



GREEN POLITICS ADVANCE IN '96

Nineteen ninety-six was a year that found more and more Americans dissatisfied with the political status quo. It also was the most successful year ever for the Green Party. A record sixteen Greens were elected on the local level, including the first-ever Green City Council majority in the US (in Arcata, California). On the national level, the presidential campaign of Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke accelerated the growth of the Green Party as an organization, as well as in the consciousness of the general public. What led to this success and how did the Greens take advantage of the historical moment that '96 presented?

To start with, there was an increased general receptivity for a new party in '96, with polls suggesting at least 62% of voters wanted one. In addition, the rightward shift of the Democrats created *specific room* for a progressive party like the Greens. But in addition to these contextual factors, there also needed to be a *strategy* to

take advantage of these opportunities, particularly given the strong two-party bias of the US winner-take-all electoral system.

The Greens' strategy has always been a long-term one: first, build a foundation through local electoral work, growing out of community-based, issue-oriented activism. Second, contest only selected state and national offices, preferably where the party already has a base of support. Third, while running to win within the current electoral system, work to change it to proportional representation. Fourth, as an integral part of all of the above, stress the Green Party's 'ten key values': ecology, social justice, grassroots democracy, non-violence, community-based economics, decentralization, respect for diversity, feminism/post-patriarchy, personal & global responsibility and sustainability/future focus.

The Greens' strategy paid off in '96. After twelve years of organizing, US Greens have a significant grassroots base in many communi-

ties. The 16 victories on the local level were no accident, bringing to 42 the number of Greens who currently hold elected office in the US.

On the presidential level, the Nader/LaDuke candidacy complimented the Greens local organizing, accelerating the growth of the Green Party faster than a local-only strategy would have. Nader/LaDuke communicated a pro-democracy, anti-corporate message, providing the only progressive alternative to Clinton/Dole. Their candidacy in turn led to the development of several new state Green parties, and many existing ones became stronger. The campaign also provided the first-ever opportunity for Greens to coordinate nationally on a common electoral project, proving to be an invaluable, maturing experience for the growing movement.

Yet even this was not all the story. Despite the enormous difficulties 'third party' candidates face within the US 'winner-take-all' electoral

system, in several partisan county and state legislative races, as well as in a US Senate race, *Greens actually finished second ahead of either the Democrats or Republicans*. And, in terms of electoral reform, Greens in San Francisco succeeded in getting proportional representation (PR) on the ballot for a public vote (for use by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors). While the measure did not pass, the Greens were able to do enough education in only a three month campaign in one of the country's major cities to receive 44% the first time out, providing valuable experience with which to apply to future PR campaigns in other cities across the country.

Taken as a whole, 1996 suggests the Greens have advanced a long way as a political force. There appears to be a genuinely significant base among the general electorate for Green ideas, and the Greens have demonstrated that they not only have good ideas, but also a viable strategy to win elections and build a movement.

1996: LOCAL GREENS TAKE POLITICAL ROOT

One of the great untold stories of the 1996 political season was the success of the Green Party's local electoral strategy. While most of the media's attention on third parties focused on their presidential candidates and campaigns (including the Greens' own Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke), a record sixteen Greens won office nationwide, and in Arcata, CA, voters elected the first-ever Green City Council majority in the US. These victories follow a pattern where Greens have organized around local issues, built a base of experience and credibility, and successfully ran candidates from that base.

In addition to the historic victory in Arcata, where Jennifer Hanan and Bob Ornelas joined sitting Green councilmember Jason Kirkpatrick to form the Green majority, other highlights of '96 include: in Berkeley, CA, Dona Spring became the first Green to be re-elected for a third term to a

City Council seat, and four others from around the country were elected to their second. In Santa Monica, CA, Mike Feinstein won a City Council seat in the biggest city thus far for any US Green, and the first one in a national/global media market (Los Angeles). In both Arizona and Maine, Greens won all three municipal races they contested. And in Santa Fe, NM Fran Gallegos broke ground as the first-ever Green municipal judge. Overall, 1996 saw the Greens elect 10 city Councilmembers, a board of supervisor, a municipal judge, two school board members and two planning group members.

The '96 results bring to 42 the number of Greens currently holding elected office, including 23 city Councilmembers, three board of supervisors, four schoolboard members and a municipal judge. Where are Greens winning? Many are small-to-medium sized towns and cities with strong liberal and/or progressive constituencies like

Arcata, Berkeley, Davis and Santa Monica, CA; Flagstaff, AZ; Santa Fe, NM; Columbia, MO; LaCrosse, WI; Fayetteville, AR and Chapel Hill, NC. Although it may seem natural for Greens to win in these places, these places have also been traditionally liberal Democratic strongholds, and some pundits have suggested liberal voters will choose Democrats over Greens. Experience has shown otherwise, and suggests future Green growth in these places and others, like Austin, TX; Boulder, CO; Santa Cruz and West Hollywood, CA; Madison, WI and elsewhere.

Greens have also won outside of such communities. Perhaps the most impressive has been in the Twin Ports area of Duluth, MN/Superior, WI. Greens have organized in this mostly working-class area since the mid-to-late 80's. Currently five Greens hold office there - two City Council and three Board of Supervisors. In rural,

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NADER LaDUKE

1996 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

Before 1996, the Greens had never run for the presidency. If they were to enter the race in '96, most Greens felt it should *not* be to wage a traditional candidate-centered campaign. Rather, it should be to build the Green Party and advance a bottom-up politics. As it turned out, the candidacy of Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke did just that.

In November, 1995 Nader officially announced that he'd enter the Green Party of California's 1996 presidential primary. This set in motion a grassroots process where Greens eventually put Nader on the ballot in 21 states and the District of Columbia, and made him a write-in candidate in another 23 states. This campaign accelerated the growth of the Green Party, and complimented the Greens' local strategy - which, by nature, is slow-building. In many states,

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GO WE GO!

GREEN STATE NEWS . . .

ARIZONA

In February, **Ralph Nader** and **Winona LaDuke** appeared within a few days of each other at public forums in Flagstaff. LaDuke filled a 900-seat auditorium; and Nader filled it as well as a 300-seat hall next door with a TV screen...During these events, the **Pima County Greens** registered large numbers of people as Greens...In AZ, ballot status must be attained at each level of government individually. For example, if the Greens attains statewide status, then they can only run for state and national office, but not county, unless enough signatures were gathered in the individual county itself (the same petitions can be used if it is the same election year). City elections (Tucson has the only partisan races) must be petitioned for separately, and ballot status maintained separately, with the same rules applied...In 1992, the **Arizona Green Party** and the **Pima County Greens** both achieved ballot status, but failed to maintain it in 1994 when more stringent requirements were required. Tucson Green **Carolyn Campbell** currently has a bill in the State House to reduce the number of signatures needed for various types of ballot status and independent candidates, and to push back (closer to the general election) the deadline for handing in signatures. Phoenix Green **Sloane Haywood** has also filed a lawsuit against the state along the same lines. Based upon the results, AZ Greens will decide upon which levels to seek ballot status in 1997 and 1998. Most likely will be Tucson, where several City Council seats are up, and where the Greens have had a strong local presence.

CALIFORNIA

Since becoming the first Green City Council majority in US history last November, the **Arcata Greens** have been garnering a great deal of national press, including feature articles in the Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor, US Today, People magazine, and many international publications...As a result of the Nader campaign, the **Green Party of California** voter registrations went up almost 20% to 95,090...In West Hollywood, **Chris Patrouch** and local Greens ran an impressive grassroots campaign for City Council, finishing a close 4th/9 candi-

dates for two seats on March 4th. Patrouch promoted a human scale, pedestrian-oriented urban environment, and successfully contrasted the Greens' extensive gay/lesbian platform with the two sentences of the Democrat's. His strong finish positions him well for a potential win in '99...On April 8th, **Dennis Kortheur** is running for Los Angeles City Council District 15, which includes Watts, Wilmington and the San Pedro/Harbor areas. This is a product of Coalition LA, a long-running multi-cultural organization boasting some of LA County's top progressive activists. Kortheur, a San Pedro Green, is running with Diana Contreras (Wilmington) and Mujahid Abdulkarim (Watts). The Coalition's strategy is to split the vote and deny an April 8th primary victory to incumbent, ultra-conservative Republican Rudy Svorinich. If successful, they'll force a two-person runoff between Svorinich and the top Coalition candidate. In runoff, the Coalition actually has a chance, because the 15th District actually has a substantial majority of Democratic over Republican registered voters, but Svorinich won last time when several Democrats split their vote in the primary and the only two Republicans survived to the run-off. Win or lose, the Kortheur campaign is significant for the Greens because they are part of a coalition of widely separated working class communities, and an organization of the stature of Coalition LA is supporting a Green...In early April, Greens in the San Jose/Santa Clara area are hosting a statewide conference entitled **Spring Forward: Moving Toward Social and Environmental Justice**. The keynote speaker will be United Farm Worker vice-president **Dolores Huerta**, whose speech will include a focus on the UFW's efforts to organize California's strawberry workers. Other conference topics include health care, toxins, welfare reform, affirmative action, socially-responsible investing and the nuts and bolts of organizing...In '98, look for a **Westside Greens** campaign for proportional representation in Santa Monica, with the goal of getting the City Council to put it on the ballot for a public vote.

COLORADO

In December, **Krista Paradise** became the first Colorado Green to

hold legislative office, after being appointed to a vacancy on the Carbondale Town Council. Other Councilmembers appointed Paradise after they learned of the Green majority in Arcata, CA, and felt that they too should have a Green. Earlier in '96, Paradise had run unsuccessfully for a seat on the Council. In '94, she was the Greens first state Lt. Governor candidate, running with **Phil Hufford** for Governor. Since Paradise has arrived on the council, she says she has helped 'shift paradigms'...As part of that shift, the **Sopris Greens**, her local, have set up a Local Exchange Trading System (LETS) called SPUDS. SPUDS stands for promoting our Skills, Prosperity, Uniqueness, and Diversity...Last fall, the **Boulder Green Alliance** (BGA) wrote and lobbied the City Council to put a charter amendment on the ballot to change the process used to fill council vacancies, from appointment to election. The BGA ran a modest campaign of education and outreach, and won 61% - 29%. Less than a month later, a city councilmember resigned, and the vacancy was filled by an election. Impressed with the Greens' charter amendment campaign, the Council appointed local Green **Mark Ruzzin** to the city's Planning Board. The BGA also helped lobby the council to pass an ordinance prohibiting the city from doing business with companies with operations in Burma. In 1997 the BGA has developed a **GreenTV** community access show, presented campaign finance reform proposals to the Council, and is part of the effort to have Boulder develop its own municipally-owned cable system, including high speed data wiring for telecommunications. Several BGA members are participating in the organizing of **The Other Economic Summit**, which will be held opposite the G-7 here in Denver in June. Later this year, the BGA is strongly considering contesting the Boulder City Council elections, possibly with long-time Green organizer **Nancy Harvey** as their candidate...As a direct result of the Nader campaign, a new local called the **Poudre Valley Greens** was organized in the Fort Collins area. On March 13, they held a candidate's forum in preparation for their April 8 City Council elections. On the state level, there is discussion of supporting a

statewide living wage initiative.

CONNECTICUT

The **Green Party of Connecticut** had its founding convention March 15th. Ironically, the party already gained ballot status before this meeting, by virtue of **Ralph Nader** receiving 2% in the '96 presidential elections (double the 1% required). Approximately 90 Greens attended morning sessions on bylaws, policy directions, and strategy. In the afternoon, Nader gave a 45 minute speech on the need to overcome oligarchy and its dependent politicians in both major parties. At the end of the day, resolutions from the morning's sessions on bylaws and policy were deliberated and approved. At least one Green is expected to run for a board of education seat later this year. In '98, CT Greens hope to convince Nader to run against corporate Democrat Chris Dodd for US Senate. Nader thus far has not indicated he will do so.

HAWAII ' I

After coming close to winning in '96, both **Julie Jacobsen** and **Julie Leialoha** expect to run for Big Island County Council seats in 1998. On the state level, the **Hawaii Green Party** is promoting a bill to change a state ballot access law which says a party must 'successfully petition three times in a row' for ballot status, to instead say a party can simply 'qualify three times in a row'. In 1992 and 1996, the HIGP successfully petitioned for ballot status. For 1994, the HIGP qualified because **Linda Martin** received over 10% in a statewide election in '92 (she received 14% for US Senate). The bill has gone through both state House and Senate Committees and is likely to pass. But the state Chief Elections officer is trying to stop it. If he is successful, then Hawai'i Greens will once again have to gather signatures to requalify their party.

IOWA

From the energy generated from the Iowa 'Nader for President' campaign, the beginnings of a Green Party in Iowa are underway. Currently there are locals in Ames and Iowa City, and in November, 1997 Iowa Greens will have their first candidate - 27 year-old **Russell Lovetinsky**, for Iowa City Council, District B.

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GREENS ON-LINE

Green Parties Of North America
www.greens.org

Association of State Green Parties
www.greenparties.org

...MORE GREEN STATE NEWS

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MAINE

In the 1996 elections, neither the Maine Green Party's presidential candidate Ralph Nader nor its US Senate candidate **John Rensenbrink**, cracked the 5% vote barrier. That means the **Maine Green Party** will lose its ballot status unless the Legislature enacts a bill drafted by outgoing Secretary of State Bill Diamond, changing the threshold from being applied every two years, to simply being applied every four. The bill is currently being pushed by the chair of the legislature's Legal/Veterans committee, and there is wide public support, including the League of Women Voters and the Bangor Daily News. If the legislation is not passed, Maine Greens plan to challenge the law in the courts. Without ballot status, current Green registrations would be dropped and new ones could not be accrued...Maine Greens continue to operate a **successful state office** in the state capitol of Augusta, keeping up with legislation and testifying at hearings. Recently they testified against the state's only nuclear power plant, and in favor of preserving the right of initiative/referenda. The party's statewide **Green Council** meets monthly, and is composed of two delegates from each of Maine's 16 counties, plus the two co-chairs: **Nancy Allen** and **Tom Fusco**, and the Secretary, **Gail Vorbach**. The state newsletter is published two to three times/year. Fundraising relies on people contributing a "dime a day", paid quarterly or annually. In 1998, plans include doubling Green voter registration and contesting several state legislative candidacies and the governorship, where a strong prospect has surfaced (but the party has yet to reveal the name)...Maine Greens have created a 501(C)3 non-profit educational organization called the Katahdin Center, named after Maine's most famous mountain. Other Greens, under the leadership of 1994 Green gubernatorial candidate **Jonathan Carter**, have organized a Forest Ecology Network to try to protect the Maine woods in concert with a large variety of kindred groups and organizations.

MASSACHUSETTS . . .

The **Massachusetts Green Party** is currently discussing standards and qualifications for people who want to run as Greens. No decisions have been made for 1997, but in 1998 its likely that the MAGP will run a statewide candidate to achieve full party status. Currently the MAGP is registering people to vote as Greens, which is allowed

under Massachusetts law because the party has already been granted official ballot designation. Party members are also working on the state platform, which will be discussed at the MAGP second annual gathering in May.

MINNESOTA

According to long-time Green organizer **Lowell Nelson** "here in the land of 10,000 lakes and 10,001 excuses for not leaving the Democratic Party, the **Green Party of Minnesota** continues to grow in size and confidence. We'll run against the phony status-quo progressivism of the Democrat Party and promote the insurrectionary spirit of the Green Party as an alternative". In Minneapolis, the **Twin Cities Greens** are part of a coalition for proportional representation, and may contest City Council and Park Board races later this year... Up north, **David Abazs** won for Crystal Bay Township Supervisor in March, with 79.3% in a two-way race. He ran on sustainable

...in the land of 10,000 lakes and 10,001 excuses for not leaving the Democratic Party, the Green Party of Minnesota continues to grow...

forestry, organic farming, and small family-owned business over corporate chains...The **Duluth Area Greens** are following last year's partially successful efforts to stop mall sprawl with a living-wage campaign...On the state level, Greens are active in the Welfare Rights Committee, a coalition to convince the state legislature to address the damage done by Federal welfare reform...On the electoral front, the GPMN is petitioning for minor party status (2,000 signatures required). This would enable the party to become eligible for state funding through a process where small contributions to the party are refunded to the contributor by the state. In '98 a Green gubernatorial candidacy is possible as well as state legislature and Congress.

NEVADA

In the summer of 1996, the **Green Party of Nevada** gained ballot status by gathering over 3,700 valid petition signatures. It then retained that status through the '98 elections by virtue of Nader/LaDuke receiving 1% of the vote, For '98, discussions are underway for potential candidates...Nevada Greens are also focusing on nuclear issues, including fighting the resumption of nuclear testing and the transportation of nuclear waste to Yucca

Mountain. They also hope to shut down the Nevada nuclear test site in Easter '98.

NEW JERSEY

Having organized on a local, non-electoral level for many years, New Jersey Greens came together on a statewide basis for the first time in '96 to coordinate the Nader campaign. Now, they plan to run **Madelyn Hoffman** for Governor in '97. Hoffman was Nader's vice-presidential candidate in New Jersey, and is a long-time activist who founded the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes to help organize in immigrant and working class neighborhoods. In subsequent years, she's continued that work as Director of the New Jersey Grass Roots Environmental Organization, a position she still holds. Hoffman plans to attack Republican Governor Whitman's record of cutting welfare and health benefits; weakening environmental protections; and pitting business interests against those of the citizens

of the state. Hoffman will offer a single-payer universal health program for New Jersey, in response to growing public dissatisfaction with HMO's and insurance companies. With the Democrats in disarray (they have a multitude of regional gubernatorial candidates and a message little different than Whitman's), the Greens hope to establish their identity in '97 as New Jersey's true progressive alternative.

NEW MEXICO

As a result of the strong showing of the New Mexico Green Party (NMGP) in 1994, then-Green Lt. Governor candidate **Steven Schmidt** was appointed to five-member State Board of Education. In New Mexico, the Board is a constitutional office, overseeing policy and management of public education, with a budget making up 48% of the state's total. Schmidt's priorities have been to focus on strategic long-term planning, to make education a higher priority and to secure the funding it needs. This past January, in part due to Schmidt's efforts, the Board finished its first-ever strategic plan. Schmidt also helped convince the Board to make environmental education a part of the basic curriculum taught in 89 school districts for

the first time ever...With Democrat Bill Richardson vacating his Congressional seat to become UN Ambassador, the NMGP has put forward **Carol Miller** as its nominee in the special election to replace him. The open seat is in the northern portion of the state that includes Santa Fe, where the Greens have received by far the strongest support in their bids for elective office (23% for Governor, 1994). The district is normally considered safe for the Democrats, with a 2-1 Democrat-Republican ratio, but a strong Green contender may alter the dynamics. Miller is a lifelong health care activist who was a single-payer advocate as part of Hillary Clinton's 1993 health care task force. Miller is also immediate Past President of the New Mexico Public Health Association, represented the Frontier Constituency Group on the Board of the National Rural Health Association for six years, and is a three term Governing Councilor to the American Public Health Association. In '96, she ran for the State Senate as a Democrat and unsuccessfully tried in court to be a Democrat/Green fusion candidate, as the NMGP had nominated her as well. Her Democratic opponent Eric Serna, is considered vulnerable because he has been enshrouded by ethics violation charges throughout his 16-year tenure as a state corporation commissioner, and because of the widespread perception that his choice as nominee was pushed through the Democratic Central Committee without grassroots participation... NMGP Greens registrations continue to climb, now the second highest in the nation with 6,500+...In '98, **the NMGP** is expected to field some statewide candidates, but not necessarily a gubernatorial candidate. Whether they do so depends in part upon how progressive a candidate the Democrats would put up in exchange for the Greens not contesting the office. In 1994, the NMGP received 10.4% for governor and the Democrats lost by 9%. Hence there is potential for leverage.

NEW YORK

The first New York Green electoral campaign in 1997 came in Brooklyn: **Craig Seeman's** candidacy in a special election for State Assemblyperson in Assembly District 52. Seeman campaigned for the same seat last November, losing with 6.8% to Democrat Eileen C. Dugan, who held the seat for 16 years prior. Three days after the election, Dugan died unexpectedly. In the special election, Seeman won 15.6% of the vote, finishing 3rd/4. He spent \$3,000, and in the several

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districts where the Greens were best organized, received between 30%-50%. Seeman's platform included jobs/sustainable economy, universal health care, intensive recycling, campaign finance reform and public transportation. Seeman was officially endorsed by the Sierra Club and Commercial Workers of America locals 1180 and 1182, both of which provided material support. These alliances are expected to continue into the fall, when local Greens consider mayoral and city council campaigns.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Orange County Greens started in 1985, organizing around issues of quality of life/sustainable development, including public transportation, alternative/renewable energy, and green economics. In 1989 they elected Joyce Brown to the Chapel Hill City Council and reelected her in 1993. This fall she'll run again. In 1995, local Greens also elected Alex Zaffron to the Board of Alderman in neighboring Carrboro. By virtue of these campaigns, the Greens not only have elected two of their own, but have succeeded in moving the spectrum of local electable candidates in the progressive direction. 1995 also saw Greens organizing a successful initiative for voluntary campaign spending limits. Half the candidates in the ensuing election accepted the limits. As a result, the mayors of Chapel Hill and Carrboro will hold a public forum on campaign spending, likely leading to a stronger initiative in

the fall. In 1997, the Greens also will support a local living wage campaign based on requiring contractors who receive contracts with the county to pay at least \$7/hr, with the final rate linked to bringing a family of four out of poverty.

OREGON

As a result of organizing in '96, Pacific Party registration is now approaching 1500, up from about 500 before the campaigns. The party is considering a 1998 initiative for proportional representation in the Oregon House of Representatives. It is also examining re-submitting a statewide initiative to ban clear-cutting and chemical spraying in National forests.

WISCONSIN

LaCrosse Green co-founder Dan Herber was elected to the LaCrosse City Council in '93 at age 21. This year, instead of running for reelection, he's running for Mayor. In the primary he finished 2nd/7. Now he's in a run-off with the first place finisher whom he trailed 52.9% to 18%. To close the gap, Herber and local Greens have an impressive precinct operation underway, including campaign signs all over the city. A primary issue is Herber's 8-year long opposition, on environmental and fiscal grounds, to a state Department of Transportation \$70 million limited access highway through LaCrosse's neighborhoods and wetlands. In 1991, Herber voluntarily turned in his driver's license and has not driven since.

Once elected, Herber's served on several transit-related committees, and authored a report on alternatives to road building, including redensification, infill, mixed-use developments, mass transit expansion, human-powered vehicle promotion, and other strategies to limit urban sprawl and promote alternative travel modes...With Herber leaving his District seat, long time local Green Bill Horman is running for it and has a very good shot at winning...In Eau Claire, Amanda Cook ran in the February City Council primary, but did not advance to the run-off. She campaigned on fighting urban sprawl, particularly with Eau Claire's downtown in decay. She also advocated a city living wage policy... The Madison Greens are part of a coalition of groups including the New Party and the Farmer-Labor Party that make up Progressive Dane (PD). The PD candidate for mayor John Hendrick did not make it past the primary, finishing a close 4th/8 with 17% (first was 21%). Hendrick may run for State Assembly in '98, particularly

because during his mayoral campaign for he won every ward that was also located in his Assembly district by large margins...In Madison, the University of Wisconsin Greens recently won seven seats out of 30 on the student government board, making up the largest single bloc...In Northwest Wisconsin, the Lake Superior Greens are working on Outstanding National Resource Water designation for Lake Superior and a host of related wetland/land use issues and pesticides issues...As a result of the Nader campaign, the Wisconsin Greens gained ballot status in 1996. In 1998, there is a strong possibility they'll run their first statewide candidate, likely a well-known Wisconsin progressive figure for Governor.

HAVE ANY STATE GREEN NEWS? SEND IT TO:

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the ASSOCIATION of STATE GREEN PARTIES

A Short History & By-laws

The Association of State Green Parties (ASGP) is a national organization of Green Parties from across the United States. Currently, Green Parties in the following 15 states have affiliated with the ASGP: Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Wyoming. Several other states are considering affiliation and are expected to join in the next several months.

The initial by-laws of the ASGP were adopted on November 17, 1996, at a meeting in Middleburg, Virginia that was called to form the ASGP. At that meeting, 11 state Green Parties publicly stated their intention to be a part of the ASGP. The initial by-laws are:

Article I. Purpose

The purpose of the Association of State Green Parties is to:

1. Assist in the development of State Green Parties;
2. Create a legally structured national Green Party.

Article II. Membership

The Association of State Green Parties if made up of state Green

Parties choosing to join the Association. State Parties must send a written resolution stating that they are joining the Association and that they accept the Association's organizational documents. State Parties are encouraged to send suggested modifications to these by-laws. Each member State Green Party will initially have two representatives on the Coordinating Body of the Association, with the understanding that the representation formula may change in the future. Meetings of the Association may also be attended by Greens who are not representatives from their State Party.

Article III. Committees, Officers

The Association may form committees to further its work. The Committees shall report to the General Body/Coordinating Body of the Association (The General Body shall be named at a later date). The Association shall elect a Treasurer and a Secretary. The Association may elect other officers and form a Steering Committee to carry on work between general meetings.

Rules may be adopted or modified by a 60% vote of the appropriate body.



1996 ELECTION RESULTS (CONT)

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came in 3rd/5 with 4% in the 3rd District, and Allan Opus finished 6th/6 with 0.6% in the 4th District. For US Senate, Gary Kutcher finished 4th/7 with 1.1%. His best results came in the three counties where the Pacific Party is strongest: Lane (Eugene, University of Oregon), Multnomah (Portland area, where Nader received about 8%), and Benton (Corvallis, Oregon State University). Kutcher candidacy was also aided by his appearance with Nader before a Portland crowd of 2000 days before the election. On a vote/dollar measurement: Kutcher spent \$.13/vote and his Democratic and Republican opponents spent \$5 and \$3/vote respectively.

Green Party of Rhode Island (2)

For State Representative District 48, Jeff Johnson finished 3rd of 3 with 8.6%. In the 1st Congress-

District, Graham Schwass finished 4th out of 5 with 0.8%.

Wisconsin Greens (4)

Bill Anderson was re-elected to the Douglas County Board of Supervisors in Northwestern Wisconsin. Ted Ciskie and Kay McKenzie both narrowly lost re-election to the same Board, each losing by 24 votes. In Dane County, Ben Manski of the UW (Madison) Greens lost a seat on the Dane County Board of Supervisors by only 6 votes. Manski ran on a moratorium on road building, advocated full funding of public transit by the county (to replace funds taken by the state by the Department of Transportation), sought to set up a regional transit agency, and in response to the regressive welfare reform of the Republican governor, to restore full funding for social services via a progressive property tax.

LOCAL GREENS TAKE POLITICAL ROOT (cont)

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conservative Yucaipa, CA, (east of San Bernadino), Alan Drusys won in '94 within an electorate of 10,500 Republicans, 7,500 Democrats and 42 Greens. Greens have also won in the suburban community of Menlo Park, CA (between San Francisco and San Jose) and in very small towns like Bisbee, AZ, Crystal Bay, MN and Eastport and Bowdoinham, ME.

Not only are Greens winning, but Green incumbents are being re-elected. Ten out of thirteen have won re-election since 1993, suggesting voters feel Greens have both good ideas *and can govern*. In addition to Spring, Green City Council and/or Board of Supervisor/County Council incumbents who have been re-elected include Bill Anderson (Douglas County, WI), Joyce Brown (Chapel Hill, NC), Keiko Bonk (Hilo, HI), Matt Harline (Columbia, MO), Stephan Miller (Fayetteville, AR), Bob Ornelas (Arcata, CA), Debbie Orton (Hermantown, MN). and Julie Partansky (Davis, CA). Only three Green incumbents have ever lost, and even those were very close races - Kelly Weaverling, Mayor, Cordova, AK (lost by 2 votes in '94) and Ted Ciskie and Kay McKenzie, Board of Supervisors, Douglas County, WI (each lost by 24 votes in '96).

In terms of the public's perception of Green leadership, Terry Williams (Webster Grove, MO) has also been elected as Mayor (in '94), Partansky will become Mayor of Davis in '98 as a result of getting the most votes in '96 and Kirkpatrick, who is currently vice-mayor of Arcata, is expected to be named Mayor in late '97 by his fellow Councilmembers.

Green officeholders and organizing are also having a coattail effect. In Arcata, residents voted in their Green majority in 1996 *after* having experienced individual Green councilmembers Ornelas (1990-94) and Kirkpatrick (1994-present). In Orange County, NC, the Greens elected Alex Zaffron to the Board of Alderman in Carrboro in '95, *after* that community had experience watching Brown serve two terms in neighboring Chapel Hill. In Santa Fe, Gallegos was elected two years after Cris Moore was elected to the City Council. In Berkeley, with residents familiar with Spring in District 4, Cris Kavanaugh ran in District 8 and finished 2nd by only 91 votes (out of 4600) against a long-entrenched incumbent. And in California, with voters having experience with a variety of Green officeholders, 35 Greens have won local races statewide since 1990.

A second and somewhat surprising category where many Greens finished strong came in several partisan county, state and US Senate races. Because the US winner-take-all electoral system is so inherently hostile to third party candidates, few normally even reach 10%. Yet in several cases, not only did Greens finish higher, but some actually finished second ahead of either the Democrat or Republican.

On the state legislative level, Cam Gordon of Minneapolis, MN finished second with 24.6%, ahead of the Republican. In Albuquerque, NM Bob Anderson finished 2nd with 28%, behind a Democrat and ahead of an independent. In Oahu, HI, Karen Archibald, finished 3rd with (20.8%), just behind the Republican (23%). Results like these have come both in '96 and previously, in states like AK, HI, MN, NM, where the population of the state legislative districts is low enough that the campaign is still doable in a grassroots manner.

On the county level, two-term County Councilmember Bonk's mayoral attempt on Hawaii's Big Island saw her finish 2nd (39%-33%) to the Democrat and beat the Republican. In Bonk's old County

Council District 6, Julie Jacobsen also finished a close 2nd (37%-33%), beating the Democrat. In County Council District 5, Julie Leialoha finished a close 3rd (37%-30%-28%). And in New Mexico, Andres Vargas finished 2nd with 25%, ahead of the Republican for the Taos/Colfax/Union Counties District Attorney office. For US Senate, Jed Whittaker of the Green Party of Alaska finished second with 12.5%, ahead of the Democrat, the first time since 1970 that a 'third party' candidate has finished 2nd for US Senate anywhere in the US.

In sum, what the experience of '96 demonstrates is that where Greens are organized and able to communicate their message on a grassroots level, *people will vote Green*. Electing Greens to local office is in turn building credibility for the Green Party in general and for these officeholders in particular, making it more likely for them and/or other Greens to be elected should they choose to run for higher office. This bottom-up strategy of the Greens is proving successful, and if the results of '96 are any indication, more success lies ahead.

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1996 ELECTION RESULTS



STATE-BY-STATE GREEN ELECTORAL BREAKDOWN

Alabama Greens (1 candidate)

Larry Wayne Grantham ran for Mayor of Foley, finishing 3rd out of 3 with 1.6%. It was his third run for Mayor, after finishing with 28% in 1992 and 17% in 1988.

Arizona Green Party (3)

Arizona Greens won all 3 local races they contested. In Flagstaff, **Norm Wallen** won for City Council, finishing 3rd/6 (19.3%) for 3 seats. Responding to local development pressures, Wallen advocated affordable housing, open/green space, locally-owned business, and public votes on major developments. In Bisbee (located in SE AZ near the Mexican border). **Alva d'Orgeix** won a City Council seat in her second try with 54.9% in a two-way race. Discounted as uncredible immediately after the election by fellow councilmembers, d'Orgeix's persistence in promoting grassroots, participatory democracy has won growing support from the community and local press. In Pima County, **Gerald Anderson**, won County Charter Commission District 3, finishing 1st/4 for 3 seats with 28.1%.

Green Party of Alaska (3)

For US Senate, **Jed Whittaker** finished 2nd/3. His 12.5% beat the Democratic candidate, the first time a 'third party' candidate finished ahead of either a Democrat or a Republican in any US Senate race nationwide since William Buckley of New York's Conservative Party did in 1970. Whittaker made national news during Green Gathering '96 in Los Angeles, holding up pink salmon at a press conference to call attention to the 20 million pounds of chum and pink salmon he maintains are wasted by Alaskan state hatcheries. In other races, **John Grames** received 1.9% for the 1st Congressional District, finishing 4th/4 and **Ron Reed** received 18.7% for Juneau City/Borough Assembly, finishing 3rd/4.

Green Party of California (20)

California Greens enjoyed another successful electoral cycle in 1996, winning eight elections including five City Council seats. There are now nine sitting Green Councilmembers statewide, and 35 CA Greens have won elections since the party's inception in 1990. In Arcata, **Jennifer Hanan** (2nd/6, 26%) and **Bob Ornelas** (3rd/6, 18.2%) were both elected to the City Council, joining **Jason Kirkpatrick** (elected in '94) to form the first Green Party City Council majority in the United States. Hanan ran on a platform of limiting growth to

prevent urban sprawl; supporting local business, community farmers and non-profits and increasing community participation in local government. Ornelas advocated sustainable forestry practices that would prevent clear-cutting and shipping unmilled timber (and jobs) overseas. Instead, he advocated selective, sustained yield involving local mills, producing local jobs by keeping the timber locally and manufacturing it into furniture and other products for local, regional and national use. After the election, Kirkpatrick was chosen by the new Council as vice-mayor for one year and is expected to be voted as the state's first Green mayor in late 1997.

In Berkeley's District 4, **Dona Spring** was elected for her third straight two-year term, running unopposed after building broad-based community support in her first two terms. Her emphasis in office has included affordable housing, public transit-friendly land use, locally-serving small business, preserving and expanding open space, and increased resident participation in local government. With Spring's strong record and the positive reputation of local Greens as a backdrop, **Cris Kavanaugh** (2nd/2, 49.2%) almost pulled off an upset in Berkeley's 8th District, losing by only 91 votes to a well-financed incumbent. In neighboring Oakland's District 1, **Larry Shoup** finished a strong 3rd/5 with 18.7%, missing the run-off by 6%. Shoup's platform emphasized tenants rights, affirmative action, a strengthened Civilian Police Review Board, and campaign finance reform. With a well-organized precinct operation, he finished first or second in 18 precincts, and in a dead heat overall in 30/56 precincts that make up the district's mixed race/income/culture area. In Davis, **Julie Partansky** was re-elected to a second 4-year term (14.8%, 1st/12 for three seats). Because she received the most votes, Partansky will rotate in as mayor in 1998 for a 2-year term. Partansky's campaign focused on preserving the human-scale nature of Davis, in part by opposing a road expansion of the interstate highway exit coming into the town's center. The expansion had been approved by the previous Council over Partansky's objection, and residents gathered signatures to force the measure on the ballot for a public referendum. In March, 1997 Partansky's side defeated the expansion 60%-40%.

In Santa Cruz, **Kristen Anderson** (8th/11, 4.9%) and **David Minton**

Silva (10th/11, 3.0%) ran unsuccessfully for two of four open seats. In Santa Monica, **Mike Feinstein** won a City Council seat, finishing 2nd/13 for four open seats, including first in 31/66 precincts. His platform of sustainability included affordable housing, parks/open space, public transit, locally-serving small business, human-scale/environmentally-sound development and neighborhood-based democracy. Feinstein and local Greens fashioned a strong environment/tenant/labor/neighborhood coalition, with endorsements by powerful Santa Monica's for Renters' Rights and the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Local 814. Together they walked some 15,000 homes. Endorsements from Ralph Nader and State Senator Tom Hayden also bolstered Feinstein's professionally-done direct mail pieces.

Other Greens who won local races were **Cynthia Strecker**, unopposed for the Monte Rio Union School District Board of Trustees in Sonoma County; **Timothy Moore**, 3rd/17 for 8 seats for the Ramona Planning Group in San Diego County and **Kip Krueger**, 1st/2 for Ocean Beach Planning Group, District 1 in San Diego County. Also running were **Ken Goldstein** (5th/6, 3.6%) for Sacramento Mayor, **Larry Kissinger** (14th/14, 1.1%) for one of four seats on the San Francisco Board of Education; **Tim Fitzgerald** (3rd/4, 13.0%) for San Jose Unified School District Board of Directors, District 1; and **Tom Stafford** (3rd/4, 19.0%) for Ventura County Community College Board District 3.

On the state legislative level, long-time Green Party organizer **Hank Chapot** (Oakland) finished 3rd/4 in State Assembly District 14. His 9.5% was the highest among any third party candidate in California for state or national office. Chapot campaigned on public transit, public investment in small business instead of corporate welfare (including opposing public subsidies to bring the Raiders football team back from Los Angeles), and wholistic alternatives to the cycles of crime and incarceration. In State Senate District 15, **Craig Coffin** of Monterrey finished 3rd/4 with 4.5%. His campaign called attention to the connection between corporate greed, corrupt politics and lack of democracy. Coffin was credited with knocking out conservative Democrat Rusty Areias, who lost by 1%. Areias was handpicked by Democratic party leaders to replace a 16-year incumbent, but his campaign never caught on with

many local Democrats. Coffin's anti-corruption message played very successfully upon this, painting Areias as part of a corrupt political machine.

For the US House of Representatives, **Walter Sheasby** (Sierra Madre) finished 3rd/3 with 2.2% in the 27th District. His platform was pro-immigrant and anti-proposition 209, and advocated US foreign policy on diplomacy and self-determination rather than military intervention and subversion. In District 29th, **Will Yeager** (Lake-wood) finished 3rd/3 with 2.7%.

Green Party of Colorado (3)

For State House, **Tico Embury** of Denver came in 2nd/2 in District 1 with 19.5%. His campaign promoted public transportation as well as shifting from sales taxes to gas taxes. **Gary Swing**, also of Denver, focused on an electoral reform agenda featuring proportional representation, campaign finance reform, and the initiative process. He came in 3rd/3 in District 8 with 8.5%. In Carbondale, **Krista Paradise** came in 6th/6 for one of two open seats on the Town Council. A month after the election, she was then appointed to the Council two after the one of the Councilmembers resigned.

Hawai'i Green Party (6)

Continuing a pattern from the '92 and '94 elections, Hawaii's Greens contested partisan races on a competitive basis with Democrats and Republicans, often finishing ahead of one or the other. On the Big Island, two-term County Council member **Keiko Bonk** left her Council seat to run for Mayor, finishing second (39%-33%) to a Democrat and 10% ahead of the Republican. Bonk won 17/56 precincts and finished second in most of the others. In County Council District 6, **Julie Jacobsen** finished second (37%-33%) to a Republican and ahead of the Democrat (25%). In County Council District 5, **Julie Leialoha** finished a strong 3rd with 28.0%, just behind the Dem and Rep (37%, 30%). Uniting all three of these Green campaigns were Green stands for environment, local small business, cultural diversity, parks, diversified agriculture, long-term planning, citizen involvement, and eco-tourism. Their opponents tended to favor off-island corporations, land speculation, closed government, the rezoning of agricultural land, neglect of parks, and open hostility to environment. This dichotomy suggests that instead of the old Democrat/Republican breakdown, that politics on the Big



1996 ELECTION RESULTS (CONT)

(Continued From Page 2)

Island are now dividing along Green/sustainable vs. 'old boy' network/unsustainable lines... On Oahu in State House District 47, **Karen Archibald** finished a strong 3rd with 21.8%, just behind the Republican's 23%. Her campaign focused the need for campaign finance reform to curb the same corrupting influence on politics of well-financed developers who seek to rape Hawai'i natural environment and resources. Archibald also strongly criticized her Democratic incumbent opponent who had sponsored a state constitutional amendment to ban same sex marriages. In other races, **Donnalyn Johns** finished 3rd with 10% in Big Island County Council District 4 and **Jason Schwartz** finished 3rd with 9% for the Maui County Council.

Massachusetts Green Party (1)

In the first-ever race contested by Massachusetts Greens, **Charles Laws** ran for the 10th Congressional District, receiving almost 11,000 votes and 3.7%, finishing 3rd/3.

Maine Green Party (4)

Maine Greens saw three municipal victories in three tries - **Karen Mayo** won as Selectperson of Bowdoinham, beating her opponent 60%-40%. A well-known education and environmental activist, Mayo ran on building community and volunteerism. Mayo had previously been appointed to the town's Recreation Board. In Eastport, **George Lehigh** won for City Council (33.8%, 2nd/4 for 2 seats). In Biddeford, **Harold Hansen**, won for School Board. For US Senate, former Green state co-chair **John Rensenbrink** finished 3rd/4 with 4.0%. His campaign slogan was "don't eat the seed corn". Rensenbrink emphasized campaign finance reform (\$500 contribution limits for statewide races, free TV and more public financing of campaigns (than subsequently approved by Maine voters), single-payer health care, progressive taxation and a shift from income taxes to ecological taxes on pollution, energy and scarce natural resources. He also opposed Clinton's welfare reform, which his Republican and Democratic opponents supported. Rensenbrink appeared in eight televised debates and 20 overall. Maine Greens also sponsored an **anticlearcut initiative** on the November, 1996 ballot. A year earlier, they gathered 56,000 signatures in a single day to qualify the initiative. Six months later polls showed the measure ahead with 65-70%. In order to stop the Greens, Governor Angus King put forward a decoy

initiative that would have changed little, and right wing forces advocated their own which would've changed even less. The state legislature capitulated and put them all on the ballot, with voters forced to choose between the three. The paper companies spent over \$4 to defeat the Greens initiative. Needing a majority to pass, none of the three did. King's received 48%, the Greens 30% and the right-wing's 22%. Paper companies now continue to deforest as fast as they can in anticipation of the next round of attempted reform.

Green Party of Minnesota (3)

In the first-ever state legislative race contested by Minnesota Greens, **Cam Gordon** received 24.6%, finishing 2nd ahead of the Republican in SE Minneapolis District 62A. The campaign coordinated more than 100 volunteers, a successful petition drive to gain ballot access, effective phone banks, two district-wide literature drops, door knocking, 230 lawn signs posted, and an advertising presence in neighborhood newspapers from April to November. Gordon raised over \$10,000 without any PAC money or contributions of over \$200. Over 95% were from individuals contributing \$50 or less, making full use of Minnesota's Political Contribution Refund program. Key issues included campaign finance reform, increased citizen participation, proportional representation and fewer Governor appointed boards; community justice centers

by securing making local government more efficient and securing additional state and federal funding for local projects... **David Abazs** finished 3rd/4 in the primary for Lake County Board of Commissioners, missing the run-off by 2 votes. Most of his support came from his local area around Crystal Bay, so in 1997 he chose to run for Crystal Bay Township supervisor, which he won with 79.3% in a 2-way race.

New Mexico Green Party (12)

New Mexico Greens continued to receive high percentages in most races they contested. In local races, **Fran Gallegos** was elected as Municipal Judge in Santa Fe, finishing 1st/6 with 44%, beating three-term incumbent Tom Fiorina by 256 votes. A Persian Gulf War veteran and holder of both a real estate license and degree in business administration, Gallegos campaigned as 'a people's voice' in the court, stressing a redirection of human resources towards 'service-based sentencing' and community service. In 1992, Gallegos ran for Sante Fe County Magistrate judge and finished a close second with 43%. **Miguel Chavez** received 33% for Santa Fe City Council District 3, finishing 2nd/3 against powerful incumbent Art Sanchez in a largely Hispanic district. **Andres Vargas** received 25% for Taos/Colfax/Union Counties District Attorney, finishing 2nd/3. **Scott Jones** received 25% for Cibola County Commissioner, finishing 2nd/2. In

Mondragon received 10.4% for Governor, together with Lt. Governor candidate Steven Schmidt as the NMGP's first statewide candidates. **Bob Anderson** of Albuquerque received 29% in the liberal 18th District, finishing 2nd/3 while spending only \$5,000. Walking the entire district, Anderson won several precincts outright. His platform emphasized public education, single-payer health care, labor-rights, public lands/open space, bio-regional-based planning, and opposition to privatization of government services. **David Hampton** of Albuquerque received 6.5% in the 7th District (3rd/3) and **Mary Lou Jones** of Grants received 6% in the 6th District (3rd/3). For Congress, **Jack Uhrich** received 4% in the 1st District (3rd/4). He ran on a pro-labor, pro-gay/lesbian rights platform. For US Senate, former NMGP state chair **Abraham Gutmann** received 4.5%, finishing 3rd/4 running against 24-year incumbent Pete Domenici. Gutmann's platform included proportional representation, campaign finance reform, renewable energy and efficiency, and tax reform to aid small business, while opposing corporate welfare, NAFTA/GATT and immigrant-scapegoating. In 1992, Guttman received 40% in a two-way race for State Representative.

New York Green Party (10)

The New York Green's strongest showing was **Craig Seeman** of Brooklyn, receiving 6.8% for State Assembly in the 52nd District, finishing 3rd/4. Other State Assembly candidates included Staten Island Greens **Caroline Cutroneo**, 59th District with 2.4% (3rd/3) and **Tom Hamilton**, 60th District, with 1.6% (3rd/4), and Manhattan Green **Tony Gronowicz**, 73rd District (Manhattan), with 1.3% (3rd/3). For State Senate, **Janet Rispoli** received 2.5% in the 24th District (3rd/3) and Bob Polhemus received 1.3% in 26th District (3rd/4). For Congress, **Anita Lerman** received 1.6% in the 13th District (4th/4) and **Tom Leighton** received 2% in the 14th District (3rd/4). On the municipal level, **J. David Swift** finished 3rd/3 with 2% for the Perrysburg Town Council.

Pacific Party of Oregon (7)

On the local level, **John Walsh** finished 3rd/3 for the Eugene City Council with 13.0%, and **Richard Bowden** finished 3rd/4 for Lane County Commission with 14.0%. In state legislature races, **Andy Davis** finished 3rd/5 in the 14th District with 8.9% and **Cecilia Story** finished with 4.5% in the 44th District. For Congress, Joe Keating

IN ARCATA (CA) JENNIFER HANAN AND BOB ORNELAS WERE BOTH ELECTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL, JOINING JASON KIRKPATRICK TO FORM THE FIRST GREEN PARTY CITY COUNCIL MAJORITY IN THE UNITED STATES.

sustainable neighborhood business development, mass transit, energy efficiency, alternatives to coal and nuclear power and challenging huge health care insurance and pharmaceutical companies; ...In Hermantown, **Debra Orton** was re-elected to the Town Council for a second 4-year term, finishing 2nd/4 for 2 seats. In her first term, Orton was in part responsible for the superfund site cleanup of Hermantown's well water, which had been polluted by a nearby oil refinery. She helped resist development pressure on the headwaters of two Hermantown creeks that lead into Duluth and Lake Superior, bringing about a preservation/restoration project instead. And she helped lower the city's portion of the city/school district/county property tax levy from 7.3% to 0%,

Statewide Constitutional races, **Peggy Helgeson** received 11% for Corporation Commissioner finishing 3rd/3. Her primary issues were to work with the Department of Economic Development to promote living-wage jobs through socially and environmentally sound development. With more than 5% in a statewide race, Helgeson's total retains major party status for the NM Greens. For State Supreme Court, long-term Native American rights attorney **Tom Luebbin** finished 3rd/3 with 5.0%... For State Representative, Sante Fe's **Roberto Mondragon** received 35% in the 46th District against powerful incumbent and majority leader Ben Lujan. Mondragon emphasized restoring hispanic land grants in northern NM and protecting hispanic cultural integrity. In 1994,

(continued from page 1)
 the Greens grew roots where they had not even existed (or had been dormant), like Arkansas, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Tennessee, and Washington. Greens also grew in many of the party's core states, like Arizona, California, Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island.

This growth has been both quantitative and qualitative. Not only did the Greens expand their numbers, but talented new activists joined from single-and-multi-issue non-profit groups. Many have been 'green' in outlook, but hadn't focused on electoral politics. Others had, but only through lobbying the Democrats and/or Republicans. Nader/LaDuke drew many of them to redirect their energy into independent, third-party politics, the Green Party in particular.

Nader/LaDuke also helped many voters to see the 'lesser of two evils' as the 'evil of two lessers'. In the past, such a debate was mostly theoretical. But in '96, the similarities between Clinton and Dole, and the clear superiority on issues of Nader/LaDuke to either, set millions on the path to voting Green. Some did it this time. Others likely will do so in the future, having considered it now for the first time in real terms.

Nader attacked corporate America, challenged its dominance over politics and government, and the lack of democracy that results. With the top 1% controlling over 90% of the country's wealth, and with Clinton and the Congress scapegoating the poor with welfare 'deform', Nader called attention to the nation's \$200 billion expenditure on *corporate welfare*. LaDuke suggested a Seventh Generation amendment to the Constitution, that not only private property but common environmental resources could be defended.

The Greens offered the most progressive alternative among the seven visible national candidates: Green, Democrat, Republican, Reform, Libertarian, Natural Law, and US Taxpayer. They also offered the best grassroots *model* for forming a new political party. This was critical with so many people looking for new options. If new parties merely replicated current structures, little changes.

In terms of the election results, Nader/LaDuke finished fourth, with 685,000 votes. This represented 1.6% in the 21 states where they were on the ballot. Oregon boasted a high of 4.1%. Averaged over all 50 states, the 1.6% decreased to 0.7%. But this was still ahead of the fourth-place Libertarians, who've been in existence 25 years and outspent the Greens in '96 by \$3 million to \$200,000.

The Greens spent only 30 cents/vote, a significant achievement for a party that stressed building a civic culture through grassroots activism as one of the campaign goals. In contrast, Clinton spent \$1.36, Dole \$1.63, Perot \$3.67, Libertarians \$6.37, US Taxpayer \$11.17 and Natural Law \$18.18.

It is instructive to look at the campaign in districts where Green activism is strongest. In Sante Fe County, where the Greens have two officeholders, Nader/LaDuke received 7.1%. In Boulder, CO, they received more than 20% in several precincts. In Madison, WI Nader received 20% and 18% (and beat Dole) in two different districts and received 10% in each of three more. In Park Slope, Brooklyn (where Craig Seeman's state assembly campaign was strong), Nader received 11.6% and Dole 11.1%, with 15,384 votes cast. Three precincts in Iowa City, IA that were leafleted by the Iowa City Draft Nader Committee received more than 10%. Russell Lovetinsky will run this fall in that same district for City Council.

In California, Greens have been organizing as locals since 1985, and as a state party since 1990. With the vote split over what was essentially an eight-way race in CA, and with all the third parties relatively well-organized, Nader/LaDuke finished with 2.37% statewide. They did best in counties where Greens are strongest - Mendocino County 11.04% (best in the nation), Humboldt 8.7%, Santa Cruz 7.8%, Marin 6.4%, as well as in some of the larger cities, such as San Francisco 7.6% and Oakland 5.8%. In Arcata, where more Nader yard signs were seen than Clinton and Dole combined, Nader beat Dole 22.0% to 16.5%. During a massive voter registration drive there, the progressive HOPE coalition registered more than 1,000 people in front of the Arcata Co-op, and estimated that half were Green and the rest from other parties

It's Not Hard To Be Green*

*(at least in most states!)

How can I register with the Green Party?

As many Greens found out during the Nader/LaDuke campaign, ballot access and/or party qualification laws differ in all 50 states. In some states for example, it is legal to register by party. In others, it is impossible to register by party. Currently there are 22 states in which if one registers "Green", it will be tabulated by the Secretary of State: AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, NV, NY, NM, OR, PA, RI, SD, and WV.

Just how many registered Greens are there?

According to *Ballot Access News*, (415-922-9779) the totals are: AK 3,034, AZ 3,000 (approximate), CA 95,090, CO 501, CT 2,017, DE 10, FL 731, ME 3,400 (approximate); MA 198, NV 9, NM 6,500 (approximate), OR 1,529. These 11 states add up to 116,019. In other states, the government has not yet compiled Green registrations. These cumulative numbers are small, except in AZ, where the total is approximately 3,000.

What about the Green Party's ballot status?

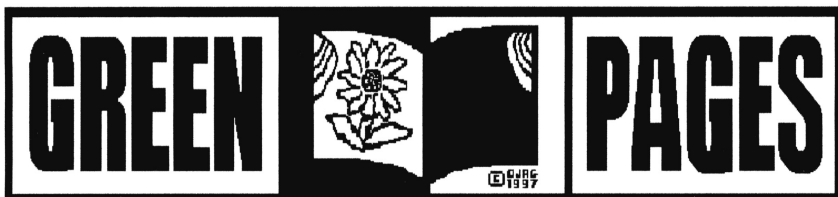
In some states, parties qualify by receiving a percentage of the vote in a statewide race. In others, it's a threshold number of Green registrants, while in still others there are other criteria. Greens first started seeking statewide ballot status in 1990, with the Green Party of Alaska being the first to qualify when Jim Sykes received 3.4% for governor (3% required). In 1992, AZ, CA, HI and NM became the next states. Currently there are 10: AK, CA, CT, ME, NV, NM, OR, UT, VT and WI. In 1998, Greens in AZ, HI, MN, NY, OH are expected to make serious efforts at qualifying (or requalifying). The Greens' total compares with Reform (32), Libertarian (22), US Taxpayer (10) and Natural Law (9). Overall, there are 39 states where at least one 'third' party has ballot status.

In Berkeley, Nader beat Dole 13.6% to 8.4%, with a high of 16.9% in Dona Spring's City Council district. Within that district, Nader's top precinct was 22.5%. In Oakland's City Council District 1, where Larry Shoup received 18.7% earlier in April, Nader beat Dole 10.7% to 9.9%. The top precinct was 20.7%. In San Francisco, the result was 13.8% in Haight-Ashbury and 15% in the Mission District. Tiny Orr Spring in Mendocino County gave Nader a 17-12 win over Clinton, and in Albion, Nader lost by only 227-188. In Marin, Santa Cruz and San Francisco counties, Nader/LaDuke also beat 3rd place finishers Perot/Choate.

- Nader vote totals by state - **

	votes	%
Alabama	??	--
Alaska	7,597	3.15
Arizona	2,062	--
Arkansas	3,649	.41
California	237,016	2.37
Colorado	25,070	1.66
Connecticut	24,321	1.75
Delaware	??	--
Dt. Col.	4,780	2.58
Florida	4,096	--
Georgia	00	--
Hawaii	10,386	2.88
Idaho	00	--
Illinois	1,447	--
Indiana	980	--
Iowa	6,550	.53
Kansas	914	--
Kentucky	701	--
Louisiana	4,719	.26
Maine	15,279	2.52
Maryland	2,606	--
Mass.	4,558	--
Michigan	2,332	--
Minnesota	24,908	1.14
Mississippi	??	--
Missouri	534	--
Montana	00	--
Nebraska	--	--
Nevada	4,730	1.03
New Hamp.	??	--
New Jersey	32,465	1.06
New Mexico	13,218	2.38
New York	75,956	1.20
N. Carolina	2,108	--
N. Dakota	00	--
Ohio	2,962	--
Oklahoma	--	--
Oregon	49,415	3.59
Pennsylvania	3,086	--
Rhode Island	6,040	1.55
S. Carolina	--	--
S. Dakota	--	--
Tennessee	6,427	.34
Texas	4,810	--
Utah	4,615	.69
Vermont	5,585	2.17
Virginia	--	--
Washington	60,322	2.68
W. Virginia	00	--
Wisconsin	28,723	1.31
Wyoming	466	--
TOTAL	685,423	0.70

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**Vote totals supplied by Ballot Access News. '00' means write-in votes weren't permitted by law. '??' means write-in votes haven't been compiled by the state. Totals without percentages are for states with write-in votes. The others are states in which Nader was on the ballot.