruit, vegetables, labor, tools and housing, and many other skills and resources...A schism exists between those who want a few big industries and the alliance of Hawaiians and activist newcomers who are working for a Green economy.

the voters in November. Jacobson opposed this change, arguing that it would lessen voter choice, increase the influence of big money on elections and make it even harder for progressives to compete. But with change inevitable, she remains optimistic, seeing the realignment "as another organizing opportunity for environmentalists and Greens."

## Art Goodtimes County Commissioner San Miguel County, CO

In mostly rural, 800 square-mile wide San Miguel county, Green incumbent Art Goodtimes, 55, was re-elected County Commissioner in a partisan race, burying his Democratic opponent with 69% of the vote. A journalist, Latin teacher and performance poet, Goodtimes carried every precinct in the county, despite it being a mixed county politically, with the liberal mountain resort of Telluride in the east and the more conservative rural open lands and small towns in the west.

After the election *Telluride Watch* concluded, "Goodtimes...can plausibly claim a mandate. His election is notable not only for its size over a former (Democratic) County Commissioner, but also in that he is the only commissioner candidate in memory to win every precinct."

Protecting fast-growing Telluride from rapacious development was certainly a priority for Goodtimes. But so was representing ranchers and working class people in the rural communities of Norwood and Egnar (range spelled backwards), who often feel outvoted and misunderstood by the county's more populous, prosperous and liberal eastern side.

Towards this end, Goodtimes concentrated on removing 'one-size-fits-all' building codes, setting up specialized, less regulatory zone districts for the rural two-thirds of the county in their place. He also removed uniform building code (UBC) inspection requirements for the far western end, (where 100 people populate 400 square miles of the Colorado Plateau, but where 98 of them signed a petition to dump the UBC). In this way, Goodtimes combined grassroots democracy with effective, locally fitting regulation.

"I worked hard to prove to Democrats and Republicans alike that a Green candidate could support environmental regulations that made good sense, while getting rid of big government regulations that made no sense," said Goodtimes.

The result? Republicans, the dominant party in the state as a whole, didn't even run a candidate against

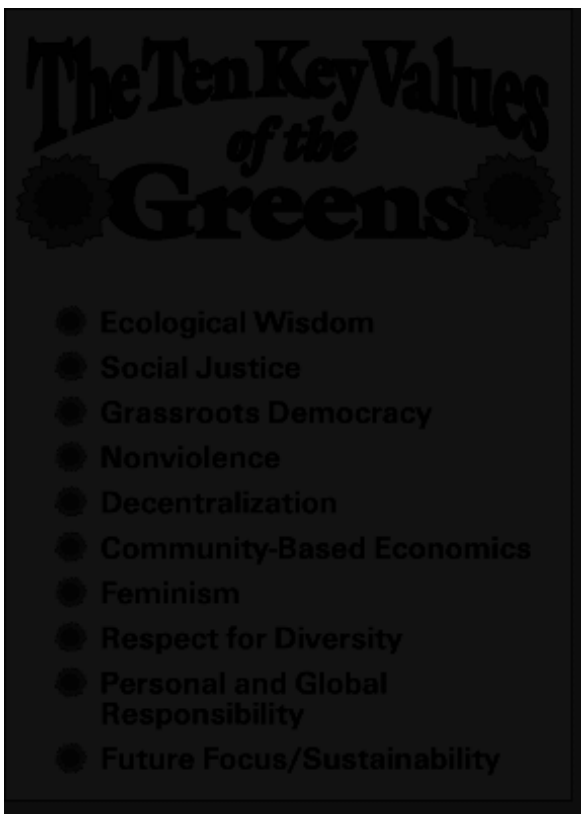
Environmental stewardship was another Green value Goodtimes campaigned upon. He pointed to his successfully championing a Purchase of Development Rights conservation easement program, which both preserved open space and protected local agricultural lands from encroaching development pressures. He and his fellow commissioners also received an award from the EPA for helping implement model High Alpine Water Quality Protection regulations, which the county commission conceived of together with the EPA.

Goodtimes insists on demonstrating that a sustainable economy, one of Greens Ten Key Values, has to be the goal of local businesses. In office, he's supported imposing impact fees on new development, believing "development should pay its own way". On a critical community ski expansion project, he negotiated significant off-site impact mitigations of affordable housing and public transportation. He also lobbied hard for and achieved stringent eco-concessions from the local ski operator (Telluride Ski & Golf Co.) to fund a Fen Oversight Committee to hire one of the nation's leading experts on peat wetlands, and to include monitoring of ski run development in the eco-sensitive Prospect Basin expansion area. That process has resulted in relocation of one of the lifts and removal of one of the steep service roads in the interests of protecting 10,000 year old fens.

For his second term in office, Goodtimes hopes to concentrate on structural issues, like reshaping local county government around the concept of organic city-regions, bioregions, ecosystems and watersheds. He'd like to see "if we could structure a combined city-county government that could utilize the liberal homerule charter opportunities for municipalities that aren't open to Colorado counties. We have an active San Miguel Watershed group working on basin-wide issues. I'd like to extend that kind of bioregional approach to county governance as well."

Goodtimes hopes to become a regional and state voice for Green values, building upon his current role as officer in Colorado's statewide commissioner group and member of the National Association of Counties' Public Lands Steering Committee.

Elected in 1996 as a Democrat, Goodtimes switched to Green in 1998 after a change in state law gave ballot status to minor parties. He's helped form a Green chapter in Telluride, helped start four others, and attended the 2000 Green convention as a Colorado delegate.



# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis

## Anna Braun City Council Salem, Oregon

Facing unhealthy growth pressures as well as a financial crisis, Salem became the eighth U.S. city to have at least two Greens on its city council, electing Anna Braun in November, 2000. Braun joins Green **Bill Smaldone**, who was elected to the council in 1998.

Salem has projected \$11 million in annual budget shortfalls over the next five years, and is already falling short on basic services, including parks and libraries. In response, Braun vowed to eliminate public subsidies that have promoted sprawl.

Her message was simple and direct - "it's the little things that really matter like sidewalks, libraries, parks, clean drinking water etc... and we can't pay for them because we subsidize sprawl." Braun seeks to restructure taxes to lower the burden on middle and lower income residents while requiring those who live outside the city to pay for city services they benefit from. "New development must be environmentally sensitive, neighborhood friendly and pay for its fair share for schools, parks and other city services."

In opposition to 'big box sprawl', Braun seeks to encourage vitality in the city's downtown - while retaining its character - by advocating an approach similar to Boulder, Colorado's Community Vitality Act, which distinguishes between local and 'formula' businesses or chains. To promote livability, she also favors more parks, public transit and library hours.

A professional land use planner and policy analyst, Braun has been active in community affairs for several years - as chair of her neighborhood organization and as a member of several city advisory committees and task forces, around issues of housing, land use, community development and livability.

Braun's opponent was a well-liked accountant put forward by the Chamber of Commerce together with the city's predominant pro-growth lobbyist (under the guise of several different PACs). Braun raised \$8000 in mostly from \$50 donations from Salem's progressive community (OR has a tax credit to help fundraising).

Among her endorsers and active supporters were the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, the city employees union, the firefighters, and the local anti-growth group, as well as the county Green Party. Braun's stance on greater public involvement also won her support among conservatives. She won with 56%.

## Randy Zurcher Board of Alderman Fayetteville, Arkansas

For the fifth time in eight years, at least one Green was elected to the Fayetteville City Council, as Randy Zurcher won a November 27<sup>th</sup> run-off election, recapturing a Ward 2 seat he once held. Although his margin of victory was a mere 100 votes out of almost 2,700 cast, it brought about a shift from Fayetteville's outgoing conservative council majority to a new 5-3 pro-environmental one.

Zurcher made environment his personal focus, with responsible development, traffic and uncontrolled sprawl at the forefront in this city of 56,000. To address the city's unsustainable growth patterns, he advocated a comprehensive, interconnected system of trails and designated protected lanes, to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle travel.

He also advocated a cleaner, safer bus system, with more routes and greater frequency, particularly on neighborhood routes, instead of just around the University of Arkansas campus, which is mostly contained in Zurcher's Ward.

Perhaps the campaign's pivotal issue was the cutting down of 51 rare, landmark trees, in the face of considerable community protest, as part of a sprawling parking lot-type development on a greenfield on the northern edge of town. Even though the out-of-state developer (Argus from North Carolina, acting for Kohl's Dept. Stores) could have redesigned the project to save the trees, the pleas of the public were not heeded.

"The mayor had his mind made up that short term profit from sales taxes were worth the loss of 50+ rare trees," said Zurcher. The four members of the council were just supporting him, knowing they had enough votes to do as they pleased."

Zurcher was instrumental in the fight to save the trees, hosting a television show detailing the struggle on local Community Access. He also got arrested for trespassing in attempting to interview Mary Lighthouse, a local grandmother who lived in one of the largest trees for three weeks until she was arrested.

One of Zurcher's goals will also be to improve communications between residents and City Hall. "We need to bring back Ward meetings, where we can sit down and prioritize a citizens' agenda."

Although the Sierra Club rarely

endorses Greens in partisan state and federal races, Zurcher did receive the local Ozark Headwaters Sierra Club's chapter endorsement, becoming part of a growing number of municipal and county Green candidates receiving such endorsements.

Walking door-to-door was a key part of Zurcher's campaign. During the three weeks of the run-off alone, Zurcher and volunteers visited to over 3,000 homes. They also phone-banked over 2,000 people who signed a petition to save the 51 trees. Such outreach was critical in reaching Ward Two's diverse student, professor, artist and business people population.

In the November 7<sup>th</sup> primary election, Zurcher faced a pro-development and a pro-environmental candidate. Voters chose Zurcher and the other environmentalist to advance to the run-off. Although Zurcher's was an environmentalist, he had not been active on issues in a public way. Zurcher on the other hand, has been active and vocal long before he was even first elected in 1996. Zurcher had also long taken consistent stands on gay rights, freedom of speech, and other progressive causes.

Zurcher spent close to \$9,000 towards 450 yard signs and newspaper ads (in both the local weekly and bi-weekly independent papers) a 5,000 direct mail and grassroots ('friends writing friends') postcards, as well as 5,000 handbills which were distributed door-to-door. His opponents spent \$8,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

Zurcher's biggest challenge - perhaps even more than his opponents - was a smear campaign conducted by local and state law enforcement, accusing Zurcher of downloading inappropriate material from the internet while at work at the Arkansas Department of Human Services.

After a three day search (with the state's consent) of his state-owned computer at work found nothing illegal, the Fayetteville Police Chief nevertheless filed a search warrant for the same computer. He then held a press conference announcing that, even though nothing illegal had been found, an investigation would go forward. This went on for four months, with the State Police conducting their own investigation as well. Both arrived at no conclusion of guilt.

Unfortunately for Zurcher, the media neglected other campaign issues, refusing to cover anything but the allegations, until Zurcher was cleared a few weeks before the election. This made his race closer than it would have been other-

## Green Party Election History 1990-2000

	Candidates	States	Victories
2000	274	34	35
1999	95	14	11
1998	131	20	21
1997	75	14	14
1996	82	15	19
1995	12	6	1
1994	76	14	14
1993	14	8	3
1992	99	14	15
1991	8	4	4
1990	15	6	6

Braun's election was part of a local sea change towards a first-time-ever 'slow-growth' majority - a 6 to 3 majority at that - in a city that consistently supports Republicans for state legislature and where developer and real estate interests have always controlled the city council.

Smaldone said residents should expect a less divisive, faster-acting council, along with a slew of groundbreaking policy proposals. "This is going to be a council more open to looking at new revenue, land use regulations and environmental protections." In Braun's first meeting, she voted to doom a Blockbuster video store by denying it two variances, sending joy to the neighborhood residents who had fought the project for a year.

Braun was attracted to the Greens by their attempt to deal with issues in a systematic manner. "I'm concerned by the huge income disparities and lack of basic necessities for so many people. I see other national governments doing better on so many issues. We have a lot more resources and are doing worse. Then I see the Democrats afraid to say "universal health care", afraid to reduce our defense budget to fund basic services and unwilling to discuss the way we treat the poor, and I get impatient and upset. I see hope in the WTO protests, that there are a lot of people ready to work on these issues and who get the basic unfairness of our economic system.

## Eric Fricker City Commission Cocoa Beach, Florida

"Do we want to live in a high-rise jungle? Do we want more traffic pouring into our city? Do we want to spend our taxes to attract even more tourists? Do we want our quality of life to deteriorate? How much is enough?"

Those were the questions Eric Fricker asked Cocoa Beach residents last fall, as he successfully became the first elected Green in the state of Florida. In a city that is 80% registered Republican, Fricker found common ground with residents on a quality of life, slow-growth, low density, pro-family agenda.

Located on a barrier island just south of Cape Canaveral (Orlando is an hour inland), Cocoa Beach has traditionally been home to a large senior population, and is now home to a growing number of young families.

With 12,500 year round residents in a city of only 3.5 square miles, the city swells by 250% during tourist season to

wise, Zurcher felt. The editor of the reporter most critical of Zurcher happened also to be the wife of his opponent. Zurcher believes that it was the Police Chief and not the rank-and-file officers behind the smear campaign. Zurcher had been very vocal against the previous mayor, who has since been defeated. The Chief answered directly to that mayor.

"There were some real dirty tricks and I don't want to dwell on them, but they happened," Zurcher said on election night. "It just shows that the voters of Ward 2 and the voters of Fayetteville are smart people and discerning individuals. With the amount of mud I've been drug through over the last few months, it's a particularly sweet brand of justice."

This is Zurcher's second term on the Council. He served in the same ward between 1996-98, then moved into a more conservative part of the city and lost against a well-known conservative incumbent who had lived there for twenty years. Soon afterwards Zurcher moved back to Ward 2 and stayed involved, hosting a Community Access TV program and speaking out at City Council meetings.

Between 1996-98, Zurcher was one of two Greens on the council, along with **Stephan Miller**, who served three terms between 1992 and 1998

30,000 people, overwhelming local services and infrastructure. Even though the city charter calls for keeping Cocoa Beach a "low-density, residential, resort community", high rise condominiums, time shares, and motels increasingly dominate its 6.5 miles of beach front. The city's one main traffic artery - A1A - is increasingly congested. Years ago residents voted to prevent it from changing from 4 to 6 lanes. "Unfortunately," according to Fricker, "developers are still building as if the road had been widened."

As a first-time candidate, Fricker's election was evidence of a residents' backlash against overdevelopment and tourism. Fricker walked door-to-door to every home in the entire city and found his message resonated with residents. Even though he was outspent four to one by his pro-development opponent, Fricker won all five of the city's precincts and finished with 56% of the vote.

A 17-year Cocoa Beach resident, surfer and former lifeguard, with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Central Florida, Fricker supported two referendum proposals to give residents the right to vote to control development.

Both were challenged in court. One of the two - the right to control density - made it to the ballot while still on appeal, passing with 72% of the vote. Fricker also supported a third referendum, requiring a unanimous vote of the Commission to dispose of city property. This passed with 75% and is not being challenged. Prior City Commissions had sold public beach access land to private hotels for very little compensation - and with even less public debate

Fricker sought construction of new, safe bike paths; maintaining and improving the community's athletic fields; and "beautifying all parts of our city, not just the tourist oriented business sections."

A founder of the local EarthSave chapter and active with his neighborhood food-coop, Fricker has long been an involved community member. In 2000 he was asked to run by the slow-growth Citizens' Action Committee. Now in office, Fricker finds himself on the short end of a 3-2 Commission split on development. Yet he remains hopeful he can shift policy, hoping to begin by taking advantage of the city's new zoning code designation to establish buffer zones between residents and large hotels, by rezoning part of the hotel districts as small-scale, neighborhood-serving commercial areas.

# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis

## Mike Feinstein becomes Mayor of Santa Monica Santa Monica becomes the largest city with a Green Mayor

With support from a broad community coalition, Mike Feinstein swept to victory for a second term on the Santa Monica City Council in November.

In the first meeting of the newly seated council, Feinstein's six council colleagues, one of them a fellow Green, then chose Feinstein to serve as Mayor for the next two years. That makes Santa Monica the largest U.S. city (pop: 93,000) with a Green mayor.

Tenants, labor rights activists, environmentalists, slow and smart growth development advocates, parks and open space supporters - along with the police and fire unions - all came out in support of Feinstein. He finished first out of 13 candidates for four seats, and his 21,084 votes were the second highest total for any city council candidate in the city's history.

Feinstein's strong finish reflected his achievements and progressive agenda during his first four-year term: tenant protection and affordable housing, environment and sustainable development, and civil liberties and workers' rights.

Meanwhile he transcended the city's traditional political lines that have historically divided over rent control by also championing issues of wide appeal - like more parks and open space, livable neighborhoods, support for youth and schools and increased resident voice in local decision-making.

Feinstein ran a positive, issues-based campaign, emphasizing his record in office. He appeared in three televised candidate debates, submitted a free 200-word ballot statement that the city mailed to residents, and taped a free, televised five-minute statement that ran on the citywide government channel (the later a program that he campaigned on in 1996 and implemented once in office.)

Leveraging one of his strengths as a candidate and elected official - personality - Feinstein walked door to door to meet thousands of local residents. This mirrored his style in office, a public official seen at most community meetings and open to hearing from all sides of an issue.

Feinstein raised \$30,000 and hired Standard Communications - political consultants familiar with Santa Monica and

the Green platform to refine his message and direct his campaign. They designed lawn signs, crafted the fliers he walked with door-to-door, and targeted his direct-mail campaign.

Feinstein also bought ad space in local papers as well as on their websites (which then linked to his own campaign website [www.feinstein.org/2000](http://www.feinstein.org/2000))

Evolving from neighborhood activist to elected official, Feinstein's political path has been bottom-up. It began when he was appointed to a citizens' task force in 1989 that took on the task of updating the neighboring Main Street General Plan. He helped create dedicated bike lanes along the city's busy commercial strip and narrowed the number of traffic lanes - changes that brought a more pedestrian feel to Main Street.

From there, Feinstein became active with his neighborhood organization, and then applied his political energy citywide. In 1993 and 1994, he opposed a proposal to increase commercial development in the city's Civic Center, located in an already-congested area a block from the beach. Ultimately Feinstein and other local Greens, aligning with then-State Sen. Tom Hayden, gathered petition signatures and forced the Civic Center project onto the ballot for a public vote.

The developer drastically outspent residents - laying out \$250,000 compared to their \$5,000 - in a campaign that successfully recast the issue as 'public safety, anti-homeless', instead of about development. Feinstein and allies lost that vote 60% to 40%. But fate smiled on them, as five years later, the developer was still not able to finance the project, leaving a window open for change.

The experience of "losing to city hall" in 1994 led Feinstein to consider a different tack. Instead of trying to change the minds of council members, he concluded it was better to get elected and make change himself. In 1996, he won as a first-time candidate, finishing second out of 13 candidates vying for four seats.

By 1999, Feinstein had a five-to-two progressive majority on the council, including one other Green Party member, **Kevin McKeown**, who was elected in 1998.

In a sweet victory, Feinstein became a linchpin in the city's decision to buy most of the land at the Civic Center site that had been lost in the 1994 referendum. The 11.3-acre purchase was the most significant land acquisition in the city's history.

Current plans for the site anticipate parks and open space, affordable housing units, childcare facilities and the whole area an alternative energy, conservation and efficiency district.

Feinstein's election in 1996 marked a shift in Santa Monica politics, a transformation that has aligned the local slow-growth movement more closely with the tenants' rights movement. And the city has also seen a new emphasis on workers' rights in the past five years, focusing on the low-paying jobs and working conditions that are the backbone of this beachfront city's successful tourism industry.

Santa Monicans for Renters Rights (SMRR) has been the local progressive electoral force since 1979 when SMRR pushed through the charter amendment ballot measure that established rent control. In the early days, SMRR elected left-leaning members to the City Council and Rent Control Board to protect tenants and keep a legally-imposed ceiling on rents. These efforts, combined with the extensive network of social service programs established by the new SMRR Council majority, left Santa Monica in the early 1980's with the nickname 'the Peoples' Republic'.

In 1995, SMRR joined forces with the rejuvenated Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union (HERE), Local 814 to successfully oppose a union decertification campaign driven by the management of the city's only unionized hotel. LOCAL 814 made its debut into city council politics in 1996 by endorsing Feinstein and two others running on SMRR's slate. Working closely with

SMRR, union workers phone-banked, precinct-walked and ran an effective get-out-the-vote operation.

The following year, flying in the face of the hotel's union-busting campaign, Feinstein and other councilmembers joined in solidarity with hotel workers, a movement that also drew local clergy and community leaders. The coalition, known as 'Santa Monicans Allied for Responsible

Tourism', helped force the sale of the hotel to a new company, which has negotiated a fair deal with the union. Today, there are two union hotels in Santa Monica - the result of a community-labor coalition working with a progressive council.

SMRR, HERE Local 814, Greens and neighborhood activists have formed a broad and progressive coalition in Santa Monica. The groups phone-banked and identified

13,000 likely voters for their progressive slate last November. And even more so than in 1996, they helped turn out those voters on election day, by dispatching dozens of volunteers into Santa Monica's neighborhoods and visiting voters at home. SMRR also ran its own extensive direct mail campaign to complement the get-out-the-vote operation..

The same local progressive coalition helped elect McKeown in 1998. Two years later, it also propelled Green Jeff Sklar to the Rent Control Board - making Santa Monica one of four cities (Madison, WI, Santa Fe, NM Sebastopol, CA are the others) that can boast of electing at least three Green officials.

The City Council has also appointed six Greens to Santa Monica's city boards and commissions: **Jan Williamson** (Arts Commission), **Sandy Grant** (Environmental Task Force), **Kathleen Masser** (Housing Commission), **Josefina Santiago** (Recreation & Parks Board) and **Linda Sullivan** (Pier Restoration Corporation.)



Feinstein's campaign sign dotted yards and fences across Santa Monica

## Amy Moon, City Council, Laramie First Wyoming Green elected

The November 2000 election saw Wyoming Greens elect their first officeholder, as Amy Moon won a seat on the Laramie City Council. Riding a wave of public discontent that saw three incumbents defeated (a fourth chose to leave the council rather than face uncertain reelection), Moon won a narrow victory, coming in fifth out of ten candidates for five seats on the nine-member Council.

Moon ran because she felt the City Council was unresponsive and not representative of the people of Laramie. "Many of the former council members were business owners that had private interests which influenced policy," she said. "This created problems for the community including unjust apportionment of resources in different parts of the city, and the placement of undesirable businesses in the city's least powerful areas.

She also pointed to the Council's unwillingness to confront the brutal hate crime murder of Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old gay college student from the

University of Wyoming.

Moon criticized the Council's neglect of working-class neighborhoods in Laramie, as well as for its poor handling of zoning in a major development case.

She joined neighborhood activists in opposing the Council's plan for a proposed large ice rink in an historic park and neighborhood, a plan that was opposed by the city's neighborhood organizations. The questionable structure will be placed over the recharge area of the city's aquifer.

Another example of what Moon felt was arrogance on the part of conservative Council, was their treatment of residents movement to institute a ward system of districts in the city. This movement was motivated by the neglect of some of Laramie's neighborhoods. The initiative provided 3 options for voters - 9 single-member districts, 7 single-member districts with 2 elected at large, or the status quo at-large system.

During the election, Moon sup-

ported the 7-ward, 2 at-large system, and this choice won a plurality of votes. Prior to new Council members taking office, however, the sitting Council took advantage of an ambiguity in the state elections code as to whether a plurality or absolute majority was needed for approval. The old council had formerly supported a 3 ward system (elected at large), and made a proclamation that this system was a fair compromise to no ward system (which they viewed as a possibility if the case was taken to court) thus ignoring the will of the people. The 3 ward system has not been implemented at present, and the petitioners have taken their case to court.

Aside from the issues above, planning for growth in this city of 28,000 will be a high priority for the new Council. Laramie is for the first time establishing a housing commission and commissioning a housing study and conducting a comprehensive land use plan.

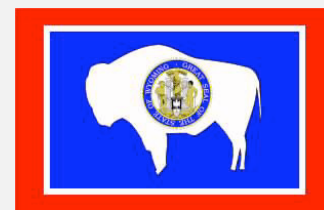
Sprawl, minimum wage jobs, and substandard housing are all issues of concern for Moon. "Laramie is practically

devoid of decent affordable housing. With a housing market that is second only to Jackson statewide, and no codes to protect tenants from unscrupulous landlords, the health and safety of the public are at stake. There are people living in rentals with dirt floors and in cellars."

Moon has worked with the Green Party since 1996, when she joined to work on the first Nader campaign as the Greens were founded in Wyoming. At 27, she is the seventh youngest Green to win a city council seat in the U.S.

She will graduate from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor's Degrees in Geography and Psychology in the fall.

Many of the new Laramie Council members are progressives and Moon is excited to be a part of an awakening progressive movement in Laramie, as well as being part of the Greens statewide coalition with the Labor Party. Greens in Wyoming are heartened by her victory in their conservative state and are looking at other seats they can run for and win. They expect Moon's position will set a good example of elected Greens in Wyoming.



# Green victories in fall 2000 - an analysis



Jennifer Hanan, Bob Ornelas and Jason Kirkpatrick in Arcata's municipal forest after being elected the first Green majority in 1996

## Bob Ornelas City Council Arcata, California

Becoming the first California Green to be elected to three 4-year terms, **Bob Ornelas** won re-election to the Arcata City Council in November, finishing third out of seven candidates for three seats.

The 47-year-old business owner of a local brewery, Ornelas stated his reasons for running for a third term in his official ballot statement. Citing his love of the community, Ornelas detailed "a long history of successful efforts to provide for affordable housing, senior housing, support for the creation of new businesses, environmental protection, sustainable forestry, educational opportunities, a low crime rate and safe parks and great recreational programs."

Ornelas was the first California Green ever elected to a city council, back in 1990. He stepped down after one term, and fellow Green **Jason Kirkpatrick** ran and took his place in 1994. Then in 1996, Ornelas and Green **Jennifer Hanan** were both elected, joining Kirkpatrick to form the first Green Party city council majority in U.S. history. The three received national and even global attention over the next two years, providing an exceptional opportunity to publicize Green approaches to governance. The pinnacle of local Green electoral success, it has been an uneven ride ever since.

In 1998 Kirkpatrick stepped down, then **Jennifer Rice** - the Green most thought would win if she ran - decided not to run, preferring to remain a sustainable community development activist rather than serve in elected office. Without a ready replacement, Green **Brad Freeman** stepped in and lost by 182 votes in what many felt was a very winnable race. Freeman ran an extremely low-key campaign, choosing to spend less than \$100 overall and running with the theme of "no cash, no trash, and no splash."

In 2000, Hanan stepped down herself, and *four* Greens ran for the three seats, finishing third through sixth.

## Arcata Greens hold onto seat, but council majority is a distant memory

In fourth place, just 70 votes behind Ornelas, was Green **Dwain Goforth**, 47, a former Arcata Planning Commissioner and a member of the 1994 Arcata Budget Task Force. Goforth also served on the committee that established the city's skate board park. He described his political philosophy as "progressive and populist; while maintaining that good ideas can come from across the political spectrum.

*The Arcata Eye's* editor endorsed Goforth, calling him a smart, friendly fellow with good values and a "400-pound brain." They were "highly impressed by his methodical approach to issues before the planning commission, thinking five steps ahead to predict the subtle interplay and ramifications of future events."

Goforth was also endorsed by the Humboldt State University *Lumberjack*, the *North Coast Journal*, and the *Eureka Times Standard*.

Finishing fifth were Greens **Susan Brinton** - 867 votes behind Ornelas - and **Ron Hagg**, 1,320 votes behind.

### Did the presence of four Green candidates running for three seats cost the Greens a second seat?

Ornelas pointed out that with the incumbent popular mayor virtually assured of re-election, this left the four Greens - including Ornelas - to essentially run for two seats, competing against themselves as well as two additional candidates in a zero sum game.

Ornelas himself was a point of departure, with some local Greens strongly supporting him and others just as strongly in opposition. His advocates praised his record. His opponents pointed to what they termed Ornelas' penchant for irreverent remarks, as well as his confrontation of speakers during city council meetings.

Local Greens were ultimately split on election strategy and there was no consensus plan to organize around. Part of this was the candidates. Part of it was the local group itself, which was in transition with a mix of old and new Greens, including many who came in as a result of the Nader campaign and had a minimal connection to city council politics.

After a very difficult endorsement meeting, the Humboldt County Green newsletter was sent out with a 'no endorsement', recommending only a "closer look" at *four* candidates - the incumbent Democratic mayor, Goforth, Ornelas, and

the independent challenger who ultimately finished second. The result was that different Greens backed different slates. For good measure, Brinton supported Goforth and Hagg supported Ornelas.

The lack of a Green slate made it difficult to organize the Nader volunteers, because there was nothing specific to tell them, nor could any recommendation be placed on the Nader/LaDuke literature.

Thus there was 'vote-splitting' among Green candidates as well as a lack of prioritization among them because of the lack of a party endorsement. Add to this the support for two non-Greens in the party's newsletter and this all meant a great loss of synergy among local Greens.

As to why Ornelas himself ultimately beat Goforth, a numbers of factors may account for the narrow 70 votes difference - less than 1/2 of 1% of the vote.

As an incumbent, Ornelas had name recognition and a record to run on. He also received the most financial support he'd ever had in his three city council campaigns - nearly \$5,000 - enough to pay for lawn signs all over town, a citywide mailer and a campaign staff member. This compared to \$800, hand-made signs and no direct mail or staff for Goforth.

Although Goforth's campaign was gaining momentum at the end, it simply got started later - and reached fewer voters - than it needed to win. By contrast, Ornelas walked door-to-door more than he had in 1996. The local Democratic Central Committee also endorsed Ornelas, while not inviting Goforth to speak. Goforth suggested his vocal support for Nader was a reason why.

Ornelas was endorsed by the two largest county newspapers - the *Times Standard* and the *Humboldt Beacon*. Ornelas also enjoyed the support of the building trades and the operating engineers union.

Ornelas received significant exposure the Sunday before the election, appearing on National Public Radio's Weekend Edition (NPR). NPR came to town to walk door to door with Ornelas, meeting residents and hearing him campaign. Hoping he would give them outrageous quotes, instead Ornelas was - in his own words - "laid-back and sensible, passionate, informed, and ever supportive of the Green Party and grassroots democracy."

Despite all of this, it may have been Goforth's stand on homeless that cost him the election. According to *The*

*Arcata Eye* "Goforth's support for a nomadic campground for transients is being blamed by way of morning-after wisdom for his loss, with some including Goforth himself, believing it had tipped the balance in favor of Ornelas."

### Were there scenarios in which Ornelas and Goforth could both won?

A large number of voters - 52% according to the *Eureka Times Standard* - "bullet voted" - choosing only one or two candidates, forgoing their third choice. This meant there were many uncommitted votes that could be had with the right strategy. What was that strategy?

First, a clear Green endorsement for both Ornelas and Goforth was necessary. This would have led to better support by the entire Green local, including those working on Nader.

Second, cooperation between the Ornelas and Goforth campaigns themselves was essential, as well as coordination with the mayor's campaign. Third, the factor of Brinton and/or Hagg's presence in the race has to be considered. Ornelas finished 373 votes out of second place and Goforth 443. Brinton and Hagg picked up 3,721 votes between them.

What is the future of Arcata's Greens? There were certainly bright spots in 2000. In addition to holding onto Ornelas' seat, Nader/LaDuke received 23% in the city of Arcata and 12.7% in Humboldt County overall, and numerous new volunteers came in as a result of the campaign.

Green registration also jumped 29% countywide in just nine months, from 3,742 on January 10<sup>th</sup> to 5,259 as of October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2000. The 6.8% of all county voters that this made up is the highest percentage of registered Green voters for any county in the U.S.

The major city council campaign issues were housing, economic development, the growth of Humboldt State University (and the lack of planning and coordination with the city), and the population of street people in the forest and on the town's plaza. These are issues upon which Greens have a clear perspective, that could find sympathy among Arcata's voters.

But it appears the answer to the Greens' prospects will lie more in the organization of Arcata's Greens, than in their philosophy. When focused, they have won seats. When scattered they have not.

## Michigan elects its first Green - JoAnne Beemon

The Green Party of Michigan won its first victory ever last November, with JoAnne Beemon's election as Charlevoix County Drain Commissioner. The vote was 5,349 votes or 85.7% for Beemon to 892 for her opponent, a Republican candidate running as a write-in.

In Michigan, a Drain Commissioner is responsible for establishing and maintaining drain facilities and resolving drain-related problems. In Charlevoix County the position had fallen into disuse, after the county voted in 1992 to change the salary from \$5,000 a year to \$1 a year plus a *per diem*. The office had been moved to the basement of the county building and left without a phone or computer.

Beemon promised an active Drain Office, in line with Green philosophy promoting "ecological wisdom." She also lobbied for a funded office, with a real salary as the drain

code requires. "Water, ours to protect" was Beemon's campaign slogan. "Poorly managed drains have led to pollution problems in the past," she said, and vowed to use the office to actively pursue conservation and water quality.

Her opponent opposed any additional funding and said he would run the office using existing staff within the county building department, where he works full-time. At a debate with Beemon, he defined the role of the office more narrowly, saying that water quality was not even part of the drain job, and that environmental issues should be left to state government.

The *Charlevoix Courier* quoted an ecstatic Beemon the day after her victory on page one: "As a Green Party candidate I dared to challenge the political machine of Charlevoix County.

Things are not business as usual. More important than corporate profit are fair wages and family well being. More important than the gross national product is clean water and air. These are the things the Green Party stands for, a new hope that I'm proud to be part of."

Charlevoix County is located in the Northwestern part of the southern peninsula of Michigan - Traverse City is the County seat. The entire county is Republican country. The Democrats didn't contest a single county office in 2000, except one sheriff candidate not backed by the party.

Even so, the Republicans ended up with only a write-in candidacy in Beemon's race, because their expected candidate waited until the last day to qualify and then failed. With the deadline passed, they were forced to pursue a write-in candidacy.

Beemon has been an activist since her junior high school days in the

60's. She started with civil rights, opposition to the Vietnam War and Women's Issues and received support in the campaign from an active group of local Greens in a grassroots effort that focused on door-to-door walking, mailers, interviews and public forums. She was Michigan United Conservation Club's Conservationist of the Year in 1998 and is a church leader, teacher, volunteers for several local water-quality organization and worked on a project that raised \$200,000 to purchase 200 acres of land next to a river.

"We need a sense of place, and our place is uniquely ours to care for, heal and protect."

Michigan Greens qualified for the ballot by 'pulling out all the stops' to gather 52,000 signatures in the spring/summer of 2000. Nader received 84,165 votes (2%) in Michigan. Of Michigan's 83 counties, Charlevoix's was 8th highest in its Nader vote with 3.4%. Fifteen Michigan Greens ran for office overall in 2000, more than in all previous years in Michigan combined.



# Greens in the 2000 elections - *highlights*

## Medea Benjamin for Senate breaks new ground

Boosting the Green Party to new heights and attracting new constituencies, human rights activist Medea Benjamin ran a spirited and groundbreaking campaign for U.S. Senate in California.

Co-founder and co-director of Global Exchange, Benjamin finished with 3.1% of the vote, the highest percentage for a third party U.S. Senate candidate in California in 62 years.. Her 326,848 votes were also the most that any U.S. Green candidate won in a non-presidential race against a Democratic and Republican.

Benjamin raised \$250,000, a record amount for Greens, in mainly small contributions from thousands of people across the state. Her fundraising success proved that potential Green Party donors do indeed exist, and that Greens are capable of reaching them.

Benjamin opened six campaign offices across the state and recruited more than 400 volunteers. She spoke on more than 50 college campuses, helping Greens start 20 new campus chapters.

An architect of the Seattle and DC protests against the WTO, World Bank and International Monetary Fund, Benjamin was particularly attractive to progressive voters. Her platform and achievements stood in stark contrast to her centrist opponent, Democratic incumbent Sen. Dianne Feinstein. Benjamin's candidacy paved the way for the Green Party to build alliances and grow.

Seven newspapers endorsed her, both the alternative press and mainstream. The *L. A. Weekly*, for one, said "she's already done more to create a more just a livable planet than about 97 of the members inside the Senate."

Benjamin's endorsements included 25 current and former elected officials, among them long-time San Francisco Board of Supervisor President Tom Ammiano. Also on the list were prominent progressives: David Brower & Helen Caldicott, Noam Chomsky and Angela Davis, Barbara Ehrenreich and Michael Lerner, Ed Begley, Jr., Woody Harrelson and Bonnie Raitt, Manning Marable and Norman Solomon, Alice Walker and Cornel West, and Jim Hightower.

Benjamin captured the support of organizations such as Americans for Democratic Action, the farmworkers' group Project Vote, and Latinos for Better Government. She won a thumbs-up from

unions, too, with AFSCME Locals 1108 and 444 and more than 30 union officials. These local unions supported Benjamin despite pressure to stick with the California Federation of Labor's endorsement of Feinstein (see box).

During the D2K Democratic Convention protests in Los Angeles, Benjamin was in full stride. She gave a rousing speech from atop a truck to a cheering crowd of thousands at The March against Sweatshops and For Immigrants Rights, one of the week's major marches that went from the downtown garment district to the Staples Center, the convention site. She also was a featured speaker at the Shadow Convention.

At the Convergence Center — a four story building that served as home base for D2K — Benjamin's name could be seen throughout as many, particularly young people - sported 'Medea for Senate' T-shirts, stickers and posters.

On D2K's final night, Benjamin appeared on a dramatic live two-hour national radio broadcast hosted by Democracy Now's Amy Goodman. Activists packed into a makeshift studio at Patriotic Hall to hear her message: the importance of an independent, progressive party like the Greens to tap the energy found in the streets of Los Angeles, DC and Seattle.

The editorial boards at every major daily and weekly newspaper in California invited Benjamin for an interview, with one exception - the *Los Angeles Times*. She interviewed on nearly every community radio station and NPR affiliate. But television media and the mainstream press largely ignored her campaign.

With Feinstein holding a 20-point lead over Republican Rep. Tom Campbell, the press treated the Senate race as a foregone conclusion - failing to cover Campbell closely, let alone Benjamin. The only television outlet that provided Benjamin with fair coverage was Adelphia Communications in Los Angeles, where public affairs host Bill Rosendahl interviewed her several times before election day.

The media shutout was clearest when Benjamin and 125 supporters sat in at the San Francisco station of KRON as it broadcast one of the two debates where Feinstein agreed to appear. Benjamin was excluded from both.

The lack of press attention spawned a surprising coalition between



Medea Benjamin spoke with Ralph Nader about the need for political reform at Berkeley Earth Day 2000. They joined Julia Butterfly Hill before an enthusiastic crowd

Benjamin and GOP candidate Campbell. They debated three times and organized two press conferences together, denouncing the war on drugs in Colombia, blasting the use of political action committee money in political campaign and criticizing Feinstein's refusal to debate.

Without reliable access to the media, Benjamin found alternative ways to spread her message through well organized protests, highlighting the collusion between the mainstream media and the two main political parties to exclude third parties. She also published and distributed thousands of copies of the booklet "I, Senator" outlining the positive transformation that would come if Greens held more positions of power in the U.S.

Since the election, Benjamin has focused on building a statewide coalition interested in serious electoral reform. Her plans include creating an independent debate commission in California in hopes of taking back control of the debates from the candidates.

Benjamin-the-candidate and Benjamin-the-organizer combined to embody the vision laid out by the Green Party of

California when it was formed in 1990. Party leaders understood then, that a strong Green movement already existed in the state, comprised of various non-profits and community organizations. Turning the Green Party into the electoral extension of that movement would be key to the party's future. Drawing in some of the movement leaders as candidates was crucial to this task.

Enter Benjamin - an economist and nutritionist in Latin America, Africa, and Europe, and a senior analyst with the Institute for Food and Development Policy. She worked for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, and the Swedish International Development Agency - not to mention Global Exchange.

Then, as a Green Party candidate, Benjamin enjoyed one of the most successful runs in the party's national history - despite little press coverage, being denied access to debates and running in a race against on of the most heavily favored Democratic incumbents in decades.

Clearly, Benjamin's was a combination that worked.

## Medea at the California Federation of Labor Convention

An eyewitness account, by Michael Everett, IATSE Local 278 and Green Party member

The two-day biennial California Labor Federation concluded in Anaheim with a bit of a surprise, as delegates fired an unexpected shot across the bow of free trader U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein.

Most of the convention was a scripted campaign rally for Al Gore, accompanied by the usual rubber stamping of decisions already made by labor federation leaders. The convention was scheduled to close with the routine unanimous ratification of the state COPE endorsements. But COPE hadn't reckoned with Green US Senate candidate Medea Benjamin, who sat quietly at the back of the hall and had one-on-one conversations with delegates about her program for fair trade, universal health care, an end to privatization, and everything else on labor's agenda.

After the first day, about 20 delegates met with Benjamin to hear more about her labor platform along with a comparison to Feinstein's, who voted for NAFTA, GATT and was a leader of the campaign to pass China normal trade relations. We agreed that it would be wrong to be silent at the COPE endorsement. Even if we lost ten to one, we had to oppose Feinstein's endorsement and make sure it wasn't unanimous.

The next day when the endorsements were read off from the podium, our tiny handful challenged the Feinstein endorsement from the floor. Three of our number took to the floor microphones to denounce her free trade policies and praise the pro-labor platform of Medea. After the third delegate spoke, a motion was made and passed to cut off further debate. A voice vote was called and to everyone's astonishment, 40% of the delegates voted 'no' on the endorsement.

Though technically a victory for Feinstein, clearly Medea was the winner and Feinstein the loser. This was a warning message to politicians who take labor for granted and a clear illustration that the spirit of Seattle has taken hold in the labor movement.



## New Mexico Green Party remains strong after all these years

One of the nation's strongest state Green Parties since 1994, the year 2000 was another year of growth for the New Mexico Green Party. In Santa Fe's municipal elections in March, two Greens were elected. Green candidates did well in the November general election, and statewide Green membership increased by 20% between the June primary and the November election, from 9,332 to 11,674.

The type of campaigning New Mexico Greens do can partially explain the leap in their registrations. Their candidates and campaign volunteers walk door-to-door early in the campaign. This outreach is generally focused on three things: voter registration, voter education, and voter identification. During the months before last spring's Santa Fe municipal election, the local Greens registered over 500 new voters, primarily in Green city council candidate Miguel Chavez's district. Based on the strength of his community activism combined with a vigorous campaign, Chavez was able to unseat a three-term incumbent.

Also in the March, Green **Fran Gallegos** won reelection to her Santa Fe Municipal Judgeship in a rematch against her predecessor. "Judge Fran" has instituted Therapeutic Jurisprudence, a program involving intensive counseling and community service as an alternative to jail time for first offenders of domestic violence and drug and alcohol related crimes. The program has had great success in both reducing rates of repeat offenders, and in helping people face and deal with their problems. The voters showed their support for this approach by electing her to a second term.

Building on the momentum generated by the municipal elections, two long time Green Party activists decided to run for County Commission in Santa Fe in November - Melissa McDonald (district 2) and Xubi Wilson (district 5). They both focused and spoke out on sprawl, transportation and good government. Their credentials as permaculturists allowed them to speak with authority on issues like grey water recycling and rooftop catchment systems. Their years of local activism on such projects as Friends of Santa Fe Trails (the city's bus system) and the

Healing Garden (a project at the municipal court acknowledging victims of domestic abuse) earned them hundreds of campaign volunteers who already knew of their dedication and integrity. This helps explain their great showing as first-time candidates - McDonald received 46% in a two-way race, with Wilson coming in at 23% in a three-way race.

Several factors influenced McDonald's higher result.. One was an anti-incumbent feeling fostered by a hot issue that had previously come before the Commission: building a prison for immigrants in Santa Fe County. Not only was the concept of such a prison inherently objectionable to many residents, but to put such a prison in a community that is largely Hispanic, with deep ties to old Mexico, was astonishing to many. In addition, it was perceived as a done deal. Cornell Corrections held a job fair before the Commission had awarded the contract, and the press discovered evidence of the outlandish wining and dining Cornell had done for the Commissioners. It also discovered the poor performance of Cornell in its contracts, including over-billing the City of Santa Fe itself.

In the Democratic Primary in June, one incumbent was able to pull off a victory over his two challengers, but the other incumbent lost. Because of this, a lot of anti-incumbent energy remained high against the incumbent in McDonald's race, but would dissipate in Wilson's district where the ousting of the incumbent had been accomplished. In addition, there was a Republican in that race, so it would be more difficult to swing that segment of the voters his way.

The other main factor benefiting McDonald is her district's geographic location. County Commission district 2 overlies much of City Council district 3, where Chavez won his race earlier in the year). Most of the rest of her district lies in City Council district 2, where Green **Cris Moore** has been elected twice. These urban precincts are more accustomed to voting Green than in Wilson's more rural district, which includes the southern section of Santa Fe and the town of Eldorado. In addition, there are a higher percentage of registered Greens to draw on for grassroots support, about 7% of the voters in McDonald's district compared to 3% in Wilson's. (continued on next page)

# Greens in the 2000 elections - highlights

## Holle Brian State Assembly Campaign Brings Out Volunteer Strength

Campaigning on the themes of "A Green Economy and Environment", "Families First" and "A Better Democracy", Holle Brian ran one of the most successful state legislative campaigns among Greens nationally in 2000. Finishing with the most votes of any third party state assembly candidate in Minnesota, she also had the second-highest percentage for state assembly - 16.5% - among Green candidates in the entire country, Hawaii's **Ginny Aste** was first with 19.4%. (This among candidates in three-way or more races).

But perhaps the biggest measure of success for Brian's campaign was the manner in which it built the Green Party. According to Brian's campaign manager **Chris Allison**, people volunteered in droves for Brian because she had given so much of her self over the years to build the Green Party in Minnesota.

"Since its inception as a political party in Minnesota, Holle Brian has been willing to constantly fill many needed roles within the Green Party. She's been editor and designer of the state newspaper, *The Sunflower*; a facilitator at numerous state meetings, an elected member of the state coordinating committee and the state's primary representative on the national Green level."

Brian ran in South Minneapolis' State Legislative seat 62B, which encompasses the historic Minnehaha Falls, the controversial Highway 55 re-route through an old forest and sacred Native American ground, Lake Nokomis, and about 25,000 registered voters, mostly white, working class small homeowners.

For 24 years, District 62B has been represented by a conservative, "tough on crime" Democrat who personally killed the anti-Highway 55 reroute bill, voted against gay marriage and supports prison privatization.

As the Greens' first-ever candidate for this seat, Brian knew she had an uphill battle to unseat the established incumbent, so she committed herself to running two campaigns consecutively, with the 2002 election as the goal for getting elected, after building her base in 2000.

Brian began knocking on doors and talking to her constituents in May, proving her commitment early. During the petition drive to put Brian on the ballot, dozens of Green Party of volunteers

got involved, collecting well over a thousand signatures of potential voters within the district in two weeks.

Brian's campaign became well organized during and immediately following the petition drive, according to Allison "kicking into a higher gear every few weeks until the November election". There was an organized telephone bank three nights each week, door-to-door precinct walking three days a week and large mailing parties at the volunteer meetings.

Brian's volunteers contacted 3,000 targeted registered voters through a well organized three night a week phone-banking operation. They also knocked on well over 3,000 doors through a three days-a-week precinct-walking operation; dropped an enormous amount of literature on doorsteps throughout the district and sent out over 3,000 pieces of targeted mail put together at large, weekly mailing parties. The campaign also had a very impressive web page, designed by a web designer volunteering her services.

"As a campaign professional with experience on quite a few successful campaigns," observed Allison, a veteran of US Senator Paul Wellstone's 1996 campaign, "I can confidently say that this campaign not only attracted more volunteer support than I've ever seen, but we also organized them effectively to perform very specific tasks."

The campaign raised over \$12,000, mostly through individual \$50 refundable donations (the Minnesota Political Contribution Refund Program provides a public financing rebate for every contribution up to \$50, one of the best such programs in the country). Brian was endorsed by Clean Water Action, MN CO-ACT (Minnesota Citizens Organizing for Action, a statewide membership organization that is very active on family farm issues and single payer health care), and Green presidential and vice-presidential candidates Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke, the latter a fellow Minnesotan.

Brian also hosted a series of educational forums on campaign issues in her District, bringing in guest speakers to talk about single-payer health care, genetic engineering and the history and philosophy of the Green Party. These popular forums were a valuable campaign tool, as they gave visibility to her candidacy and helped recruit new volunteers.

In addition to broad issues of affordable health care, living wages, and renewable energy, Brian focused on local, quality of life issues, like the noise and pollution problems from overhead flights associated with being adjacent to the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP).

Brian used this issue to tie together Green approaches to transportation and economy. She opposed further expansion of the airport; advocating decentralizing air traffic - and thus economic growth - to nearby Rochester and St. Cloud, and connecting those

(which makes MSP is base) of sacrificing the quality of inner city neighborhoods in order to concentrate economic power in the Twin Cities.

Brian's fine showing follows that of **Cam Gordon**, who ran in the adjoining district in 1996 as the first-ever Minnesota Green state legislative candidate. In an even more progressive district, Gordon received 24.6%, finishing second ahead of the Republican. (Brian came closest among US Greens to finishing ahead of a major party candidate in 2000 - her 16.5% trailed her Republican opponents' 21.5%). Mirroring the differ-



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We need a new definition of prosperity that places value on clean air and water, a sustainable, locally-based economy, healthy, educated children and peaceful, livable communities so that we can protect our natural and human resources for the common good of generations to come, rather than degrade them for short-term gain."

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cities to the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area via high-speed rail.

Brian was the only candidate to point out that less polluting, energy-efficient alternatives to air travel should be developed and that a more locally self-reliant economy, based on local and regional goods and services, could also help reduce air traffic.

Brian accused the Minnesota Airport Commission, the mayor, the Metropolitan Council and Northwest Airlines

ence between the two districts, Nader received 8.9% in Brian's district and 12.8% in Gordon's in 2000. South Minneapolis has become a Green stronghold - **Annie Young**, who was elected in 1997 to an at-large seat on the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, did well there, as did **Dean Zimmerman**, who was elected to the same Board via a district seat.

Nader/LaDuke received 6.2% in Hennepin County, home to Minneapolis and several surrounding suburbs.

## Szwaja receives Green record 19.6% for Congress



As the first partisan Green candidate in Washington state, Joe Szwaja's received 19.6% for Congress - a U.S. Green record - running in a three-way race against a seven-term Democratic incumbent and a Libertarian, in the overwhelmingly Democratic 7<sup>th</sup> District, which includes almost all of Seattle as well as Vashon Island.

A former five-term city council member in Madison, WI with the Labor-Farm Party, Szwaja structured his campaign around "the 3 R's", Renewing our Democracy, Restructuring the Global Economy, and Redirecting Resources to Meet Human and Environmental Needs.

He argued for fair trade rather than "free" trade, campaign finance and electoral reform, saving the region's salmon runs and redirecting corporate welfare to programs that serve people and the environment.

Szwaja's total eclipsed the 17.8% received by the last Republican to contest the seat back in 1996. After the election, Szwaja said, "The Green Party is poised to become Seattle's second party. I was the first Green candidate for partisan office in Washington, and I ran a grassroots campaign that got little mainstream media attention. Yet we received more support than the Republicans did when they last ran and we showed that a significant number of Seattle voters find themselves more in line with Green Party values than with the Democrats."

Szwaja received the endorsement of *The Seattle Weekly*, *The University of Washington Daily* and *The Office and Professional Employees International Union*,

Local 8, as well as an impressive list of individual endorsers from the area's human rights, environmental, and public interest organizations. *The Weekly* called a vote for *the Democrats* - not the Greens - 'a wasted vote'.

Szwaja raised \$35,000 and spent it on 2,000 yard signs as well as nearly 50,000 pieces of professional campaign literature. He sent a 25,000 piece targeted mailing in the campaign's last week, while Nader volunteers carried his literature door-to-door. He also employed a 20 hour/week campaign manager, two part time staff and a professional consultant to develop his campaign work plan.

Szwaja's candidacy energized hundreds of volunteers and contributors, and the membership of the Seattle Greens doubled, from 250 to 500 dues paying members. While the Nader candidacy was clearly controversial in heavily Democratic Seattle, Szwaja's result demonstrated that people are willing to vote Green 'down ticket', regardless of their views about the presidential race.

The previous highest percentage for any Green Party candidate for Federal office was Carol Miller in New Mexico, who received 17% for Congress in 1997, in a five-way race including both a Democrat and Republican. Szwaja had 52,142 votes in heavily populated Seattle during a November general election in a presidential year, while Miller received 17,101 in a May, off-year special election with lower turnout in a rural district. The highest total for U.S. Senate was Hawaii's Linda Martin, who received 13.5% in 1992.

## New Mexico Greens (continued from preceding page)

Considering that they ran in districts that are 60-70% Democrat, Greens are extremely pleased with these results.

Other New Mexico Green candidates also did very well. With vast distances to cover in their races, Cliff Bain (for Public Regulation Commission) and Marvin Gladstone (for State Court of Appeals) attended local events throughout the state. August through October are months of fiestas, harvest celebrations, and county fairs in New Mexico, and the campaigns traveled every weekend and then some to meet with voters. The Green Party also staffed a booth at the state fair in Albuquerque, registering hundreds of voters and spreading the Green message.

Bain was able to raise energy policy issues and discuss the role of the Public Regulation Commission, and is in the process of creating a citizen oversight group for the PRC. Gladstone spoke repeatedly about the need to abolish the death penalty and an end to mandatory minimum sentencing.

By addressing issues not generally associated with the Greens, both candidates broadened the perception of the Green Party. Bain received 33% in his

second run for PRC while Gladstone received almost 55,000 votes. At 11% Gladstone is also the NMGP's only hope for maintaining major party status and right to hold primary elections. Why?

New Mexico state law has previously been interpreted to allow any statewide candidate - not just for president or governor - that receives 5% or more of the vote, would maintain the Green Party's major party ballot status. That status has been reaffirmed in '96 and '98 based on the electoral results of candidates for offices other than president or governor. A 1996 Attorney General opinion confirmed this practice. But a recent ruling by a judge denying the Libertarian Party major party status gave the Secretary of State and Attorney General reason to believe they can deny the Greens' party status as well. Because Nader received less than 5% in the New Mexico in 2000, the Greens' major party status is uncertain. While there are several options to consider, there is a very good chance this will be decided in the courts.

*Rick Lass is a former state co-chair of the New Mexico Green Party and remains active on the state and national level.*



# GREEN PARTY ELECTION RESULTS

**Name** **Votes, Percentage**  
**Office** **Place/Total Candidates for 'x' seats**  
*All election dates November 7th unless otherwise indicated*  
 All numbers final, unofficial

## Alaska (10, 1 win)

**Anna Young**.....17,927, 7.94%  
 U.S. House of Representatives 3rd/5 for 1

**Bill Bartee**.....569, 4.43%  
 State Senate, District E (Kenai, Nikiski, Klatt, Bayshore) 3rd/3 for 1

**Greg Garcia**.....794, 6.07%  
 State Senate, District M (Wasilla through Eagle River) 4th/4 for 1

**Jed Whittaker**.....431, 4.23%  
 State Senate, District G (NE Anchorage, Gov't Hill, Elmendorf) 3rd/3 for 1

**R.D. Levno**.....256, 4.06%  
 State House of Representatives, District 13 (Inlet View, Turnagain, W. Spenard) 3rd/3 for 1

**Fryderyk (Fred) Mieszko**.....266, 4.9%  
 State House of Reps, District 20-J (Midtown Anchorage) 4th/4 for 1

next four results all 10/03/00 Municipal Elections

**Patty Zimmerman**.....442, 4.4%  
 Mayor, Juneau 3rd/4 for 1

**Della Coburn**.....  
 City Council, Kasaan **Elected 1st/1 for 1**

**Amy K. Smith**.....758, 18.6%  
 City Assembly, Sitka 4th/4 for 3

**Maryalice Montoya-Bighinatti**.....4,497, 32.3%  
 Board of Education, Borough School Dist., Fairbanks North Star 2nd/2 for 1

## American Samoa (1)

**Tisa (Barefoot) Faamuli**.....59, 0.5%  
 Governor 4/17 for 2

## Arizona (14)

**Vance Hansen**.....108,554, 7.8%  
 U.S. Senate 3rd/5 for 1

**Michael Jay Green**.....9,010, 3.1%  
 U.S. House of Representatives, District 5 3rd/4 for 1

**Daniel Patterson**.....2972, 8.93%  
 State Senate, District 11 3rd/3 for 1

**Katie Bolger**.....8907, 19.60%  
 State House of Representatives, District 14 4th/4 for 2

**William Crosby**.....5,407, 5.8%  
 State House of Representatives, District 9 4th/4 for 2

**Eli Manders**.....3,578, 4.8%  
 State House of Representatives, District 26 4th/4 for 2

**Bill Moeller**.....5382, 16.17%  
 State House of Representatives, District 11 3rd/3 for 1

**John Scudder**.....3,168, 6.3%  
 State House of Representatives, District 25 4th/4 for 2

**Jack Strasburg**.....4155, 15.22%  
 State House of Representatives, District 10 3rd/3 for 2

**Susan Campbell**.....25,575, 8.84%  
 County Superintendent of Schools (Pima) 3rd/3 for 1

**William Zaffer**.....39,116, 13.53%  
 County Recorder/Assessor (Pima) 2nd/2 for 1

**Peter Hormel**.....25,687, 8.88%  
 County Attorney (Pima) 3rd/3 for 1

**Dave Croteau**.....46,394, 16.04%  
 County Sheriff (Pima) 2nd/2 for 1

**Alva d'Orgeix**.....170, 10.6%  
 Mayor, Bisbee 4th/6 ; 2 advance to November run-off  
 09/12/00 Primary Election

## Arkansas (3, 1 victory)

**Paul Kelly**.....21,193, 35.12%  
 Alderman, Little Rock, Position 9 (Pulaski) - Incumbent 2nd/3 for 1

**Dee White**.....13,945, 24.54%  
 Alderman, Little Rock, Position 8 (Pulaski) 2nd/3 for 1

**Randy Zurcher**.....1,388, 51.87%  
 City Council, Fayetteville **Elected 1st/2 for 1**  
 11st/28/00 Run-Off Election

## California (58, 12 wins)

**Medea Benjamin**.....326,828, 3.1%  
 U.S. Senate 3rd/7 for 1

**Jan Tucker**.....26%  
 U.S. Senate 2nd/2 for 1  
 03/07/00 March Primary Election

**Ken Adams**.....6,195, 2.9%  
 U.S. House of Representatives, District 5 (Sacramento) 3rd/5 for 1

**E. Craig Coffin**.....8,215, 4.0%  
 U.S. House of Reps, District 17 (Monterrey/Santa Cruz) 3rd/6 for 1

**Justin "Justo" Moscoso**.....13,248, 4.6%  
 U.S. House of Reps, District 6 (Marin & Sonoma) 3rd/5 for 1

**Krista Lieberg Wong**.....10,294, 9.1%  
 U.S. House of Representatives, District 31 (Los Angeles) 2nd/4 for 1

**Sara Amir**.....14,995, 10.0%  
 State Assembly, District 42 (Los Angeles) 3rd/5 for 1

**Jan Louis Bergeron**.....5,698, 5.2%  
 State Assembly, District 9 (Sacramento) 3rd/4 for 1

**Gloria Purcell**.....14,641, 9.7%  
 State Assembly, District 21 (San Mateo & Santa Clara) 3rd/3 for 1

**Chuck Reutter**.....8,045, 4.5%  
 State Assembly, District 66 (Riverside) 3rd/3 for 1

**Jay Baggi**.....570, 2.5%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 5 (City/County of San Francisco) 7th/11 for 1

**Dan Forston**.....1,242, 27.5%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 2 (Humboldt) 2nd/2 for 1  
 03/07/00 General Election

**Matt Gonzalez**.....10,251, 65.5%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 5 (City/County of SF) 12/12/00 Run-Off Election **Elected 1st/2 for 1**

**Christine (Chris) Malan**.....681, 10.2%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 4 (Napa) 3rd/3 for 1  
 03/07/00 General Election

**Louis Nuyens**.....5,079, 38.4%  
 Board of Supervisors (Marin) 2nd/2 for 2  
 03/07/00 General Election

**Marc Salomon**.....329, 2.6%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 6 (City/County of San Francisco) 8th/17 for 1

**Gary Waayers**.....1,351, 4.5%  
 Board of Supervisors, District 5 (San Diego County) 5th/7 for 1  
 03/07/00 General Election

**Colby Crotzer**.....1,659, 33.66%  
 Mayor, Morro Bay (San Luis Obispo) 2nd/3 for 1

**Demian Barrett**.....252, 1.1%  
 City Council, District 5 (City/County of San Francisco) 9th/11 for 1

**Creighton Bell**.....397, 5.8%  
 City Council, Cotati (Sonoma) 9/13 for 3

**Susan L. Brinton**.....2,087, 10.89%  
 City Council, Arcata (Humboldt) 5th/7 for 3

**Scott Bugental**.....6,918, 7.7%  
 City Council, Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz) 5/15 for 4

**Leslie Dalhoff**.....103, 29.1%  
 City Council, Point Arena (Mendocino) Incumbent **Elected 1st/4 for 3**

**DNA**.....5,042, 7.6%  
 City Council, Chico (Butte) 7/8 for 4

**Robert Doyle**.....611, 14.29%  
 City Council, Fort Bragg (Mendocino)

**Mike Feinstein**.....21,084, 18.2%  
 City Council, Santa Monica (Los Angeles) Incumbent **Elected 1st/13 for 4**

**Dwain Goforth**.....2,884, 15.04%  
 City Council, Arcata (Humboldt) 4th/7 for 3

**Jim Guthrie**.....2,231, 17.69%  
 City Council, Arroyo Grande (San Luis Obispo) 4th/4 for 2

**Ron Hagg**.....1,634, 8.52%  
 City Council, Arcata (Humboldt) 6/7 for 3

**Pia Jensen**.....522, 7.7%  
 City Council, Cotati (Sonoma), Incumbent 5/13 for 3

**Rebecca Kaplan**.....43,298, 44.2%  
 City Council, Oakland (Alameda) 2nd/2 for 1

**Tom Kelly**.....1,119, 17.4%  
 City Council, District 5, Berkeley (Alameda) 2nd/5 for 1

**Arnie Leff**.....6,014, 6.9%  
 City Council, Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz) 7/15 for 4

**Robin Leler**.....350, 9.08%  
 City Council, Willits (Mendocino) 7

**Craig Litwin**.....2,043, 35.3%  
 City Council, Sebastopol (Sonoma) **Elected 1st/3 for 2**

**Bonnie Morr**.....6,812, 7.6%  
 City Council, Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz) 6/15 for 4

**Christene Mulholland**.....7,405, 25.91%  
 City Council, San Luis Obispo **Elected 2nd/6 for 2**

**Robert (Bob) Nanninga**.....6,027, 11.38%  
 City Council, Encinitas (San Diego) 5th/11 for 3

**Michael Nemeth**.....410, 6.0%  
 City Council, Cotati (Sonoma) 8/13 for 3

**Bob Ornelas**.....2,954, 15.41%  
 City Council, Arcata (Humboldt) Incumbent **Elected 3rd/7 for 3**

**Bill Patterson**.....1,838, 12.9%  
 City Council, Windsor (Sonoma) 4th/4 for 2

**Joey Racano**.....6,522, 3.6%  
 City Council, Huntington Beach (Orange) 10/20 for 3

**Phil Rockey**.....1,776, 22.9%  
 City Council, Oakdale (Stanislaus) **Elected 2nd/5 for 2**

**William Rothman**.....205, 28.3%  
 City Council, Belvedere (Marin) 4th/4 for 3  
 04/04/00 General Election

**Lauren Sinott**.....77, 21.75%  
 City Council, Point Arena (Mendocino) 4th/4 for 3

**Sam Spooner**.....1,912, 33.0%  
 City Council, Sebastopol (Sonoma) **Elected 2nd/3 for 2**

**Jon Stevens**.....1,810, 1.7%  
 City Council, Santa Monica (Los Angeles) 12/13 for 4

**Paul Stutrud**.....3,304, 10.1%  
 City Council, Rohnert Park (Sonoma) 5th/8 for 3

**Robert "Roy" van de Hoek**.....2,432, 44.44%  
 City Council, Malibu (Los Angeles) 2nd/2 for 1

**Jeff Sklar**.....17,102, 46.91%  
 Rent Control Board, Santa Monica (Los Angeles) **Elected 2nd/2 for 2**

**Craig Combes**.....  
 Board of Trustees, (Nevada & Sierra) **Elected 1st/1 for 1**

**Tim Fitzgerald**.....~900, 17.0%  
 School Board of Trustees, Mammoth Lakes 4th/4 for 3

**Seth Kroger**.....  
 Board of Education, San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo)

**George Nelson, Jr.**.....4,385, 10.3%  
 Board of Education, Moreno Valley (Riverside) 5th/6 for 2

**Duane Roberts**.....6,385, 5.8%  
 Board of Trustees, Anaheim (Orange) 6/6 for 2

**John Selawsky**.....13,652, 23.3%  
 School Board, Berkeley (Alameda) **Elected 2nd/5 for 2**

**Cynthia Strecker**.....  
 School Board of Trustees, Monte Rio Union School District Board of Trustees (Sonoma) **Elected 1st/1 for 1**

**Arian Katovich**.....2,363, 28.13%  
 Rec and Park District, Isla Vista **Elected 1st/3 for 1**

**Kip Krueger**..... **Elected**  
 Planning Group, Ocean Beach (San Diego)  
 03/07/00 General Election

## Colorado (5, 3 victories)

**Ron Forthofer**.....12,365, 4.4%  
 U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 3rd/4 for 1

**Judy ("Che") Davies**.....157 write-ins  
 County Commissioner (Delta) 3rd/3 for 1

**Art Goodtimes**.....2169, 69%  
 County Commissioner (San Miguel) Incumbent **Elected 1st/2 for 1**

**Robert Kelly-Goss**.....72, 19.7%  
 City Council, Minturn (Eagle County) **Elected 3rd/5 for 3**  
 04/04/00 General Election

**Jim Lamb**.....124, 20.8%  
 City Council, Breckenridge **Elected 3rd/5 for 3**  
 04/04/00 General Election

# 274 CANDIDATES, 35 VICTORIES IN 2000

## Connecticut (7)

<b>Audrey Cole</b> .....	7207, 3%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 6	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Timothy Bowles</b> .....	1499, 5%	State Senate, District 18	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Mike DeRosa</b> .....	1435, 10%	State Senate, District 1 (Hartford & Wethersfield)	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Paul Bassler</b> .....	768, 11%	State House of Representatives, District 142	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Thomas Ethier</b> .....	923, 12%	State House of Representatives, District 65	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Tony Santini</b> .....	253, 4%	State House of Representatives, District 92 (New Haven West Side)	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Thomas Sevigny</b> .....	661, 5%	State House of Representatives, District 17 (Canton & Avon)	3rd/3 for 1

## Delaware (1)

<b>Craig Shumaker</b> .....	23,299, 14.0%	County Chief Executive (New Castle)	2nd/2 for 1
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## District of Columbia (6)

<b>Martin Thomas</b> .....	20,960, 13%	U.S. House of Representatives	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Renee Bowser</b> .....	2,742 11%	City Council, Ward 4	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Tom Briggs</b> .....	4,450, 19%	City Council, Ward 2	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Arturo Griffiths</b> .....	27,7676, 11%	City Council, At Large	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Gail Dixon</b> .....	6,812, 15%	Board of Education, Wards 5 & 6	4th/9 for 1
<b>Thomas E. Smith</b> .....	4,277, 11%	Board of Education, Wards 1 & 2	3rd/9 for 1

## Florida (1)

<b>Eric Fricker</b> .....	3,696, 55.69%	City Commission, 3, Cocoa Beach	<b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>
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## Georgia (3)

<b>Jeff Gates</b> .....	21,247, 0.9%	U.S. Senate	5th/7 for 1
<b>Rovene Askren</b> .....	7, write-in	State House of Representatives, District 109	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Kerrie Dickson</b> .....	45, write-in	State House of Representatives, District 8	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Reverend Zack Lyde</b> .....	14, write-in	State House of Representatives, District 173	3rd/3 for 1

## Hawaii (77, 1 win)

<b>Ginny Aste</b> .....	1,791, 19.4%	State House of Representatives, District 4	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Shaun Stenshol</b> .....	241, 2.9%	State House of Representatives, District 11 (Maui)	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Tanny Cazimero</b> .....	1,340, 22%	County Council, District 9 (Island/County of Hawai'i)	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Steve Hirakami</b> .....	1,855, 32.7%	County Council, District 5 (Island/County of Hawai'i)	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Julie Jacobson</b> .....	3,037, 51.7%	County Council, District 6 (Island/County of Hawai'i)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>
<b>Nick Nikhilananda</b> .....	9,73, 24.6%	County Council (Maui)	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Keiko Bonk</b> .....	9,998, 19.5%	Mayor (Island/County of Hawai'i)	3rd/3 for 1

## Illinois (1)

<b>Martin Hippie</b> .....	write-in	U.S. House of Representatives, District 16 (Northern Illinois)	
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## Iowa (3)

<b>Russell Lovetinsky</b> .....	2773, 22%	State House of Reps, District 46 (Iowa City)	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Jay Robinson</b> .....	126, 1%	State House of Representatives, District 90 (Warren& Marion)	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Kevin Lee</b> .....	57 write-in, 3.5%	County Supervisor, District 3 (Winneshieki)	

## Kentucky (1)

<b>Ken Sain</b> .....	3,675, 1.6%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 4 (Northern KY)	3rd/4 for 1
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## Louisiana (1)

<b>Les Evenchick</b> .....	257, 3.44%	School Board, New Orleans	
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## Maine (3)

<b>Derrick Grant</b> .....	1,306, 34.8%	State House of Representatives, District 31 (Portland, West End)	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Jane Scease</b> .....	1,287, 32.0%	State House of Representatives, District 52 (Topsham)	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Benjamin Meiklejohn</b> .....	4,144, 18.34%	School Committee At-Large, Portland	3rd/4 for 1

## Maryland (1)

<b>David M. Gross</b> .....	73 write-in	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1	3rd/3 for 1
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## Michigan (15, 1 win)

<b>Matthew Abel</b> .....	37,334, 0.9%	U.S. Senate	3rd/7 for 1
<b>Bonnie Bucqueroux</b> .....	3484, 1.2%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 8	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Alan Gamble</b> .....	3790 1.4%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 4	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Marilyn MacDermaid</b> .....	4191, 1.4%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 11	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Tom Ness</b> .....	4,127, 1.7%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Jon Den Herder</b> .....	1395, 2.7%	State House of Representatives, District 90	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Roger McClary</b> .....	392, 6.1%	County Commissioner, District 15 (Kent)	3rd
<b>William D. Zoyes</b> .....	1792, 13.5%	County Commissioner, District 24 (Oakland)	3rd
<b>Gaia L. M. Kile</b> .....	6287, 4.6%	County Sheriff (Washtenaw)	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Christie L. Nowak</b> .....	910, 9.1%	City Council, Ann Arbor (Ward 4)	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Terry Link</b> .....	391, 15.4%	Town Supervisor, Victor Township (Clinton)	
<b>James J. Nicita</b> .....	86,390, 1.2%	Board of Governors	6/9 for 2
<b>Scott Trudeau</b> .....	109,192, 1.5%	Board of Regents	5th/11 for 2
<b>JoAnne Beemon</b> .....	5349, 86%	Drain Commissioner (Charlevoix)	<b>Elected! 1st/2 for 1</b>
<b>William Banny Bishop</b> .....	not elected	Drain Commissioner (Hillsdale)	

## Minnesota (2)

<b>Holle Brian</b> .....	2,867, 16.47%	State House of Representatives, District 62B	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Matt Taylor</b> .....	2,066, 23.9%	City Council, Brainerd	3rd/4 for 2

## Missouri (17)

<b>Evaline Taylor</b> .....	10,612, 0.4%	U.S. Senate	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Mary Maroney</b> .....	3,266, 1.3%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 3 (St Louis)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Mike Odell</b> .....	2,907, 1.0%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 (St Louis)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Brenda (Ziah) Reddick</b> .....	3,099, 1.6%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1 (St Louis)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Charles Reitz</b> .....	2,548, 1.1%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 5 (Jackson)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Tom Sager</b> .....	1,739, 0.7%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 8 (Phelps)	4th/4 for 1
<b>Devin M Scherube</b> .....	12,388, 0.8%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 9 (Boone)	4th/5 for 1
<b>Lavoy (Zaki Baruti) Reed</b> .....	9,010, 0.4%	Governor	5th/7 for 1
<b>Ben Kjelshus</b> .....	16,738, 0.7%	Lt. Governor	6/7 for 1
<b>Paula Elias</b> .....	25,391, 1.1%	Secretary of State	4th/7 for 1
<b>Ray Vanlandingham</b> .....	18,501, 0.8%	Treasurer	4th/7 for 1
<b>Mary A. Auer</b> .....	3,287, 5.7%	State Senate, District 3 (St Louis)	3rd/3 for 1
<b>Peter M. Coogan</b> .....	244, 1.7%	State House of Representatives, District 68	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Frank Eller, Jr.</b> .....	1,359, 9.1%	State House of Representatives, District 87	2nd/3 for 1
<b>Jason R. Toon</b> .....	770, 9.1%	State House of Representatives, District 67	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Patricia A. Turek</b> .....	1,109, 12.6%	State House of Representatives, District 66	2nd/2 for 1
<b>Charles Winters</b> .....	425, 2.8%	State House of Representatives, District 39 (Jackson)	3rd/3 for 1

## Nevada (2)

<b>Kathy Rusco</b> .....	10,284, 1.7%	U.S. Senate	6 for 1
<b>Charles Laws</b> .....	5546, 1.6%	U.S. House of Representatives	3rd/ 7 for 1

## New Jersey (18)

<b>Bruce Afran</b> .....	31,465, 1.08%	U.S. Senate Princeton	3rd/11 for 1
<b>Stuart Chaifetz</b> .....	3442, 1.42%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 4 (Brick Township)	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Jerry L. Coleman</b> .....	6433, 2.75%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 7	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Joseph Fortunato</b> .....	4230, 2.2%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 8 (Montclair)	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Robert "Gabe" Gabrielsky</b> .....	3248, 1.40%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 2	3rd/4 for 1
<b>Earl Gray</b> .....	4021, 1.98%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 6 (Red Bank)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Michael "MJ" King</b> .....	5093, 1.99%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 5 (Brick Township)	3rd/6 for 1
<b>Aaron M. Kromash</b> .....	2377, 1.92%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 3	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Carl Mayer</b> .....	5691, 1.94%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12 (Princeton)	3rd/5 for 1
<b>Claudette Meliere</b> .....	2437, 1.76%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 13 (Jersey City)	3rd/7 for 1
<b>Catherine Parrish</b> .....	2984, 1.43%	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1 (Camden)	3rd/4 for 1

# Green Party Election Results 2000 - a record 274 Candidates & 35 Wins

<b>Lewis Pell</b> .....	2076	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 9	3rd/5 for 1	
<b>John Piekarski</b> .....	5130, 1.07%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 11 (Denville)	3rd/4 for 1	
<b>Susan Deckert</b> .....	4,925, 4.4%	
Freeholder, Hamilton (Mercer)		
<b>Dan Martin</b> .....	4,304, 3.9%	
Freeholder, Titusville (Mercer)		
<b>Thomas "Reggie" Regrut</b> .....	not elected	
Freeholder (Warren)		
<b>Paul Silberman</b> .....	4,181, 3.8%	
Freeholder, Trenton (Mercer)		
<b>Robert Tempio</b> .....	not elected	
Freeholder (Bergen)		

## New Mexico (10, 2 wins)

<b>Dan Kerlinsky</b> .....	13,656, 7%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 1(Albuquerque)	3rd.3 for 1	
<b>Marvin Gladstone</b> .....	54,926, 11%	
Statewide Court of Appeals, position 3	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Ann Gleason</b> .....	7,638, 38%	
State Senate, District 25 (Santa Fe)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Alan Cooper</b> .....	350, 8%	
State House of Representatives, District 12 (Bernalillo)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Richard Allen Winecoff</b> .....	493, 5%	
State House of Representatives, District 8	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Melissa MacDonald</b> .....	3,716, 46%	
County Commissioner, District 2 (Santa Fe)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Xubi Wilson</b> .....	2,826, 23%	
County Commissioner, District 5 (Santa Fe)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Miguel Chavez</b> .....	976, 39.4%	
City Council, Santa Fe, District 3	<b>Elected 1st/4 for 1</b>	
03/07/00 General Election		
<b>Fran Gallegos</b> .....	6,270, 49%	
Municipal Judge, Santa Fe	<b>Elected 1st/3 for 1</b>	
03/07/00 General Election		

<b>Cliff Bain</b> .....	39,215, 33%	
Public Utility Regulatory Commission, District 3	2nd/2 for 1	

## New York (36)

<b>Mark Dunau</b> .....	40,991, 1%	
U.S. Senate	4th/8 for 1	
<b>Ronnie Dugger</b> .....	360, 31.66%	
U.S. Senate	2nd/3 for 1	
09/12/00 Primary Election		
<b>Al Lewis</b> .....	338, 29.73%	
U.S. Senate	3rd/3 for 1	
09/12/00 Primary Election		
<b>Joseph Dubovy</b> .....	22, 44%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 19 (Westchester)	2nd/2 for 1	
09/12/00 Primary Election		
<b>Paul Gilman</b> .....	1,943, 2%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 7 (Queens & Bronx)	4th/5 for 1	
<b>Eve Hawkins</b> .....	2,123, 1%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 28 (Monroe)	3rd/4 for 1	
<b>Howie Hawkins</b> .....	3,478, 2%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 25 (Onondaga)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Mark Jacobs</b> .....	3,084, 1%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 19 (Westchester)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Dean Loren</b> .....	1,997, 2%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 15 (Manhattan)	3rd/6 for 1	
<b>Sandy Stevens</b> .....	5,193, 3%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 14 (Manhattan)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Dan Wentzel</b> .....	4,675, 3%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 8 (Manhattan & Brooklyn)	3rd/5 for 1	
<b>Hank Barde</b> .....	1927, 1.0%	
State Senate, District 24 (Staten Island)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Noah Landon</b> .....	1,729, 2.77%	
State Senate, District 4 (Suffolk)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Mark Naef</b> .....		
State Senate, District 48 (Onondaga)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Craig Seeman</b> .....	3,276, 6.4%	
State Senate, District 25 (Brooklyn)	2nd/3 for 1	
<b>Becky N. Shaw</b> .....	1,357, 1.1%	
State Senate, District 1 (Suffolk)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Dorothy Williams-Pereira</b> .....	1,611, 4.9%	
State Senate, District 15 (Queens)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Elmer Bertsch</b> .....		
State Assembly, District 103 (parts of Saratoga & Schenectady)	3rd/3 for 1	

<b>Raymond J. Dowd</b> .....	3,083, 15%	
State Assembly, District 62 (Manhattan)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Mark A. Dunlea</b> .....	4,462, 11%	
State Assembly, District 108 (Saratoga & Rensselaer)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Stephen M. Edelglass</b> .....	631, 1.9%	
State Assembly, District 93 (Rockland)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Javier Enriquez</b> .....	785, 6%	
State Assembly, District 50 (Kings)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Vincent A. Ferri</b> .....	699, 1.6%	
State Assembly, District 95 (Sullivan and Orange)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Jon Greenbaum</b> .....	986, 3.3%	
State Assembly, District 131 (Monroe)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Don Hassig</b> .....		
State Assembly, District 112	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Elizabeth Henley</b> .....	333, 1%	
State Assembly, District 17 (Nassau )	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Van Buren D. Howell</b> .....	710, 1.48%	
State Assembly, District 2 (Suffolk)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Pierre (Pete) Mercier</b> .....	453, 1.13%	
State Assembly, District 8 (Suffolk)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Jeffrey Peress</b> .....	301, 1%	
State Assembly, District 13 (Nassau)	4th/4 for 1	
<b>Roger Snyder</b> .....	649, 1.25%	
State Assembly, District 9 (Suffolk)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Jason West</b> .....	1,350, 2.7%	
State Assembly, District 101 (Ulster)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Margo Whitney</b> .....	700, 2.0%	
State Assembly, District 119 (Onondaga)	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Tom Gillespie</b> .....	not elected	
County Executive (Broome)		
<b>Ben Zwirn</b> .....	2,278, 19%	
County Legislature, District 11 (Nassau)	3rd/3 for 3	
05/02/00 Special Election		
<b>Don Debar</b> .....	write-in	
Mayor, Ossining		

## Ohio (1)

<b>Logan Martinez</b> .....	2,075, 6.60%	
State House of Representatives, District 39 (Dayton-Trotwood-Riverside)	3rd/3 for 1	

## Oregon (10, 2 wins)

<b>Tre Arrow</b> .....	13,690, 6.02%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 3	3rd/5 for 1	
<b>Lloyd Marbet</b> .....	32,821, 3%	
State Senate	3rd/4 for 1	
<b>Whitney Smith</b> .....	7,039, 19.56%	
State Senate, District 8 (Portland)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Christina Alexander</b> .....	3862, 27%	
State House of Representatives, District 47 (Coos/Lane/Douglas)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Barry Joe Stull</b> .....	2,107, 1.41%	
State House of Representatives, District 18	2nd/4 for 1	
<b>David Tillemans</b> .....	2,704, 33%	
State House of Representatives, District 16	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Mike Beilstein</b> .....	6,394, 18.6%	
County Commissioner (Benton)Position 2	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Lori Burton</b> .....	3444, 7.7%	
County Commissioner (Linn)Position 2	3rd/3 for 1	
<b>Anna Braun</b> .....	5,226, 96.87%	
City Council, Ward 7 (City of Salem)	<b>Elected 1st/1 for 1</b>	
<b>Alexander Patterson</b> .....	64,410, 51.43%	
Soil & Water Director, East	<b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

## Pennsylvania (9)

<b>William Belitskus</b> .....	13,857, 8.04%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 5	2nd/3 for 1	
<b>Anne Goeke</b> .....	62,642, 1.34%	
Auditor General	3rd/6 for 1	
<b>Tom Linzey</b> .....	61,216, 1.33%	
Attorney General	3rd/5 for 1	
<b>Barbara Knox</b> .....	68,805, 1.47%	
State Treasurer	3rd/6 for 1	
<b>Jennaro Pullano</b> .....	4,405, 5.10%	
State Senate, District 11 (Reading, Berks)	2nd/2 for 1	
<b>Demo Agoris</b> .....	1,832, 8.00%	
State House of Representatives, District 48	2nd/2 for 1	

<b>Curt Larson</b> .....	1,513, 8.47%	
State House of Representatives, District 27 (Pittsburgh)	2nd/3 for 1	

<b>Eric Prindle</b> .....	2,140, 11.12%	
State House of Representatives, District 85 (Selinsgrove Lewisburg/Mifflinburg)	2nd/2 for 1	

<b>John Stith</b> .....	1,701, 8.45%	
State House of Representatives, District 77 (Phillipsburg/State College)	3rd/3 for 1	

## Rhode Island (3)

<b>Jeff Johnson</b> .....	1,308, 29.88%	
State House of Representatives, District 48	2nd/2 for 1	

<b>Gregg Stevens</b> .....	951, 22.7%	
State House of Representatives, District 45	2nd/2 for 1	

<b>Karen Johnson</b> .....	3,958, 8.6%	
City Council, South Kingstown	not elected	

## Tennessee (1)

<b>Tom Burrell</b> .....	25,756, 1.3%	
U.S. Senate	3rd/7 for 1	

## Texas (5)

<b>Doug Sandage</b> .....	91,329, 1.46%	
U.S. Senate	3rd/4 for 1	

<b>Gary Dugger</b> .....	344,806, 7.32%	
Railroad Commissioner, full term	3rd/3 for 1	

<b>Charlie Mauch</b> .....	336,781, 7.21%	
Railroad Commissioner, vacant unexpired term	3rd/3 for 1	

<b>Ben Levy</b> .....	450,885, 9.71%	
State Supreme Court	3rd/3 for 1	

<b>Aaron Dolson</b> .....	545, 17%	
Mayor, Denton	05/02/00 Special Election	2nd/2 for 1

## Washington (3, 1 win)

<b>Joe Szwaja</b> .....	52,142, 19.62%	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 7 (Seattle & Vashon Island)	2nd/3 for 1	

<b>Kara Ceriello</b> .....	write-in	
State House of Representatives, District 36 (Seattle - Ballard, Fremont, Magnolia, Queen Anne) Position 1	5th/5 for 1	

<b>Paul J. Pickett</b> .....	33,381, 53.81%	
Public Utility Regulatory Commission, District 1 (Thurston)	<b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

## Wisconsin (7, 7 wins)

(All races 04/04/00 General Election )

<b>Bob Browne</b> .....	100%	
County Board of Supervisors, District 20 (Douglas)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/1 for 1</b>	

<b>David Conley</b> .....	100%	
County Board of Supervisors, District 25 (Douglas)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/1 for 1</b>	

<b>John Hendricks</b> .....	100%	
County Board of Supervisors, District 6 (Dane)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/1 for 1</b>	

<b>Kathryn McKenzie</b> .....	178, 6	
County Commissioner, District 2 (Douglas)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

<b>Thomas Powell</b> .....	412, 69.1%	
County Board of Supervisors, District 5 (Dane)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

<b>Echnaton Vedder</b> .....	569, 65.2%	
County Board of Supervisors, District 8 (Dane)	Incumbent <b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

<b>Larry Harding</b> .....	593, 53.8%	
Town Supervisor, Somers, District 4 (Kenosha)	<b>Elected 1st/2 for 1</b>	

## Wyoming (3, 1 win)

<b>John Hanks</b> .....	write-in	
U.S. House of Representatives, District 1 (Statewide)		

<b>Amy Moon</b> .....	4076, 10%	
City Council, Laramie	<b>Elected 5th/10 for 5</b>	

<b>Mike Oxley</b> .....		
City Council, Laramie	10 s advance to Nov. run-off	16/22 for 10
09/12/00 Primary Election		

# Green Party Members Holding Elected Office

## Seventy-nine Greens in nineteen states hold office as of March, 2001

### Arkansas (1)

**Randy Zucker**, City Council, Ward 2, Fayetteville

### California (33)

**Matt Gonzalez**, Board of Supervisors, District 5, City/County of San Francisco

**Kerry Arnett**, Mayor, Nevada City (Nevada County)

**Larry Barnett**, City Council, Sonoma (Sonoma 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**, Mayor, Santa Monica (Los Angeles County)

**Bruce Frohman**, City Council, District 1, Modesto (Stanislaus County)

**Tim Fitzmaurice**, Mayor, Santa Cruz, (Santa Cruz County)

**Debra Keipp**, City Council, Point Arena, (Mendocino County)

**Craig Litwin**, City Council, Sebastopol (Sonoma County)

**Kevin McKeown**, City Council, Santa Monica (Los Angeles County)

**Christene Mulholland**, City Council, San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo County)

**Bob Ornelas**, City Council, Arcata (Humboldt County)

**Larry Robinson**, Mayor, Sebastopol (Sonoma County)

**Phil Rocky**, City Council, Oakdale (Stanislaus County)

**Sam Spooner**, City Council, Sebastopol (Sonoma County)

**Dona Spring**, City Council, Berkeley (Alameda County)

**Lew Tremaine**, City Council, Fairfax (Marin County)

**Karl Warkomski**, City Council, Aliso Viejo (Orange County)

**Ted Bertsch**, Board of Education, Mendocino County

**Marc Sanchez**, Board of Education, at-large, City/County of San Francisco

**John Selawsky**, School Board, Berkeley (Alameda County)

**Cynthia Strecker**, Monte Rio Union School District, Board of Trustees (Sonoma County)

**Jeff Sklar**, Rent Control Board, Santa Monica (Los Angeles County)

**Selma Spector**, Rent Stabilization Board, Berkeley (Alameda County)

**Glenn Bailey**, Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains

**Woody Hastings**, Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains

**William Bretz**, Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County

**Craig Combes**, Board of Trustees, Resource Conservation District (Nevada & Sierra Counties)

**Dennis Waespi**, Castro Valley Sanitary District, Alameda County

**William Bretz**, Crest/Dehesa/Harrison Canyon/Granite Hill Planning Group, San Diego County

**Kip Krueger**, Ocean Beach Planning Group, San Diego County

### Colorado (5)

**Art Goodtimes**, County Commissioner, San Miguel County

**Jim Lamb**, Town Council, Breckenridge

**Peter Gleichman**, Town Council, Ward (Boulder County)

**Robert Kelly-Goss**, Town Council, Minturn (Eagle County)

**Krista Paradise**, Board of Trustees, Carbondale

### Connecticut (1)

**Elizabeth Horton-Sheff**, City Council, Hartford

### Florida (1)

**Eric Fricker**, City Commission, Seat 3, Cocoa Beach, FL

### Hawai'i (1)

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

### Iowa (2)

**Steven Kanner**, City Council, Iowa City

**Jim Paprocki**, Trustee, Cedar Towhship (Black Hawk County)

### Michigan (1)

**JoAnne Beemon**, Drain Commissioner, Charlevoix County

### Minnesota (4)

**Russ Stewart**, City Council, District 3, Duluth

**David Abazs**, Crystal Bay Township Supervisor, Finland

**Annie Young**, Parks & Recreation Board, at-large Minneapolis

**Dean Zimmerman**, Parks & Recreation Board, District 5, Minneapolis

### New Jersey (1)

**Gary Novosielski**, School Board, Rutherford

### New Mexico (4)

**Fran Gallegos**, Municipal Judge, Santa Fe

**Cris Moore**, City Council, District 2, Santa Fe

**Miguel Chavez**, City Council, District 3, Santa Fe

**Gary Claus**, City Council, Silver City

### New York (1)

**Liz Simonson**, Town Board, Woodstock

### North Carolina (1)

**Joyce Brown**, City Council, Chapel Hill, Orange County

### Oregon (6)

**Anna Braun**, City Council, Ward 7, Salem

**Bill Smaldone**, City Council, Ward 2, Salem

**Alexander (Xander) Patterson**, East Soil and Water Director, Portland

**Lisa Melyan**, Boardmember, Tualatin Valley Water District, Washington County

**John Jones**, Board Member, Bridge Rural Fire Protection District, Coos County

**John Jones**, Board Member, Myrtle Point Health District, Coos County

### Pennsylvania (2)

**Brian Laverty**, Borough Council, Blossburg

**Katie Scheib**, Borough Council, Lewisburg

### Texas (1)

**John D. Schmidt**, Upper San Marcos Watershed District Board, Hays County  
(the election has been contested and is in court at press time)

### Virginia (2)

**David Harbor**, Natural Bridge Soil & Water Conservation District Board, Lexington

**Phil Welch**, Vice-Chair, Natural Bridge Soil & Water Conservation District Brd, Buena Vista

### Washington (1)

**Paul J. Pickett**, Public Utilities Commission, District 1, Thurston County

### Wisconsin (11)

**Thomas Powell**, Board of Supervisors, District 5, Dane County

**Echnaton Vedder**, Board of Supervisors, District 8, Dane County

**John Hendricks**, Board of Supervisors, District 6, Dane County

**Bob Browne**, Board of Supervisors, District 20, Douglas County

**David Conley**, Board of Supervisors, District 5, Douglas County

**Kathryn MacKenzie**, Board of Supervisors, District 2, Douglas County

**Bob Olsgard**, Board of Supervisors, Washburn County

**Barbara Vedder**, City Council, Madison, District 2, Dane County

**Jose Sentmanat**, City Council, Madison, District 5, Dane County

**Larry Harding**, Town Supervisor 4, Somers (Kenosha County)

**Scott Tice**, School Board, Cumberland

**Green Party election history - [www.greens.org/elections](http://www.greens.org/elections)  
elections, candidates, officeholders from 1986 to the present**

**Green Party in the news - [www.greens.org/media](http://www.greens.org/media)  
articles, video and audio from the press about the Green Party, state-by-state**



# Fundraising: Millions raised the clean way

Eight point one million dollars ... not bad for a campaign that began with a goal of raising \$5 million, and was skeptical internally of reaching even that.

But by October 10th, the Nader/LaDuke Campaign blew past \$5 million raised and, aided by a late explosion of online donations, continued to surpass expectations by raising \$3 million more by Election Day.

While this paled in comparison to the hundreds of millions of dollars spent on behalf of the corporate-funded candidates Bush and Gore (Gore spent \$8 million on television ads in Michigan alone) - it was still the most ever raised for a progressive, third party U.S. presidential candidacy. It also represented a maturation point for the progressive movement, as it took itself seriously enough to raise substantial amounts of money, and to do so in an ethical manner.

The campaign was a clear victory for the clean elections movement, as Nader/LaDuke accepted no PAC contributions and raised no soft money. All funds raised came through individual con-

tributions with an upper limit of \$2,000. The vast majority was raised in donations averaging around \$60 - demonstrating the substantial grassroots nature of the campaign.

One \$2,000 check was even written by a 13-year-old boy who decided to donate all the money he received at his *bar mitzvah*. A note from the boy's mother explained that the money was all his, and that he was donating it of his own volition.

Direct mail was the most profitable fund-raising tactic, according to Nader 2000 fund-raising director Darci Andreson. Online donations and e-mail solicitations were the next most successful, although neither was fully utilized until the fall.

The Super Rallies made money - while generating great publicity and momentum - but much of the revenue generated went toward expenses. "Still, " according to Andreson, "{the rallies} were one of the more profitable fund raising tools, only because this campaign wasn't the sort of campaign where we raised a lot from big donors in the first place."

House parties were also effective, and Andreson believes they will become an even more important tool for the Green Party in the future. "Always the low-donor fund-raiser will be much more useful to the Green Party because we don't have the swanky rich people that the Democrats and Republicans do. Our do-

nors are all just regular people," she said. "We need to continue to promote houseparties aggressively as a way to get involved,"

The campaign continues to raise funds, all of which must be spent covering expenses and on winding-down costs, according to federal law.

## Candidate hits all 50 states

Ralph Nader was the only presidential candidate in 2000 to campaign in all 50 states, a feat he accomplished before even officially accepting the Green Party nomination in June.

After the convention, Nader continued to campaign across the country, and in the last six weeks of election season, he traveled full time, giving several speeches and often hitting more than one state a day.

## A Day in the Life of Candidate Nader

October 10, 2000

8 a.m.	Flight from Washington, D.C. to Detroit
11 a.m.	Press Conference with the Economic Club of Detroit (broadcast on C-SPAN)
11:20 a.m.	Meeting with students
11:30 a.m.	Reception with business, government and community leaders
12 p.m.	Lunch
12:40	Speech
3:05	Flight from Detroit to Chicago O'Hare
3:30-6	Media interviews
6 p.m.	Fund-raiser
7 p.m.	Labor Rally with Teamsters
9-10:20	Speech at Chicago Super Rally
10:20	Media interviews

# Nader sues Commission on Presidential Debates

By Stacy Malkan

"In future elections, this country will be rid of the Commission on Presidential Debates once and for all,"- vowed Ralph Nader after the first presidential debate October 3rd.

On that day, as George W. Bush and Al Gore debated a narrow set of issues -- and 10,000 protesters outside were ignored by the media Nader was met by three police officers and a member of the debate commission, as he arrived at the debate viewing auditorium.

Although he had a transferable ticket to enter the auditorium (a gift from a college student who said giving up the ticket was "a small sacrifice for the good of the nation"). Nader was denied entrance and threatened with arrest. Later, as he tried to access the grounds as an invited guest- to do an interview of Fox News, he was again denied entrance.

Not only was the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) able to exclude Nader from the debates - despite polls indicating that the majority of Americans wanted him included - but they were able to keep him away from the thousands of media on site, and thus further silence his political message.

"On top of the many other serious blunders, mistakes and demonstrations of arrogance generated by this corrupt debate commission - which is controlled by Al Gore and George W. Bush - this unlawful exclusion will be the beginning of the end of the debate commission monopoly. That monopoly is obstructing millions of Americans from access to the presidential candidates in a multi-candidate debate forum," Nader said. "I was excluded on political grounds. No other considerations were communicated."

Nader filed suit in the United States District Court in Massachusetts against the CPD on October 17 (the date of the third and final presidential debate). The suit charges that the CPD, by using state police power to exclude Nader from the viewing auditorium and by preventing him from appearing at a pre-scheduled interview with Fox News, violated federal law and the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act.

"Mr. Nader was treated differently from all others in violation of his right to free association and equal protection under the law merely because of his political position, his affiliation with the Green Party, his criticism of the Commission and the Democratic and Republican parties, their candidates and their corporate sponsorships, and be-

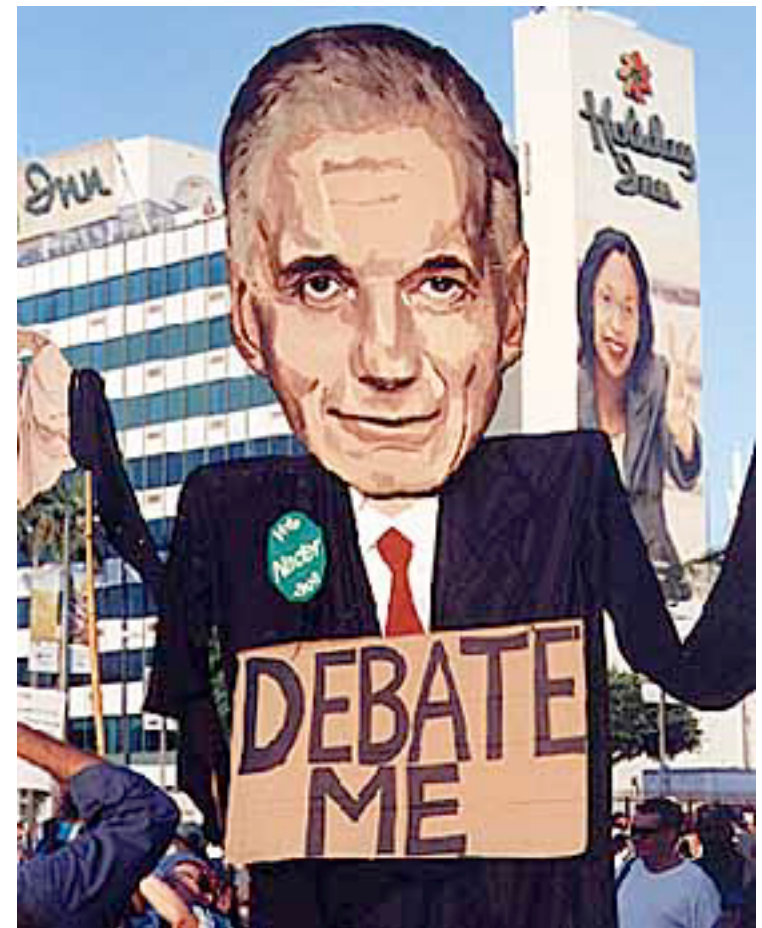
cause of his public positions that are contrary to the two-party message being conveyed by the commission and its agents," the lawsuit states.

Just hours after Nader announced the lawsuit, the CPD refused to allow him onto the debate site in St. Louis, despite the fact that Nader had credentials to enter, which were issued by a college television station crew who wanted to interview him. Although two campaign aides were allowed to enter with the same credentials, Nader was stopped at the gate -- and again prevented from speaking with the media on site.

Nader plans to file suit against the CPD for their actions in St. Louis. The first case filed in Boston is still pending. Another lawsuit he filed challenging the corporate financing of the debates was unsuccessful. It sought to strike down Federal Election Commission (FEC) regulations that have allowed corporations to contribute millions of dollars to help stage the debates. The lawsuit argued that the FEC regulations directly violate federal law, which prohibits corporations from making contributions or expenditures in connection with political campaigns for federal office.

"By definition, debates are partisan events which showcase the positions of those candidates selected to participate" said Greg Luke, an attorney with the National Voting Rights Institute.

Despite these arguments, a federal court ruled in favor of the defendants, and the ruling was upheld on appeal. "The judge said the rules were ambiguous but the FEC has the right to interpret the rules," said Nader campaign manager



A large Ralph Nader puppet stands with thousands of D2KLA demonstrators outside the Democratic convention in Los Angeles (photo by Dang Ngo)

**Theresa Amato.** "We feel differently". The campaign is filing an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, arguing the FEC can not interpret the law to allow corporations to fund the CPD.

In the next four years, grassroots mobilization will also be a focus of efforts to overcome the CPD. Nader has promised to help start a "people's debate commission", controlled by citizens, that would organize presidential debates in the interest of voter education, not of preserving the two-party duopoly by the Democrats and Republicans. Campaign sources say Nader is considering establishing a new non-profit organization to work on this project (long with other electoral reform issues.)

Nader hopes to attract media, labor and civic sponsors into a coalition of organizations to host the next presidential debates, with sponsoring organizations too large and broad for any candidate or the media to ignore.

Stacy Malkan was the assistant press secretary for Nader 2000. She currently lives in Breckenridge, Colorado.

# Super Rallies from Portland to D.C. draw largest crowds of campaign

## Tens of thousands pay to hear Nader speak at stadium events across the nation

By Stacy Malkan

Green Party organizer **Laird Hastay**, 54, will never forget the moment on Aug. 25, 2000 when he realized everything was going to be all right.

He was, at that point, about as nervous as a person could be. Six weeks of sleepless nights and 18-hour work days had come down to this: How many people were actually going to show up at the vacuous 10,000-seat Portland Coliseum, the largest area venue rented by a presidential candidate in decades?

As event time approached, panic was starting to set in. With about half the tickets sold, Hastay was counting on thousands of walk-up ticket sales, but the plaza surrounding the Coliseum was eerily empty.

"Then all of a sudden, there was a long line, hundreds of yards long," here m e m b e r s . "People were pouring over the hill into the plaza.

It looked like an invasion."

They kept coming and coming. When it was finally time for the event to begin, Hastay looked around the Portland Coliseum and realized with great relief: there was not one empty seat.

Before the 10,000-plus screaming fans, Ralph Nader took the stage and the Coliseum exploded in confetti. "I almost broke down," Hastay says, even now near tears as he recalls the scene. "I thought, that's the sort of reception Ralph Nader deserves. It was one of the most satisfying moments of my life."

It was also a significant turning point for the Nader Campaign.

### The Portland story

It's something of a legend in Portland, Oregon, that on a rainy Thursday in 1996, without much publicity and with just a week's notice, 2,000 people crowded into a high school auditorium to see Ralph Nader, and a thousand more were turned away at the door.

Four years later, in May, another Nader campaign rally in Portland drew an overflow crowd of 750 with less than a week's notice. "Nader told us to get a bigger place next time," recalls Hastay, a member of the Portland campaign steering committee, a group of mostly Greens that formed the previous winter to work on the Nader campaign.

It was up to Hastay to find a venue for Nader's next visit to Portland in August. Realizing there was nothing available between the 3,000 range and Portland Coliseum's 10,000 capacity, Hastay began to think big.

What if Nader could fill the Coliseum? He thought it was possible.

"We had a committee in place, six weeks lead time, lots of great volunteers and a history of a good campaign in 1996. Some of the best precincts in the country surround Memorial Coliseum. It's right smack in the middle of the

Naderhood. I figured we could get 6,000 falling out of bed. Filling up the Coliseum, that's where the work would come in." Hastay says.

"I thought that would be something really special and a real surprise."

Indeed. No other presidential candidate was pulling in crowds even close to that size.

"My philosophy is that if Nader's

a sudden you're in this huge arena and there's a real sense of solidarity. It was a tremendous feeling, working 14-, 18-, 20-hour days for six weeks and have that many people come out. We realized we are not alone."

Hastay likes to recall the Scripture when he recounts what happened in Portland that day, and the grueling six weeks before when a dedicated group of

On Sept. 22, 12,000 people turned out to the Target Center to see Nader — sending a sigh of relief through the campaign ranks and solidifying the strategy for the next weeks of the campaign.

Pearl Jam lead singer Eddie Vedder joined the line-up for the next big event in Seattle the following day, and nearly 10,000 turned out.

On Oct. 1, a Nader rally at the Boston Fleet Center drew another 12,000, and in Chicago — the city where many skeptics said it couldn't be done, and where volunteers were also working overtime on the battle for the ballot — an overflow crowd of 9,500 turned out at the Chicago Pavilion.

Three days later, the pinnacle event of the campaign took place at Madison Square Garden. Packed into the every seat up to the rafters, 15,000 people paid \$20 each to attend the event, billed as "Nader Rocks the Garden." Special guests **Susan Sarandon, Tim**

**Robbins, Eddie Vedder, Ben Harper, Ani DiFranco and Patti Smith** joined Nader and regular rally speakers **Phil Donahue and Michael Moore**.

Last-minute rallies in Texas and California drew 6-8,000. And just two days before the election, at Washington, D.C.'s MCI Center, another 10,000 people turned out to hear about "the politics of joy and justice," as Nader calls it, in the nation's capital.

### The super rally effect

A total of about 100,000 people experienced the intense energy and radical politics of the largest presidential campaign events of the 2000 election. Thousands more watched the Minneapolis, Boston and D.C. events on C-Span. So what was the outcome for the campaign?

The rallies built momentum, absolutely energized the campaign and the candidate, and even got the attention of the reluctant press. Front-page stories in the *Chicago Tribune* and *Boston Globe* hailed the events as great successes. Portland's *Oregonian*, which carried a derogatory story about the Greens the day of the first super rally, changed its tone completely in later coverage.

"The *Oregonian* realized that 11-12,000 readers showed up at a rally and they could no longer be quite so snide about the campaign," says Hastay.

He believes the rallies built a tidal wave of momentum that helped carry the campaign. "The campaign should have faded after Labor Day; it didn't, and the super rallies were the reason," he says. "They gave an emotional lift, a focus for organizing in cities."

He thinks the super rallies probably even changed the outcome of the election. "The series of rallies spooked the Gore campaign and made them divert resources, and I think that cost them the election. (Sen. Joseph) Lieberman was in Oregon the day before the election, when

(continued next page)



# Endorsements: Newspapers, labor unions, and others support Nader

## Publications

Citing concern about growing corporate influence over the U.S. political system and the convergence of the two major parties in the wrong direction, at least 18 publications nationwide endorsed Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke.

The list of endorsers included three of the nation's leading progressive weeklies - the *Village Voice* (New York), *Los Angeles Weekly* and *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. - offering evidence of the growing support among progressives for electoral alternatives.

"Nader and the Green Party are the only national political force willing to speak out against the stranglehold that corporate America has on our political system," wrote the *Village Voice*. "We believe Nader would battle poverty and inequality, rein in globalization and an imperial foreign policy, abandon the war on drugs, and work to ban the death penalty. The Clinton-Gore administration has done little in these vital areas, choosing to abet big money and placate conservatives instead. The Democrats and Republicans, in fact, share common ground on most of these issues."

The list of newspaper endorsers also included: the *Amery Free Press* (WI); *BlackElectorate.com*; *Metroland and CITY*; *Lancaster Times*, *Clinton Courier* and *Worcester Magazine* (MA); *New England's Advocate Chain*; the *Detroit Metro Times*; the *Winsted Journal* (CT); *Colorado Daily*; *Aspen Times* (CO); *In Pittsburgh*; the *Michigan Citizen*; and the *City Beat* of Ohio and Kentucky.

## Labor for Nader

Labor support for Ralph Nader in 2000 included the endorsements of two of the most progressive national unions in America, the 31,000-member **California Nurses Association** (CNA) and the 35,000-member **United Electrical Union** (UE). Other endorsements came from the **AFSCME 1108** in Los Angeles, **Seattle Teamsters 174** and the **Greater Seattle American Postal Workers Union** (APWU).

Additionally, rank and file members, local union stewards and officers in locales throughout America joined together to form Labor for Nader committees in cities across the country.

The growing 'blue-green' alliance that began with the fight against NAFTA in 1993-1994, and hit the streets in Seattle against the WTO, is now manifesting itself in the electoral area.

## Citizen's Committee

More than 100 prominent leaders, including celebrities with social justice backgrounds, union leaders, environmental activists and leading academ-

## Reform Party defectors

Three former leaders of the Reform Party of Texas endorsed Nader, saying Nader's goals are closer to those of the original Reform Party than party nominee Pat Buchanan.

"Ralph Nader represents the best hope for the working men and women in America," said Paul Truax, co-founder of the Reform Party of Texas and former executive committee member. Former Reform Party of Texas state chair Lee Pepper and former Tarrant County Reform chair Sandy Madison also officially endorsed Nader.

The American Reform Party also announced support of Nader at the Green Party convention in June.

## Family Farmers

Some 52 nationally known family farmers and rural activists announced the formation of a Family Farmers' National Alliance for Nader/LaDuke and urged all who

believe in and support the nation's family farm system of agriculture and the revival of rural America to join in voting for them.

In a statement of support, the newly-formed Alliance said: "Through-

out the years Ralph Nader has sought to not only call the nation's attention to the economic, social, political and environmental plight of rural America and its agricultural backbone, but his concurrent efforts to enforce anti-trust laws against corporate concentration while assuring consumers of safe, healthy, nutritious, available and fairly-priced food has been unmatched by any current candidate for the nation's presidency."

## Health Care Professionals

More than 180 physicians, nurses, and other health professionals signed a letter supporting Nader's single-payer health care plan. Nader's plan calls for everyone to be included in a single, comprehensive public plan covering all medically necessary services — including acute, rehabilitative and long-term care, mental-health services, dental care, prescription drugs and medical supplies. The plan would allow access to personalized care with a local primary care physician, and free choice of doctors at all times.

## Hemp Industries Association

"Nader is the only candidate with the courage to talk about hemp and other environmental and economic issues that concern our members," says the Hemp Industries Association (HIA), the oldest hemp industry trade organization, which officially endorsed Nader/LaDuke.

"For members of the hemp industry, there is no other choice," said HIA President Cindy Biggers. "Ralph Nader is the only candidate with the courage to talk about hemp and other environmental and economic issues that concern our members." Both Nader and LaDuke spoke numerous times throughout the campaign in favor of legalizing industrial hemp cultivation in the U.S., citing benefits to farmers and the environment.



Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam leaves the stage after performing at the Chicago Super Rally. photo by Stacy Malkan

ics, publicly supported Nader/LaDuke and called for their for the inclusion in the debates. The Citizens Committee was co-chaired by Phil Donahue, Jim Hightower, Randall Robinson and Susan Sarandon.

## Super Rallies from Portland to D.C. draw largest crowds of campaign

he should have been in Florida," Hastay says.

"We Greens, we have to take the responsibility and the credit for what we did. We took out the DLC."

He offers no apologies on that. "I'm vehemently opposed to Gore," he says. "We had the opportunity to vote for the best person in public life, running against two of the worst. I don't think we need to apologize for not allowing the DLC To have another four years."

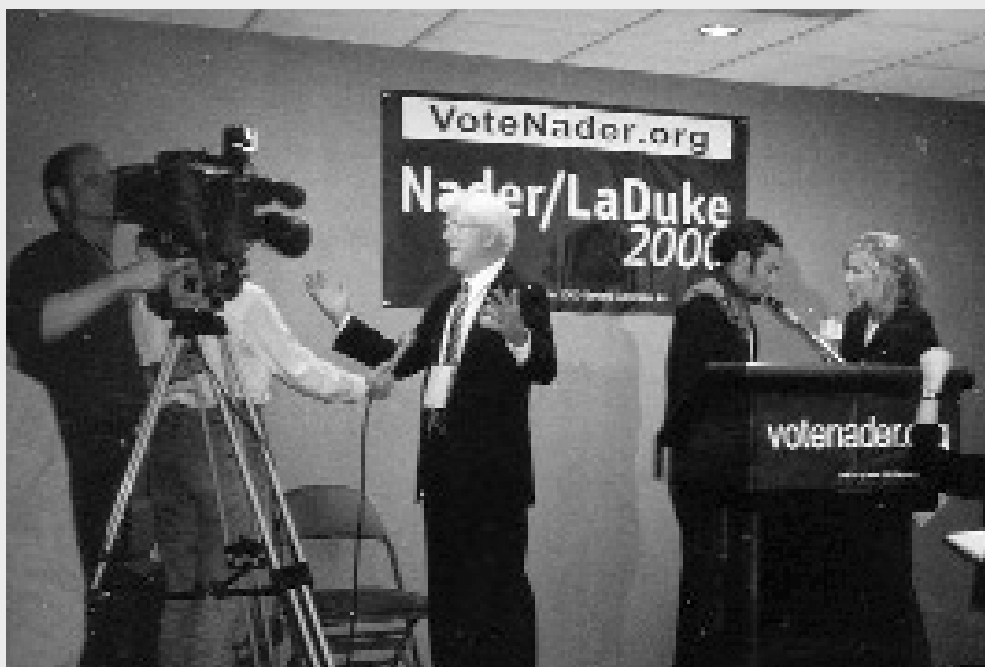
But he thinks the true value of the rallies, and the Nader Campaign, are found in the effect they had on the thousands of young people who helped organize the rallies and filled many of the seats in the areas.

"The best thing about this campaign was going around the country and meeting all the young people. A lot of people cut their teeth on this campaign and will be fighting for years to come," Hastay says.

He disagrees with the notion that so-called 'Gen. Xers' are lazy or politically disinterested. "They

are very sophisticated, high spirited, optimistic and committed," he says. "They understand diversity and justice issues deep in their bones. This is a broad-based coalition. The commitment to this generation of staying in the struggle is even deeper than it was 30 years ago," he says.

"If you are interested in preserving the status quo in this country, you'd be very worried about it. But if you're interested in preserving American revolutionary tradition and preserving democracy, it's inspiring."



Phil Donahue and Ben Harper give interviews at Madison Square Garden. photo by Stacy Malkan

# Campus Green organizing portends well for Green Party's future

By Stacy Malkan and Tom Adkins

If the Green Party's future lies with the nation's youth, then hopes springs eternal after what happened on college campuses in 2000 as a result of the Nader/LaDuke campaign.

Inspired by the campaign's progressive message, thousands of students got involved and provided a key core of Nader's support. They made up 50% or more of his volunteers in many cities, sent busloads of supporters to Nader super rallies and direct actions, filled college auditoriums to overflow capacity, and voted for him at higher percentages than the general population.

'Students for Nader' groups organized on more than 900 campuses nationwide, actively involving at least 25,000 students, and becoming the only progressive group on many campuses working to get young people involved in electoral politics.

"Students are running some great issue-based campaigns, working on the PIRGs, racial justice issues, United Students against Sweatshops, Students for a Free Tibet, etc. But until Students for Nader/LaDuke, there was little independent progressive activism around third-party electoral work to change the plutocratic power structure," says **Corey Eastwood**, national student coordinator for Nader 2000.

"Electoral politics is a key to creating long-term change. Issue-based campaigns alone will not get the job done."

Now, thanks to the infrastructure built up around the Nader Campaign, college campuses across the country are poised to carry the electoral torch forward through a formal, nationally organized network of Campus Greens.

This past December, a network of students involved with the Nader Campaign founded the Campus Greens, an umbrella organization uniting the many Campus Greens chapters that emerged in recent months.

"Our goals are essentially two-fold," says Eastwood, who is now a member of the Campus Greens' Board of Directors. "We want to function as a network of individual chapters, and also facilitate the participation of students in Green Party politics — as activists, campaign workers and even candidates."

## Students for Nader/LaDuke

"Campus organizing was the obvious highlight of our field strategy," says Nader 2000 staffer and veteran campus organizer **Jacob Harold**. "You couldn't attend a single campaign event and not sense the enthusiasm that young people brought to our efforts. Ralph loved the students, and the students loved Ralph."

Students for Nader/LaDuke used a three-fold strategy to mobilize youth. First, they initiated a nonpartisan voter registration effort, resulting in the registration of tens of thousands of new voters. Recognizing that absentee voting is a barrier on college campuses to high voter turnout, Students for Nader also hosted Absentee Voting Nights and invited students to parties — with their absentee ballots as admission tickets — to discuss politics and vote that night.

Next, Students for Nader educated voters by organizing teach-ins and bringing progressive speakers to campus. They also participated in campus debates, representing Nader/LaDuke and debating student representatives from other parties.

"The student debates were highly successful, obviously, because we had the issues on our side," said Eastwood. "When we were able to debate, we tore up the Democrats and Republicans, just as Nader would have done if he were able to debate Bush and Gore."

On some campuses, Nader representatives were even excluded from student debates, just as Nader himself was excluded. On those campuses, students "protested the hell out of the debates," said Eastwood.

Students held solidarity protests in 25 states and 150 campuses during the first presidential debate on October 3rd. They also made up a vast majority of the 10,000 protesters that day in Boston itself, where the debate was held.

Finally, Students for Nader were the predominant campus-based groups on many campus to run full-scale Get Out The Vote (GOTV) drives. In contrast, the Republican and Democratic parties often encouraged their student counterparts to get involved in community GOTV drives - rather than campus drives - apparently finding little value in the student vote.

## Groups Build Coalitions push for reform

"The success stories at many college campuses across the country," according to Harold, "demonstrates that the momentum built up around the Nader Campaign is continuing forward, as a Green movement with enormous potential."

In Portland, OR., students from each of the area's four major colleges are working together with a local Pacific Green Party chapter to get an Instant Runoff Voting initiative on the state ballot in 2002.

Campus Greens in Kansas gathered the most petition signatures to get Nader on the ballot in 2000, and they are providing tremendous help in building the new Kansas Green Party. The students have also organized public forums on Green issues such as election reform.

At the University of California at Santa Cruz, Campus Greens set up speaking engagements at the local Santa Cruz high schools — and at two of those schools, Nader received 90 percent of the "mock vote." The Campus Greens are continuing their high school outreach and, during the spring semester, outreaching to minority communities and working on campus labor issues.

At George Washington University in the nation's capital, the GW Campus Greens turned out more than 150 people for a student protest against the Commission on Presidential Debates, and brought an estimated 500 students to the MCI Nader/LaDuke Super Rally. After the election, the GW Campus Greens initiated outreach to other progressive student groups — including the NAACP, the Muslim Student Association and the Campaign to End the Death Penalty — to form a Progressive Student Alliance that will run a full slate of candidates for the GW Student Association this spring.

At Grinnell College, Campus Greens are protesting the expansion of a local Monsanto plant.

"Across the country, we're seeing Campus Greens fighting corporations on their campuses like Sodexo Marriott, and successfully running slates of candidates for their student governments," explains Eastwood.

*continued next page*

## A Call to Action from the Campus Greens

WE are students of America's colleges and universities, and we strive for solidarity in support of the Ten Key Values of the Green Party. Though we were born into a culture designed to keep our political expectations low and have grown to see many of our peers ravaged by complacency and fatalism, we are disenchanted with the state of American democracy and determined to build a progressive political movement that empowers citizens to overcome the grave social, economic and environmental problems facing our nation and world.

We have come of age in a society whose values are shaped by materialism and which is suffering from a diminished common ground of experience, values, and opportunity, reflected in the growing divide between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the silenced. We are inheriting a world governed by unprecedented corporate power, a global economy structured to create corporate profits without moral restraint, and a nation whose democratic infrastructure has so dissipated that debates over the most fundamental elements of our existence—the food we eat, the air we breathe, the media that shape our perception of the world—are absent from mainstream political discourse.

Many individual members of our generation have observed the conditions they live within and asked themselves the question: *How should I live?* How should I live, mentally, physically, and politically in a culture that offends my notion of propriety with its commercial excess and deliberate ignorance of the effects of its social, economic and environmental policies on future generations? Though our answers to this question are disparate, all include the sentiment that we cannot tolerate complacency or set our political expectations so low that progressivism merges with corporatism or that defeatism is accepted as pragmatic.

There can be no mistaking the urgency of the political challenges our generation faces—overwhelming environmental problems from global warming to the accumulation of toxins in our air and water, and social problems resulting from the systematic denial of long-standing inequities between races, genders, and sexual orientations. To confront these challenges, we must search for a democratic alter-

native to the two-party system that sustains itself only by maintaining the complacency of the populace. In practicing a dull brand of teleprompter politics, producing look-alike candidates, stifling the growth of third parties, maintaining a corrupt system of campaign finance, and directing party resources away from the grassroots organizing that would shift power from corporate national committees to ordinary citizens, the two parties have built a political system that does not attract *one-fifth* of eligible 18-to-29 year-olds to the polls. In stark contrast to the two major parties, we believe that the best way to engage young people in politics is to facilitate the participation of youths at the highest

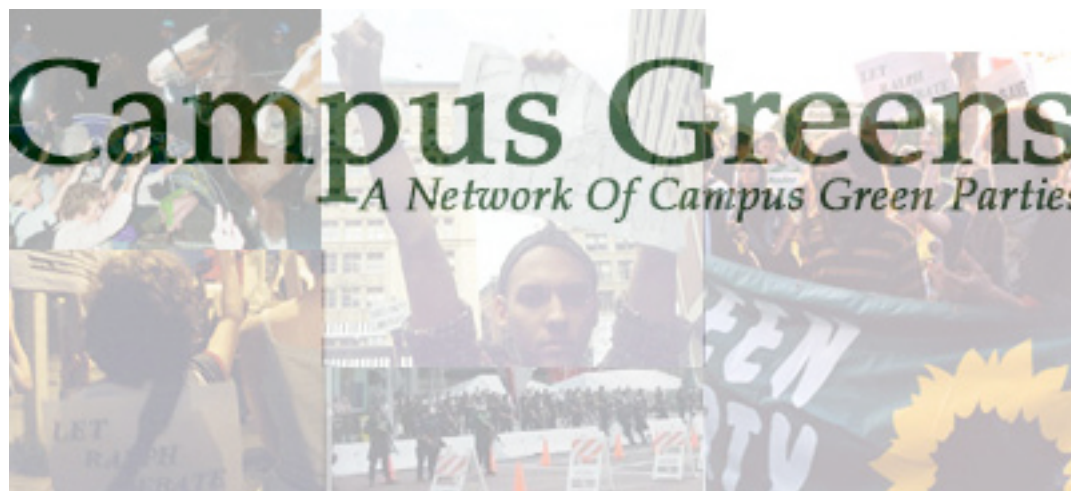
levels of politics—as candidates and activists capable of rejuvenating the democratic culture.

We are students, and our predecessors have helped to bring about nearly every major progressive reform over the last thirty years in movements for civil rights and equal rights, against war and corporate power, for environmental sustainability and preservation. The Campus Greens shall seek to augment the power of student citizens by uniting Greens in college communities nationwide and helping them to run and win progressive campaigns. As history and the shameful recent debacle in Florida painfully demonstrate, power in America is held only by those groups with full enfranchisement—those who face no barriers getting to the ballot and do not hesitate to get on the ballot. The great political struggles of our history—civil rights, women's rights, and labor rights—have been struggles for enfranchisement. We are obligated to our forbears in the quest for social justice, and as citizens dedicated to affecting a paradigm shift in our time, to overcome our own personal trepidations and engage fully in the process of electoral politics.

We offer our personal commitments and our recognition, so absent from modern politics, that social transformation begins with individuals looking inward, and making changes in their own lives. We dedicate ourselves to a politics of hope, conscience and sacrifice, that we may build a society based on values of sustainability and social justice or record our resistance to one that is not.

the quest for social justice, and as citizens dedicated to affecting a paradigm shift in our time, to overcome our own personal trepidations and engage fully in the process of electoral politics.

[www.campusgreenparties.org](http://www.campusgreenparties.org)



# Greens impact R2K and D2K in the streets of Philadelphia and Los Angeles

## Greens provide electoral alternative for social movements

After the vigorous anti-WTO, World Bank and International Monetary Fund demonstrations in Seattle and Washington, DC, the nation's eyes turned to Philadelphia and Los Angeles, where thousands were expected to take to the streets to protest the Republican and Democratic Party conventions. Greens in both East and West took advantage of the organizing opportunities presented, as thousands of people critical of the nation's political status quo concentrated in these two cities.

In Philadelphia, Greens were in the final days of their statewide signature-gathering drive to qualify Nader and several in-state Green candidates for the Pennsylvania ballot. According to Philadelphia Green **Kevin Murphy**, "R2K was a blessing for the ballot access efforts as protesters and sympathizers flocked to Philadelphia by the thousands in the days preceding the convention."

Nader spoke at R2K's big Universal Health Care rally and Greens gathered hundreds of signatures there, as well as during R2K's major Unity 2000 march and rally the next day. Nader was the only presidential candidate who addressed the National Youth Convention, which took place at Drexel University. Nader used a

borrowed press pass to infiltrate the Republican Convention. Once the Republicans (the Florida delegation, in fact) figured out who he was, they asked him to leave — or sign up. He left.

By the August 1<sup>st</sup> qualification deadline, bolstered by the extra cushion R2K provided, Greens turned in more than 41,000 signatures, easily more than the 21,700 needed.

In California, the state Green Party made attending D2K a major priority, deferring an otherwise already scheduled state meeting in order to send party members to Los Angeles. Unlike their eastern counterparts, California Greens have been on the ballot since 1992, so their strategy was to ensure a significant Green presence throughout D2K, to let those in attendance know there was a progressive electoral alternative to the Democrats and Republicans.

To make the Green presence clear, California Greens printed up a large number of bright green t-shirts, with bright yellow lettering that stood out extraordinarily well in the marches, demonstrating that Greens were part of the movement in the streets. These shirts were extremely popular with marchers and demonstrators, and were sold liter-

ally on the streets during the week's many actions.

As in Philadelphia, Greens carried clipboards in the marches while tabling at various events. But instead of petition signatures, they gathered Green voter registrations, gaining hundreds of new party members in a short week. Particularly successful was the LA Greens local, which tabled in front of the Shadow Convention for up to 10 hours a day.

The other major statement Greens made in both cities when carrying banners and signs, was that Nader belonged in the debates. In LA, a giant Nader puppet made by the Santa Cruz Greens also marched with demonstrators, and stalked the Democrats from behind the barbed wire fence across from the Staples Center where the convention was held.

On D2K's first night, a sunset beach party was held beneath the Santa Monica Pier, to protest the other corporate-funded event being held on the Pier of the 'Blue Dog Democrats', the conservative Democratic caucus that often votes with the Republicans. Green U.S. Senate candidate Medea Benjamin and Santa Monica City Councilmember Kevin McKeown were featured speakers.

Afterwards, the Green Party hosted its own party on the Pier, just a few hundred feet away from the Blue Dogs, forcing them to pass by Green and Nader 2000 banners to get to their own event.



A ten year old activist wearing a bright Green Party shirt does her part by helping sell D2K T-shirts at the Convergence Center in Los Angeles.



California Green U.S. Senate candidate Medea Benjamin speaks at Santa Monica Beach sunset rally. San Francisco Green Matt Spencer holds sign in background. (photo by Blake Mikkelsen, Independent Media Center)



D2K t-shirt won in the streets of Los Angeles (shirt design by Lynne Serpe, photo by Kevin McKeown)



"Let Nader debate" was a consistent message of Greens during D2K and R@K (First photo by Tera Little, second by Mark Vallen, Art for a Change)



Gene Miller (right) of the Philadelphia Greens talks with potential Nader supporters at the Unity 2000 march and rally on July 30. Gene was the Green Party candidate for Philadelphia City Council in 1999, when he received 6% of the vote. Behind him, Philly Green Charles Sherrouse collects a signature to put Nader/LaDuke on the Pennsylvania ballot. (Photo by Jody Kolodzey)

# Campus Greens portend future of young Green Party

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## The Green Dream

As the exit polling from November's election indicates, students and young people have defined themselves as a core constituency for the Green Party.

"A well organized base of student activists could serve as the foundation for long-range political reform, providing the talent, creativity and energy necessary to build a viable and sustainable third party," Eastwood says.

"Recent history shows that when progressive movements grow, they grow from college campuses. The civil rights movement, anti-war movement, women's rights and feminist movements, the environmental movement of the late 80s and early 90s, and the recent anti-corporate movement were all fueled by student activists."

Nader's candidacy was the outlet many students were just waiting to plug into. "Nader provided a voice for students who have been disenfranchised by the system and have been told that their generation is lazy and won't amount to anything," says **Matt Ripa**, president of the Salisbury State Greens in Massachusetts..

"Nader really spoke to these people with a message of hope. People would say 'Why haven't I heard this before?' or 'He (Nader) sounds too good to be true.'"

Eastwood adds, "For the first time for many people of my generation, a progressive candidate was able to get on national television and talk about the issues that hadn't been addressed before:

NAFTA, the WTO, corporate welfare, the failed war on drugs. It's so exciting that these issues have finally made it into the mainstream dialogue."

The appeal of Nader and the Greens' message to young people was reflected in the fact that they voted disproportionately for Nader — 5 percent among 18-29 year olds, compared to 2 percent in every other age demographic, with pre-election polls showing 10 percent of college students supporting Nader.

"The anecdotal evidence that I've seen suggests Nader won as high as 25% percent of the student vote on a few progressive campuses," said **Tom Adkins**, a director of the Campus Greens and formerly assistant press secretary at the Nader Campaign.

"That's a direct result of good organizing and mobilization, and offers a glimpse of what a long-term effort could accomplish."

## Campus Greens Take Shape

With a strong Green Party infrastructure in place on campuses around the country, Eastwood, now a sophomore at NYU, recognized a crucial window of opportunity for building the Campus Greens. He quickly recruited two other student Nader staffers to help, Adkins, of Carleton College in Minnesota, and **Shelley Fite**, assistant field director at Nader 2000, who attends New College in Florida.

"We realized that if we didn't get to work immediately, all of our student contacts from the Nader Campaign were going to dissipate by the time summer rolled around," Fite says. Adkins and

*If the Green Party's future lies with the nation's young, then hope abounds after what happened on college campuses as a result of the Nader/LaDuke campaign in 2000.*

Eastwood spent the month of December working in Washington, DC laying the groundwork for an organization.

"That was probably the most intense month of organizing I've ever witnessed," says Harold, who offered the students office space and a place to stay. "Essentially, they went from having no structure whatsoever to having an incorporated organization with a growing infrastructure and a solid plan."

Over the course of the month, 11 students traveled to DC to help draw up bylaws, write organizing manuals, develop issue campaigns, and build the contacts necessary to maintain an organization.

On January 29, 2001 the Campus Greens launched their website ([www.campusgreenparties.org](http://www.campusgreenparties.org)) and released a "Call to Action," announcing their existence over a number of progressive list serves.

"We had about 1,500 hits the first three days the website was up," says **Nick Galassos**, an organizer at the University of Delaware.

On February 12, **Ben Manski**, an experienced environmental and student organizer from Wisconsin, began working full-time as the national director of the Campus Greens.

The Campus Greens have some major challenges ahead of them, topped by the need to raise money to pay a national director's salary and hold a founding convention this summer. "We strongly believe in relying on our members for financial support," says Fite, "but we're facing the reality of needing funding to get this project off the ground."

The Campus Greens hope to have 300 campus chapters active by their founding convention this summer. They also plan to work closely with the various individual state Green Parties as well as the Association of State Green Parties on the national level. If they are successful, they will be altering the shape of campus organizing nationwide and strengthening the Green Party for years to come.

The Campus Greens can be contacted at [info@campusgreenparties.org](mailto:info@campusgreenparties.org), and are accepting donations mailed to P.O. Box 33272, Washington, DC 20033.

# Nader result, Greens fuel exploding interest in electoral reform

## Is proportional representation and instant run-off on the way?

By Dan Johnson-Weinberger

In the wake of one of the most closely contested presidential elections in U.S. history, an extraordinary opportunity for electoral reform has unexpectedly presented itself. The virtual stalemate that Ralph Nader's 3% of the vote helped create has led to a historic political opening to talk about ways of modernizing our political system - from voting equipment to voting systems.

Will our country finally change from the winner-take-all electoral system, to proportional representation for legislative elections and instant runoff voting for executive offices like Governor and President?

### • Instant Run-Off Voting

Given progressives' frustration with the rightward tilt of Clinton-Gore, the very debate about Nader's candidacy revealed a serious flaw in our antiquated voting practices: voting for your \*favorite\* candidate can lead to the election of your \*least\* favorite candidate.

Fortunately there is a simple solution that countries like Australia, England and Ireland have already implemented - instant runoff voting (IRV). These nations share our tradition of plurality elections — where the top vote-getter wins, even where he/she receives less than a majority. Now these countries use IRV for most of their elections. Mary Robinson was elected president of Ireland by IRV, and Labor Party maverick "Red Ken" Livingstone was elected mayor of London. The Australian legislature has been elected by a form of IRV for decades.

Here's how IRV works: At the polls, voters select their favorite candidate, but also indicate on the same ballot their second "runoff" choice and subsequent runoff choices. If a candidate receives a majority of first choices, the election is over. If not, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and in the runoff round each ballot counts for the top-ranked candidate still in the race. Rounds of counting continue until there is a majority winner. It's like a runoff election, without needing voters to return to the polls.

Imagine this year's presidential race with IRV: In July, Nader surged to nearly 10 percent in national polls. He drew interest from the United Auto Workers, Teamsters and leading environmental organizations. Confronted with the 'vote-splitting' dilemma however, they and many progressive constituencies grudgingly endorsed Gore. The *Washington Post* estimated that more than 5 million would-be Nader supporters voted for a major party candidate after wrestling with vote-splitting.

But with IRV, there is no vote-splitting, and Nader could have more easily mobilized progressive and other constituencies and even gained access to the presidential debates. Voters could have ranked Nader as their first choice, with

Gore as their "lesser evil" runoff choice. Instead of waking up on November 8th with an electoral hangover, they might have discovered that their runoff choice had boosted Gore to victory — but with a caveat that said: "Handle with care. Watch your step on trade, political reform and environmental policies."

Under IRV - without voting based on fear - Nader's total would've more accurately demonstrated his true support, and energized his supporters even more.

At the same time, Nader could've easily received the 5% of the vote needed to qualify for federal funding for the Green Party's candidate in 2004. That would've made that 2004 candidate even stronger under IRV, exerting a progressive influence on all candidates that year.

IRV could be implemented right now, in all 50 states, for all federal elections including the presidential race (for the electoral college), as well as state and local elections - without changing a single federal law or the Constitution.

### • Proportional Representation

To gain full and fair representation however, IRV is not enough. For legislative races we must scrap "winner-take-all" elections in favor of proportional representation, a system where a political party winning 10 percent of the vote wins 10 percent of the legislative seats - instead of nothing as under our current system.

Greens ran 45 Congressional candidates across the country in 2000, averaging 3.2%. Under proportional representation, if Greens averaged 3.2% nationally, they'd be celebrating the election of 14 Members of Congress - 3.2% of 435. Proportional representation is already used in most of Western Europe and Latin America, as well as more than 50 other countries around the world.

Other political reforms, notably public financing of elections and fair ballot-access laws, are of critical importance to making democracy work, but they don't address vote-splitting. Nor do they change the fact that winner-take-all elections are essentially undemocratic, because they give no representation to anyone but the majority (or plurality) group, ignoring all remaining voters. Only reforming the voting system will fundamentally change the playing field.

### • Prospects for Change

Generally, major party interest in electoral reform is proportional to third party strength. The more elections that are 'spoiled' by third party candidates, the more major party supporters become open to proportional representation and IRV. Certainly the Green Party's growth in recent years has had this effect on the Democrats and other parties have had similar effects upon the Republicans.

In recent years, both major parties feel they have been 'spoiled' by third party candidate vote-splitting in high-profile races, including the presidency in 2000 (and arguably 1992), a U.S. Senate seat won by a Democrat in Washington state in 2000, the governor's mansion won by a Democrat in Alaska and a Republican in New Mexico in 1994 and three U.S. House races in New Mexico won by Republicans in 1997-1998. This is creating an opening to forge strategic alliances to address the vote-splitting.

• In New Mexico, where Democrats blame Green Party candidates for Democratic losses for governor (1994) and two congressional seats (1997, 1998), key Democrats now support IRV.

• In Alaska, Greens and other reformers have gathered enough signatures to put IRV on the 2002 ballot. The Republican Party there has also made IRV a top priority, because the GOP has splintered into two parties and are thus splitting the traditional Republican vote.

• Greens in Hawaii and Washington have been lobbying in their state legislatures to pass an IRV bill.

• In Illinois, Greens are working to revive cumulative voting for the state House. Used in three-seat districts until 1980, cumulative voting allows a candidate to win one of the three seats if they can earn one of every three votes. The Illinois model of three-seat districts with a proportional system is a good one to push with major party people that aren't ready for full-fledged PR, but appreciate that a voting system that doesn't give 49% of the people any representation at all must be improved.

Under cumulative voting in Illinois, various political minorities were elected, from progressive Democrats to Chicago Republicans to independents like Congressmen Paul Simon, Abner Mikva, Henry Hyde and John Porter, who got their start in the state house by providing an alternative to local party machines. The "Drive to Revive" cumulative voting campaign has been endorsed by the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the current and former governors, current state legislative political leaders and several former Congresspeople.

Sometimes the courts are the spoilers. Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the ability of states like Washington and California to use "blanket primaries." This has caused a surging interest in IRV, because voters could rank candidates from different parties, thereby preserving the blanket primary's feature allowing people to vote for anyone regardless of party. A majority-winner would also be determined in one election. This has been the best opening for Washington Greens to advance IRV and they have earned many converts testifying before the state legislature and elsewhere. In California, the Speaker of the Assembly has introduced legislation to use IRV for all partisan special elections.

In diverse urban areas that have district/ward-based elections, there is also an opportunity for Greens to advocate

multi-seat districts with proportional representation and build coalitions with underrepresented groups - as the Greens in Tucson, AZ are doing.

District/ward systems don't work well in areas with diverse populations because there are too many different interests and positions for a single representative to represent. Minority populations - in many cases communities of color - are often under-represented.

Many local elections also use two-round runoff elections that are expensive for taxpayers and candidates alike, who have to pay for two elections. This serves to undermine the goals of campaign finance reform, and 'voter fatigue' usually guarantees a drop-off in voter turnout.

In Austin (TX), a charter commission has recommended replacing two-round runoffs with IRV. An Albuquerque (NM) charter commission unanimously recommended IRV for local elections, after the mayoral races was won with only 29% of the vote. Voters in San Leandro (CA), Santa Clara County (CA) and Vancouver (WA) have recently approved stand-alone ballot measures to make IRV an explicit option in their charters. In Oakland (CA), voters passed a ballot measure to use IRV to fill unscheduled vacancies.

In Vermont, the groundwork for passing IRV has been well laid. The Democrats foresee being "spoiled" by the growing Progressive Party and are very receptive to IRV. The Republicans face a less significant threat from the smaller Libertarian Party. But the state has a compelling 'good government' reason for change: if in the governor's race no candidate wins a majority outright, the constitution requires the legislature to elect the office (that occurred last year in Mississippi's gubernatorial race as well).

A resolution passed the Vermont House establishing a special citizens' commission to study IRV. The commission - which included members of the League of Women Voters and Common Cause and covered the entire tri-partisan political spectrum - issued a report that unanimously recommended IRV for all state-wide elections. Vermont's Governor has endorsed IRV, along with other groups ranging from the conservative Agricultural Grange to the Vermont Public Interest Research Group.

Many years ago, Greens were a voice in the wilderness advocating for proportional representation and IRV. Today they are working with a growing number of groups taking a serious look at these reforms, including the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, the Public Interest Research Groups, National Organization for Women, Sierra Club, voting rights organizations, community organizations, other minor parties, and even some Chambers of Commerce.

Immediate steps for those wanting to work for reform include reaching out to local representatives of these groups, seeking to ensure any new voting equipment purchased in your state or county has the flexibility to handle PR and IRV, joining the national IRV listserv and conducting PR and IRV elections in local schools and organizations.

Around the world, electoral reform has frequently followed elections where the problems of an antiquated system were made visible. The 2000 election has created such an opening in the United States, where most citizens were previously not even aware that alternatives exist. This is a unique opportunity for Greens to work for a more democratic system - an opportunity that may not be repeated soon.

*Dan Johnson-Weinberger was the political reform coordinator for the Ralph Nader for President campaign and now works for the Center for Voting and Democracy*

## What is Proportional Representation?

Proportional representation (PR) is based on the principle that any group of like-minded voters should win legislative seats in proportion to its share of the popular vote. Whereas the winner-take-all principle awards 100% of the representation to a 50.1% majority, PR allows voters in a minority to win their fair share of representation. There is a broad range of PR systems. Some are based on voting for political parties; others for candidates. Some allow very small groupings of voters to win seats; others require higher thresholds of support to win representation. All promote more accurate, balanced representation of the spectrum of political opinion in a given electorate.

Nearly all elections in the United States are based on the winner-take-all principle: voters for the candidate who receives the most votes win representation; voters for the other candidates win nothing. This system is unjust and unnecessary. It is unjust because it leaves minorities unrepresented with a resulting impact on majority rule as well as fair representation. It is unnecessary because we have immediate opportunities, at local, state, and national levels, to join the vast majority of mature democracies that have already adopted systems of proportional representation.

For more information about proportional representation and instant run-off voting: [www.fairvote.org](http://www.fairvote.org)  
Center for Voting and Democracy, 6930 Carroll Ave., Suite 901, Takoma Park, MD 20912, (301) 270-4616



## Nader on the Press:

"The national press's insistence on focusing its attention on the horse race between the two major-party candidates creates a catch-22 for any third-party candidate who wants to inject previously ignored issues into the campaign dialogue: Without coverage, you can't make headway in the polls. And a poor showing in the polls in turn distances the media from the campaign. Meanwhile, the issues your campaign seeks to address remain below the radar of the major candidates and the campaign press."

"Having worked with the print and broadcast media throughout my career as a consumer advocate, I had no illusions when I launched my campaign about the difficulties I would face in convincing reporters, editors, and producers for the major news outlets that my candidacy deserved their coverage. As it turns out, the major media organizations did cover our campaign. But they consistently viewed it as an occasional feature story — a colorful, narrative dispatch from the trail with a marginal candidate — rather than a news story about my proposals or campaign events designed to focus attention on our agenda."

"During the months when I was traveling through the 50 states, the local press usually reported on the visits, but the national print and electronic media didn't. Instead, they'd parachute in a reporter to travel with us for a few days and file a profile of our campaign that focused on personality and the so-called spoiler issue rather than on substance. We were never a news beat, even when the mar-

gins narrowed between Al Gore and George W. Bush during the last month and made our voters more consequential.

"Whatever the desires of reporters and their editors, the top echelons of these companies are simply not eager to examine the consequences of concentrated corporate power in the context of political campaign coverage. Policies on street crime regularly make the evening news; policies on corporate crime don't. Welfare reform proposals are always newsworthy, corporate welfare reform rarely."

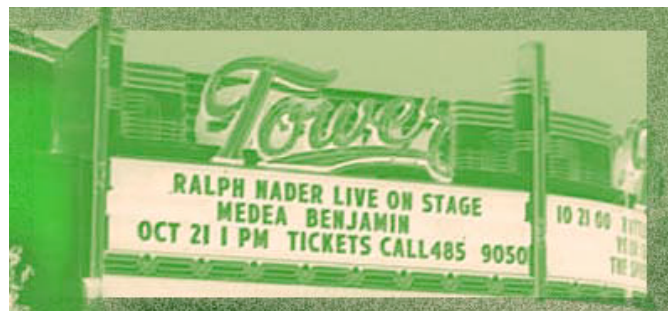
"There is one hero in this story who often goes unsung. Brian Lamb, the creator of C-SPAN, convinced the cable industry years ago that serious events deserve unedited coverage. In all the giant United States, the communications leader of the world, only C-SPAN covers entire events regularly during a presidential campaign. That fulsome speaks volumes about the vacuum that surrounds it." - quoted in *Brill's Content*, January 2000

## Excerpts from Nader's Green Party Presidential Nomination Acceptance Speech:

"On behalf of all Americans who seek a new direction, who yearn for a new birth of freedom to build the just society, who see justice as the great work of human beings on Earth, who understand that community and human fulfillment are mutually reinforcing, who respect the urgent necessity to wage peace, to protect the environment, to end poverty and to preserve values of the spirit for future generations, who wish to build a deep democracy by working hard for a regenerative progressive politics, as if people mattered — to all these citizens and the Green vanguard, I welcome and am honored to accept the Green Party nomination for President of the United States...Do we want to say to the 70 million non-voters, the Greens want to help you build a new beginning?"

Here is your chance to come forth and support what you have long wished for, a progressive movement that is for the people because it is of the people."

"A progressive political movement highlights civic energies which are dedicated to the proposition that a society which has more justice is a society that needs less charity. Too



many good people are walking around with invisible chains which restrict their contributions to the good life for themselves and their fellow citizens. A progressive political movement liberates their wisdom, judgment, experience, creativity and idealism.

"To the millions of retired Americans with such capacities, a progressive political movement offers endless opportunities for this community-

(continued on page 23)

## Nader/LaDuke 2000 campaign - the legacy in numbers:

- \* Green Party and Nader 2000 campaign organizers started more than 450 new local Green Party groups around the country.
- \* Over 150,000 people volunteered their time and energy to supporting the campaign.
- \* Over 900 Students for Nader and student Green Party organizations were started and 25,000 student volunteers registered tens of thousands of new student voters.
- \* The Green Party ran a record number of 277 candidates this year (including Ralph Nader).
- \* Over 463,000 signatures were collected to put the Green Party on the ballot in 43 states and in DC.
- \* The campaign raised 7.7 million dollars.
- \* The campaign took zero corporate or political action committee (PAC) money.
- \* Over 115,000 people signed the on-line petition to protest Ralph Nader's exclusion from the presidential debates
- \* Over 8 million pieces of literature and 1 million buttons, bumper stickers, and lapel stickers were distributed.
- \* Super Rallies were held of 15,000 people at Madison Square Garden in New York City, 14,000 at the Target Center in Minneapolis, 12,000 at the Fleet Center in Boston, 10,000 at the Pavilion in Chicago, 10,000 at the Coliseum in Portland, and 10,000 at the MCI Center in Washington, DC.
- \* The campaign formed a citizens committee of 100 prominent supporters.
- \* The campaign had a staff of over 100 people in two offices in DC and 19 more local offices nationwide
- \* Ralph Nader campaigned in all 50 states, the only presidential candidate to do so in the 2000 election.
- \* Over 600 house parties were held in support of the campaign.
- \* The campaign sent out over 500 releases and the campaign was covered in innumerable newspapers, television, and radio stories around the country.
- \* The campaign brought two lawsuits against the corporate funding and anti-democratic processes of the commission on presidential debates.
- \* The campaign brought eleven lawsuits to challenge barriers to ballot access and filing procedures.
- \* The campaign defended one lawsuit against Mastercard.

## "Get Off Nader's Back"

### *San Francisco Examiner* Editorial Friday, November 3, 2000

"The Democrats should cease their whining attacks on the Green Party candidate as spoiler of a Gore victory. The sniveling of the well-financed, lavishly staffed Al Gore campaign, over the possibility of Ralph Nader's third-party effort tipping a close election to George W. Bush, must strike Nader as supremely ironic."

"Democratic standard-bearer Gore was paired with Republican Bush in the series of three televised debates planned as a decisive high point of the presidential contest. The organizers excluded Nader and

his Green Party as too insignificant to be listened to. Nader protested, and his backers screamed about the unfairness of the big guys. But the legendary consumer advocate was kept outside the tent along with the Reform Party's Pat Buchanan and Libertarian Harry Browne."

"Now a cold panic is washing over the Gore camp that, in a close finish with Bush, Nader could corral a damaging number of liberal, pro-environment votes that ordinarily would be in the Democratic column in hard-fought "swing" states. That

could give Bush the White House, and hand the reins of power to enemies of both Gore's and Nader's objectives."

"Nader has been the target of Democratic calls to repudiate his "spoiler" role and swing his support to Gore."

"Such whining is unbecoming of a major party that has wielded national power much of the past century. Gore has adequate resources to present his case and carry out his own quest for votes, as does Bush. Nader has the clear right to pursue his more modest goals, which in-

clude showing both major parties often to be allies of corporate America at the public's expense."

"Heaping guilt on Nader, over the chance of Republican victory in a squeaker, is not sporting or fair. Let Nader enjoy his relative pittance of electoral support, for which he has worked impressively. Gore and Bush are powerful enough to go after bigger game: the tens of millions of votes needed for actual victory. Whoever loses should not blame Nader."

# Green Party ballot status and voter registration totals at all-time high

## States in which the Green Party has ballot status through 2002:

Alaska	Michigan
California	Minnesota
Colorado	Montana
Connecticut	Nevada
Delaware	New Mexico
District of Columbia	(contested)
Florida	New York
Hawaii	Oregon
Iowa	Rhode Island
Maine	Texas
Massachusetts	Utah
	Wisconsin

Green Parties  
of North America  
[www.greens.org](http://www.greens.org)

Spurred by the Nader/LaDuke campaign, the Green Party now has ongoing ballot status (through the 2002 elections) in 22 states, an all-time high.

Nader's election results maintained pre-existing Green ballot status in CO, CT, DC, ME, NM (but only as a minor party), and OR. His totals added status (which didn't exist 2 years ago) in IA, MA, MI, MN, MT, NV, RI and UT.

No other minor party gained status through its presidential vote in any state in 2000.

Greens also acquired ballot status by candidates other than the presidential. In Texas they did so in impressive style, with three candidates all passing the required 5% threshold. In New Mexico, they had one statewide candidate receive 11%, easily passing the 5% needed, but the Democratic Secretary of State reinterpreted state law and ruled only the presidential race could have counted (Nader got 4% in New Mexico) and now the Greens must litigate to retain their status.

The previous Green Party ballot status high was 10 states, after the November, 1998 election. Green ballot status totals from earlier cycles were nine (1996-98), four (1994-96), four (1992-1994), and one (1990-1992).

Green Party voter registration also rose to an all-time high in 2000, reaching 195,866 in 17 states as of late Fall, 2000. California has the most registered Greens. New Mexico has the highest percentage.

Several states experienced significant increases in their Green registration totals in 2000. Colorado grew by over 50%. California grew by 35% from January through September. New Mexico grew 20% from June through October.

### National Green registrations totals:

195,866	(November 2000)
136,285	(April 2000)
118,537	(October 1998)
112,199	(October 1996)
89,566	(October 1994)
102,557	(October 1992)

## Green voter registration totals by state

	Greens	% of state	Date
Alaska:	4,236	(0.90%)	10/16
Arizona:	3,807	(0.18%)	10/30
California:	141,637	(0.88%)	02/10
Colorado:	2900	_____	_____
Connecticut:	1,046	(.05%)	10/24
Delaware:	473	_____	_____
DC:	4,088	(1.15%)	9/12
Florida:	2,727	(.03%)	10/10
Louisiana:	393	_____	11/29
Maine:	2,152	(.24%)	6/13
Maryland:	973	(.04%)	10/13
Massachusetts:	1,576	_____	_____
Nebraska:	325	(.03%)	_____
Nevada:	1,411	(.16%)	11/07
New Mexico:	11,756	(1.2%)	02./01
New York:	12,121	(.11%)	11/01
Oregon:	7,244	(.37%)	11/30

source: Ballot Access News: [www.ballot-access.org](http://www.ballot-access.org)

for more information,  
see Ballot Access News  
[www.ballot-access.org](http://www.ballot-access.org)

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# The Association of State Green Parties in 2000 and beyond

## Greens grow into a national party

By Annie Goeke

The year 2000 was exhilarating, exhausting exciting, and exceptional for the Green Party. We enjoyed many successes and grew a great deal. A lot of credit can go around to all of us, relying as we did upon each others' generous human capital from hundreds of thousands of us across the country.

With 23 state Green Parties now holding official ballot status, and with state party organizations growing in most of the other states - and with a dramatic increase in registration and membership - the Green Party has emerged as the leading independent progressive electoral force in the nation.

The Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) played a critical role in organizing and facilitating this process - on the national level, as well in between the states. Here is an overview of what we've accomplished:

In 1999, the ASGP formed the Presidential Exploratory Committee, which initiated and conducted a fair, transparent process to search, recruit and interview over 25 potential presidential and vice-presidential candidates. The Committee disseminated information from the candidates to the state Green Parties, keeping them involved throughout.

The ASGP Transition committee created the formula Greens' used to determine the number of delegates each state would receive at the Green national convention in Denver.

The ASGP Platform committee produced the draft platform that ultimately became approved in Denver at the Green convention, becoming the official platform ([www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org)) upon which the Nader/LaDuke campaign ran.

ASGP legal advisors provided support and advice to member state parties throughout the campaign.

The ASGP International Committee hosted Green representatives from 16 countries and 5 continents, strengthening international Green ties and demonstrating the global nature of the Green movement.

The ASGP Convention Committee coordinated the presidential nomination convention itself, which took place in Denver. The convention was a major success, with over 300 voting delegates from 39 states and 1200 people overall in attendance.

Convention coverage brought the Green Party to a new level of visibility in the United States, with over 200 reporters from 70 press organizations in attendance. The ASGP media committee deserves a great deal of credit for responding professionally to the demand.

The increased coverage also played a major role in energizing the Nader campaign - volunteers, fundraising and web page hits all jumped dramatically after the convention. Local Green candidates took advantage of the spotlight to build their own campaigns across the country.

After the convention, Greens together with the Nader 2000 campaign team pulled in thousands of volunteers, set up hundreds of campus Green groups across the country, and organized successful media-grabbing 'super rallies'. Thousands of Greens went door to door, campaigning in their neighborhoods and doing 'retail politics' right up until the election.

On behalf of the ASGP, the Steering Committee expresses its deepest gratitude to Ralph Nader, Winona LaDuke and their hard working team for all they did to build the Green Party. The public recognition of the Greens is particularly gratifying, after years of being barely visible in the public eye. We've persisted by focusing on the daily steps necessary to become a successful grassroots political party. Let's enjoy the moment - then be ready to take the next steps.

The ASGP currently has 29 member state parties. Since the December ASGP meeting in Hiawasse, Georgia, inquiries have come from Green parties in Washington, Idaho, Maryland, Montana, North Carolina and Kentucky. We expect to receive membership applications from most of these states in the coming months.

The ASGP will be well represented at the Global Green Conference in Canberra, Australia this April ([www.global.greens.org.au](http://www.global.greens.org.au)). We have been actively involved in the organizing of this important event for the last couple of years and some of our representatives will be presenters in various large-group sessions and in workshops. Also, together with the Canadian Greens we will be pro-



posing a resolution on a coordinated global Green Party action.

U.S. Greens are already running for office in 2001, including in some states for the first time. Since the November, 2000 election Nader has continued to promote and support the Green Party, including doing fundraisers for various state Green Parties across the country. The ASGP will continue to help facilitate this collaboration.

The Greens' growth in 2000 has brought us to a new level. The ASGP is preparing the groundwork for the Green Party to receive national committee status from the Federal Elections Commission. We look forward to your participation in our grassroots political movement, building a winning alternative to our corrupt two party system.

*Annie Goeke (PA) has been one of three ASGP co-chairs since 1998 as well as a long time Pennsylvania Green organizer. Contributions also from Dean Myerson (Convention Committee) and Tony Affigne (Accreditation Committee)*

### ASGP on the web

[www.green-party.org](http://www.green-party.org)

### Excerpts from Nader's Green Nomination Acceptance Speech (continued from page 21)

based patriotism to blossom. We need you in this fresh campaign. Small numbers of large corporations are playing roulette with the planet."

"To the youth of America, I say, beware of being trivialized by the commercial culture that tempts you daily. I hear you saying often that you're not turned on to politics. The lessons of history are clear and portentous. If you do not turn on to politics, politics will turn on you. The fact that we have so many inequalities demonstrates this point. Democracy responds to hands-on participation. And to energized imagination. That's its essence. We need the young people of America to move into leadership positions to shape their future as part of this campaign for a just society. Let's prepare to take the politicians

and the lobbyists on a tour of the People's America."



"Two premises are basic to this political campaign. First, that a basic function of leadership is to gen-

erate more leaders, not more followers. Secondly, this political movement is first and foremost movement of thought, not of belief. There is nothing wrong with beliefs but it would be better to have them preceded by thought and followed by action."

"By debating, phoning, emailing, and marching during the next four months, we the people will grow a new political start, a green plant pushing up between the two fossil parties. With a new progressive movement, we the people have the ability to vastly improve our lives and to help shape the world's course to one of justice and peace for years to come." - Green Party National Convention, Denver, June 26th, 2000

### Counties in which Nader/LaDuke got 10% or more of the vote

From Richard Winger, editor of *Ballot Access News*: There are 29 counties in which Nader got over 10% of the vote. In California - Humboldt, Mendocino, Santa Cruz. In Colorado - Boulder, Gilpin, Gunnison, LaPlata, Ouray, Pitkin, Saguache, San Juan, San Miguel (17.20% - highest in the nation), Summit. In Kansas - Douglas. In Massachusetts - Dukes, Hampshire, Franklin. In Minnesota, Cook. In Montana, Missoula. In New York, Tompkins. In Texas, Travis. In Utah, Grand. In Vermont, Windham. In Washington, San Juan. Since there are no counties in Alaska, I use legislative districts, but combine districts which are all in the same city, so my "counties" are somewhat arbitrary - Anchorage, Juneau, Kenai peninsula, Sitka, Yakutat. Nader also got 9.8% in Taos, New Mexico. *Ballot Access News* is selling 4-color maps of the US for \$6, showing all the counties as to how Nader did in each one - Box 470296, San Francisco CA 94147

## GreenPages

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GreenPages on the web: [www.greenpages.ws](http://www.greenpages.ws)

# Green Party enjoys record growth & success in 2000

(continued from page 1) Greens running in state legislative races that were uncontested by either a Democrat or Republican, made up 28% of all Green candidates for State House/State Assembly (17/60) and State Senate (5/18).

Doing best among State Senate candidates was Ann Gleason (38%) in the Santa Fe, NM area, where Greens already have elected three municipal officials. Whitney Smith (19.6%), running in liberal Portland, Oregon was next.

For State House/State Assembly, Greens were led by the Maine Greens' Derrick Grant (34.8%), running in Portland and Jane Scese (31%) running in nearby Topsham. In Rhode Island Jeff Johnson had 29.9% and Gregg Stevens 22.7% in two neighboring districts in the Narragansett/Kingston area. Christina Alexander had 27% in Coos Bay, Oregon and Russell Lovetinsky 22% in Iowa City, Iowa where the Greens currently have Steve Kanner sitting on the City Council and previously had Karen Kubby.



Winona LaDuke embodied the role of a working mother in 2000, giving birth to a new child then running for vice-president

Overall, 15 Greens received 10% or more for State House/State Assembly in races without either a Democrat or Republican, as did three State Senate Candidates. Although such uncompetitive races are less frequent on the Congressional level, two Greens did run in 2000 in such races as well. In Washington State's 7th district - which contains almost all of Seattle as well as part of Vashon Island, Joe Szwaja got a U.S. Green record 19.6% for a Congressional race. (Carol Miller's previous record of 17% in NM came against a Democrat and Rep in a May, 1997 special election). In a four-way race, CA's Krista Lieber-Wong received 9.1% running against a Democrat, Libertarian and Natural Law candidate.

Szwaja's numbers in Seattle and Smith's in Portland suggest Green potential to become the second party in much of the Pacific Northwest. The two states already share seven currently elected Greens between them.

In Texas the young state Green Party had more statewide candidates - four - than the Democratic Party, who only had one. On the statewide level the Greens were actually the opposition party.

## Organizational Growth and the Breadth of Green Support Across the Nation

• **The Green Party is growing in many new states, in conservative areas as well as liberal.** The number of states in which there are organized statewide Green parties jumped from 10 in 1994 to 35 after the 2000 election. The number of states in which the Greens have ballot status rose to 22, up from 10 after 1998 and four after 1994. Total Green voter registrations increased by 35% during 2000 alone to nearly 200,000, with a large percentage coming from people under 30.

Youth involvement in the Green Party in 2000 was also measured by the widespread youth activism on 900 college campuses for Nader/LaDuke. There were also many young Greens in the streets of Seattle, Washington DC, Philadelphia and Los Angeles, protesting the WTO, World Bank, IMF and the Democratic and Republican conventions. In Sebastopol, CA 24-year old Craig Litwin finished first for city council, helping to form the Green Party city council majority there.

Organizationally, the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) helped meld these energies together, providing a common national forum for Green Party organizing between the states, as well as a central place for the Nader/LaDuke campaign to connect with the Green Party. At its founding in November, 1996 the ASGP began with 12 member state parties. By early 2001, there were 29 member states, with several others in the application process. The ASGP is expected to vote to file for National Committee Status with the Federal Elections Commission this year, establishing a single, legally-recognized national Green Party in the United States.

• **Nader/LaDuke campaign reaches new heights.** In a groundbreaking campaign for the independent progressive movement, Nader/LaDuke got 2,882,807 votes nationwide, 2.74% of 105 million votes cast. Their support exceeded 10% among liberals, youth (18-29) and independents. The strongest states were found mostly in the Northeast, West Coast, Alaska, Colorado, Hawai'i and Minnesota/Wisconsin. Nader/LaDuke also did surprisingly well in some conservative western states. With over 5% in MT and over 4% in UT and NE, Greens are showing they have a constituency in all parts of the country. Nader's 2.5% as a write-in candidate in ID set a record as the highest percentage ever for a write-in presidential candidate in any state.

Similarly, the Nader/LaDuke campaign birthed Green Parties in MS and LA and gave a large push to smaller parties in FL and OK. In TX, a conserva-

tive state where some thought a Green Party might not take hold, Greens qualified for the ballot under strenuous requirements, then won over 400,000 votes in two statewide elections. Greens also won city council seats in conservative cities in FL and WY.

Nader's top ten percentages were in: AK (10.07) VT (6.92), MA (6.42), RI (6.13), MT (5.95), HI (5.88), ME (5.7), CO (5.25), D.C. (5.24) and MN (5.2). In the five largest states, Nader's percentages were significant: CA (3.8), NY (3.6), IL (2.2), TX (2.1) and FL (1.6). Two-thirds of Nader's votes (1.87 million) were cast in the 22 states with ballot-status Green Parties. In seven of them, Nader's vote totals exceeded the number separating Bush and Gore (FL is the best-known, as Nader's 97,488 votes there easily exceeded Bush's 537-vote margin).

Nader's national base of support was surely higher than the vote totals indicate, for at least three reasons: In the seven states where Nader and LaDuke weren't on the ballot, about 10,000,000 voters cast ballots, or a probable 200-300 thousand Green votes. In the four of these seven states where no Nader/LaDuke votes were counted at all - neither ballots nor write-ins - lived one in five American Indians, among whom LaDuke was very popular. Of course in addition, Greens argue that under a more fair voting system like Instant Run-Off Voting - where there would be no 'vote-splitting dilemma' for potential Nader voters - the Green presidential ticket would've easily received double-digit support.

• **Increased Green visibility in the press.** Before 1996, the number of times the Green Party was meaningfully mentioned on national television could probably be counted on two hands. The print press

was better, but only minimally so, outside of coverage that the New Mexico Greens ground-breaking 1994 campaigns received.

If the 1996 Nader campaign first raised the Greens' national profile, then the 2000 campaign put the Greens clearly on the map. At the Green national convention alone, over 200 members of the press were credentialed from 70 press organizations. C-SPAN broadcast the convention and several other Nader speeches to a national audience, as well as the Minneapolis Super Rally. Political talkshows on CNN, MSNBC, Fox and elsewhere debated the Greens' affect. Local Green candidates also parlayed the this exposure to their advantage, obtaining good coverage for their races as well.

• **Greens on the Internet.** Greens also used this growing medium to great advantage. The VoteNader.Org website received hundreds of thousands of visits, raised over \$1 million and won second place as the best campaign site from the American Association of Political Consultants (the Nader 'Priceless Truth' MasterCard parody TV ad also took second place, while the Nader radio ad took first). State Green Parties and candidates also utilized the web, reaching millions of voters without the constraints of needing big money to communicate a message.



## A post-election message to Greens from Ralph Nader

Happy New Year Greens!

Congratulations to everyone on the exponential growth of the Green Party during Election 2000! The campaign office continues to receive reports from around the country and abroad about the effect of the presidential race on the development of the party. We are heartened by the accounts of people who have moved from being concerned to becoming seriously involved.

At the same time there is much to be done. The electoral fracas and disenfranchisement of Florida voters further punctuates the demand for more party building, state and federal electoral reform initiatives, candidate recruitment and training, ballot status access, and engagement on local civic

issues. In the next few months we will be developing the post-2000 efforts that we can undertake to continue to help in all-important party building work.

Both the campaign and this candidate want to thank everyone who spent time, money, and talent on the election. I especially want to thank my running-mate, the invincible Winona LaDuke, those dedicated and hardworking campaign staff and field coordinators, and those members of the Green Party for all their efforts from ballot drives to fundraising parties to convention planning to super rallies and get-out-the vote.

It was an honor to be a part of this historic effort to advance the just causes for all people.

Go We Go, Ralph Nader

## Help the Green Party continue to grow into a strong and viable party

I want to support the Association of State Green Parties and receive a subscription to its newsletter, *GreenPages*, in 2001.

I will make a contribution of

\$1,000      \$250      \$100  
\$50      \$25      Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions of \$20 or more include a one-year subscription to Green Pages. Contributions are not tax deductible.

### Payment method:

**I will mail this form with a check made payable to "ASGP" and send to ASGP, PO Box 18452, Washington, D.C. 20036.**

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Please charge my      **Visa**      **MasterCard**

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