

PSST!

"It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there
is no distinctly native American criminal class except
Congress."

Mark Twain 1895

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PSST!

DIARY OF POLITICAL EVERYMAN: This chapter sets the tone and style of the book, a straight from the shoulder, humorous political look. "It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress." Mark Twain 1895.

THIRTEEN CHAPTERS: Written in diary format, catalogue a real live political campaign with warts, ego, and obstacles that drive one insane.

IN THE BEGINNING: "Man is by nature a political animal." Aristotle 384-322 B.C. "What is the first part of politics? Education. The second? Education. And the third? Education." James Michelet 1846. Boy, am I ever educated!

CANDIDATES LIKE MONSTERS ARE MADE: "The body politic, like the human body, begins to die from birth, and bears in itself the causes of its destruction." Jean Jaques Rosseau 1762. "The best political community is formed by citizens of the middle class." Aristotle 384-322 B.C. I announce and am ignored by the powers that be. My utilitarian platform is greeted with indifference. "Nobody shoots at Santa Clause." Al Smith 1936.

RUNNING IN PLACE: After jumping into the political quagmire, opposition from within the Party snap at my candidacy like sharks

at a feeding frenzy. "Politics are almost as exciting as war, and quite as dangerous. In war you can only be killed once, but in politics many times." Winston Churchill 1920.

THE RELIGIOUS WRONG: "The Puritans nobly fled from a land of despotism to a land of freedom, where they could not only enjoy their religion, but could prevent everybody else from enjoying his." Artemus Ward 1866. Artemus aptly describes this chapter.

WALKABOUT: Costs \$10,070 to get on the Primary Ballot? A Poet with \$10,000? Attempted to go the petition route, combined with an old fashioned walkabout; fraught with legal problems, pursued by Christian Coalition Goblins!

POLITICALLY DEAD MEAT: "Here richly. with ridiculous play, the Politician's corpse was laid away. While all his acquaintances sneered and slanged I wept: for I had longed to see him hanged." Hilaire Beloc 1870-1953. I'm out. I didn't make the ballot.

BREAD AND CIRCUSES: The Primary Campaign gets underway. I stand on the sidelines as a phalanx of rich and powerful candidates have a go at each other. "The people that once bestowed commands, councilships, legions, and all else, now concerns itself no more, and longs for just two things--bread and circuses!" Decimus Junius Juvenalis 55-130 A.D. I stand as a write-in candidate to offer, work, saving and balance.

RISING FROM THE POLITICAL DEAD: Not quite sane, I begin an independent, Teddy Roosevelt Republican write-in campaign.

RELIGIOUS WRONG'S SIREN SONG: The Republican Primary run-off is won by Boris Karloff, an anti-abortion dingdong.

LOOKING FOR PENCILS: "There was so much handwriting on the wall that even the wall fell down." Christopher Morley 1943.

MONSTER MASH: We lose the General Election big time. "Somebody said it couldn't be done, But he with a chuckle replied That maybe it couldn't, but he would be one - Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried." Edgar Albert Guest 1881-1959

CAMPAIGN ON THE CHEAP: Seventeen brief lessons describe what is needed, but not always heeded. A sample twenty four month campaign is chronologically guided to wrap this up. If I'd followed them, I'd be in Congress, yup!

AFTERTHOUGHTS: What's neat about a politician's song? Make a wrong and erase it with a ring-a-dingdong. "Nothing so ever needs reforming as other peoples habits." Mark Twain 1895.

POTPOURRI: Campaign ads, etcetera. "Politicians, a set of men who have interests aside from the interests of the people, and who, to say the most of them, are, taken as a mass, at least one long step removed from honest men." Abraham Lincoln 1837

In The Beginning

"Man by nature is a political animal."

Aristotle undated

Diary Of Political Everyman

"I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read in the train."

Oscar Wilde 1895

Psst!

Write In Jim Owen For Congress

Pass It On

Tugged on Superman's cape,
Spit into the wind,
Tore the mask off the old Lone Ranger,
But no one heard of Jim;

News releases flew into trash,
Media moguls wanted only cash,
No one stood up for the under puppy,
Not even a Libertarian or a Yuppie;

A single issue won the day,
Honesty and fairness were lost in the fray.
Anger and half truths and laughing gas,
Our voters elected a diving jackass;

Do you want to turn things around?
Or to single issue fanatics be bound?
Do you want to stay away and fuss?
Stand up, meet the enemy, he is us!

With apologies to Jim Croce, Walt Kelley and English
teachers everywhere. Without organization, money or workers
and out of sheer desperation, I ran a whispering campaign, but

I'm getting ahead of myself. I Ran for Congress as a write-in candidate in the 1994 election. I began by trying to get on the ballot as a Republican, but a funny thing happened on the way to the polls. Seven other candidates announced and then I found out that I needed \$10,070 to qualify or 4777 registered Republican signatures. A poet with ten grand? I decided to go the petition route. Had a lot of help. Even collected 5400 signatures, in spite of harassment by the Christian Coalition. And the Christian Wrong followed us everywhere. Unfortunately, only 4700 were valid. Seems the Coalition signed quite a few with false names to keep me out of the race. Not to worry. I found a loophole and ran as an independent write-in candidate. If I was the only one, no problem. The stodgy folks ran another write-in to steal my thunder so that their candidate, a rabid anti-abortionist, would not have to debate me. Worked, three's company, four's a crowd. I had problems with media, Chamber of Commerce and the League of Women Voters. They circled up and showed their backsides. I felt like Dumbo's mother when the other elephants gave her their rumps. The crowning blow came when the elections people failed to provide, as required by law, writing space or pencils in the voting booths. After the votes were counted, mine were listed as, "Other."

If money is the mother's milk of politics, my candidacy was doomed before it began. I refused to take any contribution over five dollars and held fast to the belief that everyman can run for office. I believed that all one must do is be in

tune with the electorate and get his message out. I failed to take into account an electorate that couldn't be reached and a media that didn't care. I didn't discover the quixiotic nature of my quest at the ballot box, I knew it in the beginning, but you can't write about war and wenches without fighting it out in the trenches. It happens to the best of us, even the most pragmatic, during a political campaign, we get caught up in the moment. I felt like two persons; the one running and the other one watching. The one running always held out hope that the electorate would snap out of its lethargy and join the quest. The one watching knew that this was an impossible dream. However, the one watching remembered to write down what happened. To my surprise, I discovered that one can run a campaign on the cheap and win. I didn't because of my mistakes, but then, error is the greatest teacher. Edison had a thousand failures before an invention came into being, but with each failure he learned what not to do. **Psst** shows what may not work, what does, and how to assess probability of success or failure. A British Major wrote: **The History Of Military Incompetence**. If this had been taught at our military schools, along with victorious campaigns, we would not have duplicated the nineteenth century blunders the British made in Afghanistan, in Vietnam. In politics as in war, defeat is the greatest lesson. **Psst** begins with a diary of a political campaign and ends with the lessons learned.

"Veni, vidi, vici!"

Julius Caesar undated

I wrote a day by day log of what happened along the campaign trail. One year after the election, I smoothed, embellished, erased, added and generally made it readable. Foresight is foggy, nearsight is myopic and hindsight is twenty-twenty. This tale has three lessons; 1. What happens to everyman when he seeks political office; 2. The inside skinny of a political campaign; and 3. What to expect if you decide to run. I begin at the beginning and stop at the end. This is the political education of everyman, or as Jules Michelet wrote in 1846, "What is the first part of politics? Education. The second? Education. And the third? Education."

May 18, 1993 President Clinton's economic package has raised my ire. I must be watching too much C-SPAN. I wrote a letter to my Democratic Congressman, asking that he vote against the President's economic proposal. I also sent copies to our two Senators.

May 24, 1993 I telephoned our Democratic Congressman's office and registered my opinion that he should vote against Clinton's economic package and cut spending first. A lady in his office took my message and said, "He's polling his constituents."

May 25, 1993 I watched on C-SPAN as my Congressman voted for the Clinton's economic package.

May 26, 1993 I phoned my Congressman's local office to find

out the results of his poll. The man, he didn't identify himself, said, "It's in Washington," (constituents be damned).

May 28, 1993 I phoned the County Democratic Party and got an answering machine. I offered to support anyone running against the sitting Congressman in the Democratic Primary in money or kind. My call was never returned. I telephoned the County Republican Party and got an answering machine, but it wouldn't take my message. The machine sounds like it is broken. I wrote a letter to my Congressman, advising him that I'll do everything in my power to work against him in the next election and sent copies to my Senators.

May 29, 1993 I phoned our County Republican Party office and got their damn recording machine again. It still won't take a message.

June 1, 1993 Called our County Republican Party. Broken recording machine again. Wonder if political parties have gone the way of dinosaurs?

June 2, 1993 Called again and the machine still isn't working. The Republican Party must be asleep. I've decided that if there is no one out there listening and I can't work to get a person elected I'll investigate how to run for Congress. I phoned the local elections office for the address for the Republican Party County Chairman. They were more than kind. I wrote the

Chairman a letter asking for guidance and provided my bonafides (he never responded).

June 4, 1993 I received a fund raising phone call from a college student working for course credit and the Florida Republican Party. I asked for and received the names of the County Republican State Committee Members.

June 5, 1993 Phoned our State Committeewoman and listened to another answering machine. I left a message (she never returned my call). Should have written down the telephone number of the State Committeeman.

June 11, 1993 I called the County Chairman at home and advised him that I'd sent a letter asking for guidance and told him the recording machine wasn't working. The Chairman said they had electrical problems and he'd respond to my letter (he never responded).

June 23, 1993 I called our Democratic Senator's office at the State Capitol (couldn't get through to Washington) and gave him my opinion on Clinton's economic package. His lady said, "He's polling constituents" (same 'ol, same 'ol response). Later, watched him, on C-SPAN, vote to raise taxes.

June 24, 1993 I wrote the retired founder and major stockholder of our local newspaper. I provided copies of the letters I

sent to politicians (he never responded). I'd written his newspaper before and received only form letter responses. I'm beginning to believe there isn't anyone alive out there.

July 9, 1993 I received a machine generated letter from my Democratic Congressman. If what I read is true, he's decided to represent the President and not us.

July 20, 1993 I telephoned Perot Headquarters in Dallas and got an answering machine, again. It's 9:00 a.m. in Texas and their office doesn't open until 10:00. I'm in the wrong line of work. I get up and start writing before 7:30 a.m. I have decided to get serious about running for Congress. Good pay, no heavy lifting, free food and if the Senate votes to pay for campaigns, it's a whole lot better than writing.

July 26, 1993 I called County Elections and asked how I could get on the Primary Ballot. They gave me the State Elections telephone number. I phoned State Elections. They won't do anything until Washington approves. I'm learning something new every day. Washington controls local elections. Called the Federal Elections Commission in Washington. They're sending a package. I haven't the foggiest what or why. I wonder? Have State elections become federal? Called the County Republican Party at 10:30 a.m. Received a recorded message. They fixed the machine, but they're only open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday (today) and Thursday. The machine gave

me the office managers name and phone. It's the guy's wife who lost the last two Congressional elections (Hmm). Waited until after dinner and telephoned the Republican County Chairman and informed him that I'm considering running for Congress. He said someone else handles their candidate committee and will contact me. I'm getting optimistic. Can't wait to talk to a live person, but I have a suspicion that our District has been captured by computers and they've installed answering machines as their first line of defense (neither the Chairman nor his committee person ever returned my call). I'm beginning to wonder, is every politico incompetent? The way I receive answering machines when I phone, maybe I can capture the machine vote. Telephoned the elections folks, again. From the discussion, understand there are some doozie obstacles ahead. One item I have to look into is a four hour filing block in May. An incumbent's motto must be, "Everyman for himself!"

July 28, 1993 Sent a letter to the political editor our local newspaper. Waiting with baited breath for a live response. I wonder if they'll pick up on an outsider fighting the political insiders. Telephoned a friend for advice. When he heard what I planned to do, he broke up. His Mother and Mother-in-law are both Democrats and he leans toward the Christian Right. Counting my wife and me, I now have five votes for the Primary. Wonder how many signatures are required on a petition?

July 29, 1993 Received the Federal Election Commission **CAMPAIGN**

GUIDE for Congressional Candidates and Committees. I understand candidate, but committees? Maybe that's the problem with Washington, someone has been electing committees. Also received two forms. FEC FORM 1 is a statement of organization for my committee and FEC FORM 2 is a STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY. Even Washington puts committees ahead of a candidate. First chapter is titled 'The Committee' (it's getting a little suspicious). "An individual becomes a candidate when campaign activity exceeds \$5,000 in contributions or expenditures." I can see right away I'm in trouble. I didn't expect to spend \$5,000 on the Primary and General election, I don't have that kind money to throw around foolishly and no one in their right mind is going to give a political outsider that much cash. I'm beginning to understand why conventional wisdom dictates that politics is not for everyman. I need to call Tallahassee again and find out how one gets into the primary if he can't spend money or campaign until May of next year. Sounds like Florida invented 'Catch 22'. We've lived in the Washington area three times. My wife isn't happy about returning and I haven't had a coat and tie on for three years. I might even have to wear shoes again. Not sure it'll be worth the hassle. I'm beginning to see why the average citizen throws up their hands when it comes to politics and law. Lawyers have skewed the rules for lawyers. Just re-read the CANDIDATE FORM. Almost eighty percent covers, guess what, committees. I'll need a Custodian of Records, Treasurer and a separate bank account. Of course, I can't open one without money. If I ever do have campaign

funds, I'll need a separate IRS number. Got to call State Elections. This set of rules was designed by lawyers to keep incumbents elected.

July 30, 1993 Called State Elections. Florida's rules are for the rich and connected, which I am neither. To run for Congress will cost \$10,070 or petitions with 4778 signatures of registered Republicans. I can write for the petition guide in December and start a petition drive January first. Petitions have to be filed with the District Supervisors of Elections on April twenty fourth (estimate). Qualified candidates (Rich or Popular) must file their intentions (Some kind of form or another) between May ninth and thirteenth. First good news. I thought it was four hours. Maybe it's because I'm having difficulty with novel number four (you don't say shank to a golfer or writers block to an author), in spite of obstacles (lack of money and friends) and my better judgment, I've decided to press on.

July 31, 1993 Today I filled out the forms and named my Committee, **OWEN NOW**. I wanted to call it **SONS OF LIBERTY**, but my wife thought that would identify me as one of the Religious Right (Liberty College) which I'm not. I liked it because it brought up images of one of the few things Yankees did well; throwing tea into the harbor and fighting taxation without representation. I thought it aptly described how our current Representative wasn't representing us. My wife won out with,

"By the time you finish explaining it, everyone will have fallen asleep." Talked a friend into being my Campaign Manager. He will do it as long as he doesn't have to campaign or manage.

August 1, 1993 I called the local newspaper and asked for the political reporter. A Staff reporter answered. I announced my intentions to run. He asked for an issue paper. Will get to work on one (next page). Drove to the Winn-Dixie grocery store to reproduce the FEC forms that announce my candidacy, set up committees, and identify key people. Wife has reluctantly agreed to be treasurer after I told her I'd book keep. Spent 20¢ and drove ten miles (have to keep track of expenses). I sent two forms to the Clerk of the House of Representatives in Washington D.C. All Cogressional FEC forms must be sent to him. Eureka! The incumbants have skewed the election laws to help them keep track of any potential oponent, money, friends and campaign. No wonder it is so difficult for an outsider to win. The whole institution is stacked against him! Had to send copies of what I sent to Washington to State Elections. Everyone wants a piece of the new guy. Postage was 58¢. Expenses are adding up. Sent another letter about my candidacy to the local newspaper. They haven't given me any coverage. Maybe I should write to their answering machine. Better keep track of expenses or the Clerk of the House may send Federal Marshalls out to blow up my house. So far I've used several envelopes, quite a few sheets of paper, stamps and the Winn-Dixie Xerox machine.

Jim Owen

Republican Candidate For U.S. House of Representatives,

- * No taxation without representation.
- * I will listen to my constituents. If I don't return your call, you can rest assured, I'm in the hospital or dead.
- * Less government is better government.
- * I support space flight. We need new vehicles with 1999 technology to replace the Shuttle. NASA needs vision!
- * Right to Life is a religious issue, not a political one.
- * Deficit reduction means cut government spending.
- * Lower taxes & raise revenues.
- * Free & Fair Trade is a two way street, no favoritism.
- * Eliminate our trade deficit.
- * It's in our enlightened self interest to employ our own workers (otherwise, who's going to buy all those imports).
- * Crime and drugs need a new approach. More money and jails have not worked. Recommend we look at the British solution.
- * Welfare needs to be totally revamped. Boarding schools and group homes may break the generational continuance.
- * Term limits for all incumbents.

I promise to fairly represent my constituent's views, even when they conflict with my own. Novus ordo seclorum,

Jim Owen

07/30/93

August 2, 1993 Checked the paper, we only have one. Still no announcement of my candidacy. The County Republican Party Chairman said they don't publish any of our stuff. My Democratic competition has his picture in three times today. He claims to have given 2.15 million of our taxpayers' money to The Spaceport Florida Authority (created by our Legislature) to modify a Navy-operated Trident 2 launch pad for small rocket commercial use. Not certain about the spelling, but I copied it from the front page so it must be right. Our newspaper is so excited about building government facilities for commercial launch vehicles with taxpayer's money, they made it the lead editorial. The editor mentioned another 4 million grant from the Air Force and 1.3 million in local matching funds for the same project. Two out of state contractors are ecstatic: Orbital Sciences from Virginia and Lockheed from California. Last night I saw our Congressman on Orlando TV say, "Jobs, Jobs, Jobs." Usually, when a politician repeats himself three times he's using his campaign slogan. I wonder if I can get equal time? All of this news leaves a lot to my imagination. So far all our Congressman has said in Washington is, Tax! Tax! Tax! and Spend! Spend! Spend! Don't blame him for not using what he really does as a slogan. Can't get many votes with reality. Just got back from my morning bike ride with the Treasurer. Need to lose weight, but haven't. Talk about good fortune. Found one copper penny. Decided to use it as my first campaign contribution (might be my only one). Second news item about our Congressman is in letters to the editor. From the

difficulties I've had getting press, I have to admire a lady from a town north of here. She got her letter in. She wanted to know how our Congressman voted on tax bills and expenditures. His office sent back two pages of the Congressional Record listing how each member voted on one bill, but didn't say which one. I've followed his votes and I don't blame his office for not sending out his voting record. He looks much younger in this photo and owns a sincere suit. The front page photo has him in shirt sleeves (image of the common man). Third item was what he did last week (must have been on vacation). He joined NOW in their Supreme Court case labeling the Right To Lifers as racketeers and corrupt so they can be prosecuted as Organized Crime. I'm not fond of either group, but this seems a bit much. If they want to label a group as organized criminals they ought to start with Congress. They robbed the bank, then the Post Office and now they want to rob us. I can see why Will Rogers said, "All I know is just what I read in the papers." It's been at least five days and our local paper has not published one word about my candidacy.

August 3, 1993 Received a form letter from FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE with the Chief of Election Records' machine signature on the bottom. Getting spooky when machines can write. Told me what they told me over the phone and spelled my name wrong. I'll receive forms later on how to file, an oath, and how to pay a qualifying fee. My penny may not be enough. Have stored it in my pencil jar. Oath, there they go with lawyer talk again.

Still nothing in the newspaper about my intentions, though they carried a column about the Governor not deciding if he'll run. Maybe I made a mistake. I should have declared I'm not certain if I'll run. Maybe the Orlando paper is interested. I forgot to finish my thoughts on trade. This is an easy one. I'm biased toward free trade with a modifier. If a country requires that we buy finished products from them, they have to buy finished products from us. Plywood and lumber instead of trees. Baked goods instead of wheat. While I'm at it. Charge a stiff tariff on any company that moves it's manufacturing from here to another country for lower labor costs. It ought to be to our enlightened self interest to have citizens working so they have money to buy goods and services. The alternative is to become a Third World country. Teddy Roosevelt was right, "The first requisite of a good citizen . . . able and willing to pull his weight."

August 4, 1993 Republican County Chairman called late last night. One of his Executive Committee is going to run and is making a presentation at their monthly meeting this Thursday. He said next years campaign costs should be in the neighborhood of \$250,000. I asked what the other guy's platform was. Said he didn't have one yet, but had commented that the incumbent was a loser and vulnerable. Not sure if the Chairman was trying to scare me off or just being friendly. I told him I'd filed, but he didn't offer to let me speak to the Executive Committee. I asked if the Orlando newspaper is a friendly newspaper to announce my intentions and he said to forget it, they're biased

against Republicans, too. Really looks bad. If I'm to be famous for fifteen minutes, I'll have to be creative. Called our local newspaper and got their real power, their answering machine. Punched the numbers it recommended and no one answered. People don't go to work until 8:00 a.m. and reporters on a morning paper, until 10:00 or so. I'm getting closer to the truth. Machines must turn out the paper, I receive it at 6:00 a.m. Found out the incumbent is a lawyer. Has to be a conflict of interest allowing lawyers to write law. Jefferson and Washington were farmers and most of our founding fathers were merchants, printers and manufacturers. While we weren't paying attention, the lawyers took control. Sort of like letting horse thieves guard your barn. Law is not written for taxpayers. Our legislative lawyers have written the law so that only their word processors know the when, where and how. English common law is straight forward and simple. Makes one question the need for lawyers in a literate society. Phoned the newspaper, again at fifteen after eight, but the newsroom is empty. Nah, I'll leave that straight line alone. The operator is the only one there. Now it can't be because they spent last night editing and writing. Most of the stories are from the news wire or syndicated sources. At eight thirty, I got the big cheese, the Executive Editor. He had not heard of my letters, didn't know who I was, and could care less. He wasn't interested in talking to or at me, either. So much for my belief that I had Pulitzer material. Think I'll stick to answering machines. They don't yell at you.

August 5, 1993 Our Democratic Congressman has assumed his stealth position. Thought I'd see him during the NASA appropriations bill debate. The results of my efforts to crack into the established political scene have not been earth shattering. So far: Asked Republicans for assistance; received none. Offered assistance to both Parties; neither responded. Announced my intentions to be a candidate to the newspaper; no response. Called twice and was listened too as if I was a dung bug. Phoned the incumbents local office and talked to his local lady. She was at work at 9:00 a.m. He may not do what his constituents want, but his people go to work early. Asked her to tell him to vote against Clinton's tax bill, but thanked him if he didn't. If he votes for it, I have a chance. Also asked that they pass on my thanks to him for getting me into the race. After all, isn't this what the democratic process is all about? Told her to tell him not to worry about me getting free publicity. Our local newspaper marches to a different political drummer. Her 'uh huhs' were identical to the Executive Editor of said newspaper. Even my potential opposition isn't taking me seriously. Still nothing in the local paper. Wonder if this comes under unfair campaign practices? Phoned the local paper and got a News Associate (even newspapers have a pecking order). Tried to get the staff reporter I'd talked too earlier, but he's a reporter and doesn't come in until 10:00 a.m. (it's now 10:15). Working for a newspaper must be as cushy as being a politician. She'll tell him I called. I opined that the Executive Editor didn't care much for Republicans. Her light

laugh gave me a confirming second source (got to watch myself, I'm slipping into reporter-speak). She speaks English. Uh huhs' must be reserved for executives. The Staff reporter returned my call (10:45). Things are looking up. I asked if the Executive Editor was a liberal. He said that his newspaper was centrist. Kind of like the one Socialist in the House is an Independent. My stuff just arrived at his desk (must be out where they keep the rolls of news print). Said he'd read it and will get back to me. Baited breath time again. He never did respond. Just discovered that my Daughter isn't registered. I'm down to four votes.

August 6, 1993 Received a loose leaf bound book of 106 single spaced fine print pages titled; A COMPILATION OF THE ELECTION LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA JANUARY 1992 from the Division of Elections FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE (the capitalizations and punctuation, lack of, are theirs). Browsed through the ones that apply. A letter was included eliminating a 1.5 percent assessment on candidates. The State Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional. That's a relief. 1.5% is too hard to do when your total contribution is 1¢. Got to page 15 before I found the word candidate. Lawyers wrote this book. As an example, on page 15, 99.061 (1), "The provisions of any special act to the contrary notwithstanding, each person seeking to qualify for nomination or election to a federal, state, or multicounty district office, other than a judicial office as defined in chapter 105, shall file his qualification papers

with, and pay the qualifying fee, which shall consist of the filing fee and election assessment, and party assessment, if any has been levied, to, the Department of State, or qualify by alternative method with the Department of State at any time after noon of the 1st day for qualifying, which shall be as follows: the 120th day prior to the first primary, but not later than noon of the 116th day prior to the date of the first for persons seeking to qualify for nomination or election to federal office..." It goes on for 44 more words before hitting a period. I rest my case. It's imperative that we take writing of law out of the hands of lawyers. Most of the rest of the book contains the same jargon. My high school English teacher would wince at such garbage and wash out a lot of mouths. A sane person would write, If you want to run, let us know between one and ten May. Send all applicable fees (which are forever changing) to: (address). If you don't have any money use the alternative method. Write what is necessary as a qualifier for state and local offices and get on with it. The Constitution and Bill of Rights, framed by farmers and merchants, should be the standard that laws are held too. Our current system clearly establishes the principle that work expands as the number of lawyers increase. Checked the newspaper, still no announcement. Not certain, but believe it's against State law to say you're a candidate before May of next year, but intentions are legal. Shakespeare, the poet not the fishing reel, may have had the right idea about lawyers. Before I lose the fishing vote, I do fish once in a while. The newspaper reports that

every state Democrat is going to vote for the Presidents convoluted tax bill. Going to be a lot of new faces in Congress in 1995. Called the Staff reporter and asked why my announcement hadn't made the papers. Said he was too busy with other work and would get around to it when he had time. I asked if they were understaffed. He responded with an 'uh huh'. He has executive potential. Received a call from a salesman selling political software for a personal computer (PC). It generates mailing lists and other political stuff. Told him I had one cent in funds and a word processor. He said I might get lucky and would send brochures anyway. First time I've been treated like a candidate. I wonder if lobbyists work this way?

August 7, 1993 Saw our Congressman on TV spouting the party line on the need to tax and spend. In his literature, he lists his occupation as a journalist with a law degree. I called his office to give my heartfelt thanks at being given such a soft political target, a lawyer and a journalist who doesn't listen to voters. The only way Republicans can lose the next election is to not field a candidate. Nothing in the newspaper about my announced candidacy. Local newspaper is downplaying their past support for tax and spend legislation. Must be receiving the same backlash that the politicians in Washington are. Their founder has written a column about why he should be taxed more. Says he pays \$2,000,000 a year in taxes. He is a Democrat, which leads me to another conclusion; most millionaires are Democrats. They remain so because tax payers

to be charitable with their taxes. I must comment on the appearance of the House members last night on the second economic package vote. They were all wearing sincere suits, the kind we wear to weddings and funerals. On the first economic vote in May, when the results were announced the Well of the house looked like the climax of a Gypsy wedding, complete with accordions, tambourines, chickens and geese. Last night they looked like mourners leaving the funeral of a dear departed friend. Strange, really can't understand why the President would place his party and the Country in jeopardy over this vote of confidence on his Presidency. Willy Waffle, Slick to his friends, is conducting the affairs of the Presidency as if it's all a big game, making the same micro-management mistakes that Carter did. As Governor of Arkansas he could make mistakes and not have to pay the political price. Like Hawaii and Massachusetts, it's a one party State and corrupt beyond belief. Elections are decided in the Primaries. As Carter did for Georgia, his screw ups at the federal level may turn Arkansas into a two party State out of sheer embarrassment. Doesn't say much for his political training at Boy's State and Nation, Yale, Georgetown and Oxford Union. Called our Congressman's office again to see how he's weathering the storm. His office rationalized that all the requests to vote no on taxes were from the taxed (old folks, small businesses and those who own cars). Asked if he was ever in the Armed Services. He served five years in the Army. Should have asked if it was ours. Most Army guys I know vote on the conservative side. He appeared

on Larry King's show with another Democrat, who unlike our Congressman, voted with his constituents against the tax bill. Vote was coming up in the Senate, so he had to talk fast. Loves everything about the bill. Claims it will turn water into wine and cure the crippled and blind. Claims he is a conservative. Have to give Larry King credit. He admits he's a liberal. Had Al Gore on the night before when the House was voting on the same bill. Anyway our fair haired Bob Forehead wants the rest of the government to be run as well as NASA (God save our Country). He's going to work on cutting spending after he returns from his vacation. I guess if he can call a tax and appropriation bill, that continues the growth of the debt, a deficit reduction bill, liberal is conservative and Socialist is Independent. Had a book reproduced to send north. Talked with my printer. He's so mad at the politicians, he's thinking about running for Congress, too. If he does, says he'll wait for the regular election. Told me it's a waste of time to run in the Republican Primary. The local party has been captured by the Religious Right and is a closed shop (so that's why I'm getting the run around). Worse yet, our newspaper can execute their political agenda by keeping this the status quo (the Republicans keep on running one issue candidates and the Democrat wins). Now I know how a conservative German felt when his choice was between Communism and the National Socialists, both one issue parties. Have to say a little bit about the reconciliation tax bill. Can't talk with a lot of knowledge about it as, like our elected officials, I've not read it. However, I do know

why tax lawyers are dancing in the streets. It's so convoluted and complicated, it will take six months to determine what it says. The wife said, "Didn't they promise to simplify the tax code? I thought loopholes were closed in lieu of lower rates in the '80s." She's right and what does that indicate about promises to cut spending in the out years? I've generated a few budgets when I was in the Pentagon and know a little about budgeting in the Federal government. A good budget is not complete until all you can see is smoke and mirrors.

August 8, 1953 Florida Today has plenty of political news, but none about me. Am I that much of a threat to the status quo? Wife thinks Nebraska's Bob Forehead is a whimp. Bumpers isn't much further behind. At least the Corn Husker Senator lives in a two party State. Doesn't pay to piss off people from Nebraska. Unlike Arkansas, most can read or write. Bumpers could be lame (a word my daughter taught me and it doesn't mean crippled) and still win in the land of intertwined second cousins. My daughter thinks Clinton is the Pillsbury dough boy, but my wife thinks he's Georgie Porgy. It's hot and August, unless something interesting comes through the post (how about that for archaic), I'll work around the house. The House of Representatives sent me an oxymoronic set of instructions for completing a Financial Disclosure Statement From a Committee (there they go again) On Standards of Official Conduct, U.S. House of Representatives. This ought to be good. Maybe they will tell me how to rob a bank and Post Office and get away

with it. The good news is, I don't have to fill out this set of forms (a bunch) until I have \$5,000 in campaign funds. There are seventy two pages of instructions to fill out one form. When it gets this complicated, someone has to be looking for loopholes.

August 9, 1993 A plethora of political news, but no mention of my intention to run. I'm beginning to feel like Rodney. The Democratic spin doctors have come up with some new Orwellian speak. Courage, first step and reinvigorating. I would substitute; mistake, watch out and we're going to tax small business into a recession. I love the use of move, i.e. move ahead, move the country forward. It is most difficult to lift or to push a geographical entity larger than a small rock, and forward to where? When a politician uses movement as a metaphor, hold your nose and buy a rose. Here comes a shovel full of manure. Here's one; President Clinton promised, "A myriad of exciting possibilities." A remarkable example of how to make meaningless drivel into action verbs. At least he is only having one myriad. If the word was used correctly, possibilities could have been countless, ten thousand or more. It looks like we're in for more obfuscation. His aids have returned to the White House "War Room" to overcome our antipathy to the latest Democratic tax hikes and increased spending. When this group of spin doctors is done, up will be down and black, white. Spin doctor is an eastern elite term for spreading manure. They've got it all wrong. We, the generic taxed,

desire to see spending cut fairly, across the board first, then lets talk about screwing around with the tax code. We aren't full of antipathy, we're pissed off. When the next election comes to pass this group will probably take credit for sunrise and sunset. What would I do? Well, if what I've read is correct, freeze appropriations at 1992 levels, eliminate unnecessary programs and offices. Eliminate COLAS across the board for everyone, not just military and government employees, for four years. Cap everything. Decide what we can afford to pay for in MEDICARE and MEDICAID and do no more. If you give an agency \$10,000,000,000, they'll spend it. Give \$5,000,000,000 they'll make do. Having said that, we need to hold a whip over them or they'll spend it on themselves and not do what they're paid to do. Look at the palaces our school boards are building for self generated administrative work loads. Stupid politician tricks aren't limited to Washington. What went wrong between the election and assuming the office position? Both parties missed the mood of the electorate and they still are. Clinton won his primary because he was prettier than the competition (yes us fat people can be pretty too). He won the election because Ross came in and split the vote. Ross got mine. First time I voted outside the Republican Party at the Presidential level. Republicans had been in for twelve years and had become a one issue anti-abortion Party. Clinton still would have lost, but Perot jumped in. Perot could have won if he had been able to talk outside a script and hadn't quit in the summer. Whats wrong with what the Democratic Congress

and White House are doing? They're so wrapped up in hiding behind the common man theme, they forgot about fairness. The electorate can see what they've imposed is unfair and no amount of lime can hide the smell. They're playing Robin Hood with taxpayers money. The electorate knows that when you give money to kids, they aren't going to save it for a rainy day or spend it on healthy food. Don't know what the answer is, but giving housing and money away hasn't worked. Even Washington D.C. (the city) is advocating orphanages instead of aid to dependent children. The later has turned into a one way street to Lorton, their prison in Northern Virginia. Everyone should have an equal opportunity to live, succeed and most important, fail. Government should leave social engineering to churches, charities and colleges. Anyone advocating spending the poor rich should be forced to pay for it with their own money. Must be Sunday, I'm on the pulpit again. Under Opinions in the paper, an elderly lady who is still trying to wear long hair opined that complainers, old folks, military and small business people are a pain in the ass and should be taxed out of existence, ". . . it's all the more noteworthy that our congressman voted against a cost-of-living increase for government retirees, including both military and Social Security recipients in spite of the fact that the 11th Congressional District is No. 1 of 435 congressional districts in terms of military retirees and among the top 10 in Social Security recipients." This is the same theme I heard from his local office Friday. The aforementioned folks don't like to see their COLAS cut,

but wouldn't be raising such a ruckus if everyone is sacrificing. This aging flower child is our Congressman's herald for the beginning of his disinformation campaign. She mentions the spin doctors latest buzz word, 'courage' in her closing remarks. Maybe I've announced my intentions for the wrong district. I thought we were in the 15th. She must be a product of the same school system that produced Clinton. A system that teaches say one thing and do another and use math to prove you didn't. Our Democratic Congressman was on TV again last night at an alternative to nursing homes advocating that they receive taxpayer money and implying that the nursing home lobby is against it. This isn't one of our Country's front burner issues, but what he says has merit. Now for the rest of the story. His payoff for going against his constituent's wishes is a full bore publicity campaign to spread lime over his actions. If you have ever used an outhouse He'll need it. His two appearances on TV, represent the beginning of a media payoff in local sound bites. Larry King was a national level payoff and our local newspaper will do its part. He has also received tentative support if he runs against our Republican Senator for the Senate. And we thought that Willy Waffle was a change from politics as usual. What's Willy doing wrong in the image business? He's still running his campaign like a Governor. He's in the trenches twisting arms. Therefore, (lawyer talk again) he looks like a political hack that doesn't know how to delegate. His response to bad press is to run faster. He may lose his ideal amount of weight and the Presidency at the

same time. Now delegation isn't easy. You've got to choose good people to appoint, not just an imagined cross section of the Country. I'll stop right there. Slick has built his own Catch-22. Our Congressman claims he received 700 calls against his vote on the economic package and 500 for. Our Democratic Senator says he received 1,229 calls against and 114 in favor and his office took the phones off the hook on the day he voted. Our Congressman must have fudged his figures to disinform his constituents. As it stands right now, Mickey Mouse could poll three quarters of the votes against him in this District. Maybe I can talk him into running.

August 10, 1993 Another day, another newspaper and no report on my candidacy. Have to comment on the Gore Mansion, north of Washington D.C. on the Potomac River. I participated in a movie, Broadcast News, as an extra at the urging of my wife. Our acting fees went to the Northern Virginia Chamber Music Orchestra Guild. Al's family estate was used to represent the Italian Embassy. Two bus loads of extras fit into the basement billiards room with ample space to spare. If Bush had a silver foot in his mouth, Al's is a gold one. Can't figure out how he established residence in Tennessee. Must have one of Bush's hotel keys. The Senate seat he held from Tennessee has to be like the ones held by landed gentry in Britain, a safe seat for the rich carpet baggers. Al hangs out with Bill like Pinocchio hung out with Foulfellow Fox, believing in the big con and pretending to be common. The rich must have a reason

why most are Democrats. Must be one of those Eastern elitist things.

August 11, 1993 14 days and counting and still no mention of my intentions in our local newspaper. As dull as I am, the news is even duller: Ellis eyes Palm Bay park site; Doctor who plotted rape may go free early; Voters burn hot line for tax help, and Discovery countdown starts again and that's the front page. Ain't no Pulitzer candidates in our newspaper. On page 5b there's an article on a commissioner candidate from a county up north of here who may be fined \$27,000, "She should be found guilty of illegally disbursing about \$7,200 in campaign funds by not using campaign account checks." The establishment really does play hard ball against an outsider. If the same rules were applied to Clinton and company, they'd be exiled to Palm Springs with the other high rolling political offender. Does remind me that I'll have to make sure the Treasurer doesn't commingle my campaign funds (use my penny when she shops for our daily bread). Notice how I use commingle? Sold real estate in Hawaii. Quit when my wife asked that I sell used cars so she could look up to me. A lot of comminglers in a business keyed to the golden rule (not the one we learned in Sunday school) and time shares. Talk about my lucky day. Decided to ride down Memory Lane instead of Jade lane on the morning bike ride. Which lane do you expect a conservative to take a bike ride down? Found a 1991 Liberty nickel. I have commingled it with my penny in the pencil jar. Campaign funds

have sextupled! Doesn't that sound more impressive than going from one to six cents. Getting the hang of political-speak.

August 12, 1993 Another day and another snub by the local newspaper. Have to call the Staff reporter and needle him. Reporters take umbrage at being called unfair or biased, even more so when they are unfair or biased. President signed the tax bill yesterday after giving a partisan speech about how dastardly the Republicans are. Al and Bill walked the length or breadth, not sure which, of the White House back yard toward a phalanx of cameras in sincere suits to a throng of partisan supporters and Marine Band seated on chairs denting the grass. First, the band. What the hell is he doing making our boys in uniform wear hot uniforms to play for a bill signing in the summer sun? Second, the grass. That's our grass they're trampling. My God, we build meeting rooms for this type of affair. Must be what our President means about moving forward, walking 100 yards across the grass to a sound bite. Third, the Congress. Only 26 or 27 showed up and none stood behind the President like they do at a normal bill signing. No one wants their photo taken at the scene of a rape. Fourth, the speech. Clinton pilloried the Republicans after a very partisan campaign to get his economic package, which is a very complex tax bill through Congress without Republican support. He flat doesn't know how to govern, only campaign. Makes me wonder... if the most important room in the White House is his War Room, does Clinton have plans to march into Sudetenland? (I wrote

this before he marched into Haiti and Bosnia). Larry King finally discovered that the taxpayers are pissed off about Clinton's new tax bill. His show is about Arizona's recall of their Democratic Senator. Can't do it in Florida. Our Lawyer politicians have laws that prohibit recall here except for municipalities. Called county elections. To the best of their knowledge, no recall. C-SPAN carried two accountants explaining whose ox is gored by the new tax law. The provision of tax credits for those making less than \$20,000 was an eye-opener. Our President, who campaigned on reducing the debt, canceled Gramm-Ruddman the week after he took office and has signed into law a tax bill that makes living together out of wedlock more profitable than being married to the tune of several thousand dollars. Won't go into details, don't have the law in front of me. Al & Bill have figured out a way to penalize two income married couples in both low and high income tax brackets. In today's letters to the editor, four oppose the new tax law, none for. I called the Managing Editor of our local, once a week Bulletin. Bad news, his weekly is part of our local newspaper. Won't publish my intentions. Told me to call the Metro Editor, after 10:30 a.m. That confirms it. I'm in the wrong line of work. Reporting beats authoring any day in the week. Steady pay and great hours. Called the Metro Editor and got uh huhs' again (forgot to mention that the Bulletin editor flipped in a couple of uh huhs'). All the folks at our local newspaper have executive potential. They hope to have a political reporter in a month. Can't handle any my political

observations as that would be supporting a candidate. They can give coverage to our Congressman because he is a Congressman. Sort of has a Gilbert & Sullivan ring to it, "He is an Englishman!" Goes along with, "And I polished up the handle on the big brass door. I polished up that handle so carefuller that now I am the ruler of the Queen's Navee!" Well, if I can't get any results in the news room, I'll have to call obituaries and see what a notice costs to announce the death of fair play. Said she didn't want to argue semantics with me about the difference between intentions and candidate. Looks like I'm not on the Metro Editor's right side (I mean left side of USA Today's centrist local paper). I called the State Republican Party to ask for help. A volunteer took my number and promised to call back. The State Party Called! There are a few live people at the end of the phone lines. They will send political information and I must send bio and stuff. We both know a party pollster from Alexandria, Virginia. Later, the Staff reporter called. My announcement of candidacy is going into the paper tomorrow. Squeaky wheel gets the grease. I will be an official candidate. The next thing I know, the County Chairman will call and endorse my candidacy (and pigs will fly).

CANDIDATES, LIKE MONSTERS, ARE MADE

"The body politic, like the human body,
begins to die from birth, and bears in
itself the seeds of its destruction."

Jean Jaques Rosseau 1762

August 13, 1993 My announcement made the paper:

Large Town Author Declares Candidacy

"Large Town writer and author Jim Owen has announced plans to run for our 15th Congressional district seat held by our Congressman, D-Rich Island. Owen said he will run as a Republican. His Platform includes no new taxes, less government and more NASA fiscal responsibility."

I wrote a letter to the editor:

"Regarding your announcement of my candidacy for Congress, 15th District. Not bad, but not quite right. When asked my main theme, I responded, 'I will listen to my constituents. I will not be swayed by special interests to include the executive branch.' My platform did not include the plank... no new taxes. I believe George Bush wears that label. It does contain, 'No taxation without representation' and 'Raise taxes = lower revenues and if we Lower taxes, higher revenues.' The implication of the first statement is that our current Congressman did not represent his constituents. The second statement implies lower taxes."

Pretty sneaky on their part. The no new taxes label would give any opposition candidate (Primary or General election) a way to slam me. A new congressman messing around with the tax code is the same as an amateur snake handler kissing a cobra. What's

bad about the no new taxes label is the subliminal counter message, i.e. I'll vote to raise taxes. My inclination is to judiciously (lawyer talk) lower tax rates and simplify the tax code (write it in English). Harpers had an article on the isle of Guernsey, a self taxing English Channel island. They had a very high tax rate (not sure of the exact figures), around 65%. They lowered it and doubled their revenues. Heady with success, they lowered the tax rate to 25% and doubled their revenues again. Doesn't say much for the Democrats 1990 and 1993 tax raising scheme. Guernsey learned that if you tax fairly, the electorate will pay up, spend, save and not shelter their hard earned cash. Expenses for this letter writing campaign; 34 sheets of paper, two envelopes and 29¢ postage. Won't know the cost of my mail out to the State Party until the Post Office weighs it. Almost forgot the most important news today. I found a 1985 Liberty nickel on bike ride. Campaign funds have almost doubled to 11¢! Paragon Printing copied my outline as a campaign contribution, \$4.80. Sent it to State for \$2.90 postage. A penny here a penny there, pretty soon it adds up to real money. A news reporter called from WIRB, our local UHF TV station. Wants to do a three minute interview this evening. She had my Primary opponent, Michael Shukdinas on last night. Finally learned his name. Time to fish or cut bait. I called County Chairman. He insisted that it was too early to declare. We could have six candidates beating each other's brains out in the Primaries wasting money better spent for the General Election. He doesn't understand

that this means nothing to an outsider like me. No one is giving me money, time, support or wants me to run. He says he doesn't know Michael Shukdinas? Mike's a member of his Executive Committee. And he says he has no idea where Mike stands? Wow! talk about the rotten part of Denmark. We parted cordial enough. Probably because I didn't rise to his bait about it being too early. Sounds like good 'ol boy time to me. WIRB gave me a more than fair interview. Treasurer watched it and said I came across like I knew what I was talking about and almost sounded too intellectual. Daughter said I stuttered a bit, but didn't say I was lame. Didn't have time to make the point that abortion had been decided by the courts. Had a good story to tell concerning my Aunt who died from an illegal abortion in the late twenties (not sure about the date as my family doesn't talk much about it). My Mother walked the streets of Columbus, Ohio comforting my Uncle as my Aunt suffered through a painful, slow death. Neither my Mom or me are extremists on this issue, but we do believe it's time to let the court decision stand. The alternative will bring back the butchers. A lady from the Republican Executive Committee called and said that I could present my views at tonight's meeting. Told her I had a TV interview and the Chairman wouldn't invite me after we'd talked. She said he doesn't know his okole from a puka and I should come anyway, but she didn't give me her name. A lot of that going around. I have to ask and sometimes that doesn't do any good. Michael Shukdinas is presenting his views. She thinks Mike is a Perot plant and commented that Mike and his wife joined

the Republican Party in April and became alternates to the Executive Committee soon after. The WIRB news lady said he wouldn't talk specifics, just that it's time for a change and for youth to take over. Shoot from the hip time. I've pieced together an initial profile of Mike: opportunistic, 31 or 32, works for Harris Corporation (they don't pay much, he must have heard about the \$133,000 salary and guaranteed pension). If so he's trying to retrain from Defense engineering to political work rather than try for a commercial job. His wife is doing all the leg work (got to talk to the Treasurer about this). Won't tip his hand on the issues, so I'd guess he's another Bob Forehead type trying to hustle his way along with political platitudes. His theme will be change. When he sees the Florida electorate profile, he'll back off of the youth crap. If not he'll be open to why send a boy to do a man's job. Issues? He'll go where he can get the votes. A human tape recorder, looking for words. Called Harris to find Mike. The first number was a message mail box system. A fancy name for an answering machine that did not respond to my telephone buttons. Called again to get his division. They don't know which one he's in, but he is working in the electronic sector and gave me that number. The sector lady gave me a different number and transferred my call. Got his answering machine, identified myself and left a message. At least now I know how to pronounce his name. Baited breath time. Wrote a thank you note to WIRB-TV and thanked the news lady and her anchor guy for their hospitality. Also asked what happened to the tape. It was

supposed to be rebroadcast at 11:30 p.m. They didn't know why it wasn't. It had never happened before. Suspicious? Can't tell what I looked like or how I came across. Will have to believe the Treasurer. As much as she can get on my case, when it's flattering, it has to be true. No tougher critic in the world (aren't all wives).

August 14, 1993 In our newspaper; four letters jumping on our Democratic Senator and Congressman for not listening to their constituents. I wrote a letter to the Publisher, asking for information. I'll paraphrase:

"I've tried every avenue, except you. After numerous letters and six phone calls I finally got my announcement of candidacy in your newspaper and then it was screwed up." I went on to ask if the local Republican Party had been captured by the Religious right. I also asked if his paper was an active supporter of Democratic Candidates and their agenda. And I asked if it was worth my while to tilt at windmills with his reporters and editors. And then, not playing with a full deck, I mentioned that I was the only candidate who had launched a missile at the Cape and at his newspaper. Looking back at the letter, it wasn't professional and should not have been sent, but at the time, I thought Will Rogers had been reincarnated in my word processor. The publisher didn't answer my letter and if I had been in his shoes, I wouldn't have either. Since it's my story and I hope he threw it away, I'll not tell all.

Called a citizen activist and author, attempting to get answers to who's doing what to whom; media fairness, backbiting, etc. Lady answered and said she's not in, but will call back. She didn't. Mike Shukdinas' wife called. He won't talk politics at work, but can she ever talk politics at home. Everything is, we or, Michael believes, so I guess I talked to the real power. She said that Mike is personally anti-abortion but will only change Roe vs. Wade through the legislative process. Wonder if this means that there are others out and about who want to do it by force. Believe there is an issue here. Think she recorded me. Mike wants to caucus and pick one candidate (him). I told her I was in for the long haul, come hell or high water and a caucus isn't legal. May get together later (pigs will fly again).

August 15, 1993 Called WMMB, local radio station. Offered myself for an interview. They'll call back. Will wonders ever cease, WMMB called back. Didn't get his full name. Not identifying yourself must be a new thing. He interviewed our Congressman and Mike Shukdinas last week. He says that our Congressman is going to run. Our Congressman doesn't have any smarts at all (unless he knows that Republicans will self destruct on the anti-abortion issue again). Anyway, he'll interview me Monday at 1:30 in the afternoon. My kind of station, lots of Moonlight Serenade. Called the good 'ol boy author again, still not in. She wrote a book on how good 'ol boy politics operates in our County. I know the incumbents

try to hold elections after Easter when the snow birds head back north. The big influx returns after Thanksgiving. Doesn't pay to have outsiders influencing the local vote, even if they are registered. This tactic hasn't worked as well lately. With all the new taxes and lower interest rates, the older folks don't have enough money to travel. Demographically speaking (how about that for a four dollar word), our County is mostly new arrivals. Wouldn't have put rocket launching pads here if there were a lot of people. A senior citizen activist phoned. She works for senior citizens and wanted to know my platform. Got about half of it in. She seems very knowledgeable on local politics and has tilted a few windmills. She worked for North American Rockwell, Collins Radio Division out of Iowa, before she retired. Gave me quite a bit of advice, which I've stored in my data base. Our Congressman wouldn't give her the courtesy of a response on her senior citizen issues. I wonder if this was what Marx meant when he wrote about the dictatorship of the proletariat. She's going to give the supervisors hell over a bond issue to pay for an unauthorized county building.

August 16, 1993 President of the Space Coast Writers Guild phoned and recommended that I contact a friend of his in the editorial section of our local newspaper. Says he has an open mind. Also mentioned another retired military type as a knowledgeable on local politics. Mentioned that a paper up in the northern part of the county that might give me a fair shake. He related a few past political experiences he had in

Maryland and recommended that I contact State and National Republican committees. I'm in touch with the State, but it's a bit early to call National.

August 17, 1993 I called the retired military political expert, a member of the good 'ol boy network, but doesn't know it. Part of the Republican Executive Committee, he's anti-abortion and lit into me for not agreeing with him and then lost his temper. It's beginning to look like I'm not going to be able to speak as a conservative without addressing this issue. This self proclaimed expert wants Roe vs. Wade changed by the legislative process. This is the same position as Mike (Hmm). He came unstuck over my stand that a woman has a Constitutional right to determine what's necessary for her own body. Barry Goldwater's right again. Our party is in danger of becoming a single issue dufus. Having that issue out of the way, he takes great pride in having worked in the Party vineyards. He made a sarcastic comment about newcomers trying to influence the process without paying their dues. That is as good 'ol boy as it can get. He hasn't read the electorate. He still believes the Republicans lost the last local Congressional election because of vote fraud, not because of the burning issue. Looks like I'm walking into a firestorm. Might as well have fun on the way. He had another phone call and asked that I wait. He phoned and we had at each other again. I learned quite a bit about the local scene in spite of my tendency to run off at the mouth. Probably won't ever receive his support.

August 18, 1993 I remember when newspapers were either Democrat or Republican and wouldn't dare stuff the opposing view, except on the editorial pages. They'd let the opposition speak and hang themselves. Our newspaper needs to hire a local political reporter. I've seen college papers with more political news. Time to refine my political thinking. I'll have to tackle issues head on. My opener will be that I'm in the race to give Republicans a choice between the anti-abortion and pro-abortion, I'm smack dab in the middle. However, can't be a little pregnant (metaphor time). Will support the right of women to be free to decide for themselves, but remain privately anti-abortion. If I had my druthers, I wish this wasn't an issue. Men are forever trying to control women and women are forever trying to change men, neither with much success. I'm a firm believer in freedom (of & from). Can't be carrying that philosophy around and not give women the freedom to decide. I'd be pissed off if someone told me what I should do with my body. If some fool wants to give up his self control to others, that's his business, as long as he doesn't try to deprive the electorate of their freedom. Decide, that'll be my sound bite. Choice is too polarizing.

August 19, 1993 None of the four persons I called has called back. And our newspaper hasn't written an article about our Congressman declaring his intentions to run for Congress again. Or has he announced and been given the same silent treatment that I was given?

August 20, 1993 Today is a day for conservatives in our local newspaper. They carried my platform clarification in the letters to the editor. I'm moving up. It was verbatim! Squeaky wheel does occasionally get some grease. The rest of the letters: 'American people need to oust incumbents', 'COLA cuts unfair to military retirees', 'U.S. moving toward socialism' and 'Bills now pass to save Clinton'. I agree with the first, second and fourth, but not the third. The political debate is not over Capitalism vs. Socialism, but how much Socialism. I'm for less, but know you have to be careful how you do it. Can't take another Savings and Loan debacle. Am I the only one who noticed that these savings institutions failed on speculative commercial loans. Thought they were supposed to loan money for houses. The Democratic Congress tinkered with the economic system in the Seventies and Eighties, turning S&L's into banks without banking regulations and then eliminated the tax loophole that encouraged sheltering money in commercial real estate. The first was a grave mistake and it was compounded by the second. If we want to extract government from its socialist tendencies, it has to be done with the skill of open heart surgery. Like pensions, when did the government decide to insure private company retirement funds? Hey, it's all off budget and funny money, isn't it? The news guy interviewed me for later broadcast on WMMB and WGGD radio stations. He asked about NASA's Space Station. I said that it has no scientific purpose and that we ought to spend our money on new lift vehicles (rockets). My district Executive Committee Chairwoman called to set up

an appointment for an interview at her house tomorrow night. Maybe this is the Republican Executive Committees' Candidate Committee.

August 21, 1993 The State Party sent a nice letter and package. Mostly clippings about our local Democratic Congressman. I hope they provide more support than just a clipping service. The Orlando Sentinel political reporter returned my call. We talked for 15 minutes. He attempted to paint me into the choice position. Don't know if I got the right for a woman to decide across. My sound bite will not work if newspaper reporters don't listen.

August 22, 1993 Notice that my sentences are getting cryptic. Phone calls and work are taking me away from the fun and games of politics. What's in the news? Front page has Willy Waffle urging Republicans to help him overhaul health care (means he doesn't have enough Democratic support or he doesn't have the foggiest how to solve it). Tinkering with health care is almost beyond everyone's pay grade. If messing around with the economy is the equivalent of open heart surgery, screwing around with health care is brain surgeon time. It, plus welfare has double handedly accounted for the national debt. Perot has the right approach to this one. Get health care off line from politics and bring in the best minds to hammer out a solution driven by the money available. From the facts at hand, there is not enough money for perfect health care. This brings into question

federally mandated programs that must be funded by the States. I'm opposed to it, no matter how well intentioned. Sort of like I'll come up with the place, time and selection of food for lunch and you pay for it. Federal guidelines have become regulations. The Editorial page is lively, 'Clinton Economics is Free Lunch', take from the haves and give to the have-nots. Oh, if it was only that simple. In real politics, it is take from the out of favor haves and give to the in favor haves under federally mandated, trickle down socialism. 'Some seniors pay high benefit tax'. The last letter covers a married couple over 65 paying an additional \$1,500 under the new tax code. He forgot to add in the cost of a tax accountant to figure the damn thing out.

August 23, 1993 The West County news (cost 35¢ plus 3¢ tax) published an article derived from my interview with their political reporter.

"Retired colonel fights back by seeking political office"

Vote for President Clinton's deficit-reduction package and 'I promise to work against you,' Jim Owen warned his U.S. Representative in May. He wasn't kidding. After seeing his Congressman support the Clinton plan, Owen, a 59 year old retired Air Force colonel, has registered as a potential challenger to the Rich Island Democrat. A Republican, Owen nevertheless voted for this Congressman last year. But Owen's opinion of

him changed. 'He says he's conservative,' Owen said of the two-term congressman. 'He votes liberal.' A writer living in Large Town, Owen said he served on a city council in Hawaii and was president of his homeowners association there. He moved to Florida two years ago. District 15 covers four counties."

Did he help or hinder? He helped. 'Fights back' shows I'm a citizens striking out against politicians. 'Voted for Congressman shows an independent thinker. 'He says he's conservative, (but) he votes liberal' is my campaign theme, if I can win the primary). Where does this reporter really stand? He used 'President Clinton's deficit-reduction package' instead of budget or tax bill. He used retired colonel twice and gave my age as 59. This implies that I'm a pissed off old fart. 'He moved to Florida two years ago' (what we have here folks is a Yankee carpetbagger). Time to get off this, the front hand slap is a wake up call, the backhand slap is a challenge to a duel.

August 24, 1993 A letter to the editor claims Bob Dole double talks on the budget. A politician doing that? Amazing revelation! Daughter says the West County news reads more like a newspaper. It should, they've been at it since 1876. WMMB sent me a sales brochure. Commercials will cost \$38 to \$45 dollars if I want FM & AM. They promised lower rates come election time. Let's see, at \$30 each, eight times a day, fourteen days before the primary, it comes to \$3,360 not counting

tax. Newspaper adds are in the \$800 range x 14 = \$11,200 and I haven't thought about one sign or a campaign button. Our Congressman spent \$688,839.90 last year on his campaign. So far this year he's received \$134,957.74. \$60,550 from individuals, \$5,810 unitemized and \$68,500 from political committees, including PACs. As of today, I've have 11¢, all found on our morning bike rides. Talk about Jack & the Beanstalk.

August 25, 1993 The District Chairwoman called and interviewed me last night. She is not the candidate committee. Don't know what it was about, but it was long, detailed and unusual. Have to conclude that I'm being interviewed for the Executive Committee. Another decision; to join or not. If I join, I'll be considered an insider. If I don't, I'll never find out what is going on and who is pulling the strings. Some of the questions she asked came right out of a political time that included poll tax and segregation. My ancestors fought with the Grand Army of the Republic. Southern Conservatism isn't similar to the type I learned in Ohio. We were strong on freedom and liberty. In the South, a conservative is willing to have government control social behavior. Strange bedfellow time. We do have one issue in common; lower taxes and less government. All in all, a Southern conservative appears to be more of a political evangelical, but then so was the North in 1860. I'm just not comfortable blending religion and politics. My family would have split apart if we had followed this course.

August 26, 1993 The newspaper announces that Johnson Space Center, Houston gets the space station program and Boeing, Seattle is the winner; 22 billion vs. the 31.3 billion for the original design. I can't figure out why 1980 technology is so expensive. Probably because engineers are associated with it. Edison, Ford and the Wright Brothers didn't finish high school. Creativity and MIT, CALTECH, and FIT (have to plug our local school) may be an oxymoron. "KSC work to remain on target" (this means no new jobs). Got to wonder why NASA Ames, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Goddard, Johnson and the one in Cleveland are still in business. Save a lot of bucks to consolidate it all here (including NASA Headquarters). Only NASA and politicians would place the pilots (astronauts) in Houston and the hanger, launch facilities and runway in Florida. Could it be political? Are university scientists, government engineers, politicians and administrators political? Heavens to Betsy! If we were pragmatic and not political, tax increases would not be necessary, spending could be cut and building a budget would be fact instead of fiction. The other guy's entitlements; military, old folks and small business, have been curbed so we can give to the have-nots and won't-works. Economics is a tougher course than political science? Not sure about economics. Truman said you can stack economists end to end and never reach a conclusion. Politics is not a science, unless trial and error have replaced the scientific method. If we really believed that the debt would be reduced and everyone shared in the sacrifice, our Congressman would enjoy the sound

of silence. My District Committeewoman has set up a speaking engagement at the Republican Men's club tomorrow at 11:00. They meet in a Cafeteria at the Mall. Have a farewell golf outing thing for the launch site & range Commander. He is leaving aborted missile launches, weather down range and Delta successes behind. Tough job. If we gave NASA's mission to the military, we'd save 20 billion a year, but who'd feed the professors?

August 27, 1993 Called the WMMB news person to ask why my interview hasn't been aired. He said they may run it next Monday. My 11¢ doesn't stack up well against a potential \$10,000 in ad revenues from the incumbent next year. When I stumped the hills of Honolulu for Pat Saiki and Andy Anderson's gubernatorial campaign, every local (if you've lived in Hawaii you know that local identifies us from them) Japanese housewife answered my Republican brochure with, "I Democrat" and a smile. John Burns organized the Democrats into an ethnic party along the lines of Boston, with Japanese instead of Irish and it worked. He locked up over a third of the vote. Add in the transplanted flower children from California and you have a one party State. The 15th District here is affordable, so we have quite a few transplanted New England working class Democrats. In Ohio, most farmers were Republicans and independent as could be. They didn't look on working inside at a factory as real labor, what with bein' indoors and screened from the elements, but most workers are conservative, so I may

sway some of them my way when they feel the effects of the latest social tax and spend experiment. The Orlando Sentinel showed up on my driveway. Maybe my local news carrier will notice that it is on the cement and stop throwing his newspaper on the grass.

August 28, 1993 Attending the Republican Men's group was a waste of time. No one arrived until 11:30 and they were busy eating lunch until 12:00. I wasn't on the program or even listed to be. My District Committeewoman must have been misinformed. Before it began, I passed out my platform & resume to a more than disinterested group. Several members of the County Republican Executive Committee asked why I did not attend their last meeting. I told them I wasn't invited, and where I grew up we learned manners. One of them said, "We have sunshine laws, the meetings are open." Interesting, so far my feelings are that they want me to stick my candidacy where the sun doesn't shine. I had to leave before the program began to attend the farewell bash at the air base. The sincere suits arrived just before noon. It was power broker time. My opponent, Mike Shukdinas arrived in a sincere blue suit (I was in golf shorts and shirt, dressing for the occasion) and tried to take control of the meeting. After giving him a copy of my issues and resume, I asked why he didn't return my calls. He didn't answer. Changed the subject to; we should caucus instead of running against each other in the primary. I told him again that a caucus was illegal. Had to leave so I missed his speech.

August 29, 1993 I had written a letter clarifying my platform to the Orlando paper. It isn't in today and it looks like it will never make it. Phone bill came in. Expenses are piling up. Three calls to the State Party; \$4.35.

August 30, 1993 The FEC sent a letter alerting me to serious problems encountered with frequency. Wonder who this frequency guy is? I've met serious problems. Rather than repeat the questions the FEC raised, I'll give their answers. Don't accept over \$1,000 per individual, per election. Refund any excess over this amount. Spend all you want of your own funds. If you loan to yourself or give, you can't change your mind and list gifts as loans at a later date. Doesn't say why, but this probably has something to do with; if I can raise enough money, I'll call it a loan, if not, it'll be a gift. In addition, each family member is bound by the \$1,000 contribution rule. After the twelve day pre-election report, there is a forty eight hour report required by the FEC on gifts of \$1,000 or more. This one is a real intrusion into privacy. One must list the full name, address, occupation and employer of anyone who gives \$200 or more during any one year. This has to be a tracking mechanism for incumbents. I have come to the conclusion that the only way a free society can run a fair election is to throw out the rules and the FEC. This threatening letter was three pages. Not bad for the federal types. When they want to play hardball, they can be concise. The Treasurer says, "Keep the letter. The Tooth Fairy and Elves may back you."

August 31, 1993 Got to be vacation time. Damn little politics in either paper. My letters didn't get in. Tomorrow is conservative Monday in our local papers. If I get in then, I can see a pattern, but what to do with it? Think I've figured out a sure fire way to eliminate deficit spending and reduce the deficit. Keep government on vacation and Clinton immobile. Sound bites on the weekend political TV shows have Clinton campaigning against the other party. He doesn't want to go through another one vote budget battle on health-care, but wants to have his own way. Vladimmir Iliyeh Ulyanov time again. I thought Pravda on the Potomac was alone in biased reporting. An eye-opener to find it in newspapers out beyond the beltway. Our universities have been working their socialist mills overtime. And magazines? Harper's and National Review are bedfellows? Yes, but not in a political sense. It's their use of obfuscated and coded English as obtuse as scholarly Latin. National Review? I dropped my subscription when I could no longer make sense out of the articles. Harper's? I've maintained my subscription for their lists and occasional insight. Once in awhile they slip up and write an understandable piece, but if they don't stop using freebies from public domain and start paying writers, I'll change my mind.

September 1, 1993 "Leftists kidnap 9 journalists" Nah, wouldn't work here. My letter didn't make it in the Orlando paper. My theory about printing conservative views on Monday is shattered. However, the local radio station is broadcasting

my interview every half hour. They alternate three different sound bites. Received another package from the FEC. A video tape titled, **Why Me?** Good question since I don't own a VCR. Sent along another campaign guide. Pretty good paper. Too bad we don't have an outhouse. The State Party sent a candidate questionnaire. Under the question about; Why am I running? I answered, "Pure of heart and with the strength of ten." This may not be the answer they were expecting.

September 2, 1993 My letters still aren't in the papers. Washington is on vacation and the world is safe from lawyers, lobbyists and legislators until mid-September.

September 3, 1993 Letters still aren't in. If I can't get results I'll use the obituary trick. Send in an article about the death of fair play. The only problem with that ploy is that it won't be accepted unless an undertaker sends it in. I'd have to find one with a very good sense of humor. We need to take action within the next four years or we'll really be a third world country. We are exporting jobs and importing workers, goods and services. Won't be long before everyone is on the dole. A classic example of this is a loophole in immigration law that allows companies to bring in computer programmers from overseas. Congress and the Executive branch said we can afford to bend hardware overseas because our work force will become the cutting edge of the information age. Right! Cut and replaced by low cost green cards.

September 4, 1993 Have a few calls out there that weren't answered. The Large Town Mayor didn't call back, neither did the author. Doesn't say much for an investigative citizen activist author. Must have her own agenda. If one doesn't return a call or respond to a letter, it says something about that person's character or lack of. There isn't an excuse for poor manners. I called this author three times and she has failed to respond. I'll not call again. NASA still hasn't heard from it's Mars space probe. I won't pick on them. This program (unmanned probes) used to be their star. The layers of management at NASA's agencies must be thicker than limestone in a quarry, besides a fool and his money are soon parted. The Orlando paper isn't carrying any articles on National politics. Our local paper is up to their old tricks. Under Local News, "Our Congressman pushes for Large Town Post Office." He sent a letter expressing his dismay to the Postmaster General at not being on the list for new construction when funds become available. Nothing more political than Post Office construction. Won't get into whether we need a new one or not, I don't know. If our Congressman can't get one built he isn't trying, doesn't have any clout or we don't need one. As a writer, our Post Office is a second home. Our people are courteous, first rate and the wait isn't long. Don't think I've waited longer than five minutes and that was at Christmas. I do know that the average wait in Sun City, Arizona is 30 minutes or better. It's so long there, they've installed benches and have numbers on a roll (like a grocery bakery). For here, if you avoid the

first couple of working days of the month and go in after lunch, there's no wait at all. We may not have the spiffiest new Post Office, but we're blessed with some of the best people in the Postal Service. The ones in Sun City would moon the old folks if they could get away with it.

September 5, 1993 I've called the employees and management at our newspapers: amateurs, biased and a few other things without a response. A few years back when I accused the staff at Time magazine of being out of touch with anyplace that grows grass, they sent a blistering response. They were still out of touch, but alive. Machines, that's it; when the founder and owner retired he installed machines to carry on his message. With Michael Jackson in trouble over his attraction to young boys, Bert and Lonnie fighting over money (in divorce cases, everything else is a diversion), Di and sons visiting Disney's attractions and Florida State opening the football season tomorrow, the West County paper has zip and no letter. Under local briefs (I'm not the only Republican getting the small column treatment); "We will feature Bush on on-line forum." Jeb has hired a staff, opened a campaign account and is raising money, but hasn't announced his candidacy. Who says the rich and famous don't have an advantage. Jeb will be on the CompuServe Information Service. If I wasn't convinced before, I am now. Machines have taken over. Called the telephone number for the on-line thing and listened to an answering machine.

Hmm.

September 6, 1993 Called the obituary section of our local newspaper. The lady in charge wouldn't accept my notice unless I was from the immediate family. I told her that Ms. Fair N. Play had no survivors. She wouldn't budge. She recommended that I submit it through the funeral home. So, I've decided to send it to the Publisher. Doesn't anyone out there have a sense of humor?

DEATH NOTICE

Ms. Fair N. Play passed away on the first day of August without notice. Ms. Play hasn't been seen around for at least two years. When she was, the local TV and radio stations featured her, but she never received mention in the newspapers. No one was certain how Ms. Play passed on, but locally her death was attributed to a continuing lack of interest by the print media. Ms. Play is mourned by Jim Owen and a few members of the Grand Old Party.

Fairness doctrine means that other announced candidates (me) have a right to respond to letter plants by our Congressman's minions, his articles (Perspectives, August 29th) and your articles (business section, August 25th). By the way, his article firmly placed him on all sides of the Space Program issue. What NASA lacks is **vision**. Your editorial did a pretty good job of facing the issue head on. When an organization becomes a pork barrel, the barrel begins to give off odors.

I would like to respond, but when my entire campaign chest is 11¢ against \$135,000 of our Congressman's cartel (\$65,000 from PACs), I don't have the time or money to communicate with your Executive editor's wastebasket. I tried to sneak the death notice past your obituary lady. She didn't catch on to the humor or meaning. We (voters) long for a free press. Caveat lector,

September 7, 1993 My letters didn't make it into either paper. The Orlando paper has a profile on the four Republican Candidates for Governor (only one, Smith, is pro-choice). Goldwater is right again on the need for separation of Church and State. If this single issue religious litmus test issue continues, the GOP will go the way of the Whigs. Received another video tape of **WHY ME**, from the FEC, a third copy of their Campaign Guide and a Supplement about contributions so complicated only a Philadelphia Lawyer could decipher it. Lawyers have written these convoluted election laws to give incumbents an advantage on how campaign funds are spent. Designated and undesignated contributions are the theme of this supplement. If a contribution is undesignated before a primary election it can only be used before that election. Incumbents win again! I can request that the donor redesignate his contribution. Back from this mornings bike ride. Treasurer has lost eight pounds on the diet she put me on, I've lost six. Found a penny on NEMO avenue (that's Owen spelled backwards). Contributions up to 12¢ and commingled in my pencil jar.

September 8, 1993 Have to comment on our Congressman's article in our local newspaper. He was even given his own by-line. He's deeply concerned about the loss of the Mars Observer and his heart goes out to the scientists that were involved in the failure. The next paragraph notes the risks involved in space ventures and need to accelerate reforms already underway to create a better, cheaper, faster space program. Translation; what we're doing is great, we need to go faster. He equates rocket science with the hunt for a cancer cure. States we didn't stop when we had failures and implies we shouldn't now. Critics are saying America should no longer take risks. Critics want an America that flinches at challenges and he prefers an America that is emboldened by them. Embolden means to instill courage. Not a good word, should have used, meets challenges head on. If he means what he's saying, America needs a shot of courage and his implication is that Americans are cowards. He goes on to say we must determine what went wrong to avoid similar mistakes. Advocates three reforms: develop simpler, more reliable launch vehicles, low cost robotic missions and a commitment by Congress to provide stable funding. His political tactic is to paint his critics into a corner by placing his terms in their mouths. The best way to reform NASA is to take it out of pork barrel politics. Failing that, we should make NASA plan a space program that is independent of major Centers. Then eliminate the Centers, cut administration personnel in half (not middle managers, secretaries and clerks) the number before the plan and put a stop to engineering sandboxes. Serious

consideration should be given to reducing staff engineers and face up to the fact that contractors are doing almost all of the R&D (research and development). Most government (including military) labs should be converted to useful purposes, such as boarding schools for the poor and indigent. Maybe this would help break the cycle of welfare mothers and street training that leads today's youth to Lorton or San Quentin.

September 9, 1993 My letters still haven't made it in to either newspaper. Three former congressmen are under fire for improper use of leftover campaign money. They can legally spend it to pay expenses related to their offices, give it to charity, donate it to political committees or use the funds for a lawful purpose. Unfortunately, a lawful purpose was left undefined. These three spent their funds on travel, gifts and political contributions (not committees) along with legal expenses. As a result, one received a three month sentence for tax evasion and filing false campaign reports and the second one gave his grandson \$1,000. All three former Congressmen are Democrats from South Florida. I'll have to remember: 1. Give to committees, not people. 2. Don't give money to relatives. 3. Report all to the IRS and pay your taxes. That's what got the first one three months in the slammer, failure to pay taxes on illegal expenses.

September 10, 1993 Several days ago, the business section launched our Congressman's campaign for him. Congressman preaches job creation, budget support. He won money for:

dredging improvements, housing renovations at Patrick Air Force Base and beach renourishment. The dredging improvements made the beach renourishment necessary and housing renovations are a line item in the DOD budget. If he wants to take credit for the obvious then he must take credit for the Italian marble tile floor at Air Force Technical Applications Center. Our Congressman claims credit for moving the VA hospital from Orlando to Viera later in this decade. That comes under; outyear, wishful thinking and no kidding? When I was stationed in the Aleutian Islands way out on the end of the chain, Alaskan Air Command promised to send all the supplies we needed on a once a year barge called the Mona Lisa. Our requirements would have filled up the Queen Mary. When the Mona Lisa arrived, our long awaited Fire Engine turned out to be an ancient Ford pickup. Wouldn't have been all that bad except the paint fell off when it was dropped on the dock. Could our Congressman be selling us another pickup truck with dust spray painted over? "No Republican representing this district could have gotten any of that money. Maybe it's not right, but it's true." Not all true. It was already in the budget. Kind of like taking credit for inventing the wheel. He should be re-elected (hint, hint) because he may earn the chairmanship of the House's space sub-committee. The current Chairman is thinking about retiring. His goal for KSC, "I want it to become more than a launching pad." Blows my mind thinking about a lawyer and journalist as chairman of a space subcommittee. No wonder NASA is having so many problems, Congress doesn't have the smarts to provide

budgetary oversight. I have plans for KSC too, starting with consolidating all manned space activities at the Cape. Final comment. The next Congress (House) is going to be Republican. We better unload this turkey. He gave his cost-of-living adjustment to charity (2%) in 1992. Wonder what he gave to charity the year before. This year he voted to freeze his salary. Had too, it was in the President's tax bill. I'd have preferred that he voted the other way. I've lived up there in the land of beltway. It's expensive. I'd rather have our Congress make enough to live here and there than be paid off by special interests.

Running In Place

"'A slow sort of country!' said the Queen.
Now here, you see, it takes all the running
you can do, to keep in the same place. If
you want to get somewhere else, you must
run twice as fast as that."

Lewis Carroll 1865

September 11, 1993 Neither paper carried my letters. It looks like the obituary ploy won't work. It is too soon to give up writing to editors, but it is tempting. Sure is time consuming. In the news today, "The \$26 billion bust" headline on page one. "Titan 4 may not be up to the job." "Clearly, something needs to be done," said our Congressman, "The U.S. desperately needs a simpler, more rugged and reliable expendable launch vehicle." He went on to say that NASA and the Air Force have debated launch vehicles for 10 years without an agreement and that the Pentagon needs to upgrade it's current rocket fleet. I guess this comes under the heading of; it doesn't take a rocket scientist. Just saying we need inexpensive launch or lift vehicles, doesn't make it happen. The Orlando paper has 'Trouble in GOP land?' "Bill Tolley, perennial GOP loser in local congressional district campaigns is trying to take over the county organization. A conservative pro-life faction is close to taking over the committee. Nothing would please the Democrats more." I don't need to comment, my intuition was right for a change. Treasurer received a copy of RECORD, a newsletter from the FEC. Biggest shock in the newsletter was Public Funding of Elections. Congress increases IRS tax checkoff to \$3. Wow what a rip-off! Time for taxpayers to revolt. Let the incumbents get their own campaign funds like the rest of us. Gets a bit much when we have to fund the excesses of conventions. The rest of it covers court cases, non-compliance cases etc. Must be some real idiots and crooks out there running for public office. Caesars wife should be everybody's guideline. I phoned the

Chairman of the Republicans Men's club. He works at the County Elections office. We chatted about the Sentinel news item. Has a District map that I can have, but a list of registered Republicans will cost five cents each. Over 100,000 registered in the County. Mailing labels are 2¢ each. A full mail out for the County alone could cost over \$30,000 and that doesn't include printing costs. And there are three other counties to consider. Don't know about the cost of the fliers, but it could add up to at least \$150,000 for three separate mailouts at 50¢ each. Most people throw them away. Radio, TV and a billboard may be more productive and cost effective. A pitch about our Congressman killing the forest with his free printing and franked mailout from Washington may be appropriate. Called the County Chairman to let him know that I didn't plant the item in the Sentinel about the Party. He is a cattle farmer in the next County, but he lives on the beach in this County. Must be a good business. I promised to attend his County Executive Council next Thursday.

September 12, 1993 I phoned the State Party Headquarters. The person working Congress will be in town this Thursday. Wants to talk to me and the other candidates. I'm scheduled from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. She says that I can have any registered voter sign my petitions. Hope she is right. If that is the case, I shouldn't have too much difficulty getting on the ballot. If it's just Republicans, it will be like hunting needles in a haystack.

September 13, 1993 Another day and no letters in either paper. Maybe journalists should be required to major in history, with minors in English and journalism. Same as teachers should have a well rounded education instead of the current trade school approach. I'm influenced by teachers and writers with a well grounded passion for the matters at hand. There seems to be a lack of touch with what's going on out here in the world and what it all means. Walden Pond time again. The newspaper's lead article, "Without the space station there will be no ongoing mission for the space shuttle. Without the space shuttle there will be no manned space program. And without a manned space program, soon we will have no space program at all. The loss of the space station would have devastating consequences for the County. There would be fewer people buying homes, fewer people buying gas, fewer people getting their clothes cleaned at the local dry cleaners, and all that would add to the devastation of our local economy." Didn't know that our local economy was devastated, a little slow maybe, but devastated? The Business section quotes our Congressman in "Lawmakers walk tightrope over free trade pact." He really has a slippery grasp of the issue, "I would like to see some sort of agreement to eliminate the shipment of workers here to compete with our workers. In concept, I would like to see an agreement, but not before some of the fine print is worked out. In concept an agreement can be beneficial, but I want to see that there's adequate protection for the environment and U.S. labor. Harris Corporation and its suppliers are for it ... the citrus growers

and packing plants oppose it." Translation; whoever gives me the most cash and votes gets my vote, but I still may sell out to get a better committee job. This is really serious trouble. NAFTA, North American Free Trade Agreement is coming up for a vote. Our Companies have learned to join with overseas manufacturers by moving production out of country for cheap labor and less environmental hassle. So the natural support for protection is gone and farmers and labor are left swinging in the wind. Wonder how long it will take for our dollar to be devalued by half?

September 14, 1993 'Melbourne engineer bids for House seat'
Mike Shukdinas is officially in the race at last. He is a senior engineer at Harris and a 1990 graduate of Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. He is pursuing a MS in business admin at Florida Tech. 31 years old, 13 years in government contracting, he will make space funding and reduced government regulations part of his campaign. He may be missing the real issues. Have to wait and see. We all tend to recreate the world in our own image. They stuffed Mike. He got in on Monday. I got in on Thursday. Most auspicious bike ride so far. Found a 1991 Roosevelt dime. Commingled it in my pencil jar. Campaign funds have almost doubled to 22¢.

September 15, 1993 We limit the term of Presidents. What makes Congress so special? If it takes five years to be vested under the House retirement plan, our Congressman has to win one more

election or he'll be sucking wind. Congressman plans jobs fair is the lead article in Business Digest. He's using a taxpayer facility, our community college, to hold this gathering. I've seen a number of these affairs run by private industry. They rent a hall, pay for advertising and sell booths to industry. First time I've seen taxpayers pick up the tab. This one is so slick, Dick Tuck would appreciate it. I won't let it pass without a comment. His theme is jobs and when our Congressman sold his vote on the budget bill he had to come up with lime to cover up the smell. The National Democratic Committee must have decided on jobs as their congressional campaign theme. Our opulent one is following through. He has \$113,988.29 on hand as of the first of July and operating expenses were \$20,865.34 for the first six months of 1993. They'll be rising. He has received \$60,550 itemized from individuals, \$5,810 not itemized and a whopping \$68,500 from PACs. During the last election year, 1992, he spent \$688,839.90. He has probably figured that he'll need at least that much next year. Not to outspend his opponent, but to convince the voter that three camels have arrived at his doorstep from the east. Can't spend much now, but he's got to create a new image as Boss Tweed the job giver. Don't you just love to see ward heelers at work. Visited the elections office in Viera. The office manager gave me the map he had promised. He recommended that I not use Owen Now as my campaign slogan. NOW is the acronym for National Organization of Women. Looks like I've screwed up, again. I'll need a new campaign slogan.

September 16, 1993 Perot and his co-author of an Anti-NAFTA book were on Larry King's TV program. Interesting discussion. Saw Foley commenting about Lyndon Johnson when he was a freshman in Congress. Can see how he makes people do his bidding. Foley has a certain amount of charm and makes a lot of sense when he's talking about interacting with people. His defense of current perks and what used to go on was very convincing. Our Congressman made it into the back of the newspaper for a legitimate reason. He backpedaled away from his opposition and signed a petition to eliminate a procedure called, "the secret discharge petition." He signed after the local paper wrote an editorial noting that he was among those in the House who had not supported opening up the list." Pants down time! This comes under the heading of better late than never. The only effective way to clean up the House is to get rid of the Democratic majority. This article was buried next to the obituaries section. The Congressional liaison and Director of Campaign Operations for the State Party stopped by for a chat. I gave them my platform planks and my opinions, didn't hold anything back. They were out on an exploratory visit to see who's who. Going to run a poll to uncover key issues in this District and guess who's running it, my friend from Alexandria, Virginia. I won't be allowed to see it. If I did, I'd have to pay the \$8,000 it will cost. This illustrates more than just plain words the incumbent bias in rules governing elections. I did not receive any sign of support from the State Party. I feel like Lewis Carroll's Alice, running in place.

I waited a few days before writing about attending the Republican Executive Committee meeting. I thought that an executive committee was a small group of folks, like a steering committee. It was a real donybrook. There were at least 150 folks in attendance and everyone had an agenda. Awe inspiring to see democracy in action. The anti-abortion folks were walking in lockstep. Looked like zombies from the Night of the Living Dead, waiting for their masters to give them direction. I passed out my bio and platform at the door. Most anti-abortionists refused to take either. I came to the conclusion that it wasn't because their minds were closed, it must be that they cannot read. Barbara Bush has found an audience for her literacy campaign. Finally met the State Committeewoman. She read down to where I said that women had rights and then looked me in the eye and called me, "Baby Killer!" As an aside, it was easy to identify the Religious Wrong. They were the pale faced thin lipped unsmiling ones. I estimated, from appearances, that they were about two fifths of this group. So they haven't taken over, yet.

September 17, 1993 Called my contact at the Supervisor of Elections and chatted about the events transpiring at the Executive Committee meeting. Mainly to see if I had read the undercurrents, correctly. He is a secular conservative and a Christian of the old school. Also phoned the Chairman of the Executive Committee to see if I will be allowed to speak. The Chairman is in lockstep with the zombies and listens to

their master. Wasn't able to get a commitment. One item of agreement is that our Democratic Congressman is failing in his effort to convince the voters that he is conservative. My contact mentioned that the wealthiest and most influential lobbyist at the State Capitol is backing our Congressman. Among his clients is our local newspaper. Hmm! I'll have to call the State Party and get his name. Our Congressman was given a plug in the local newspaper. He has organized two public forums to discuss, research and answer questions about electromagnetic waves. He has invited health officials from the national Centers for Disease Control's air and radiation division. Health effects of electromagnetic waves from radar and high voltage lines are the issue. South Patrick shores is concerned about Patrick's radar causing Lou Gehrig's disease and Vero Beach is concerned about high-voltage power lines being installed near their homes. Seems to be a worthwhile effort, but they buried his name under paragraph one. Only comment I have is it's a community problem and not a federal one. Mayor or County Board should be handling this problem with his assistance. I had a tar babylike this on my hands in Hawaii when I was President of the Queen's Gate Homeowner's Association. Couple of Western airline pilots couldn't sell their places during the housing market slump of 1980 to 1984 (Sometimes pilots aren't smart. Three years later values doubled). They decided to make a Love Canal issue out of our small area, located in the middle of the Hawaii Kai golf course. They attributed allergies and fainting spells to chemicals used on the golf

course that surrounded our homes. When that was proved false, they blamed the treated water from the sewage plant used to irrigate the golf course (Cocoa Beach uses this method). When that was proved false, they turned to house construction and poison gases from insulation and came up empty again. Along the way, hysteria grew and no one could sell their homes. I used radio, TV and newspapers to say, "Enough is enough. Well over 75% of all allergies are grass related and that we lived in the middle of a golf course. If the Western Airline Pilots are truly suffering from fainting spells, why didn't they turned themselves into the FAA Flight Surgeon, ground themselves and not endanger passengers." When the media asked what I thought of their claims, I went over all the unnecessary and costly chemical analysis, over \$100,000 by State and Kaiser, that it was a witch hunt and all their claims were hogwash. Certainly didn't endear myself to the complainers, but I stopped the foolishness. Looks like our Congressman has plunked himself into the middle of a no win situation.

o September 18, 1993 Talk about backpedaling. Our Congressman's participation in the job fair was really downplayed. Sixty firms have signed up, but it is beginning to look like the only jobs are for hamburger flippers. "We have about 60 employers coming and we are looking for people who were hiring," said an aid to our Congressman. Maybe that's the problem. He should have looked for people who are hiring, not were. I'm going to stop over and have a look-see, maybe I can find work sacking

groceries at a super market. I'd make more than I do writing. I waited awhile longer before adding additional comments about what went on at the Executive Committee. Mark Twain will speak, in part, for me. He says, "When angry, count four; when very angry, swear." At the Executive Committee meeting one of the contenders in the last Republican Primary pulled me aside for a chat. She still had over \$60,000 of outstanding debt from her 1992 primary campaign. Although I was called a baby killer by our State Committeewoman with "The serene confidence which a Christian feels in four aces." (Mark Twain 1864). I was asked to stand up and wave by the District Chairman, which I did. Think I was like Nixon, but hope I looked like Ike. I signed up to be a member of this committee, which is probably another stupid politician trick (number one). Don't know if they have an opening. However, if citizens don't participate in the process, we'll get the form of government we deserve. Knowing that no one is manning the office, I volunteered, but the office administrator doesn't want any help. Says there is nothing to do (her husband lost the last two times out). When I phoned the Chairman, I told him that part of the Party's problem is appearances. The office should be open five days a week and manned by a cross section of the Party. I am a dufus! Of course he likes things the way they are. He's in charge and the one responsible. Our party has a problem! Mark Twain knew the perfect way to address this one. "O kind missionary, O compassionate missionary, leave China! come home and convert these Christians!"

September 19, 1993 Attended our Congressman's job fair at the local community college. Volunteers were everywhere wearing tee shirts with his name and proudly proclaiming citizens for something or other. I forgot which. Can't campaign at these things but you can advertise with your clothes. Place was jammed with middle management employees in business suits looking for work. Harris, Grumman and Lockheed Space and several other engineering firms had lines that stretched a city block. I stopped at eleven booths and handed my resume to the ones that said they were interested. Strange, none of them were hiring or giving interviews. Only Scientific Atlanta insisted they were after employees. Government was in attendance; Labor, Commerce, NASA and a few others. There were no openings, unless I was young enough to join the Coast Guard. Mary Kay, Little Caesars and the like had applications and openings. Don't think I'd look good in pink and I'd eat up all the profits at a pizza place. Looked for a Super Market to sign on as a bagger, but couldn't find one. Disney was honest, they said they hire staff positions from within and they wouldn't talk with me as I didn't fit the Mickey Mouse image (an old fart). In fact, they weren't hiring at all. They were there to stay on the good side of our Congressman. The local newspaper had a booth and took applications. I applied for something generic just for the hell of it. Out of all the applications I turned in, only Disney gave a response. If you get the opportunity, send in for an application to them. They respond with the world's neatest letterhead. A real Mickey Mouse outfit!

Letter to Disney follows (now you know where to send your resume).

Walt Disney World Co.

Professional Staffing-GE01

P.O. Box 10090

Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830-0090

Dear Mickey Mouse Company,

Love your logo. If we are what we eat, then a cartoon company is what they draw. Met with your reps at our Congressman's job fair. If you are what you draw, then we are what we wear. Tee shirts proclaimed that our Congressman had volunteers at every table. Didn't know that Disney was politically active, but since you are, I wonder if I can have the free use of Disney characters to hold my signs when I campaign against him? Hey there, high there, ho there for fair play. Down to serious thoughts for your consideration. Couldn't have been more than six real middle management jobs and nine to ten thousand job seekers. Raising expectations when there is none can be cruel (I did get an interview offer from Mary Kay, but I don't look good in pink). I take exception to this foolishness. You were honest, but you were still contributing to an unfulfilled promise. You're in business. You know that these affairs are run commercially when the need is there. Magna est veritas et praevallebit,

September 20, 1993 Called the State Party to get the name of Gannett's lobbyist. It's Guy Spearman, a backer of our Democratic Congressman. Called my contact at Elections to confirm Spearman. He agrees. He says he is convinced that the Chairman is in the pocket of the guy that lost last time. Evidence is leaning that way. Our hippy-dippy Editorial Page Editor at the local paper is at it again on the radar problem at Patrick AFB. "To his credit, our U.S. Representative has scheduled public forums in South Patrick Shores and Vero Beach on Thursday to discuss the issue." Our Congressman shouldn't be the spear carrier on this issue. Electromagnetic waves and radar transmissions as a cause of Lou Gerhig's disease? Only if one is shorted to ground. This is a local issue and should be handled by the local folks with his support. He has made a political issue out of a no win situation. Besides transmission lines and the radar, the folks are upset over a low watt radio tower. The tower is an eyesore, but at 100 watts can only be a hazard if it falls on someone. Power lines are an eyesore too. They may be hazardous if you park your house underneath one of them, but if you're far enough away, you won't receive enough gauss to influence your brain waves. Our local newspaper should call experts on this and quit raising bogeymen until a scientific survey is accomplished. The relationship between constituent service and incumbency are being played to the hilt by our Congressman. He is going to de-emphasize his controversial voting record by nonpartisan, nonprogrammatic constituent service. It results in a blurring of political

friends and enemies (paraphrasing Morris Fiorina). Our Congressman was on C-SPAN, right after Neal, the left wing hippy, Abercrombe from Hawaii. They were pontificating on Special Orders. Neal wants to protect tourists from his constituents in Hawaii and our Congressman broke both his arms patting himself on the back for the work his volunteers do on Citizen Saturdays. So that's what those tee shirts were all about. Neal wore his long, California flower-child hair style. He is a bit old in the face to wear it, but it does reflect what is inside his head. He replaced the best Congresswoman and person Hawaii ever sent, Pat Saiki. She really had her constituents in mind. Neal is more concerned about left wing mantras. Hawaii is a one party state. Howdy Doody could win on the Democratic ticket. Come to think of it, looking at what they send to Washington and the last two Governors, they're are a few wooden people that have held office. Our Congressman also patted himself on the back for the success of his job fair. He recommended that every Congressman hold one. That could be dangerous. If there were ten job fairs held in each state with the same result, we'd form up another jobless Cox's army of five million marching on Washington, all middle managers that no how to get things done and all looking for work. I'll have a problem with our Congressman on the campaign trail. He's divorced from reality and thinks that he is Mother Teresa. Let's see, she is from Albania and his heritage may be from that part of the world. Barney Frank, Neal Abercrombe and our Congressman, strange bedfellows of the left!

September 21, 1993 Tourist season is almost upon us again and our local politicians have it mixed up with hunting season. They're turning violent criminals (hunters) out on the streets and keeping drug users in jail on mandatory sentences. Has to be a better way. We've should decriminalize the use of drugs, put druggies under public health care and empty the jails. Now I don't mean to legalize drug selling. That would still be a crime. Get rid of the possession law aimed at users, but eliminate the profit motive and the slime bag dealers will have to find a new line of work. Have doctors prescribe and National Health provide like in Great Britain. They tried our method and filled their jails with drug users, the streets with prostitutes and the night with crime. Realizing this didn't work, they returned to treatment of drug use as a health problem. Our real natives, the Seminole Indians, have purchased 2500 acres of adjacent land in Indian River and Osceola counties. County commissioners in both counties are concerned about gambling casinos and poker clubs. The Seminoles claim to have purchased the land for ceremonial purposes, like the Green Corn Dance celebrating the new corn crop. Everyone wants to write to our Congressman. Seminoles aren't stupid. They wouldn't set up a casino in the middle of nowhere. Our Congressman's Press Secretary claims this is the first time he's heard of this activity. Much ado about nothing! Land has swamps and mosquitoes. Corn Dance wouldn't last too long under the circumstances. When a county is named Indian River, it must owe something to the Seminoles besides trouble.

September 22, 1993 The heat must be taking it's toll in Orlando. Hate to do it, but I'm going to cancel my subscription to the Orlando paper. One radical centrist paper is enough. I've found a way to subscribe to the Economist (London) and I can't afford both. Received a letter and package from the State Party thanking me for the meeting and my views. In the package was a copy of the Congressional Quarterly. Haven't read it for years. Has some excellent stuff on the bills and issues. When I worked for a company in the Washington area, I read all of the legislative publications. Tells a lot about how time consuming a marketing job is. No heavy lifting there.

September 23, 1993 The news covers, "State to study Gehrig's outbreak" as a sub-headline on page one. The Patrick Air Force Base radar will be looked into as one of the possible causes. The local paper prompted a study in the same area for Hodgkin's disease in 1991. Hmm, maybe the cause is our local paper. All of our county will be studied by the chief epidemiologist for the State. Most of us are relatively new to the county. Could it be we've brought our diseases with us. I spent 26 years in the Air Force in close proximity to radars. Flew with high powered radars. Illnesses suffered by my crews are mostly lung related from smoking and emphysema. Article goes on to say experts don't know much about the effects of radar pulses. No easy answers is the expert's conclusion. Little study has been done on effects of electromagnetic fields. One ALS sufferer said, "the experts did not seem well-prepared and did not present

much information." Couldn't, there isn't any except that you close the door on your microwave. Its heat source is the same as a radar's power source, a magnetron. Has to be some microwave studies out there. Can't believe a developer was allowed to build houses 500 feet away from a radar. Is it transmitting in it's complete circle or in sector scan? How much backscatter has been measured? Has anyone done a field power measurement study? There are many questions that shouldn't be too hard to answer. I called the reporter who wrote the article, at 10:20 a.m. Wasn't in. She called back at 4:30 p.m. Great hours! She said the County Health Department has jurisdiction, but begged off to State. Everyone said the only way to get something done is to get congressional interest. She has talked with a Polish expert on the recommendation of the editor of Microwave Journal. Several studies show a relationship to increased incidents of cancer on board Navy ships. This thrashing around has been going on for a year and no one has measured the power levels from said radar. She says that no one claims ownership of the radar at Patrick Air Force Base. FAA and the Air Force point at the other guy. It looks like no one is in charge here, study or ownership. First step in a scientific study is to make measurements of the physical evidence in hand. Second step is to read all other studies in the same area. Then draw some sort of conclusion and provide answers. I can give one answer from my desk. There will be no correlation between radar transmissions and ALS, but that doesn't excuse the bungling of this problem. Since our

Congressman has inserted himself into this problem, he needs to take charge or get out of the way. The Patrick radar is one to two megawatts. That's mighty high power for an FAA search radar.

September 24, 1993 The local paper's editorial defends their stand on ALS scare at Patrick. Must have struck a nerve with my call. Our Congressman will be a guest speaker on a radio program, Straight Talk on Chiropractic, topic: health care reform and alternate health care. Tuesday, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. I'll have to tune in (I forgot). This is as far out as it gets. Our Congressman will discuss Hillary Clinton's Health plan and no one has seen a copy of it yet, it hasn't been released.

September 25, 1993 Our congressman is a busy little beaver. "I am unalterably opposed to any offshore drilling anywhere along Florida's coast, and I will fight the efforts of the Clinton administration, or any other administration, to drill for oil in a way that endangers the future of Florida," U.S. Congressman told members of the Florida Solar Energy Industries Association at a convention. He was quoted in his Mother Teresa mode in the last paragraph. "As a nation we are not ready to admit we have to free ourselves of our needless dependence on imported oil, that is a tragedy. America should make decisions in the world for reasons relating to our principles and not just our pocketbooks." Kind of eliminates the laws of supply and demand. He certainly knows how to turn a meaningless phrase

into political double-talk. Someone should have told him he was talking to solar people out to make a buck, not the Green Peace folks. The Space Station is being voted on today in the Senate and our Congressman's has comments. When asked about Russian-American cooperation, "I want to see the fine print. I fully support the idea of international cooperation if it is done appropriately it will only help the space station and the entire space program, but we want to make sure it's done appropriately, and by appropriately I mean it must be done in a way that preserves and enhances American jobs, American technology and America's leadership role in space." He goes on to say he wants our space stuff to be launched from KSC. Must be setting up a straw man. If he knows anything about the Russian Space Program, he'd know there isn't a chance of our launching from their facilities. Our systems don't match up with their facilities. He's straddled the fence with his mug on one side and wump on the other, simultaneously wrapping himself in the flag. He's not a Left wing liberal or a conservative Democrat, he's what our County needs, he's a circus acrobat.

September 26, 1993 My campaign funds are growing by leaps and bounds. Found another penny on our daily bike ride and fifty cents was sent to me through the mail for filling out a survey on my car. Funds are now at 73¢. I plan to call the local paper on their Space Station article. They failed to get comments from our two senators on a Senate vote effecting our

area. We got comments from a Congressman who isn't involved. Called, and a recording machine answered. I left a message. Machines again, but I did call early; 10:00 a.m. Called again at night and got someone (who didn't identify himself) that said the reporter on Space was out at KSC. Must be a bar, the Space Shuttle wasn't scheduled to land until 5:00 a.m. this morning (it didn't, there was a cloud within 30 miles of the runway. May land tomorrow). The local paper covers health care reform. I lean toward public health facilities across the country for those that can't afford their own care. That alone should reduce health care costs. It's cheaper to build or lease Public Health Clinics than to throw money at the problem. The current system allows everyone from doctors, to technicians, to lawyers, to hospitals to con money from our government. Health care should be provided to the poor and working poor at Public Health facilities and as a bonus these clinics could take care of drug addicts too. Charge \$10 for each visit to make sure that the sick are being treated, not the ones looking for someplace to come in out of the rain. I phoned my County Supervisor. He's not in, so I left my phone number. Called the Elections office and my contact gave me the name of a lady who is a contact with Perot's group, United We Stand. She is also a member of the Republican Executive Committee. The County Supervisor returned my call. He is in charge of speakers for the Republican's Men Club. Recommends that I schedule a speech. The UWS lady invited me to a meeting at the local library.

September 27, 1993 Our local paper has comments from our Senators on the Clinton Health Plan. Our Democrat loves it. Our Republican says, "It's loaded with more spending and more bureaucracy ...It will create literally dozens of new agencies ...a 700 billion explosion." Our Congressman; "I generally support the approach he's taking ...the managed competition approach. I need to be persuaded about the financing." Found two pennies. Campaign funds are 75¢. The Space reporter phoned. Seems to have a sense of humor. Says he will be doing candidate profiles in the near future. I used these profiles in the last election to select the candidates I voted for. Hope the electorate can read. Health care and crime dominate the news. One half of our President, Bill, was in Tampa selling his program. His cabinet is scattered about the country doing the same thing. I wish I could stand to listen to him, but I can't. It isn't political, it's the high pitched evangelical whine in his voice and the silly movement of his head back and forth. I wouldn't buy a cemetery plot from him. If this program has to be sold with high pressure salesmanship before the facts are released, is there something wrong with it? Are we being conned? Dole and other Republicans are handling this one with kid gloves. Clinton has shaped the debate so that anyone opposed will look like they're against Santa Claus. This is one bill that I hope Congress takes their time with. There has to be more than a few live land mines in it. NAFTA. My United We Stand contact says there is not a copy in the County. Wonder how we're supposed to form a reasoned opinion.

It appears that no one has an up-to-date map of my Congressional District. As it includes four counties and is a little less than half the geographic size of the state of Ohio, I can understand why.

September 28, 1993 Received a one dollar campaign contribution from a friend in Hawaii. Funds are now at \$1.75 and growing. Don't know if I can explain the world we live in today, but I've never let stupidity stop me before. I'll focus in on a common sense explanation to explain why companies are going through the pain restructuring. In the fall of '89, I was on my way to visit Intelligence units in Okinawa, Guam, Japan and March Air Force Base, California. My tour guide at March showed me to several hangers that were empty except for acres of drafting boards on the upper floors. As far as the eye could see, all were abandoned and covered with dust. Computer aided design had made this work obsolete. One man could do what twenty did before. So I wondered what happened to the other nineteen. Then I remembered that over half the nation's work force consists of government employees or government contractors at state, local, or federal levels and then I knew where the restructured nineteen were. If ten percent of our population is on permanent welfare, twenty percent retired and fifty percent working for government, that leaves only thirty percent working at capital creating jobs to support the rest of us. So, if most of the hardware we purchase is made by another country, how long will it be before we can no longer afford to live here? Remember

our Congressman's job fair? Most of the suits were computer types looking for work. When we weren't looking, Congress changed immigration laws so that the high tech jobs that were supposed to replace bending metal ones are being done by low cost green cards. Looks like our main export will be government employees and I wonder what the market is for them. One last item, education. What have our universities been doing to fill the high tech void? Several years back, the Smithsonian advertised for one Art Historian and received over one hundred thousand applicants. We have a work force overly educated to do all those wonderful futuristic things and no place to do them and one hundred thousand Art Historians to record what didn't happen. Talked with my contact at elections. He advised that there was a United We Stand meeting was listed in the paper. Received a call from Bob Sheffner of the Cook Political Report in Washington D.C. He had talked to Mike Shukdinas and asked that I fax my resume, which I can't do because I don't own one of those contraptions or an answering machine.

September 29, 1993 Attended the Perot group's meeting the other night. Monday night football and a steady rain held attendance down. One of our Councilmen, and the chiefs of fire, roads, police and parks were there to defend the municipal tax increase on the November ballot. We lit into him about lumping it all together in an up or down vote and not giving the taxpayers a line item veto. At issue was a whopping ten percent tax increase for roads. The electorate wasn't being allowed to

exercise the right to choose which item they could vote to pay for. Most everyone supports parks, police and fire and that represented a renewal of the current mill levy, but roads were going to cost each house \$95 a year for three years and \$75 a year after that, forever. Most folks don't mind the first three years, but forever? Has to be something wrong with that. The head of roads and drainage did give an articulate outline of where the money would go. All roads to be brought up to standard in three years. Drainage (we have a thousand miles of canals) cleaned, cleared and up to standard. He pleaded that we give him the money and he'll get it done. There is a plus side to what he proposed. Most government entities spend money on a dozen studies, designs and plans without laying asphalt or bending metal (twelve billion dollars spent on the design of a Space Station and no station). I'll vote no unless he develops a written outline on what they're planning on paper so the voters won't have to buy a pig in a poke. Was there a political side of last night's United We Stand meeting. Yes there was, in spades. The outs' have organized and now they are the ins'. Called my UWS contact and thanked her for inviting me to the UWS meeting. Asked if she knew anyone who could help run my campaign. She promised to think about it. I made reservations for a CIRA (CIA Retirees Association) and AFIO (Association of Former Intelligence Officers) luncheon at the Eau Gallie Yacht Club. May be able to work up support and interest among my Intelligence brethren. Attended these affairs in D.C. Didn't realize they had them here.

September 30, 1993 The CIA Retiree luncheon yesterday was another bust for politics, but it was well attended. CIA retirees came from as far away as Orlando. Reminded me of a Washington cocktail party, of which I've attended too many. The Lockheed senior executive speaker and former CIA deputy director chose to talk about Congress and national issues. Locked up in a board room, he knew less than his audience, who are tuned into CNN and C-SPAN daily. I didn't get to talk or get political. It was old home week and no one was interested in politics. Wow, does our local paper know how to stick its ass into the face of Southern Conservatives. "Vote on military gays is victory for prejudice." "...the House on Tuesday approved legislation by a vote of 301 to 134 that declares homosexuality incompatible with military service. To his credit, our Congressman voted against the measure." Doesn't say why. Maybe he does rent the basement of Barney Frank's townhouse. Where do I stand? I'm ex-military and I'm not certain if it's incompatible with military service, but I support the current policy. I've brushed up against this issue six times during my twenty six years in the Air Force. I've had to prosecute (officers serve as such in military trials, always wondered what our lawyers did) one case, replaced a homosexual who breached security and observed four other cases. Comparing a sexual preference to race or religion is not my cup of tea. Having said that, I also know that there are homosexuals who have served well. Then what's my hang up? An over active sex drive is not compatible with military society. Being in the

military is more than a job, it's a community and a life style. In each of the cases I brushed up against, lack of control of an over active sex drive interfered with security and job performance. The military can't abide with white power, black power, right to life, choice or queer nation. We subjugate our religious and political beliefs to good military order. Open, militant homosexuals don't fit this mold. I won't go into empirical data. Takes too much space. One item. A husband and wife serving in the same unit or on the same base can be somewhat disruptive too. Takes up a lot of administrative time to eliminate nepotism, togetherness and maintain combat readiness. And every time we make an exception for one problem, someone has to pick up the slack. Add in special treatment for homosexuals and this effort will be exponential.

October 1, 1993 Had our first cold snap today. Temperature dropped all the way down to a high of 84° yesterday and it may get colder today. Forecast calls for mid 80's in the day and mid 60's at night. Our local paper is on top of the great issues of our day. "Congress should revisit cable television issue." All I notice is that they never take off the Home Shopping channels, keep adding evangelists and say we're getting more for our dollar.

October 3, 1993 Our local paper is at it again, "Spurred by health concerns, our U.S. Congressman has asked the Federal Aviation Administration to speed up relocating the traffic

control radar at Patrick Air Force Base and to provide a timetable for change." The article goes on to say that it is scheduled to be relocated and replaced in late 1995, anyway. No mention of power measurements or any scientific studies except that there will be a study of Lou Gehrig's disease in our county. The Democrats had a State meeting in Orlando and Hillary gave a speech on her Medical Program. "Our Representative drew repeated boos from the crowd with mention of our Republican Senator." I guess everyone gets carried away. He is really hanging on the Clinton's coattails. If he is running, and he still hasn't openly declared, he sure has picked the wrong crowd to be associated with. Hillary's talk was about the poor not getting a free ride and then she proposed a free ride. She's as good or maybe even better at political talk than Bill. I need to say a few words about United We Stand. I agree with Perot's platform. It may be a case of liking the message, but not liking the messenger. Some of the folks he has attracted around here are border line psychotic. The meeting I attended reminded me of any political gathering, anywhere, anytime, so it's politics as usual with new ins'. There was a scattering of anarchists, no-nothings, white sheeters, wild-eyed liberals, and arch-conservatives along with Mr. Peepers types that were looking for a leader. There were plenty of wanabe leaders there. If United We Stand is the last hope of today's disenfranchised, I just hope that they don't take up arms. They look to me like they'd be at the front of Pickett's charge. This group has folks who are ready for change!

October 4, 1993 Russia is in turmoil and our local paper knows enough not to ask our Congressman for a quote. Richard Benedetto, a Gannett Washington type says, "Looking to 1994, when the GOP hopes to make major congressional gains, the state of the economy will be key. ...they need good candidates, good ideas, a good image and a good track record." My comment, he couldn't find anything new to write about!

October 5, 1993 Somalia and Yeltsin's mop up of parliament dominates the news. Our Congressman was quoted on TV as being opposed to joint space cooperation with the Soviets in building the space station or space ventures. Must be getting his PAC money from companies doing business with NASA. He initially supported cooperation with Russia. The local ABC affiliate carries all of his news releases. NBC and CBS don't. Very interesting. The election office sent a guide for acquisition of registered voter information and County Media contacts. The Republican Women are having Jim Smith, current Secretary of State and candidate for governor as their speaker on November 16. Don't know if I should go or not. Received my first issue of the Economist. Read it from cover to cover and understood. They let their bias show, while trying to be fair. Makes reading and understanding easier when you know where the writers stand. Don't agree with their position on NAFTA, but political insight about the U.S. is right on. My main gripe with Time, Newsweek and U.S. News is their insistence on saying they're neutral when they're not. Bias happens.

October 6, 1993 Two days of tropical rain and another due tomorrow. Love rain. When you grow up on a farm, rain meant a day inside and not much heavy lifting. Our local newspaper has a survey on Somalia; 569 say leave and 27 say stay. I say kick ass, get our troops back from the Somalis and then leave.

October 7, 1993 Our local paper loves to beat a dead horse, "U.S. Congressman was correct to ask the FAA to speed up its relocation of its radar at Patrick..." "Maybe these health concerns are well-founded. Maybe not." Two new items in the mail: a news letter from the FEC and a solicitation from a research firm in Jacksonville. The later does opinion research, strategy and planning. A former naval aviator, will contact me later. The FEC RECORD covers proposed rules on personal use of campaign funds. Prohibited: salary, household expenses, clothing, entertainment, etc. Must be the result of Danny Rostenkowski's Chicago expense account.

October 8, 1993 Our Congressman is in the news again, "We must...protect American jobs, American technology, and an American-led space station," NASA said U.S. components will be launched from the pads at Cape Canaveral. No kidding. They didn't tell our Congressman it would be impossible to launch our lift vehicles from Star City, or theirs from here. Not compatible without some major funding. It's comparing quick disconnect with cannon plugs. Unless the crafty-one is setting

up a strawman, this could be costly. Attended a luncheon for Jeb Bush. He wasn't very convincing or well packaged, but it's early. He supports NAFTA, but so did his father. Jeb wants to abolish the State board of education. A good first step. We need to take out the county boards, too. Get rid of administration and councilors and double the number of teachers. Jeb lacks fire of conviction, but he should improve as he gets blooded. Mike Shukdinas and his wife were there. He sat next to Jeb's wife and tried to work the crowd. I sat with the crowd and may have found a new convert or two. Will have to wait and see. My election office contact was there. He said that Kevin McKeown was entering the race. Kevin's theme is to be a bridge between anti and pro-abortion, but he is anti. The Treasurer and I sat with the United We Stand contact. Nice lady with a sense of humor.

October 9, 1993 The newspaper has a notice about the Republican Executive Committee meeting. It lists a lady as vice chairman. Will have to give her a call and see if I can distribute fliers.

October 10, 1993 Our Congressman has been picked as the lead Congressman to whip up support for NAFTA and he hasn't told us where he stands. The vice chairman said I could pass out my issue paper at the meeting. She said Mike Shukdinas will drop out if the Party will select the candidate. He has to believe that he is the chosen one. The vice chairman is in the pro-choice camp. Must be a counterbalance to the Chairman.

October 11, 1993 Columbus day, celebrated by State and federal employees, everyone else works. Time to make an assessment or, get real. I've picked up an undertone of, Owen isn't a real threat or serious candidate from almost everyone I've talked to on the inside the Republican Party. Since I've lived here only two and a half years, they look on me as a carpetbagger. They're right on both counts. I've been amongst them with my ideas for two months and haven't picked up one committed follower. So, I'm not going to get anywhere on the inside, but it doesn't pay to moon the whole bunch. Hope they pick one candidate for me to beat and I'll run against the hidebound establishment. The State Party hasn't sent the list of major cities in my district that they promised and the software sales guy from up north hasn't sent his brochure on how to win an election. I must not be a serious candidate. Great! I'm an underpuppy! My election office contact phoned around 4:00 p.m. One more candidate has entered the fray. An ex-Air Force Transport pilot, by the name of Ed Stillie. Tolley, the unannounced anti-abortion candidate, Stillie and I have all lived on the outskirts of Washington. Out of our minds to want to go back. Outskirts implies Maryland and Virginia. Can't recall anyone living inside. Taxes are out of sight. Half the work force is employed by the city and the other half are on relief. When Congressmen and Senators talk about social engineering, they need to look at Washington D.C. It's been social engineered into a war zone. Not safe to walk the streets and the potholes have historical markers.

October 12, 1993 Our Congressman has really flopped down on his belly. He has assumed a low profile. Could be his position on NAFTA, or he might not run?

October 13, 1993 Received a call late last night soliciting my ad for the Republican Council of 100 dinner. Agreed to take half a page at \$80. Will talk to the Treasurer and see if she wants to attend. It's \$150! Believe it's on November 5th. Same night as the Space Coast Writer's Guild Banquet. National Committee sent a stack of stuff through the mail: federal elections code, Key Votes, assorted hype to use against the incumbent and other Democrats, IRS forms for my committee (so far, me and my wife), Campaign Starter Manual, Campaign Guide, Instructions for completing Financial Disclosure Statement (believe it or not, 77 pages for one form) and a stack (three inches of assorted stuff). Most of it says if you don't have money and friends, forget it. Starter Manual lists six items that determine who is a good candidate: Fire in the belly, ego, organization, finance, vulnerable opponent and power base. Three out of six isn't bad. Add copy for party of 100 follows:

JIM OWEN

FROM THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE

Are you tired of running the same 'ol candidate? Do you say your message hasn't worked? Do you blame your losses on old ideas and insider's political fratricide? Are you sitting around blaming the board of elections for not counting your votes. Do you look at Primary competition as the problem? Then, put away your old ideas, get up on your feet, roll up your shirt

sleeves and work with a proven winner to win back the 15th district seat (temporarily occupied by a stealth liberal). Let's get rid of the status quo and replace 44 years of social engineering with new ideas that will insure, liberty and freedom for all. Call (407) 952 5177 with offers of time, kind, cash or just to chat. Campaign staff positions are open!

JIM OWEN
THE RIGHT CHOICE NOW

Spun this ad by quite a few people and John Anderson. Anderson is our district Committeeman and in charge of the 100 affair. All said go, John said great, needs to be said, go with it. All said if I'm a serious candidate, I should attend. John Anderson invited me to the Tiger Bay group's next meeting. A good place to pass out campaign literature. Tiger Bay was described to me as a group of the rich & powerful, non-political, but predominantly Republican. I phoned Kevin McKeown to reserve two seats for the Council of 100. Got his answering machine. He works at Harris and called back in the evening. Talks like he thinks he can win. Kevin asked if I would support an anti-abortion candidate if I lose. I said yes, if he or she promised to represent the constituents and not religious views. Anyway, he, like Mike, is a part time candidate. Can't talk in the daytime. Harris must not be a popular job. Everyone is running for Congress as a way out.

October 14, 1993 Lots of busy work today on administrative work for the campaign, like compiling expense reports and preparing FEC data.....

October 15, 1993 Attended the Republican Executive Committee meeting. Republican Women of South Beaches sold me two tickets to their 25, October meeting, 7:00 p.m., Beach Hilton. Two tickets cost \$14. The Republican Party must live off its candidates. I passed out 150 platform papers. Shook most of the hands, kidded with a few and enjoyed myself. I still don't feel like a candidate. I have found a scheduler, Bobbie L. I'll not use full names to protect privacy. She'll contact all the clubs and groups I should talk too. Bobbie L. knows the District and the other counties and has promised to recommend a campaign chairman. I hope she can find someone. Cover letter to National Republicans follows:

NRCC

10/15/93

Lisa Stratton

320 First Street SE

Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Lisa,

Sending along the information you requested. May help brighten your day as you dodge bullets in the vicinity of 'Bull Feathers.' Platform is on the other side of my resume. Will do a photo at a later date. Our primary isn't until next September, 1994. Isn't it wonderful how the incumbents stack the deck against an outsider. In the past three elections, we've lost because we tried to run a beauty contest devoid of ideas. When the

general election came to pass, the Democrat stripped away the disguise and uncovered a right to life fanatic. Guess what, we got our brains beat out in a Republican district. If we don't get back to our conservative heritage, we'll go the way of the Whigs. Tempora mutantur nos et mutamur in illis,

An out of District lawyer, stopped in at the Executive Committee meeting. He is a member of the adjoining District's County Republican Executive Committee. His wife was along and didn't say anything. They were both dressed to the nines. I gave him my card and offered to talk to their group. He may have been on a fishing trip to see if it was worthwhile to run. Our Congressman must be wounded. The sharks are circling.

(I never received an invitation). Four others fishing at the Committee meeting were: Shukdinas, Stillie, Smith, (works for someone at the Cape), and Kevin McKeown. Gave McKeown Mike Shukdinas' handout and my revised ad. Kevin is devious, but nice. Behind his good 'ol boy facade, is an ego. Mike had his campaign worker standing next to me passing out literature (after he saw what I was doing). He should have been there shaking hands and meeting the people. His literature said (and I paraphrase), I'm running for ... I'll talk to you later about issues ... I don't like the incumbent ... trust me. Pig in a poke time. He is anti-abortion and wants to outlaw choice by legislative action, but won't talk issues. Today I Received a phone call from someone who wanted clarification on my right to decide stance. An anti-abortionist who wouldn't identify

October 20, 1993 Found another penny on the morning bike ride. Funds are up to \$1.76. Sending media contacts to Bobbie L. for scheduling. She phoned to tell me about a conversation with the last pro-choice candidate. The results of the State Party's poll showed that if the guy who ran last time tries again we'll lose to our Congressman, big time. She was surprised that I had not received at least that information and recommended to Bobbie L. that I call the State Party Chairman and complain about not receiving the results. I can assume that I am not the choice of the local party or State. Wonder who the anointed one is? From what I've seen so far, it's everyman for himself and when the smoke clears, it will still be everyman for himself, if everyman wins the primary. From my catbird seat, it looks like eighty percent of the party is not anti-abortion, but the other twenty percent is organized and votes in the primary. I'll need at least thirty percent of the secular conservatives to win. Given our average turnout at primaries, it may not be doable.

October 21, 1993 I telephoned the State Republican Party Chairman, but he's not in. I asked to speak to the Congressional contact and received an answering machine. The voice on the tape is new. I left a message. Wonder what happened to the previous contact? I attended the Republican Men's Club luncheon. I passed out platforms to a disinterested group. The movers and shakers aren't members. Wonder where they hide out? Looks like there are no deep pockets in this Congressional District.

I arrived at noon. Mike Shukdinas was leaving with a handfull of his handouts. I passed mine out to about fifteen or so, everyone standing on two feet. I tried to talk with everyone, except the lady that called me a baby killer at the Executive Committee. Most were quite friendly. Kevin McKeown phoned in the evening. The committee has refused my ad for the '100 fund raiser. They feel that it may cause dissension and they want the dinner to be used to bring the party together. I thought it was being held to raise funds and let the candidates advertise their wares. After I extracted myself from the ceiling, I thanked Kevin for listening to me and for providing me with another campaign theme, freedom of speech or fair expression. I asked that he return my ticket and ad money. Told him I preferred not to attend an affair that limited the right of free expression. I'll hold this close for awhile. I'm in a win-win situation. I've been given my chance to be famous for a whole 15 minutes. Called Bobbie L. and advised her of what they said. Had to hold her down. She agreed that we should keep our powder dry. Called John Anderson and advised that I would not back down and that I would not attend under the circumstances. He said that the Christian Coalition has targeted Brevard County for a takeover. The party has decided not to confront them. Interesting, if we don't look and listen, maybe they'll go away, the ostrich technique. Everyone is playing fair except the Christian Coalition faction. Not the type of politics I'm used too. All of my so called friendly contacts voted me out of this dinner.

October 23, 1993 The Vice Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee sent a copy of County Republican clubs and contacts. Will send it on to Bobbie L.

October 25, 1993 My District Chairwoman phoned and asked that I help get petitions signed on November 2nd at the polls come local election time. Something about enough is enough on taxes. It is an initiative from the State Republican Party. Volunteered to work at my polling place, our local senior center. Letters to McKeown and the Vice Chairman about the ad turndown follow:

Kevin McKeown

10/22/93

604 Barcelona Court

Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Dear Kevin,

Subject: Committee's refusal to accept my ad for the journal. I cannot in good conscious attend an affair that has suppressed my right to exercise dissent and freedom of expression. I must remind you that Paul von Hindenberg, as President of the Weimer Republic, led the effort to appease a one issue extremist and the holocaust was the result. I find the Republican Party's efforts to appease the radical right, one issue Christian Coalition Right to life movement equally distasteful and non-productive. I did not enter the race for the U.S. House of Representatives on either side of the issue. After a series

of verbal confrontations with members of the aforementioned organization I have been forced to pick a side as they leave no neutral ground. My position follows:

I cannot agree with creation of laws that give the State (governing body) the right to tell an individual what they can or cannot do with their body. One cannot believe in liberty, freedom, and free will and voluntarily give up that right.

"Liberty and justice for all" in our pledge of allegiance does not mean for men only. I am opposed to any religious group attempting to dominate a political party. It violates the constitutional right of freedom of religion, speech and the principles on which our Country was founded. If you have visited Europe over Easter, you can see why our forefathers sailed here to escape religious persecution.

I consider this effort to suppress dissent by The Council of One Hundred a one time aberration. Qui s'excuse s'accuse

Jim Owen (From The People For The People)

Vice Chairman

10/24/93

Brevard County

Republican Executive Committee

P.O. Box 321343

Cocoa Beach, Florida 32932

My deepest appreciation for your list of contacts in Republican Clubs. Should be a great help in winning back our party from the Right to Life Christian Coalition religious persecutors. As a Christian and an American, I take affront at any attempt to infringe on religious freedom. Our Country was founded by immigrants fleeing from religious persecution in Europe. Our office administrator and her husband are but another front for an attempt to take away the freedoms our forefathers fought and died for.

I did not enter the campaign for The U.S. House on either side of the abortion issue. However the religious fanatics of the Right to Life movement have radicalized this issue and leave no middle ground. I believe that the State (governing body) has no right to tell any individual what they can or cannot do with their body. I also believe that the State has no right to pay for any elective surgery and this includes abortions. Our last candidate and his fanatical friends represent less than 6% of our party, yet we have allowed them to threaten: Freedom of religion, Freedom of Dissent, Freedom of Speech and the separation of Church and State. It's time to say enough is enough. If this means we lose the election to a radical liberal Democrat, then I can live with it. The threat to our liberty by the Religious Coalition is too great to ignore. "With Liberty and Justice for all" does not mean men only! Annu it coeptis,

Jim Owen (The Right Choice Now)

October 26, 1993 Attended the Federated Republican Women of the South Beaches meeting. Charter government (home rule) for the County was the issue and speaker. Passed out platforms to a more than sympathetic group. Mike and wife were there. He asked several questions at the end of the speech to show that he can ask questions. His wife has joined this group even though they don't live here. Interesting political move. She and Mike are anti-abortion and this group is choice. He will probably try to present himself as a bridge between the two factions like the 100 dinner theme. Could be a title here, Stealth Bridges of the County. Treasurer talked to several of the ladies and we had a pleasant time. As a group, they're way above average on the knowledge scale. My contact at the election's office, his boss and more than a few other politicians were there and the crowd wasn't that large. Have a feeling that we are all the same people at a variety of gatherings.

October 27, 1993 The local paper has finally come alive. Under business, our Congressman is receiving another payback from the National Party. Joe Kennedy is holding a public hearing on Florida's property insurance crisis at our College. He is chairman of the House Consumer Credit and Insurance Subcommittee of the House Banking Committee. "It's important that anyone who has experienced cancellation or large rate increases be on hand to share their stories," says our Congressman. This has been going on for over a year and nothing has been done, except hold meetings. The State has taken some action, but

market forces aren't working to hold costs down. Something is wrong. An open and full airing of the issues and options seems to be in order. I'm not sure, but our Congressman's meeting smells of grandstanding. Attended the Silver Haired Legislature luncheon. Four State Representatives and two State Legislators were scheduled to speak on their legislative plans for the next session. Two Democratic State Senators spoke and two Republican Representatives were on hand. The Senate is 50/50, but the House is lopsided in the Democrat's favor, which probably explains why we have problems with Juvenile crime. The Democrats want to tread slowly on Health and Human Resources and the Republicans want to straighten the mess out. The Democratic Representatives sent their legislative assistants to talk. Not a good thing! Talked with two community service types and passed out platforms. Treasurer mentioned that Mike's wife came over to talk and then made a nasty comment about why she wasn't walking and talking as a candidates wife should. My wife didn't know what to say, so she didn't. Mike's wife must be the real power in his family. She is a human dynamo. A defeat will not sit well with her.

October 28, 1993 It is time to take stock, a reality check, again. The local Republican Party knows who I am, but could still care less about me. They still want me to go away. They would rather do the King making thing or at least have a dues paying type running. However, no one is King making or looking at dues payers. The Canadian election results should get our

Party's attention. NAFTA is not a sword to fall on. Our citizens want their say. If this is true and I can get my message out, I have a good shot at winning! The last pro-choice candidate returned my call. Advised her of the letter I sent to the Vice Chairman via the office controlled by our defeated candidate's wife and that the intent was to rile them up. We chatted about the Silver Haired Legislature and poor showing by the Democrats. I sat at her table.

October 29, 1993 Our local newspaper covers; "House Tops Clinton, offers \$103 billion in cuts." This bi-partisan group includes our Congressman. I've seen these same cuts made for twenty years and the debt keeps going up. We should cut the number of federal workers and raise their retirement age from 55 to 65. This group is offering smoke and mirrors, such as: Means testing for Medicare on retirees making over \$75,000; Reducing White House and congressional travel, mail and spending on operations by 15%, 20% and 7.5%; Cutting field offices for HUD and Agriculture; and reducing boards and commissions. Fat chance time!

October 30, 1993 I estimated my Campaign costs at 1.9 million. A little deception won't hurt a bit. Our Congressman may fall on his sword. Treasurer didn't care for my \$1.9 million tactic. Told her it was only an estimate, but that didn't hack it. Treasurer may be too compassionate for political campaigning. One of our Congressman's minions gets a letter in praising the

supercollider and our Congressman's intelligence and courage in support of it. I've never questioned his intelligence and courage, just his common sense and saying one thing and doing another. The supercollider wasn't funded and no one has missed it, except one or two contractors. I remember a few years back at how vital we said our bases were in the Philipines. We are no longer there and no one has missed them. Vital must be in the eye of the beholder.

October 31, 1993 Another complicated issue. Thirty and sixty year coastal erosion hazard areas are going to be mapped in the next two years. Undeveloped property (lots) will not be covered. Federal flood insurance needs to be reformed, but no one wants it goring their ox. Existing homes won't be effected unless they filed two claims within ten years totaling 50% or more. The meeting at the College wasn't pleasant. Local folks came away with the feeling that it was political and not an insurance problem solving meeting. Joe Kennedy political? Our local newspaper comes out in favor of the referendum lumping roads, police, fire and parks together for an up or down vote. No one likes a line item veto. Our Congressman's local office has supplied White House answers to a plethora of questions on Clinton's health Care plan. All of this without a final plan or bill in Congress. If what I read is true, everyman will benefit and no one will pay (except old folks, self employed and an unidentified forty percent). Smoke and mirror time in the budget battles.

November 1, 1993 I have to be at the senior center at 8:00 a.m. I'm to call my contact at elections if the petitions fail to show. There are four groups in charge: my District Chairwoman, Christian Coalition, The losing candidate and the State Committee Woman who called me a baby killer. Looks like the lady killers are in charge. My contact at elections has no idea what petitions, first he's heard of it. Talk about a group grope.

November 2, 1993 Our local newspaper covers a NAFTA meeting at Harris Corp. "U.S. Congressman describes himself as undecided." You betcha undecided. Only about when to tell the voters he's pro NAFTA. Went to my precinct thirty minutes early. The Christian Coalition was manning two tables with the petitions. The local chief's wife was at one of them. Told her that I'd been assigned by the Republican Party to do this work and she just smiled, but wouldn't move. I told her that I didn't care for their agenda. The Coalition had three other issues they were working including the ten percent cap on taxes and passing out dead baby pictures. After I blew my stack, I picked up my marbles and drove home.

November 3, 1993 Election results; the three folks I voted for, won. The roads referendum passed, but was later overturned by the courts. In the Virginia election, the Christian Coalition candidate lost. Virginia's general election is going to be an all out fight. The Christian Wrong will want to caucus.

November 4, 1993, Local news; "Public needs more data on U.S.-Russia space pact." In anticipation of today's report, our Congressman, said, "I am encouraged by assurances I have received from the White House that the joint space station will involve full use of the space shuttle." Goes on to say that the shuttle will be used for resupply and U.S. components will be sent up on the shuttle. Sounds like our Congressman only needs a pat on the head by the President to win his vote. He's milked this one for all it's worth. This tactic is called setting up a straw man and knocking it down. My District Committee Chairman phoned and asked that I find workers for the Executive Committee from Precincts 122, 139, 141, 149, 150 and 151. Having no contacts or ideas, I generated a broadside and took it to the senior citizens center. It was posted in the library and no workers came forward. Called her back and said I'd need to run a call list of active Republicans in the precincts where she needed workers if she wanted results. She doesn't have one for our 20,000 or so district Republicans and the losing candidates wife won't give her one. I called the Vice Chairman and she promised to provide a list. Our local Party hasn't sprung for the few bucks it takes to buy a list from elections. They use the free one generated before primaries for both parties. Unfortunately, this list includes Democrats and Independents. I can't imagine the amount of time it takes to extract data from this list to get phone numbers. A complete micro with disks and programs can't cost more than five or six thousand, with printer. Our Republican list or disk is only

\$540. I called the office administrator and got the losing candidate. His wife called back and was sweetness and light. She offered to provide all the help I need (she didn't). Interesting, he met with the Christian Coalition at the local tribal chief's home. My District Chairman was invited, but she doesn't know why. The losing candidate told them that the Christian Coalition is within a few votes of taking over the local Party and with his help they will. The State Party finally phoned and passed on the results of the poll taken 30 September. This is not the one I was interested in, but the one for all voters. Issues in order of highest to lowest percentages: 1. Economy & Jobs, 20% 2. Health Care, 13% 3. Government Spending, 12% 4. Crime/Drugs, 12%. Lots of activity going on. The Christian Coalition has registered as a PAC. Think they may have finessed themselves out of the Executive Committee. Talked with the former Republican office administrator and office manager for an hour & a half. Confirmed gloom and doom.

November 5, 1993 Spent the day at the Space Coast Writers Guild Symposium. Out of 50,000 new books published each year, only 5,000 are fiction. Bobbie L. met with a radio station owner in Titusville, but he isn't in busines to pass out free time. Minutes from the last Republican Executive Committee meeting say I'm a new member. I thought I was just analternate.

November 7, 1993 Local news, "Florida growers reject NAFTA." Major addition is an agreement to protect citrus growers.

November 8, 1993 Local news has another article on the flood insurance bill. A legislative assistant to our Congressman says, "If there's no flood insurance, it could potentially freeze construction and development in those areas. Our concern is it would drive property values down." Florida residents hold more than 43% of the policies in this program. "We thought we'd have some of the coastal states on our side, but our Congressman was the sole representative for millions of homeowners throughout the country." Florida has paid in \$1,200 for every dollar it's taken out. Massachusetts has taken out \$57 for every dollar it put in. Wonder where the truth is in this subject? At issue is construction in erosion areas. Time to back away from attacking the Christian Coalition and their candidate(s). They may self destruct. Wait and see time. A reporter from Washington D.C. Campaigns and Elections Magazine called at supper time. Wanted to know how much I plan on spending. Told him around \$1200 in the primary and probably up to \$200,000 or so in the General, but wasn't sure. Shukdinas told him \$400,000 or so. Ridiculous figure. He'd have to uncover Blackbeard's treasure to collect that much. None of the reporters want to talk issues, just money.

November 9, 1993 Wish Perot would unbend a little and stop saying "right" every time he wants to get a crowd reaction. Needs to tone down his flag waving a bit, too. He's opening himself up to attack by innuendo. He has an important message to sell and it shouldn't be fogged out by caricature.

THE RELIGIOUS WRONG

"The Puritans nobly fled from a
land of despotism to a land of
freedom, where they could not only
enjoy their own religion, but
could prevent everybody else from
enjoying his."

Artemus Ward 1866

November 10, 1993 Stopped by the board of elections to talk to my contact. He gave me a District Map that he constructed. Looks like alligators and mosquitoes to the west, rednecks in the center, rich folks and retirees in the south and Democrats to the north.

November 11, 1993 Veterans day. Local news; "Our Congressman: NAFTA protects local jobs," Talk about through the looking glass. "Congressman's concern about keeping the jobs provided by Counties biggest employer helped cinch his decision to support NAFTA." Corporation company spokesman and our Congressman say that if NAFTA passes, Corporation will stay in State. If it doesn't, they'll move a plant to Mexico. Corporate spokesman goes on to say they have a right to change their mind. Either someone doesn't know economics or is grasping at straws. I'll bet on the later. Corporate planning is about six months out and the way they're pushing for NAFTA, I can here the beginnings of a sucking sound. Republican Executive Committee meeting is tonight. Plan to get there at 6:30 and pass around my new handout. Next step is to mail out information to the press, TV and radio stations. Called Bobbie L. Her husband Paul may be my treasurer. Need a Campaign Manager, County, District and maybe City Campaign Leaders. Depends on how grass roots it's going to be. Would like to have the money for a mass mailouts scheduled March 1st & September 1st. Checked costs with my printer. Envelopes are \$18.00 and \$16.00 a thousand (mailout & return). Letter is \$60 a thousand. To send out

100,000 would cost \$8400 not counting postage. At 8¢, stamps will cost \$8000. Total: \$16,400. If I could get a run by household, 150,000 or so Republicans could be narrowed down to 50,000 or so.

November 12th Called elections. Mailing labels are 2¢ each. Thinks they can have a program that will give households only. 50,000 mailing labels, \$1,000; letters, \$1500 and envelopes, \$1700. \$4200 is getting down there. Called the Post Office. Will cost me 20¢ a letter and it's to my advantage to use a commercial mailer instead of doing it on my own. Have to pay \$150 up front if I do it myself. \$10,150 plus \$4200 equals \$14,350. Using those figures, when our Congressman uses his franking privilege and sends out a four page news letter, it's costing us taxpayers \$60,000. Executive Committee: The Christian Coalition, who insisted on new by-laws, voted against new by-laws, because they did not get all the changes they wanted. We continue to operate under State Republican Party's rules. The Coalition must have Robert's Rules of Order tattooed on their foreheads. Instead of getting to issues, the evening air was punctuated with; "Question!" "Point of order!" "What constitutes a quorum?" When it all ended, I was ready to shoot Mr. Roberts. I passed out fifty platforms before going inside for the meeting. Sat next to two members of the Coalition. They diligently watched their leader to see which way they should vote. The by-laws needed a two thirds majority of 150 members. Didn't get it, but did have a majority. This battle has gone

on for at least nine months and quite a few members have come and gone. In Orlando, when the Christian Coalition took over, the regular party left and set up a rump group.

November 14, 1993 Local editorial board comes out in favor of NAFTA and calls Perot's comments, "ravings." Our Congressman is hosting a day long symposium Wednesday on the Health Care package. Our Senators and others will speak. Doesn't say where. It's for health professionals. "It is important that the Central Florida health care community has a chance to enter into a dialogue with a lot of the main people who are framing the health care debate," a spokesman said. Pays to have the power of the public's money. Someone should have a final draft, send it around and then hold meetings. This falls under the category of motion as work. Received a newsletter from the Republican Men's Club along with a membership application. The meeting is Thursday at noon. The Republican Women's Group is sponsoring Jim Smith, a candidate for Governor at a Tuesday lunch. Wife and I will attend.

November 15, 1993 NAFTA vote is Wednesday. Anxious to see how our Congressman will hold his meeting here and be in Washington for the vote.

November 16, 1993 Under local news, with a color photo, "Veteran announces candidacy." "Vietnam veteran activist Gary Smith announced his candidacy for U.S. Congress." Running on freedom

and pride. An industrial engineer, Smith says, "I am not a politician." He is past President of the Vietnam Veterans of Brevard. I met him at the October Executive Committee meeting. Had a scraggly beard which he has now trimmed and gave off a Fonzi type attitude. He can be a problem. He may capture the outsider vote. I thought he may drop out after he found out what it will cost, but I didn't know his background. Anyone who has arm wrestled the infighting of a veterans group and was elected President, is a politician. He'll stay and he has a political power base. I watched him on WIRB TV last night. Outside of the flag and four freedoms he didn't reveal his positions on any significant issue. Having said that, of the three candidates I'm facing, he is one that I could support. However, I'll reserve that thought until I find out where he stands on abortion. I'm going to be up against five possible candidates. If it wasn't for this book and my ego, I should drop out. Numbers are bad.

November 17, 1993 The Republican Women's Meeting was well attended. Shukdinas and his wife showed up. Mine thought the whole affair was too long, but she's the one that was active in Republican Women's Groups in Hawaii. Jim Smith is a lawyer and the only leading candidate that is not right to life. Talked crime and experience; eight years as Secretary of State and Attorney General. We sat with his wife and that probably irritated Mike's wife who was at the next table. Smith gave an off the cuff political speech, not really talking issues.

When asked what separated him from the other candidates he pitched experience, but said nothing about the other troops. Wife was impressed and he has won her over, so far, with the key element being freedom to choose. My first organizational meeting is tonight. It turned into a quiz the candidate affair. May have to hold an organizational meeting at a later date. Either way, I have to raise some organizational questions. Ten people showed up for the meeting, including the head of United We Stand for the Congressional District. Didn't get organized, spent the whole evening answering questions. Didn't get that feeling of support. Have to bone up on the Tri-lateral group and Bilderberger or something like that. An irritant by the name of Bill Wolfe arrived late and sneered a lot. We started at 7:30 and finished at 10:30 p.m.

November 18, 1993 NAFTA passes and our Congressman has sealed his political demise by making fun of Perot's people on TV. They will remember in November. Found the Health Care meeting. Local news says; "County health pros speak up in D.C." "U.S. Congressman set up a day long session." No M.D.s were quoted. Only a Chiropractor, Hospice, Homecare and Radioligist. Called Bobbie L. and asked about the Tri-lateral Commission. Something about world leaders and ex-presidents and a new world order. The Bilderberger group is associated with this and our boy Clinton has attended meetings. I attended the Republican Mens Club and passed out my campaign literature. Running into the same people at each function. Not at all as I envisioned.

I've compiled a list of key dates to help in planning. This would be a task handled by a campaign manager, if I had one.

Key Dates

January ? : Petitions are sheduled to be sent from State
 Elections

January 5th: Have to swear Oath at elections office.

January 6th: Scheduled start of Petition Drive.

January 31st: July-December FEC reports due.

March ? : End Petition Drive.

April 15th: FEC quarterly reports due.

May 9th-13th: File candidate's oath and pay qualifying fee.

July 15th: FEC quarterly reports due.

September ? : Primary Election.

November 8th: General Election.

November 19, 1993 Talked with several of the Viera group
marketing people who were giving a presentation on their new
town proposal. Viera is a privately owned company that has
64 square miles of ranch land in this county and farm and ranch
holdings around the country. They supported NAFTA. Surprised
me until I found out that they have purchase extensive land
holdings in Mexico, planted in vegetables (onions etc.). Sucking
sound has begun. Even our local newspaper recognizes politics
as usual to sell NAFTA, "Quick deals and dancing put NAFTA over
the top." Our Congressman has been able to convince the

Associated Press that he had a last minute conversion. A reporter from the Vero Beach Press Journal interviewed me over the phone. Main questions: How old are you? Why are you running? Who will you appeal too? Bobbie L. provides two more volunteers; Bonnie and someone named Sam. She will be networking for a Campaign Manager at the Charter Government meeting today. Republican National Committee sent a seven page letter about setting up a Town Hall Meeting on Health Care on December 4th. Gives me two weeks to decide. Fifty four House Republicans are doing the same thing. My only problem with this is that it is a bit too soon. No one knows what's in the Presidents plan and Congressional consideration isn't set until next summer. I haven't given this issue much thought, but market forces need to work better in the system. No one knows what it's going to cost until they're sick. I probably won't do this one. Too little time and too few positive proposals. McConkey Research sent a brochure: Winning Elections in 1994. A three day symposium in Tallahassee, Nov. 29 through Dec. 1st @ \$395. That's more than I've spent five months.

November 20, 1993 National Republican Congressional Committee sent clarification of contributors giving more than \$200, how-to contact PACs, etc. All of which I've vowed not to do. This is going to be a fun campaign. Let's see if the voters really will be their own lobby.

November 21, 1993 George Thompson called from Cablevision and

invited me to be on his Tuesday night talk show. Planned on asking Gary Smith. I asked if he had called Mike Shukdinas and he had trouble pronouncing Mike's last name, too. Didn't have Mike's phone number (or Gary's). I called around for Mike's and Kevin came up with it. Got Mike's wife. She was on the defensive right away. Nothing I said could convince her my offer wasn't a political ploy. I gave her George's number and called George to warn him that she was upset. He called back and asked, "Who are these people. They want to control the show as if this was a Presidential campaign." I called all of the County Republican Hierarchy. None had Mike's or Gary's phone numbers and I thought I was the only one that was outside. It looks like we all are. Anyway, I found out that Mike has a campaign manager with a chip on his shoulder as big as his wife's. I could have handled it differently, but it is more fun to see them lose there cool. When you lack money, clout and friends, one finds fun where one can. She must be following the book on how to conduct a campaign.

November 22, 1993 Called my contact at elections and got Gary's phone number. I passed it on to George Thompson. Attended a United We Stand meeting at the local library. Only eight folks showed up. From what I've seen so far, no one has to worry about this group. I was introduced and spoke about the debate on cablevision next Tuesday and gave a rundown on potential candidates. It follows, next page. The last speaker read all the letters he sent to city hall. I left.

Potential Candidates

Mike Shukdinas: From New Jersey. Works for Harris in the Electronic Sector as an engineer. He is 32 years old. Initially used change and a new face as his sound bite. He is anti-abortion right-to-life, but will only change Roe vs. Wade if elected. Doesn't know much about the political process. Wanted to caucus until he found out it was illegal. Wanted to initiate a recall of our Congressman until told it wasn't legal. Looks good in a suit. Seeks popular issues, lacks conviction. Will say what is popular. A budding politician.

Gary Smith: Teacher and professional Vietnam Veteran. Has survived the political infighting of a veteran's organization and is running as a non-politician. Platform is conservative, says he'll represent the people. Wraps himself in the flag. 42 years old, wears a beard and has a mature sense of humor. From Nebraska.

Ed Stilley: 49 years of age. 12 years in the Air Force. Oil Company and real estate investment. Wears new suits. Conservative and pro-choice. Tall, white hair, senatorial. May have money.

Bill Tolley: Lost twice. Old West Virginian, anti-abortion.

Jim Owen: 60, conservative, pro-choice, anti-NAFTA populist, idea oriented. 26 years in the Air Force and 17 years in a wide variety of professions. Barry Goldwater, Teddy Roosevelt conservative and pro-choice. Dresses in shorts, no shoes. Drinks beer, writes books, naive.

November 23, 1993 In the news; "Space station survives vote." Our Congressman says, "President Kennedy believed in the future. The space station represents the future." \$30 billion is the cost and we have spent billions on paper. The future is expensive.

November 24, 1993 Space station. Where do I stand? Outside of being a successful pork barrel project, it is of no value. We already know that man will have a difficult time surviving in space for more than 12 months (round trip to Mars is at least two years). Vibration, with men on board, negates most scientific experiments. We've flown a small version and the Russians have done extensive work in this area. Our Space Station's size and mission have changed many times, independent of each other. Money being spent here could be more wisely spent on a space vehicle to replace the shuttle, which is 60's technology, and modernize the current fleet until the new vehicle comes on line. While this is going on, some of the better minds (outside of NASA) should build a blueprint for NASA, similar to the effort the Air Force did in 1985. Having said that, I can't find any evidence that the Air Force program still exists. Hardware has support, science doesn't. Watched George Thompson's TV program last night. The format is like CNN's Crossfire except there is less shouting and their guests are given time to answer. A well produced and informative show. They said our debate would be next Tuesday, the 30th. Will have to call George and check on the exact date. Phoned the

State Party and discovered that my contact has gone to work for the Orlando Congressman. I have one question outstanding, a map of major cities in the 15th District. I was given an interim contact. My Treasurer, Paul L. gave me copies of a Liberty Lobby magazine, The Spotlight. It is Populist, and source of Bilderberger-Trilateral attacks. Reading it is like jumping into the middle of a conversation that has been ongoing for twenty five years. I'm afraid I'll need an interpreter. Letter to State Party follows:

Republican Party of Florida
Director Campaign Operations.
719 North Calhoun Street

11/24/93

Dear Director,

Give my best to I wish her well in her new job. I was hoping that she would work in my office when I take up residence at the House in 1995.

We had several outstanding requests that you may be able to take care of: Reporting limits: FEC daily log, \$50 and lower. The State requires name and address, FEC doesn't. Which applies in a Federal Campaign? Same for thresholds; State \$500, FEC \$5,000. Which takes precedence? I need a map of the 15th Congressional District. I have one made up with scissors and crayons. As an interim, ... provided a list of cities

and towns. Will start a daily walkabout with the petition drive, come January, 5th. We have a networking scheme beginning at the same time. I've had the UWS leaders in for the surrounding counties and District. Three hours of dialectic on the back porch (Harding?). Make sure your candidates know Trilateral Commission and Bilderberger issues if they're going to court them. Sent out campaign announcements to thirty two newspapers, TV and radio stations. Have already received invitations to speak on two and interviewed by three. If we can pull this hand carried, Ponzi approach off, we may be able to provide a new method of campaigning for underfunded candidates. You'll notice that I've put a \$5.00 limit on campaign contributions and eliminated PACs. When given lemons make lemonade. My opposition in the Primary and General will be spending their time answering questions about influence and contributions. Our incumbent Congressman has all the PAC money tied up, anyway. He's already in trouble explaining why he voted against his constituents, now he'll have to explain who bought and paid for those votes. To be honest, the demographics here lean toward a Populist approach. I'm more likely to receive higher funding this way. When the new person settles in, have her/him give me a call. If I'm not in, call my scheduler, Bobbie L. Win, lose or draw, this is going to be fun. If nothing else is accomplished, I'll meet a lot of new friends.

Ex ungue leonem,

Jim Owen

November 25, 1993 Called Gary to make sure he knew of the debate date. Talked with his wife, she was quite pleasant. Called Shukdinas' wife and Mike isn't going to participate, after consulting with his consultant. Her? He is going to attend the State meeting in Orlando. Must be looking for money. He sent a letter to George saying it was too early to debate. I culled out several pounds of political paperwork, propaganda, etc. to get my stack down. Spent quite a few hours on the phone passing out the new date for the debate. Wife says it was probably my error.

November 26, 1993 Discovered that Gary Smith isn't an engineer. His degrees are in education and psychology. Taught Junior High and coached football. His outfit works with booster rockets. Will continue to work unless he is elected. That doesn't sound right. They have two small children ages one and two. His wife remains quite pleasant.

November 29, 1993 Received a long letter from the individual who was reading letters at UWS library meeting. Will send a thank you note. He took my resume to task and he's right, but I wrote it that way on purpose. FEC sent a letter saying they lost on Appeal to the NRA Political Victory Fund. Two officers of Congress have been removed from the FEC and the Commission is now made up of six members appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Received a slick Brabender Cox Political Media Report brochure. Must be a lot of money out

there to be made off candidates. Has good advice on interviews.
The following are talking points for the TV program:

TV Notes

Our Congressman is still stuck in his trade negotiation mode.
He sells out early and gets nothing in return.

Our Last Candidate lost the last three times out. It's time
for a winner to take over.

Abortion's been decided by the courts & shouldn't be an issue,
but for what it's worth, I won't duck this one. I'll side with
freedom of choice.

I won't stage weekly publicity stunts or evade open discussion
on hard issues with my constituents. Things get done when a
congressman truly listens and represents his constituents.

POW-MIA: My heart wants to believe that we still have live
prisoners in Southeast Asia, I have classmates and friends in
this group, but I'm not sure.

Economics: I'm conservative. The government plans, budgets,
appropriates and spends like a Lewis Carroll story. Having
lawyers and economists control government financing is like
trusting a candy store to a group of five year olds. And we're

asking the same group to come up with universal health care. Whatever we do, we should test and fine tune before we initiate. Drive before buy.

Welfare: When we give money to our kids, we don't expect them to buy healthy food or save for a rainy day. Caring for the downtrodden and needy is a given. It's how we choose to do it.

NASA has been turned into a psuedoscience pork barrel and it's not entirely alone. University research is going down the same path.

November 30, 1996 In the news, "cuts continue; 25 laid off." 30 laid off in July. Mostly engineers in the \$40,000 range. The Clinton Administration has DBA between the rock and the hard place. They lost two simulator contracts to Sweden and Israel, but our government won't let them use the same technology to compete overseas. Bully Pulpit Time! It's worse than DBA acknowledges. We provided these countries with the technology they're using to compete against us. Where are all of those high tech jobs we're supposed to gain through NAFTA and free trade? Let's see, we have a program called Technology Transfer and we're hiring computer types from India and Pakistan while laying off programmers here. Something is wrong. As deep throat said, follow the money. We have a whopping trade deficit and we're treating it like a doctor prescribing more whiskey to

an alcoholic. We have a growing National deficit and we call slowing its growth "deficit reduction." We've spent trillions on the "Great Society" and the result: widespread crime, drugs, a growing welfare class and over half of our work force is in government jobs. Economics isn't complicated. Spend more than we have and we owe someone. We've spent our way into a Third World nation. We're debtors! Off the Pulpit.

November 31, 1993 There was supposed to be an announcement of tonight's TV debate in the newspaper. If there was, I couldn't find it. Our Congressman and local community college are holding a small business assistance seminar from 8:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. I phoned his office. They're having: Defense Conversion, SBA grants, Dealing with banks and Florida Department of Commerce assistance as topics. Three different seminars at the same time. He stuffed it to small business in the tax bill. Here comes the lime to cover up the smell. Talk about politics of "change." Looks like the same 'ol crapola to me. The George Thompson TV show didn't turn into a debate. We both got to talk issues. Both wife and Bobbie L. said I used ain't (twice), screwed up the total world population figures and wallowed around on a U.N. question, but other than that they gave it a thumbs up. I'm caught in-between about the U.N. I remember when it was the hope of the world. Now it is a bunch of high living bureaucrats in Geneva, Paris and New York, all feathering their nests. I wouldn't like to see it go away, but I'm not sure it should stay, the way it is. Shukdinas called in and asked about right to life and NAFTA. Also corrected

the pronunciation of his name. Gary waffled. Said he was pro choice and then qualified. His choice may be giving the baby up for adoption or keeping it. I came in with my right to decide and was taken to task as obfuscating my answer. Cornered, I admitted to being pro-choice. As of now, my political career in the South is over. I asked Gary about his abortion stance afterwards and his answer was still ambiguous. The moderators: George Thompson, a retired Foreign Service Officer, provided the liberal view and Dan Warrensford, an engineer, the conservative. They were both quite fair. Gave us ample time and rope with which to hang ourselves. I've had two brushes with TV, two with radio and one with the press. TV and radio have been quite fair. The press? Ambiguous and uninterested. I like the question and answer format. I stumble all over myself when I have to give a speech.

December 1, 1993 Our local newspaper has a new managing editor. The old one is taking a one year leave of absence. Doesn't say where or why. Her replacement is also a lady, 46 years old, with past experience in Pittsburgh, Palm Beach, Fort Meyer and other newspapers. Wonder if their proactive stance will change. Bobbie L. made the newspaper today. She's on a school site selection committee and had comments about it's composition. Two members were from the city council. The newspaper didn't advertise or cover the debate and both Dan and George work for this paper. Par for the course. Sending a letter to the State Elections people requesting petitions. The letter follows:

Florida Department of State
Division of Elections
Chief Bureau of Election Records
Room 1801, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

12/01/93

Dear Chief,

In a telephone conversation with your office last July, it was mentioned that I can request a Petition Guide for alternative filing in December. I'm running for US House of Representatives, 15th District, Florida. My FEC number is C00282988. As I am conducting a Populist campaign, I have not crossed the FEC threshold of \$5,000. To tell you the truth, not even \$300, but not to worry, we are out to prove that you can win an election by limiting campaign contributions to \$5.00 or less. Sort of like visiting Europe on \$5.00 or less a day. Then again if we're wrong, we can write a book on how-not-to run for Congress.

I want to thank you and your office for all of the courtesy they have shown me. I'm not a lawyer, journalist, trade negotiator, engineer or employee at the Cape, I'm what our District needs, homme moyen sensuel. I will send your office the same reports I forward to the FEC. Labor omnia vincit,

Jim Owen

December 2, 1993 Found a 1969 dime on the bike ride. Campaign contributions are now up to \$2.86. Have moved funds from my pencil jar to my Naval Quantico Twilight Golf League 1st place beer mug, on a higher shelf. Turned down several contributions. They were way over the five dollar limit and I won't ask until we go full bore in January. I might drop out. Our local paper is still flogging the space station and our Congressman is all over the map on Russian involvement, "It is much more likely we will be able to maintain the bipartisan support for the space station, this is one more sign the prospects for a mutually advantages partnership with the Russians enhances our ability to secure votes for the space station in the House." Sure has a way with non-speak. Campaign meeting last night went well. More than a few good ideas. We're getting there. It does help when disruptive folks, like Mr. Wolfe, stay away.

December 3, 1996 Our Constitution is three pages. With the preamble and the bill of rights, five pages. NAFTA is 1300 or more. I watched the rerun of the debate. My contact at elections said I was a little tight in the beginning, but loosened up in the end. I identified one of the Christian Coalition from the Executive Committee meetings who called in to ask a question. He asked if we approved Christian involvement in politics. Individually, yes! Organized, no! My elections office contact said there has been quite a few inquiries about running for our Congressman's seat. A sane person would read the tea leaves and drop out. The numbers make a successful

election bid, with the potential candidates, at six to one and growing worse. He said the oath I have to sign will be a written one that I send back to the State.

December 4, 1993 In the news, "Harris moves 200 jobs to Palm Bay from Orlando." Fails to mention that 50 were fired. Lost their contract.

December 5, 1993 Executive Committee sent out the minutes of last month's meeting. A lady read the thank you note from Mike Shukdinas at the last meeting. It was greeted with silence. The minutes didn't record the silence. This month's meeting is Thursday with a social hour from 7:00 to 8:00. Called the Chairman and asked if I was ever going to be allowed to speak. He hemmed and hawed around. Never did answer. Odds are against me getting equal time. Mike Shukdinas spoke at least 20 minutes when he announced, ten minutes later to say thank you and all I've been allowed to do is smile and wave. Plan to hand out my latest flier as people walk in. FEC sent their December bulletin. Not Pulitzer material. So far from what I've seen of the FEC, they are the unfair campaign practices. I'd vote to disband them.

December 6, 1993 Federated Women's Club party is tonight. Called Elections to get a telephone number for maps at State Capitol. They mentioned that petitions had to be signed by registered Republicans. That differed from information I

received from the State Republican Party. I called and they gave me the legal office at the Department of State. Left my phone number and their two lawyers promised to call back when they were untied. I reread the law and it is ambiguous. Good thing I asked now. This election law book was compiled in 1992. Can't find any dates on the section of interest. Federated Republican Women's Christmas party was well attended. Shukdinas didn't show, although he had a name card made up, waiting on the table and I didn't. Wife and I sat with several folks we knew and I walked around and shook the hands of a lot of people who would just as soon prefer that I hand them a free drink. Money and clout time. I have neither. All the Godfather had to do was bump off the incumbent to get respect and all I'll get is a cold from all this contact with civilization. Both shoulder and nose.

December 7, 1993 I reported for Air Force active duty in San Antonio forty years ago. "A day that will live in infamy." Only a Democrat would pick a word that means infamous for a famous event. Our newspaper Business section advertises the National Contract Management Association on Wednesday night; NAFTA effects on contracts and the economy. Called the number given and it was our local community college procurement office. Hmm. Open 8:30 to 4:00, but it isn't. Answering machine time, again. Called the Department of State again for an opinion on who can sign the petitions. Any registered voter or just Republicans? Still no response. If they don't answer soon,

I'll phone the Attorney General's office. Called State Republican Office. Someone, a Political Director will call back. The elections office said it'll cost 10¢ a signature to verify voters each petition. Roughly \$480. An alternative; random sampling of 100 signatures or \$10. Unfortunately, no one has ever passed the random sampling test. That's another fine mess I've gotten into, Ollie, or let's stuff everyman. Sent Christmas cards to Politicos. My contact at elections phoned and referenced two sections of the election code for petitions and cost. Read them both, but that didn't resolve the ambiguity. Our community college procurement office returned my call. They have 100 people attending their dinner and our Congressman isn't going to show. I asked her if the college had a copy of NAFTA and she said there isn't a copy of it in the County. Pretty hard to make an informed opinion without the facts. I offered to speak if she wanted Political humor. She said she may call back, but didn't. Received a phone call from the State Division of Elections. Rather combative in nature. The lawyer I talked with refused to listen to me after I listened to him. He gave me an interpretation without citing a source. Makes one want to run for office and fire the insolent bastards. Letter follows:

Florida Department of State

Jim Owen

Division of Elections

FEC ID C00282988

The Capitol

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Chief,

December 7, 1993

I feel a bit like W.C. Fields when his friend John Blythe Barrymore caught him reading the New Testament on the front porch of a Nursing Home. John asked, "Bill, what are you doing reading the Bible? You've been an atheist your entire life." W.C. looked up and smiled, "I'm looking for loopholes." Speaking of loopholes, please refer to page 18, 99.095, Alternative method of qualifying.- (3), 13 lines up from the bottom of A Compilation of the Election laws, 1992: "A candidate...shall obtain the signatures of a number of qualified electors...equal to at least 3 percent of the total number of registered voters of the party by which he seeks nomination that are registered within the district...." The law clearly states the number of electors required and where they are located. It does not go on to say that the electors must be of the same party. I will not hazard a guess as to what was intended as intentions with the force of law must be written into law. I request your written interpretation. Can I as a candidate, by law, acquire signatures on my petitions of any registered elector within the total percentage of my party as prescribed by law or must that elector be only of my party affiliation? Please sight reference the source of your interpretation. Ad utrumque paratus,

Jim Owen

Republican Candidate for U.S. Congress 15th District

years. Still no platform. Wonder how long he can go on trust me. I checked at Harris, they don't consider him a senior engineer more of a junior. Has he padded his resume'? At the Republican Executive Committee I distributed every one of my platforms. The Christian Coalition was there in force. Fluoride! Their issue was Fluoride! Their leader circulated a petition against Fluoride. One of our cities is considering adding it to the water supply. The Christian Wrong must consider Fluoride as big an evil as abortion. I talked with an oponent, Ed Stillie. Said that he is going to announce in January, has 100 people ready to pledge \$1,000 and that Kevin McKeown is going to run, too. After months of beating my head against the wall, everyman was allowed to speak. I passed on issues and spoke about family; from Concord Bridge to Ohio territory, occupying Revolutionary War land grants (Washington's Army received land in lieu of pay). That I sprang from a background of teachers, merchants and farmers. My election office contact said that I came across as sincere, honest and to the point. So I accomplished my purpose. Bobbie L. said ask, "What do you want your representative to do?" Then answer, "Listen to you, and represent you, not just follow the party line, PACs and lobbyists."

December 10, 1993 Picked up photos at Sears, \$17.95. Sent four photos to the State Republican Party and asked that they send copies to NRCC. I'll never do that again; have photos taken at Christmas. I waited for an hour behind babies and

toddlers in various states of distress. However, Sears did a good job trying to make everyman look good in a suit and \$17.95 fits well within a frugal campaign budget.

December 11, 1993 Our Congressman was on TV last night defending NASA and the solid booster rocket. Not smart. NASA's cutting too many corners, trying to keep the program going. There'll be problems for this in the future.

December 12, 1993 Received a letter from Jerry Solomon, senior ranking Republican on the House Rules Committee offering assistance. Form letter, it must have been sent to all the candidates. He sent several attached letters about his campaign to assume leadership when Bob Michel retires. He withdrew on 14 October so Newt looks like the new leader. I don't care for Newt's internationalist stance on trade, but a lot of Republicans have missed the boat on that. I do like Newt's intellectual honesty and his thoughtful approach to issues. He certainly isn't using political speech. Maybe sometimes everyman does have a chance. Religion may replace politics as our local sport. In the news is our local nude beach. With a very active religious community, ought to set up a doozy of a confrontation.

December 13, 1993 Bully Pulpit Time, again. Aid for dependent children was created primarily for war widows after World War II so they could stay home and raise their children. Today,

the number of folks enrolling on welfare is escalating at a growth rate of four times the general population. One half are on assistance for over three years and one sixth over eight. One can receive more income on assistance than working forty hours at a minimum wage job. An average of two children are born per female recipient after she joins the welfare roles. Something has to be done, but what? We probably can't help most who are on the dole today, but we can do something about their children. Boys Town should be the model. Next item. In the dictionary a coalition is defined as a temporary alliance of distinct persons for joint action. Distinct meaning not of the same persuasion. The Christian Coalition is not a coalition. It should be called the Christian Alliterates because they aren't temporary and they march in mental lockstep. Would like to see them spending their energy helping illegitimate children in the public housing sector. If they did, I'd give more weight to their anti-abortion stance. And to top this off, we still don't have a copy of NAFTA in the County.

December 14, 1993 I need to find out if Bill Tolley is going to run again. With at least five declared, it may not matter if he does. Received another invitation to attend the State Republican Executive Committee meeting in Orlando. I won't attend. 1. I don't have time. 2. I don't have money to waste paying the fee (They too charge candidates). 3. They could care less if I did. Next page is the Christmas poem I sent out to all the powers that be.

Everyman's Six Days Of Christmas

On the sixth day of Christmas

My Party gave to me:

Six polite turn downs,

Five months of bi-laws,

Four or more opposing candidates,

Three Christian Coalitionists,

Two Shukdinas,

And a Tolley up a right to life tree.

Over the river and through the woods

To Washington we'll go.

So don't go astray,

When the train pulls away

Help us vanquish the foe.

Hop on board,

Join the hoard,

We need the sweat of your brow.

Work with a winner,

Not with a sinner,

Owen's the right choice now.

December 16, 1993 . Our local paper has a guest editorial by a former Democratic Congressman and current lawyer, "Attack crime by highly valuing our families where morals are formed and hope begins." The article is as convoluted as the headline. Wonder if he is on the campaign trail again. Bobby Inman is rumored to be the new SECDEF. He didn't support the country when he was DIRNSA, but he did support Washington's politicians to the hilt. Understand he has a photographic memory, but from what I've seen of the shambles he left of Naval Intelligence, I wonder if he can collate all the data his memory has stored. His stewardship of the Austin Texas semi-conductor consortium and NSA were disasters. I judge a person by what he has contributed. Inman has never improved any organization he's been a member of. He has gained a reputation for looking good and answering smart around the flagpole. With DOD going through restructuring, is he the right choice? Only time will tell. Received a long personal letter from Jeb Bush. He answered all of my questions. He is pro-life and won't speculate on hypothetical situations. I do like the fact that he is up front and straight on. Checked on the flier at the printer, looks good, will be ready Monday. \$211.30 plus artwork for 3,000 initial run. The bio half is the next page.

December 17, 1993. Eight days until Christmas and I haven't received information on how to do the petition drive or my question on who can sign them from State Elections. Come to think of it, I still need to get the oath they require.

BIOGRAPHY

Jim Owen Republican Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives

- o Born in Xenia, Ohio - matriculated on farm in Delaware, Ohio.
- o Married to Bobbie Owen - 37 years - four children.
- o Public Service -
 - o Elected non-partisan to Hawaii Kai Community Council
 - o Elected non-partisan President Queens Gate Board
- o Military service - USAF - 26 years - highlights:
 - o B-52 & RC-135 Senior Standboard and Instructor/Evaluator.
 - o Chairman - National Foreign Intelligence Board Electro-Optics Committee and AF representative to NFIB SIGINT subcommittee.
 - o Executive Assistant and senior advisor to Chief of Air Force Intelligence.
- o Generated ideas and concepts - 12 years - to include:
 - o Navy War Plans and concepts, Army studies and analysis and Agency surveillance and treaty compliance analysis.
 - o Program Development Director & International Trade.
- o Writer, Author and Poet.
- o B.A. History and Economics - Ohio Wesleyan University
- o Organizations: Life member: Sigma Chi, Air Force Association, and American Defense Preparedness Association. Member: American Astronautical Society*, National Aviation Club*, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association*, Naval Institute*, Security Affairs Support Association*, Association of Old Crows, and Association of Former Intelligence Officers. (* Member while in Washington D.C.)

December 18, 1993 Local news, "Curfews won't cut it." Looks upon a state-wide curfew as a Band-Aid. I've looked at the proposal and it is reasonable. 11:00 p.m. on weekdays, 12:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 6:00 AM as the cutoff. Now if we would only close the bars and clubs at midnight, take the profit out of welfare, illegitimate children and drugs and treat addicts as diseased, we could reduce crime by 60 to 70 percent. Bill Tolley is substituting for a local radical conservative radio talk show host today. He began by eliminating half of his audience with a soliloquy. Three folks in the Christian Wrong called in, all restrained, but chomping at the bit to smite someone. My Treasurer, Paul L, called in and asked him if he was going to run again and if so why, as he had lost the last three times. Tolley said he hasn't made up his mind and that Lincoln lost many times before winning. What he didn't say was that it was for different offices. Attended the County Charter Commission meeting at our Taxpayer funded County palace in a cow pasture called Viera. A new County complex that is impressive and isolated, just like Fairfax County Virginia's County complex. Comes under the heading of; build it and they will come or build it where thy can't come. Tolley was there as were quite a few citizen activists. Two hours was enough. For the life of me I can't understand why anyone can stand to watch a committee. It's like watching grass grow and half as interesting. Tolley and the citizen activists are opposed to the new County Charter before it is even proposed and they are also opposed to the current system. It appears to me what

they really want is to recreate County government in their image.

December 19, 1993 Our local newspaper reports, "Trapped beneath the glass ceiling." Women hold three out of five jobs on congressional staffs. Sixty percent of congressional staffers are women. One third of administrative assistants are women. This raises some interesting questions. If you follow this through to its logical conclusion then the work force should be three fifths men and the appropriate number of women should be fired. Continuing with this stupidity, numbers should be reduced until three fifths of the staffers are men. Wonder what happened to the society of achievement? Has it been replaced by a society of quotas? Women on our Congressman's staff earn an average of \$6,812 more than the men. His administrative assistant earns \$106,337 while his District Director, a man, earns only \$41,000. He employs 10 women and six men. "It is my practice to hire the most qualified people." Agree with most qualified and he can't be wrong all the time.

December 20, 1993 Time to celebrate the season as everyman running for office with no money, clout or friends should:

Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat,
Please to put a penny in the old man's hat;
If you haven't got a penny, a hapenny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you!

Anonymous Beggar's rhyme

WALKABOUT

"O Oysters, come and walk with us!"

The Walrus did beseech.

"A pleasant walk, a pleasant talk,

Along the briny beach."

Lewis Carroll 1865

December 21, 1993 I must plan out my itinerary for January. If I take the oath on the fourth, I can start my petition drive Wednesday the 5th in this County and the week of the 24th in the County to the south. In the spirit of Christmas, our local leader of the Christian Coalition wrote a letter to the editor on the evils of Fluoride. Enough said about fringe elements. Fliers came back from the publisher. They look good, but there was one typo and one word dropped out in the bio portion. Delaware was spelled Deleware and Support was left out of Security Affairs Support Association. Good thing I only had 3,000 made up. Next organization meeting will be 28 December at my house. We'll finalize walkabout areas.

December 22, 1993 The National Republican Congressional Committee sent a letter about fund raising dos and don'ts. They are holding a school for candidates at the Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington, Virginia on February 9th through 11th. \$175 for me and \$75 for my wife plus \$109 a night for a room. That totals to \$577 not including tax, more than I've spent on my campaign since it began five months ago. I'll be trying to get petitions signed during that time frame. Wonder how many of the rich and famous will attend?

December 23, 1993 Clinton is still ducking questions on his misuse of State employees and broken promises. My contact at elections has a problem with Slick's light regard of his marriage contract. I can forgive him of that, but I can't forgive him

for corrupting those around him to achieve satisfaction of his sexual appetite. This strikes a cord of elitism, similar to Kennedys and kings.

December 24, 1993 Our local paper has ducked the current Clinton follies; adultery and white water dafting. His new crime bill should be personal counseling of State Troopers and lying about the whole thing. Must be a proactive thing about king's right extended to Southern governors. Received the year end report forms from the FEC. Will have to transfer my figures from the word processor by pen to fit within the squares.

December 26, 1993 The day after Christmas and our local paper is still ducking Clinton's exercise of king's right. Let's see, if we change his name Richard Nixon, wonder what their coverage would be?

December 28, 1993 Our local paper has our Congressman spending his holidays at home, here. Found a 1991 Roosevelt dime and 1970 Jefferson nickel on my bike ride. Must be the holiday spirit causing our citizens to throw money to the winds. Campaign funds are now up to a whopping \$2.91.

December 29, 1993 I am being interviewed on local radio at 08:40 this morning. My mail out to the media must have had an effect. Campaign administrative meeting last night went well. I received agreement on my itinerary for the next month.

Paul L. formally agreed to be Treasurer as long as he doesn't have to attend meetings (as an ex-Marine in the trenches, he can't stand them), campaign (interferes with his retirement), and telephone.

December 30, 1993 My radio interview lasted fifteen minutes. The guy was a real pro (He has since passed on). I got zinged and zinged in a few myself. He was real friendly before we went on the air and then he turned on me, digging into my right to decide as phony and that as a Republican I was opposed to humanity. When did you stop beating your wife approach to questions. I recreated the State's petition with my word processor and had 500 petitions reproduced at a cost of \$14 not counting tax. I was able to get two on a page. Will do 5500 for \$120 (Price went up, later). Have the finance reports completed. Our Congressman will be quaking in his boots when he finds out that I have \$2.76. Unleash the juggernaut!

December 31, 1993 All government offices are closed today. How about a permanent vacation? Received letter response from State Elections to my loophole question. They rephrased my question and told me to stuff it. My response is the next page.

January 2, 1994 Federal Election Commission news letter has articles on cheating by well known candidates and PACs and our local newspaper has photos and bios of its editorial board. Looks like Rembrandt's Night Watch.

Florida Department of State
Sam
Division of Elections
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

December 31, 1993

Jim Owen
1206 Jenkin Ave
Palm, Bay FL 32905

Dear Sam,

I have read your response several times. You failed to respond to my question. Not an unusual legal maneuver. You rephrased it so that "counted" would be included. Sorry Sam, I read those "Pursuant to Section" words too. It does not say that a candidate must obtain signatures of his own party. It does say that only those of his own party will be counted, which is probably why you rephrased my question to fit your interpretation.

Your information is enlightening if not helpful. I know for certain that I need to have registered Republicans sign my petition, but my question remains unanswered. 'Littera scripta manet.'

I do agree that we need lawyers to interpret laws, though we might be better off if we restrict them to one per subject area and one per jurisdiction. With two or more lawyers we achieve a critical mass of ambiguity (not to mention law suits). The Election Laws of Florida provide a subjective example of this (and why lawyers should not be allowed to write law). Not only is this a conflict of interest, it is a certain way to have sentences over 170 words in length (99.061 (1)). No law should be longer than our Constitution (five pages with the Bill of Rights). 'Ex ungue leonem!'

Jim Owen

'homme moyen sensuel'

Copy to County Supervisor
of Elections

January 3, 1994 Our local newspaper is covering news about golf courses. One of our local communities is going to build a new one that can only be used by rich folks and is going to allow a developer to build next to the fairways. This has to be the answer to a developer's fondest dream. This area already has enough courses to make Scotland look empty. Bobbie L. is going all out on speaking engagements. Have one Saturday to a woman's group up north. This County is longer than a drive from south of Columbus, Ohio to the middle of Lake Erie. And she has four others on tap for later.

January 4, 1994 Our local newspapers radiation from radars and power lines issue must be a diversion. When they report medical problems, it appears that they advocate for the injured without covering the injured's complete medical history. Subjective rather than objective. Today's problem is an atomic veteran. He jumped ... "into an atomic blast." Not likely. He probably jumped into an area immediately following an atomic blast. He is 61, has had 3 skin cancer operations and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Believe we'd need to know his life style and family history. Did he smoke, drink excessively, work out in the sun uncovered, etc. My Wife's sister and brother in law had more medical problems than he has listed. Both passed on at about his current age and both without parachuting into an area after an atomic detonation. Took the oath at elections.

January 5, 1994 The Executive Committee ordered a disc with

the folks new in each precinct. Funny thing happened on the way to the forum. It only works on Bill Tolley's (our losing candidate) computer and not the one at headquarters. As he is not a candidate, he's not authorized to have said tape. This item made a column in the Sentinel. This comes under the heading of "...and nothing could be done because it was the mayor's son." George Thompson called last night. Asked that I appear on his Cable TV show. Will have an hour to discuss issues and I will be alone. Wonder where the others went. Shukdinas is on the radio today. Spent the first five minutes talking about New Jersey. Spent the next five talking about Harris Corporation. The guy that got to me has nailed him. He is talking at a higher pitch and faster than Bugs Bunny. He gave an Abraham Lincoln pitch about rising above poverty. Says that he is the better candidate because he can relate to people and he knows the issues. Finished up in better form. Did identify me as the only other announced candidate. Welfare; he wants to eliminate it. I'll speak at the Jan 20th Republican's Mens Club. I have thirty minutes if I'm alone and fifteen if Mike Shukdinas shows up.

January 6, 1994 Walked from Dogpatch to Dogwood yesterday afternoon. Most of the folks weren't registered and those that were, were Democrats or Independents. I got 12 petitions signed and Paul L. did four at his bridge club. These towns are in the southern part of the County along with a retirement community and Marinas. Lots of Snow Birds. Will be back to talk to clubs

at a later date. We need to call the retirement community people and find an appropriate place to get petitions signed. Everyone here is sensitive about invasion of privacy. The area has charm. Like Florida was thirty years ago. The temperature was 50° with a moderate wind. Not too many people out and about. The County Fire Station will have a fish fry on the 30th. I may attend. One item of note. I do run into the abortion issue. Those who are choice ask and sign. Those who are anti ask and then debate from five to ten minutes and the debate is always the same as if they are all in lock step. After all of this nonsense, they won't sign. Women are five to one choice and fifty percent of the men are anti. This wouldn't be an issue if men had to share the pain of child birth. For me, trying to get petitions signed, it is an overriding issue. So much so that I'm surprised if it doesn't come up. I have yet to meet a feminist. Should have known. My County is the heart of the anti-abortion movement.

January 7, 1994 Walked to the north of yesterday's walk. My walkabout response was better today. Doubled the number of petition signers. Have not met anyone who supports Tolley. I'm having difficulty finding town centers and I can't ring doorbells as no one is at home. I called a lady in the retirement community and received an answering machine, again. Still need to know where we can campaign in their area. George Thompson called. I'll be on his TV show the 18th. Going to be a busy week. Received the petition forms from State

elections. Huge box! Set up the information I can into the word processor. I can do two a minute. Has to be a better way. Filled out 200 for the county south of us last night. Hope to have a thousand when I speak at their Executive Committee meeting. Bobbie L. attended the City Council Meeting and garnered some activist volunteers. Seven signed my petitions. She and a dozen or so plan to walk their precincts to get petitions signed. She was very upbeat. They also plan to stand outside supermarkets on Fridays. I will continue to walk.

January 8, 1994 Walkabout in the next town north of the one before took five hours. I distributed forty petitions and had ten signed. Legs aren't as young as they once were. Wasted valuable time debating the abortion issue. Impolite to walk away and the Christian Wrong knows this. I'm going into Doctors Offices, small businesses and anywhere they won't call the sheriff on me. Still looking for a town center and I haven't found one. I now have 400 petitions filled in and ready to go for the County south of here. Two thirds of the voters are in my County, one third to the south and a smidgen in two counties to the west. Bobbie L. has scheduled speaking engagements at a Kiwanas club way up north on the 20th, AARP ~~at~~ on the 25th at a central senior center and another Kiwanis at noon on February 3rd. Talked with my contact in elections. He heard that Ed Stillie will announce at the next Executive Committee meeting and that Tolley has already announced. If he has, I haven't seen it. Media letter is next page.

Media Contact
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear Media,

I plan to start my walkabout Populist campaign on the 5th, 6th and 7th of January. I will be available to the citizens of Little, ..., ..., ..., ..., ... and for questions, discussions or just to chat.

Here are a few ideas for you to chew on:

- o Eliminate Medicaid and replace it with a Medical Corps, patterned after the Peace Corps.
- o Eliminate Welfare and replace it with boarding schools, group homes and Civilian Conservation Corps camps. Distribute food and medicine, but no money or food stamps.
- o Leave Social Security and Medicare alone, they work!
- o Have doctors, druggists and medical facilities (outpatient clinics, hospitals etc.) post their prices and performance and open up a free market in medical care.
- o Test these ideas (and any other program Congress creates) to see if they work before full implementation.
- o Before any elected official can vote to spend taxpayer's funds on charity, Arts or giveaways, he must first provide proof that he has given more than \$500 or 2% of his gross income (whichever is higher) to that cause.
- o Make lawyers sign conflict of interest oaths before voting on any law within their specialty or previous employment (tax, corporate, journalism, trade et al).

The first six months of candidacy were enlightening. From now to November, "Ain't we got fun." Auspicious melorious aevi!

Jim Owen

January 9, 1993 I addressed the Women's Republican Club at the Dixie Diner yesterday morning. I feel a cold coming on. In spite of the fact that I stumbled all over myself, talked too long, etc., all nine ladies signed my petition. Speech critique. Get it down to sound bites and go into detail when answering questions. Don't stand at parade rest and button my jacket when talking. Carry cards in my hands and keep them out of my pocket. Don't rattle change. Walk toward the one asking the question and answer up close.

January 10, 1994 Back on the campaign trail. Walk the largest town in the County today. Like everywhere else, there is no town center so I visited quite a few doctors' and business offices and passed out 100 or so petitions. It looks like there is no inexpensive way for everyman to campaign. I have combined my NASA vision with health care: Send Hillary to the moon.

January 11, 1994 Walkabout in large town going along as planned. About four hours. Electorate really asking questions. This is one group that doesn't need to be educated. Gave out several hundred petitions and had 10 signed on the spot. Hope they call for me to pick them up or send them back. Abortion, one side wants to pass out dead baby pictures and the other side wants to put the dead baby folks in jail.

January 12, 1994 Walked large town again today and I speak to the Southern County Republican Executive Committee tonight.

Have three talks scheduled next week and one the week after. If I can get on the ballot, I may have a shot. Ran into another extreme Bible toting right to lifer, a member of the Covenant Presbyterian Church in large town. Not your normal group of Presbyterians. Activist and into civil disobedience. Must be from the predamnation branch. He wasted an hour of my time. Couldn't get away and then refused to sign. Lot of that going around. Other than that, it was a productive day. South County politics. Wow! Dick Tuck is alive and well and leading South County's Republican Party. The County Chairman gave us the wrong address, but we arrived 90 minutes early. After many frantic phone calls, we found the Community Center where the meeting was being held and we walked in minutes after the meeting began. Mike Shukdinas was there with his entourage. They arrived early and had already passed out their information. He spoke last month. We passed out our petitions and fliers while the meeting was ongoing. The Chairman arrived just before adjournment. He took over the mike, introduced me in an offhand manner and turned off the mike as he handed it to me. Would've lost the audience if the lady sitting next to him hadn't whispered, "He turned off the mike." Afterwards, almost everyone in attendance signed my petitions and urged me on in whispers. The antis have these people frightened. Several organizations asked that I speak and attend their meetings (they whispered). This party unity theme must mean everyone will agree with the Christian Wrong. Mike Shukdinas did not have petitions ready for signatures. He does have a fund raiser and kickoff party

scheduled at a restaurant on the water in north South County.

January 13, 1994 Attended the local Executive Committee meeting last night. I asked if I could have access to the voter registration lists. The powers that be said they weren't up to date and would be by May. I mentioned that our petition drive would be over in mid-April, by law, and May might be a little late. After that a lot of miss-information was passed around; i.e. anyone can sign, the fees aren't high, a petition drive should cover everyone, and a whole lot of other nonsense. I can copy the list (which is out of date) at headquarters if I pay 5¢ a page. \$150 and a whole lot of time. Cheaper to go outside, but they won't allow them out the door. Problem is Republican Headquarters is open only two days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (sometimes not even then) and I don't have \$150. So much for party support. Conservative Weekly carried my campaign announcement. Mike Shukdinas had a color photo and front page spread. Mine was a blurred black and white and continued on page seven. Outside of the runaround, it was a fair article.

January 14, 1994 Have to talk about the meeting last night. The Christian Coalition, which is neither Christian or a Coalition spoke, too and circulated a petition to remove our State Committeeman from the Executive Committee and from his position as State Committeeman. The attack was vicious and unwarranted. He serves on the County Charter Commission which

is writing a Charter for County Home rule. We don't have one and follow State law. He doesn't represent the Republican Party on this commission. As an individual, he voted for non-partisan county officials. Our Chairman called him a dastardly non-Republican for doing that. Tempest in a tea pot, but it doesn't take much to set off the Christian Wrong. I stood up and defended him on a side issue, his acknowledged \$99 contribution to a Democrat in last years election. I said that I too had contributed to a Democrat, \$100 to a Maryland Congressional campaign in 1986. I was damned proud to do so and I was damned proud of our Committeeman. I stopped just short of asking the CC leader if his white sheet and pillow case were at the cleaners. Last month Fluoride, this month mind control. What will the Pious Permanents give us next, book burnings? I forgot to mention that the guy in Maryland and our Committeeman are black and I don't know why I am, because it really doesn't matter, but it does. Sometimes we're not free to set the terms of a debate. Ed Stillie announced his candidacy and was lost in the shuffle. Captain of the football team and his wife was Captain of the cheer leader squad. Gave a pretty good I love me speech. Talked with Mike Shukdinas' Campaign Manager. Mike supported the petition to throw our Committeeman out. I think I've found the stealth candidate of the Christian Wrong.

January 15 1994 Walking Self Important Town, today. Just to the north of Large Town. On today's walkabout I ran into my

first radical feminist. A hyphenated lady lawyer. Wow! Just as intolerant and bigoted as the Coalition. Have given out a thousand fliers and talked to five times that number and have only met three real crazies. However, crazies are leaders and the world is made up of followers. Ask Hitler. Filling out the repeat information on about 100 petitions a day. At this pace, it will take me sixty days. Have to rethink a way to get signatures. Being forced to use one page per citizen, really slows things down. Probably what the legislature had in mind. The score on everyman trying to get on the ballot is: incumbents, one; outsiders, zero.

January 16 1994 Walkabout in Self Important Town is tough. The town center has been replaced by strip malls and several large shopping malls. They won't let everyman inside to petition or outside, for that matter. I'm reduced to walking into small business and doctors offices. Speeches and TV appearance make it a busy week. About the TV experience. Not enough of an audience to make a difference. My opponents turn it on, if they can remember, and some channel surfers.

January 17 1994 I'm coming down with the flu or a cold. Surprised that it hasn't happened earlier. Can't walk into doctors' offices and come out unscathed. Still chipping away at Self Important Town, with little success. This is not the way it was supposed to happen. Everyman has no chance if there isn't an inexpensive way to campaign.

January 18, 1994 Attend the Federated Republican Women's Club meeting today. They are having a fashion show and card party. A chance to get 60 to 120 petitions signed. Have a meeting with one of our Republican State Representatives up north at 1:30 p.m. I didn't pass out petitions at the Fashion Show. It wasn't the time or place to do so. I did talk to as many ladies as I could. I was the only man there. Stopped by headquarters. The losing candidates wife was there. She almost dropped her teeth when I walked in. I asked for the list for our District, which she had promised. She wouldn't give it to me. She did let me copy the updates to the basic list for my precinct, but she controlled the copier to insure that I copied only my precinct. Talked with the north State Representative. He is very anti-abortion and let me know this in no uncertain terms. He will not support me nor does he like me. Looked at me as if I was a dung bug. Understand he used to be a nice guy. Ego is out there to get us all, even everyman, or why else would I be hanging on. The TV talk show went well. George had 28 callers, a new show high. Talked off the air to additional callers as they were striking the set, also a new thing for them. George Thompson called afterwards and thanked me. His wife, a life long Democrat said she'd vote for me in the general election.

January 19, 1994 My TV appearance was the main topic on the radio talk show this morning. Got damned and praised. The Christian Wrong is searching for ways to put a stop to my

campaign. Interesting. In person they argue until red in the face. Over the airways they treat me with kid gloves. Seems like they are stuck between identifying me as the anti-Christ or Judas. Free press! That old saying that it doesn't matter what they talk about as long as they talk. Walkabout went well, but I'm running out of gas. Last day for Self Important Town and then I turn south to the north part of South County. I'll have to do more in Self Important Town next week because of speaking engagements. Bobbie L. is lining up volunteers for a neighborhood petition drive on the first three Saturdays in February. I've decided to pay the Elections Office for a list of voters by street and precinct. General election, Primary or the entire list are the choices. Believe I'll go for the General election by precinct and street. We need to pick out the precincts. It'll cost 1¢ a name, but after I've seen how disorganized our Party is, they charge 5¢ and I have to do all the work, it'll be worth it. 10,000 names equal \$100. Our local Election Office is becoming a beacon in the darkness of Byzantine politics.

January 20, 1994 I have Republican Men's Club and Kiwanis Club speeches today. Feel a sore throat coming on. To a politician that's like a knee injury to a football player. Walking Self Important Town again. Men's Club speech went well. Almost everyone signed my petition and we have two more volunteers. Bobbie L. says that adds up to 11. If we can get 20 good workers, we'll have what it takes to get our petitions signed.

Kiwanis Club was a bit strained at first. Our host was away on business and his replacement was uncomfortable with a political speech, so I addressed problem areas. The north State Representative is a member. Although he didn't speak directly to me, he interjected himself into the answers during questions in a positive way. They kept me twenty minutes afterwards asking questions. Bobbie L. says we need a headquarters. I explained Patton's technique of not providing trenching tools to his troops. Don't dig in, get out there amongst them. She said that was not political and she is right. We need a headquarters, but without funds....

January 21, 1994 Walkabout north South County and attend the northern South County Republican Club luncheon at noon today. Wrote thank you letters to the Men's Club and Kiwanis. Had 24 petitions signed at the northern South County Club. Some of the folks were friendly and some were downright nasty. A large lady, dressed in red with rings on her fingers (none on her toes) was suffering from a severe case of impolites. Had her hair pulled back in a bun. She was quite imposing, but mean mouthed. She ran the South County campaign for Losing Candidate in the last election. Carol something or other. Losing Candidate supporters see conspiracy behind every tree. She stated, that she was anti-abortion and I was an irritant." May speak there in April, too late for petition drives by then. Three people volunteered! Word is out that Losing Candidate is testing the waters in South County. I called the other

candidates to let them know. Kevin opined if this is true he may not announce. The northern town in South County is the second largest in South County and it isn't very big. The population and geographical size of Counties must be driven by politics. Discovered where the Regan Democrats were. Think they've all converted. I don't think everyman, with roots in Ohio, will have much of a chance in this area. I was treated well by the business folks, but felt like an anti-cleric in the land of the clerics.

January 22, 1994 Have a full blown cold. Good thing it's Saturday. Must write my new walkabout letters, a thank you letter to Dan and George and the South County Republican Executive Committee. Am invited to a condo super bowl party to pass out petitions. Forgot to copy down address. On the ocean at the Beach.

January 23, 1994 Still suffering from a cold. Talked with Bobbie L. We need a campaign coordinator. Received calls from three new supporters: Paul A. of the Malabar Gun Club; Shawn B., President of the West Pines Homeowner's association and the League of Homeowners Associations and another troop who wants to send in money. Shawn A. will help us plan and organize fund raisers and Paul B. has volunteered to be our volunteer coordinator. I picked the precincts for our first Saturday walk; 2nd, 83rd, 107, 125 & 144. Mike Shukdinas' campaign manager called. Wanted my support in getting the registered

voter disc from the Party headquarters. Gave it to him and told him good luck on getting anything from them.

January 24, 1994 Cold mitigating. Walking South County. Walked businesses to US #1 and back to the Interstate. Stopped by Elections and the newspaper to let them know I'm in town. They had that, who is this guy and where did he come from look. If I really wanted to do this right, I need to be proceeded by Heralds, announcing my coming. South County people are reserved. Like stepping back into 1960.

January 25, 1994 Talk to AARP at noon today and walkabout South Beaches. Not much on the beaches. Drove ten miles south of the causeway and didn't see a town. Speech to AARP was non-political. Have to remember not to speak after lunch to folks over sixty. When I looked out, most were taking naps. This group was mostly Democrats. Walked the populated portion of the barrier island after I found empty beaches. I'm not getting many petitions signed. This can be costly. Have to find a way to maximize my time. I need 100 petitions a day and I'm only getting 25. I also am not receiving any press. I am the tree that fell in the forest with no one around. The noise of the fall has not reached anyone. Walkabouts work only when you receive press notice and I can either write or walk, but can't do both. Everyman has another well sounding scheme that has gone aground. Have written the February media letter and am sending it out. It is the next page.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

Attached is my February walkabout schedule. So far, I've found more than a few interesting opinions along the way:

- o If you walk into doctors offices you'll catch a cold!
- o The electors out there are smarter than conventional wisdom leads us to believe. They question before signing petitions.
- o The first question is the abortion issue.
- o If you address this issue before the question is asked, anti-abortionists say it shouldn't be addressed. Above then applies.
- o Losing Candidate Bill is looked upon as our Harold Stassen.
- o Our Congressman is considered a non-listener and autocratic.
- o A right-to-life Republican will lose.
- o A pro-choice Republican should win.
- o Doctors, dentists and small business people are friendly.
- o Lawyers have opulent suites and standoffish demeanor.
- o All volunteers are saints!
- o Dick Tuck is alive and well in South County.

Truditur dies die,

Jim Owen

January 26, 1994 Have to review my new flier tomorrow afternoon. Re-do of art work will cost additional. Ran into a few people that will support. Several saw the TV show and were impressed. Met with recruiters for a new Kiwanis Club. I was lead to believe that they wanted me to speak. Bait and switch?. I will be a part of the new club in Large Town. One of the recruiters volunteered to help with petitions. Picked up list of voters at elections. If all government offices were like this one, we would have a well run country.

January 27, 1994 Speech today to the Lion's Club at Stacey's Buffet. This one is, "So You Want To Be An Author." Walked the northern part of Self Important Town and part of the populated beach, ending at the shopping center where the Lion's Club meeting was scheduled. Gave a speech about authoring, non-political. Went over quite well. Better than my political process speech. Talked with Paul L., my Treasurer. He visited three banks to see how to open up a political account. Of the lot, Barnett had the best terms. Only problem is it will cost us \$12 a month and we have to buy our checks. We'll do better if we can maintain a \$600 balance. We only have \$67. We'll spend the entire campaign account on banking charges. We decided to open up a savings account and hold all the campaign funds in escrow until we get on the ballot. If we don't succeed, we'll return all the contributions. Only problem is: I'm funding it myself. Wonder if this is all legal? Called FEC and they said it was. So we will use a savings account. These

election laws are for rich and famous politicians. We spend most of our effort filling out forms and chasing down answers.

January 28, 1994 South County today. Should be interesting. Walked the beach side of South County's largest town. Mile after mile of walled in communities. One good tidal surge during a summer hurricane and all the insurance companies in the State will be wiped out. Small business owners were quite pleasant. As a lot, the people of South County are much more reserved than my County, North County, but friendly.

January 29, 1994 Completed my income tax, signed it and sent it in. No one has asked to see the forms. But then, no one has asked to see me, either.

January 30, 1994 Attending a Super Bowl party in Cocoa Beach. Should be able to pass out petitions. Patricia O. is hosting. Revised Key people list and brought it up to date. Dropped a few and added some. We only stayed for an hour at the party. Had to return home and watch the grandchild. Reminded me of the Rotonda in McLean, Virginia. Quite a nice condo. Patricia O. had a few signed petitions for us.

January 31, 1994 Golf course issue at City Council tonight at 6:00 p.m. Plan to attend. Our Congressman is an item in the local news. He speaks of cabbages and kings; crime, health-care, welfare reform and jobs. He means Space Station

and a V.A. hospital. Walking the rest of north Self Important Town and the beaches north of the causeway. I lecture at the High School this week, two Kiwanis clubs and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Moose. Changing fliers to white paper. Cost is \$100 less. Attended Large Town's City Council meeting and spoke about the golf course. As far as I could see, I was the only one without a script. Got a pretty good round of applause when I finished. Said that a golf course should be designed as a recreational facility, inexpensive and for walkers. The current design is championship, \$7,000,000, will use carts and charge high fees to operate. Advised that if they went that way, they better make sure they have enough surrounding land to pay for it and turn a profit. A golf course operation can be a money sump. Worked my way through college as a greenskeeper.

February 1, 1994 Made the local news section. "The lands surrounding the golf course should support the golf course," resident Jim Owen said. "If we can get enough money from lots surrounding the golf course in a reasonable amount of time, then it might be a good idea. I'm still waiting to see if that's possible." Pretty good paraphrasing and I wish I had been as eloquent as the writer portrayed. Missed the half about building a course affordable to our resident golfers. Better to be misquoted than not quoted. Bobbie L. called. Mentioned the Concord Coalition Economic position and asked if I've read it. Partly, but I cast it aside. Money is the issue. Stop spending it, stop borrowing it and start paying off the debt and we'll

do the right thing. The Concord Coalition has an agenda. Spoke for two hours to high school seniors in north North County. Tough audience. I have a greater appreciation of what teachers go through. They asked quite a few penetrating questions and we got along, alright. Their teacher sat in back and rested while I sweated it out. Found out later that they received extra credit for asking. The teacher canceled my afternoon talk. I was not politically correct. One disturbing note. When I asked why anyone would want to rob another human being, the answer came back, "Because we want it and if we can't buy it, we'll steal it." And none of the kids disagreed. And these were North County's finest (at this school). We are going to have a moral problem, greater than today, if this idea is prevalent around all fifty States.

February 3, 1994 Talk to another Kiwanis Club and walking more of North County's beaches. Speech to Kiwanis went quite well. Around thirty or so in attendance. Still not winning any converts. My solutions to the social and economic woes of the Country may be a little to radical for the average voter's taste in politicians. Well, they were all complaining about cookie cutter candidates and politics as usual, which I am neither. I'm discovering that everyone wants change until it hits them in the nose and then they want the comfort of politics as usual. Going to be a cold day in the South when I'm elected under those terms. Now that we have volunteers, I'm beginning to wonder if they are spies. Could be, most won't work.

February 4, 1994 Will start walkabout in my precinct on the 12th. Speech to Old Town Kiwanis today. No walkabout. Speech to Old Town Kiwanis went well. I thought it was great, Bobbie L. said it was the worst she'd heard. Got into tech speak again. Tried to explain everything. Added too much to it. I've shortened it down again. Received a letter from Executive Committee about meeting next Thursday.

February 5, 1994 Bobbie L. stopped by after a meeting with Paul A. He's organized our volunteers. We'll meet at his house Wednesday night. Bobbie L. has a volunteer meeting at her house Friday. We may have up to thirty workers. I'm beginning to feel more like an object than a person. Will have to work hard at keeping my amateur status. Paul A. is a professional speaker for Harris Corporation and active in Large Town's Gun Club (about 2,000 members). This week I have two speeches: Rich Island Kiwanis and Old Town, Too. Both on Tuesday. I'm going to do a Saturday walkabout of my precinct to see if it is a good idea or another bust.

February 6, 1994 Notice that I'm not covering everything that is happening in this tome. To busy on the campaign to put most of it into words. Called my District Chairwoman. She asked my wife to join the Executive Committee earlier. She will be a new member of the Executive Committee after two meetings.

February 7, 1994 Walkabout from South Beach Town to North

Beach Town today. Covering the inland route and shopping centers. Our local newspaper has not covered Clinton's Whitewatergate or Troopergate. One talk show personality has a paper trail leading to an illegitimate son in Little Rock with Clinton refusing to take blood and genetic tests. If all of these conspiracy details are even a quarter true, the press has really done a cover up on Slick Willy. If he was a Republican, he'd be tarred with printers ink and feathered with shredded news print. Visited with just a few voters today. Not many places to stop on the routes I chose. Bill Wolfe, head of South County United We Stand has thrown his hat in the ring. He was at my house when we kicked my campaign off last year. He was devious and obstructive then, will he be devious now? Bill will try to use Perot's group, so he's fishing my pond. Problem is, I haven't found many fish. Six candidates are now in the fight with Losing Candidate still in the wings. My chances were slim and none and slim has just gone home.

February 8, 1994 Speech to United We Stand at Old Town, Too went quite well. At least sixty or so were in attendance and every Republican signed my petition. Speech to Kiwanis was not as good. The Rich Island group was quite old and half from out of state. Did pick up volunteers at both groups. Received a set of questions from the Eagle Forum. Found out, by asking around, that this group is radical in their anti-abortion stance. My response is the next two pages. I think I've included this questionnaire in a chapter titled Potpourri.

Eagle Forum

Phyllis Schafly, President

68 Fairmount

Alton, Illinois 62002

Dear Phyllis,

Reference your questionnaire.

Abortion: My wife and I are against abortion, but we are for liberty and justice for all, not just men. I believe that God has entrusted the child to woman and not to the State or to ministers or priests. We the people have decided against treating woman as chattel when we gave them political freedom. The problem with free will and liberty is that sometimes we humans choose wrong. If God can accept that, so can I. As for the issues you have described in questions 2. through 7., I will have to review them in the light of my beliefs and the consensus of my constituents. A Representatives job description is quite simple, to represent. Vox populi vox Dei.

Education: I am for the elimination of the education departments at National (Approx. 9,000 bureaucrats), State (Florida, 2,000 or so) and placing local school boards in control at the local level (this means reducing county control to schools outside city limits). I believe in returning our schools to the parents and funding them locally.

Family: Government should get out of family affairs. As to your questions, I will listen to my constituents and look at the whole issue, not just single sentences.

Defense: I served 26 years in the Air Force. I can give a qualified yes to all three questions. I support SDI research. We have a long way to go before deployment and the lift costs alone for space based SDI would bankrupt us. We need to do our homework on this before we decide.

Art: I'm opposed to any government funding for any art. Return it to free enterprise and watch a million flowers bloom.

Child Care: We've got to do something about aid for dependent children going from broken homes to prison. Boarding Schools?

Other: You missed cutting government spending 10% across the board.

Sending along my platform. Will understand if you don't support me and will welcome your opposition. At least you asked. The radical feminists, didn't bother.

Tout compendre c'est tout pardonner,

Jim Owen

February 9, 1994 Walkabout was fun today. People were friendly and up in the northern section of Self Important Town. Meeting at Paul A.'s house left me in doubt. Can we find workers? Volunteers are easy, but getting them to show up for work, isn't. As a result of the meeting, I'll have to pay for voters lists for precincts 5, 7, 11, 22, 29, 39, 40, 44, 110, and 112. Costs for a frugal everyman campaign are adding up.

February 10, 1994 Need to have my power steering checked today. May not get to walk much. Will concentrate on the area around the Cadillac garage (mine is a 1984, four door sedan which I've had for 10 years). Adding precinct 85 to my list. Will call the list request in to elections tomorrow morning. Car needed the belt adjusted and the stops greased plus a new hot water valve, but it still squeals. Walkabout continued in professional buildings and doctors' offices after the car was fixed.

Executive committee meeting tonight was calm. The Christian Coalition announced the second coming of Pat Robertson, a week from Saturday, in Orlando. Bobbie L. stayed home to work on the campaign. My wife attended her first meeting. She becomes a voting member next month. The candidate forum has been delayed again until April 14th. No big deal, all the minds are closed, in this group anyway. Kevin McKeown and Gary Smith didn't show, Losing Candidate didn't announce and Ed Stillie and Mike Shukdinas were reserved. Not many smiles out there among my opposing candidates. My wife wasn't impressed, but then she worked for Pat Saiki at Republican State Headquarters in Hawaii.

February 11, 1994 Going to South County today to order lists for their largest precincts. Our local newspaper plugs our Congressman's Health Forum on their editorial page. Endorsement time. Ordered the 14th precinct walk list at South County elections and picked up a print out of number and location of voters in South County and another order form. Will attend a Federated Women's meeting on Monday. Stillie, Shukdinas and Wolfe are going the petition route. Going to be a crowd. Volunteers meeting. Ten out of thirty showed up. Paul A. failed to get our notice mailed out soon enough. Mine showed up late yesterday. However, everyone was upbeat. Shukdinas is doing a pretty good job in South County. He's hiding his anti-abortion position. Could he be the stealth candidate of the Christian Coalition and is Paul A. their plant in my campaign?

February 12, 1994 Will hit the road to get petitions signed today. I'll walk about my precinct with a registered voter's list. Editorial page has federal flood insurance article. Joe Kennedy has a bill that will generate erosion areas and Our Congressman's bill doesn't. They preface all of his stories with "to his credit." Wonder why they don't cover stories that aren't to his credit. Walked three hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Brought back thirty one signed petitions and left another thirty or so. Will lose weight if I keep this up. I had hoped to get 100 signed. Looks like this number is not possible. Will walk another couple of hours Sunday afternoon. At this rate, all I can do is fifty each

weekend. At eight weekends until the deadline, I'll only have 450 petitions. I should be able to pick up seventy five during the week for another 675. Add this to my total and I'll have 1,125. We have about 400 in hand so adding that totals 1,525 which leaves 3253 to do. If 600 turn out to be invalid, we'll need approximately 1,000 more to be on the safe side. Twenty volunteers can get 200 each for 4,000 or forty can get 100. It's doable but doubtful because we can find volunteers, but not workers.

February 13, 1994 Walkabout at noon today. Goal is twenty or so petitions. Walked from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Twenty four signed with twenty more or that might come in later. Two day total of fifty four and three of those may not count. About eight an hour. Not good.

February 14, 1994 South County is the Sphinx of Republicanism. The middle aged ladies in the audience support me. The ones in control want to devour me for not answering their riddle. Must be a power struggle going on. Two new opponents in my Congressional campaign. Richard A. Henegar from Orlando and the lady who ran the Losing Candidate's campaign, Carol Jordan. I ran into her last month, a real dinosaur. Quite striking in appearance, dominating and extreme anti-abortion. With Wolfe, Stillie, Smith, McKeown, Shukdinas, Henegar, Jordan and me, that makes eight. Charles Lanier has declared as an independent from Saint Cloud. Odds of me pulling this off are 0 Kelvin

(-273.15 ° Centigrade, absolute zero). Called my reporter contact at South County's newspaper. She was at the luncheon yesterday taking notes on speeches by the Councilmen. I apologized for not introducing myself. Didn't get to say much more than hi at the meeting and there were no new faces in attendance.

February 15, 1994 Visited with the publisher of the Conservative Weekly on my walkabout of Rich Island. He's younger than me and still battling the powers that be. Quite a nice guy. Have a visit scheduled with STOP (Stop Turning Out Prisoners) tonight. Didn't make it to STOP. Down with intestinal flu. Hope it is the 24 hour variety. Received a call from another person who watched my cable TV interview. Gave him Paul A.'s phone number. Another volunteer! His wife will help, too. We are stretched so thin, I have to hope that Paul A. will get these folks organized, even if he is a CC spy.

February 16, 1994 Latest rumor is that the Losing Candidate will support Carol Jordan. If this is true, who is the stealth candidate of the Religious Wrong. Cable TV's George Thompson attended our Congressman's Health Forum and came away as a non-supporter. Bobbie L. has scheduled several: South County's Republican men's Club candidate forum, South Beaches Republican Woman's Club candidate forum, South Beach Rotary Club speech, South County Republican Woman's candidate forum, United We Stand candidates forum and the Retirement Village UWS forum.

February 17, 1994 Raining and I still feel woozy from the flu. Walkabout village to the south of Old Town, Too today. If the rain continues, I'll pick up the latest precinct walk lists from elections and get petitions printed. Attended the Republican Men's Club meeting at noon. Mike Shukdinas had his fifteen minutes of fame and attacked me on three fronts, NAFTA, Drugs and Budget. Terrific, I must be a threat to him. He speaks well, but, like an engineer, tried to cover too much with too many items on his plate. His attacks: NAFTA are good and those who think otherwise are stupid; 10% cut across the board and \$5 candidate. Doesn't have a replacement plan for welfare etc. Wore a new sincere blue suit. Looks quite pale for a candidate. He does fit the mold. With consultants all candidates begin to look alike. Picked up lots of walking lists at the Supervisor of Elections. \$55.02 for 11,004 registered Republicans. The lists are by street and number. Had 1500 new petitions copied for \$40.28. Costs are adding up. Attended candidates session at Republican Headquarters. Learned more than I thought I would. Such as: Full page advertisement on in our local paper is \$3,600. Radio spot is \$20. Sign costs must include municipality deposits. We can waste a lot of time horsing signs around. Street corner volunteers and yards may be our best bet. How to use your petitions was the hot button item covered by our "Boy Scout" County Commissioner. He recommends getting everyone to sign and sort them out later. Use the names for volunteers, contributions, etc. I didn't offer any suggestions on how to do anything because, obviously,

I don't know my okole from a puka in the ground. Mike sent his campaign manager and Kevin spoke from experience. He lost a State election a year or so back.

February 18 1994 Won't get a walkabout done today. Have to deliver walking lists and petitions to Dan M. in Old Town, pick up another list at elections and go to a luncheon in north South County. Talk about a long way. 140 miles on the auto. Ran into Carole Jean Jordan. She acts like a candidate, but says hasn't entered the waters. Got a chance to speak to the crowd for a minute. Didn't get any boos. Carole Jean and her lady friends raked me over the coals for my Choice Stand. Downright unfriendly. Won't sit next to that group, next time. She is, for a lady, quite a pompous. Have two volunteers setting up a table at the Sea Food festival. Can be over 50,000 or so in attendance there. It has rained for the last two days and is supposed to continue. Delivered lists and supplies to Bobbie and Paul L. We started with 40 volunteers and ended up with 10 on the weekend. Bobbie L. is not happy, but for a first effort, it's not bad.

February 19, 1994 Rained all night and is still coming down this morning. Doesn't look good for walks and the festival. Wife didn't walk and I got wet in the morning and talked at in the afternoon. The voters really ask questions! Seafood Festival turned out to be a bummer. Heavy wind and rain and they wouldn't let my volunteers ask for signatures. Didn't

have a permit. Beginning to look like there is nowhere to campaign for free. The voters are always bitching about candidates being bought. I'm beginning to see why they sell out. The same voters will not allow free expression or campaigning within the current political system.

February 20, 1994 Local news touts our Congressman's speech at an engineering symposium. Walked in the afternoon. Picked up another 20 petitions and made one new enemy. She was trained in the anti-abortion mode. Like talking to a recording. Couldn't have been older than fifteen; she stood in front of me and wouldn't let me pass. Must be a new street tactic by the Christian Wrong. Sending the children out to do their missionary work. She was quite good looking and articulate. From the Covenant Presbyterian Coven. Blonde, she looked like she had stepped out of a Youth Movement from the thirties. Finished media letters for my March walkabout. If things don't pick up, we'll not complete the petition drive. Even Bobbie L. is down. The lack of volunteer organization (Paul A. has disappeared and so have our lists), Christian Wrong attacking my folks on every street corner and apathy of the majority; she has a right to be so. If we had several thousand dollars for buttons and real signs (not the homemade ones we are using) it would be easier to attract enough volunteers to extract the forty or so workers we need. I won't budge off the five dollar limit, so this is not possible. Have purchased an extra lottery ticket. Media letter is the next page.

Media Contacts
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear Media,

I've attached my March walkabout schedule. My goal is to walk and talk to citizens in every city, town and crossroads in the 15th U.S. Congressional District between Jan 5 and April 18, 1994. At the same time, I'll request signatures on my petitions and will be soliciting workers and campaign contributions. I have established a \$5.00 limit on all contributions. If I am to truly represent the people, I can not knowingly accept contributions from special interest groups, PACs or lobbyists. I will need 4778 valid, registered Republican petition signers. No small task in itself, when there may be six candidates and duplicate signatures are not allowed.

Part of my platform is to recommend a new approach to combating crime and controlling drugs. We should look at the British approach; to treat addicts as medical patients, eliminate the profit motive by controlling distribution through prescriptions and not warehouse these people in our prisons. Eliminate aid to dependent children and open up group homes and boarding schools for those that need public assistance, thus eliminating all welfare as we know it. Create a new Civilian Conservation Corps for adults in need of public assistance and eliminate the homeless problem. Remove federal restrictions on overcrowding of prisons so that double or triple the population can be incarcerated until the above corrections take effect. Food, shelter, clothing and family values would be provided instead of money and food stamps. Eliminate Medicaid and replace it with a Medical Corps and beefed up Public Health Service. Pay for medical care not bureaucrats.

Laudator temporis acti,

Jim Owen

February 21, 1994 Local news has an editorial on a magnetic levitation train project. I have a friend who represented the Japanese on this. From what he said and my background in this, the train will use superconductive magnets (which have to be cooled down to almost Kelvin) to provide propulsion. The Japanese and the Germans were interested in a project from Orlando Airport to Disney World. However, local airport and business concerns were trying to block both ends. Rental Car franchise fees at the airport would be lost and local businesses didn't want the terminal on Disney property as they feared loss of business. Placing it on the Cape would solve several problems. They need a track long enough to achieve demonstration speeds. One concept has the magnets inside the train and the other on the track. Cooling those suckers in Florida's heat? The article does not consider the economic feasibility only the opportunity for jobs. Funding will come from federal and State grants, \$300 million or so (probably wind up costing billions) and we will be supporting scientific research with taxpayers money. Not ours, of course, but Japanese or German. And we wonder where all the tech jobs went that were going to replace our lost manufacturing. Our Congressman and newspaper support this effort for creating those high tech jobs like shoveling dirt and laying track.

February 22, 1994 Time to review my opportunities to succeed in getting enough petitions. I have 500 today and need 6,000. With 56 days to go, I'll have to have 98 petitions a day. I

haven't done that well, yet. If forty volunteers can get 135 signatures each, it's doable. Eighty with seventy signatures is easier. I need more volunteers or I'll have to hang it up. As the petition effort grows and my work increases, I notice that when I write, the sentences grow shorter. Must be some law covering this, probably Murphy's. Have to talk to the north Beach Federated Women's Club at 10:30, Kiwanis at noon, have a meeting with the President of the local University Young Republicans at 3:00 and speech to the retirement community Republican Club at 7:30 tomorrow. Busy, busy day.

February 23, 1994 The local news carries the announcement of my retirement community speech under what's happening today.

A lady from the State Party phoned. She is the new State Republican Party Congressional Coordinator. Lived in Arlington, Virginia and worked as a Staffer for two congressmen. Wanted out of Washington D.C. About the speech to North Beach ladies. I did not receive one question. No matter how I look at it, I died on stage. Fighting the orange blossom curse, allergy related dry throat. Microphone was attached to the podium and I had to lean forward. Need to remind myself to unhook it and hold it. Did that at the retirement community in the evening and received a ton of questions. We received over one hundred petitions and \$10 through the mail from people I've not heard of. If motion is work, we may be succeeding. Wrote thank you letters. Have done that for all of my speeches. Takes time, but it is a must. I need to change strategy. If I want

recognition, I need to continue my walkabouts. If I want to get petitions signed, I need to park somewhere where there are people around to sign. I've decided to walkabout after the close of petitions. I'll be in the hole if I don't get with it. Starting tomorrow, I'll sit somewhere and get to work. 20 petitions a day equal a thousand or so. We'll see. Good news. The U.S. Supreme Court has a decision that will allow us to sit in front of Post Offices etc. to get our petitions signed. Can't politic, though. John C. will be at Self Important Town Post Office tomorrow. With the CIA Ames betrayal in the news, my first two novels may be resurrected from the dead files. Sent out three queries to New York publishers. I keep getting turn downs because of an erroneous view that the Russians didn't do the things I wrote about. Will send out a few more. Maybe someone out there will listen. My forecast about the Balkans has come to pass. I invited the head of our University Young Republican Club to attend a South Beach Federated Women's Republican Club dinner and candidate forum as my guest. Would be a nice surprise to spring on my competition. A nice young man, but I don't think he'll provide much help. Our young folks are not as politically active as we were in College. He appears to be the only active member of his club. With studies and two jobs, he doesn't have time to devote to my petition drive. I remember carrying twenty one semester hours, working full time and devoting weekends to Eisenhower's campaign. We were out to change America to a Democratic Republic, "The Society Of Achievement."

February 25, 1994 Things are beginning to look down, but I still have hopes that we may have a shot at getting on the ballot. Walking the neighborhood today and attending a candidate forum down in South County, tonight. Our Young Republican will be out of town for the ladies forum, but his brother might attend, a policeman in South Beach. I picked up voters lists and stamps. Missing precinct 108. Will have to see if we need that precinct. Rain has cut into my walkabout today. Good thing it's the dry season. Speech went well in South County. I scored points on all issues. Mike Sukdinas stepped on his tongue and Bill Wolfe is improving. I only received eleven petitions, but we were plowing old ground. Picked up a volunteer.

February 25, 1994 Speech at North Beach Kiwanis went well. Nine petitions were signed. Gave my "So you want to be an author" speech. Had to stay away from politics. It was well received. Speech at South Beaches Federated Women's Club. Hmm. There were six of us, like the lottery. Sat between Gary Smith and Mike Shukdinas. My initial speech may have been too issue oriented. One lady in the audience commented that I'd have a hard time in Washington because I wasn't political enough. So, if they're attacking my flanks, I must have won the message battle. Themes: Gary Smith uses education and caring; Ed Stillie uses a new morning in America; Bill Wolfe is working my Populist arena; Kevin McKewen is using "I'm a local" and Mike Shukdinas, "I'm a different type of candidate." The whole bit went too

long. Not the moderator's fault. A Tampa candidate for some State office or other spoke for over 20 minutes and cut into our time. One observation, I'm not sure about me, but the other five did quite well. I believe I won on issues, hands down. However, I know that perception and charisma are everything. As a friend of mine used to say, "Superstition and ignorance will always win out over science and fact."

February 26, 1994 At least six of us are walking today in Large Town. Walks went much better today. John C. and I picked up 54 and Bobbie L., 35. Don't know how Paul A. and his person did. He still has most of our lists and is difficult to reach. I'll walk tomorrow and several of us will have a Post Office effort on Monday.

February 27, 1994 Our Congressman has his sick puppy picture in the news today. He attended NASA's hearings. Takes credit for inventing the wheel and all science as we know it today. Open collar, a turn of the head and we have another media event, free. I need 1,000 more blank petitions. Didn't walk. Down with intestinal something or other and a minor sore throat. Have spent the last three years holed up with my word processor. Must be about fifty mutated viruses and bacteria waiting to nail me out there.

February 28, 1994 Called my contact at elections to get the 82nd precinct. He said there were about three of us he could

support. Must be Ed Stillie, Kevin and myself. Know he thinks that Ed is the most viable candidate. I certainly am not, if all I can pick up is 400 petitions a week and I haven't done that well yet. As things look now, I'll fall a thousand or so short. Not sure how this thing will turn out. When I started, I didn't give myself a chance. When one is inside and running, Mr. ego takes hold. Mind over matter or is it the other way around? So far it looks like one volunteer can generate 20 petitions on any given day. We need 300 volunteers for one day, or thirty volunteers for ten days. Stayed in all day to get over whatever I had. Bobbie L. worked a petition drive in front of the Self Important Town Post Office and picked up 37 petitions in four hours. Attended the United We Stand Large Town meeting. I haven't been allowed to speak, but Bill Wolfe was allowed to give his whole platform. Bobbie L. was livid! She's been holding this chapter together for seven months and the lady in charge wouldn't give her the time of day (let me talk). We left early. Talked with Wolfe afterwards. Ed Stillie spent some time after the last debate talking about his contacts in the South County Citrus Groups. Bill wanted to know where Ed Stillie was coming from. According to him the Citrus growers weren't supporting anyone. Said he was surprised at the lack of support expressed for Carole Jean Jordan in South County, but said she'd announce any day, anyway. From what I hear and see, Mr. ego must have a Mrs. ego in politics.

March 1, 1994 Our newspaper miss-identified the supervisor

of elections and tax collector in their lead photo today (Large Town edition only). I speak at Port Town Kiwanis today and my volunteers are working the post offices. However, only one volunteer worked. High wind dashed our plans. Blew all of our papers around. John C. received 10 signatures. The United We Stand office in Old Town is closing down. I left a hundred petitions on my last visit. All I received was one signed petition. They have no idea where the others went. Four Kiwanis types showed up in Port Town for lunch. We sat around a booth eating Pizza as I spoke. Three signed petitions and the other was a Democrat. I spoke to this immense crowd for thirty minutes. Afterwards, a Kraft Corporation semi, making a delivery to the restaurant, blocked my car in. 104 miles of driving for four petitions. Al S. my Northern South County coordinator is no longer with us. He wants a professional campaign complete with hats and banners. I told him it was to early for buttons and bows. He wants the trappings of a major campaign for a minor office and candidate. I believe he was a plant by Carol Jean or the Religious Wrong or both. If he was, it worked. Didn't get one petition from his area after a truck load of promises by Al S.

March 2, 1994 We're under a tornado watch until noon. May delay my petition work until 10:30 or so. I was going to Self Important Town's north Post Office and Large Town's Senior Center. I worked under the roof outside of Large Town's south Post Office. Rain and high wind brought my effort to a halt

so I went home and made eight signs for our Post Office effort. Will keep one and give the rest to Bobbie L. Plan on working South County's Post Office Friday and will see which one Bobbie L. assigns me too on Saturday. The Post Office effort is a godsend.

March 3, 1994 Time to get realistic. We have about 1,000 petitions and need at least another 4,500. The numbers don't look good. Always believed if you can't get your message out, get out. Face it, the people don't want you. Fish or cut bait time is nigh! I'll know for sure at the end of the month. Talked with my contact at elections. As far as he knows, everyone running for Congress is going the petition route.

We were kicked off of Self Important City's Post office sidewalks after the Religious Wrong complained to the local Postmaster. He asked us to move or go to jail. As we don't go inside and don't hassel the folks, I'll have to go up the Post Office administrative ladder to see if this is a violation of my First Amendment right. The right to petition.

March 4, 1994 Spent all of yesterday afternoon and most of today trying to get access to the sidewalks outside of the Post Office. No such luck. Letters follow to local Post Office. Called Orlando, Tampa, Fort Myers, Tennessee, Atlanta and Washington D.C. A lawyer there gave me a 1992 Supreme Court ruling that prohibits petitioning for political purposes at Post Offices. Letter to local Post Office is next page.

Post Master
Self Important Town's Post Office
Attention
....., ...

Dear Mr.,

Enjoyed talking to you on the 3d of March. Reference our request to petition to place an individual (Jim Owen) on the ballot for federal office. We request permission to petition outside of Self Important Town's Post Offices and sub-stations. These petitions are to place an individual on the primary ballot for U.S. House of Representatives, 15th District. We are exercising our constitutional right to freely petition within the laws of the United States and the State of Florida. In accordance with POM 221.65, Issue 5-1-31-83, 654 Soliciting, Electioneering; we are not "campaigning for election to any public office."

We are petitioning without using any campaign literature or political advertising to have an individual placed on the ballot. We are requesting that only registered Republicans sign said petitions as is required under Florida Law. Federal, State, county and municipal jurisdictions are complying with the Supreme Court decision that allows our petitioning. We will not impede foot traffic, conduct our affairs in a disorderly way, or try to enter your facilities.

Request that you advise the manager of north Self Important Town's sub-station office that he has interfered with our constitutional right to petition. I am personally concerned that said manager may be a member of a PAC (Political Action Committee) and has interfered with our constitutional rights to further the political aims of this committee. I hope that I am wrong. I know that the Postal Service has a long history of fair play. I will forward a copy of the Supreme Court decision under separate cover. Pro bono publico,
(Copy to P.O. Inspector General)

Jim Owen

March 5 1994 Seems like our Congress wrote of tough law when they took the Postal Service out of politics. It was fun writing the last letter, but there is no hope. Checking into Malls as another area. A Supreme Court ruling in 1980, Pruneville vs. the State of California, allows us to work on an outside sidewalk, but local law has a requirement for the Mall to approve. Government service complexes may be the next best bet.

March 5, 1994 How did we lose our most promising location to garner petitions? A local media type (The one that chewed me out for entering the campaign) castigated the Post Office for not letting a petitioner sit inside because of bad weather outside. Tax Cap (or whatever) was trying to gather petitions. The head of an anti-abortion fanatical group (Family Forum?) and a member of the Republican Executive Committee happened by when Bobbie L. was sitting at a table getting petitions signed by the handful. He went inside and raised hell with north Self Important Town's Postal sub-station manager. If the media type and Religious Wrong hadn't raised so much hell, we'd all be out there gathering signatures. I believe they both wanted us out of there and it worked. As a result, we may not get on the ballot. If a fuss hadn't been raised, Tax Cap hadn't tried to operate inside the Old Town's Post Office and the Mad Media type hadn't taken on the Post Office over a trivial matter, we might have made it. Congressman Penny has a bill in Congress to limit the number of petitions required to 1,000 for federal

campaigns. He has the number about right. Now, where is the ACLU when everyone's constitutional rights are being threatened? What really bothers me about this whole affair at the Post Office is that the Salvation Army and Girl Scouts may now be excluded (as required by law). We'll have to try the County government service complexes. Walking my neighborhood today. Boy am I a dufus! Discovered that South County is having an election. We can get people out to the polls! Petitioning is legal! If it's Tuesday were in big trouble. If not and we can get volunteers out, we can pick up a thousand or so. Like shooting fish in a barrel. Gathered in twenty eight signed petitions and left another forty or so to be mailed in. Three hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon. Paul, Bobbie L. and I met on the back porch to map out strategy for next weeks South County election. It is on Tuesday. Have eight to ten volunteers to cover it. We'll cover county tax and registration offices, bingo and a senior flea markets at a later date, too. I have four speeches scheduled and must make four more signs.

March 6, 1994 We'll pass our first thousand petitions today. Really getting brain dead. Picked up 13 petitions and ran into more than one extreme anti-abortionists.

March 7, 1994 Heading to South County to pick up maps and precincts. Took time out to write a media letter announcing the end of my walkabout campaign. Letter is next page.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

Have hung up my walking shoes. Didn't make it to West Counties. Not that I didn't want too. Decided to spend my time in South County and here until we collect the required number of petitions. Have until April 18th to do it and it'll be touch and go at best. Plan to write a book about the obstacles placed in our way. My tentative title is **How To (Or Not To) Run For Congress On Less Than Five Dollars a Day.**

What has surprised me the most is that our message is out amongst the people. Means the media does have impact. That's all we can ask for, a fair shot. You may want to send someone to the County Republican Executive Committee meeting on Thursday the 14th of April. All announced congressional candidates will be there and will answer questions. I promise you that my being famous for five minutes will be worth your while.

The rumor that the large lady in the red dress heard down South County way about me quitting the race must have been from the same source that said she was pregnant. As a matter of fact, I'm a bit like W.C. Fields when John Blythe Barrymore caught him reading the Bible on the nursing home porch (just before he passed on). John chided him, "Bill you've been an agnostic your entire life. What are you doing, reading that Bible." W.C. looked up and smiled, "I'm looking for loopholes." I'm in the race until we win the primary. Mickey Mouse can beat our incumbent. 'Course he'll have to survive scurrilous attacks by anti-abortionists. Those folks sure don't believe in individual liberty, truth or our Constitution.

Ja maintiendrai!

Jim Owen

POLITICALLY, DEAD MEAT

Here richly, with ridiculous play,
The Politician's corpse was laid away.
While all of his acquaintances sneered and slanged
I wept: for I had longed to see him hanged.

Hilaire Belloc 1870-1953

March 9, 1994 Our effort at South County's polls was thwarted by an overly aggressive group of citizen activists. Don't really know for sure, but believe they were part of an anti-political group. They set up cafeteria tables on the sidewalks, chased voters around the parking lot with clipboards and had at least four petitions to be signed, simultaneously. As a result, we garnered only about 350 against immense odds. Had seven volunteers out. More than any other candidate, but after signing four times, a voter is not interested in trying a fifth. Speech at Rotary Club went well, "So you want to be an author." Checked on Bobbie L. at the County government complex. We might do 50 today. Talked with one of my volunteers, Tom B. We'll work a table at the Flea Market, Saturday.

March 10, 1994 Speech at the Yacht Club in South County today is to the Pro-Choice Republican Women. Bill Wolfe, Carole Jordan, Mike Shukdinas and myself should be talking. Five minutes worth of sound bites. No way to get a message out. Should be almost impossible. Executive Meeting is tonight and my wife will be sworn in. Elections has the new precinct maps (\$2.00 each). Speech went reasonably well. Didn't have five minutes, I was cut down to three. We did get 34 petitions signed and we also picked up another 34 at the Executive Committee. The members of the Christian Coalition refuse to sign my petitions (with a few exceptions). Kevin and Gary spoke tonight. Kevin must be the anointed selection of our party. Our Chairman gave him his endorsement by inadvertent approval. Speaks of

himself as an object, in the third person. Most of the talk was right out of the National Republican Congressional Committee manual. Gary Smith talked of duty, honor and country. Said if money is the only issue, we've lost already. No one asked questions. Richard Heninger is a 24 year old who lives out of the District running for our Congressional office in the 15th District. Someone should tell him that it only works if your name is Kennedy or Gore. We have a candidate forum on the 14th of next month. Noticed that the Christian Coalition had handfuls of Kevin McKeown's petitions. My wife was sworn in as a member of the committee. Our County Chairman kept the meeting going fifteen minutes longer than he should have with drivel that I'll have to mull over before I can comment. He must have lived in the Twilight Zone.

March 11, 1994 Sitting outside of the County government complex in Self Important Town, today. Bobbie L. will relieve me this afternoon. The Family Forum (?) anti-abortion activist refused to apologize to Bobbie L. before last night's meeting. He gave her a back handed piece of crap about exercising his first amendment rights as the reason he called her names and swore at her in front of Self Important Town's Postal sub-station. She gave a letter to the Chairman asking for him to publicly admonish this type of activity which he didn't. Said he didn't want to cause dissension with the Religious Wrong. I find it strange and disconcerting that my Party is not concerned about its base. If we have to let mad men in, then maybe we are not

capable of governing. I am so mad, I called around to give notice of my proposal for a rump Republican Executive Committee. We've had anti-Fluoride, thought control and now our Chairman is talking about the 65 deaths attributed to Clinton since he took office. All pure and unadulterated Hogwash! The Christian Wrong passed out a notice about our Mad Media type is praising the Branch Dividians on his radio talk show tomorrow. That was the last straw. Our Executive Committee and its Chairman are 51 cards short of a full deck. I don't want to be identified as a candidate from the funny farm. Windy as all get out and cold. I garnered 24 signatures. Bobbie L. relieved me at 1:45. She had to make arrangements for her Mother's flight to Iowa City. Floyd (Someone) showed up at the government complex to get documents for Mike Shukdinas. Came out screaming about a purge list and damning our Supervisor of Elections. Floyd is another one of our Republicans who sees black helicopters flying at night with storm troopers inside wearing blue U.N. helmets and is behind some of the trouble we've had out on the petition path.

March 12, 1994 Had a run in with the past President of the Senior Citizen's Center as we tried to set up at the Flea Market. Tried to prevent us. Told him we'd received permission, which we had, but he wouldn't budge. Called him an Okole Puka (English not Hawaiian version). We are populated with people who would be bureaucrats if given the chance. We are allowed to petition in front of any County facility as long as we do it quietly

and do not impede traffic. Had the same problem at a Food Fair, which was also on County property, but they invited us inside where we gathered about 70 to 100 signatures. Counting me, we had four out working. Doesn't look good.

March 13, 1994 Have to check with elections to make sure we can set up outside of County Buildings.

March 14, 1994 We can. Had 34 signed petitions by noon and Bobbie L. had three before I left. If we'd been doing this in January, we'd be done by now, with room to spare. We have six or seven College student volunteers. Don't know how to fit them in and still get our work done. George Thompson called while I was out. He wanted me to be on his show, but I didn't call back in time, so they'll have an open forum. Bobbie and Paul L. stopped by at 4:30 p.m. on their way home. Lots of talk about ponying up \$10,000 to get in the race. They are beginning to see the impossibility of getting the required number of petitions, too. I won't ask anyone for this amount of money and I won't take it from my wife's nest egg (my IRA's). We have volunteers. What we need is a volunteer coordinator. Paul A. doesn't have time to do the job and is taking more time away from campaigning than contributing. I'm almost certain he is a plant, but by whom? Bobbie L. has decided to ask John C. if he has time to take over as our volunteer coordinator. We have people. We lack a leader for them. I can either work or lead and right now I need workers.

March 15, 1994 Worked morning and late afternoon in front of Self Important Town's County government complex. John C. spelled me from noon to 3:30. Not bad for a slow day. We had 46 petitions signed. Delivered a table and chair to another volunteer, John H., and arrived at a STOP (Stop Turning Out Prisoners) meeting late. Middle Beach Chief of police told them that all changes have to be made through the legislature (more than once). Don't think it sunk in.

March 16, 1994 South County today. Speaking at the other ladies group. Understand there'll be at least six of us, have five minutes. May talk on jobs. Then again, I may talk on crime. Have to wait and see. Keep looking to the east to see if three camels are on the way. I'm looking for miracles. Only Bill Wolfe and I showed up. Mike Shukdinas begged off because of work. Bill is getting better at his speech. Notice he has absorbed almost all of my platform. 17 petitions signed. New idea, if I don't make it, I'll try to qualify by the write-in method. Same time frame, no money required. A light is at the end of my tunnel. Talk about grass roots. Really has my blood flowing. Ought to be fun!

March 17, 1994 Saint Patrick's day. Wore a green sweater and garnered up almost 40 signatures by 1:00 p.m. Bobbie L. relieved me as John C.'s wife had taken ill.

March 18, 1994 Missed the Men's club yesterday and will miss

the north South County Republican Club's meeting today. Have petition sitting this morning at the government complex and baby sitting this afternoon. Garnered about 70 petitions yesterday. Volunteer walk scheduled for retirement town, Saturday. We'll try to work Retirees day at the Air Force Base next Saturday and the United We Stand Large Town candidate forum, Issues Galore, this Sunday. None of us are getting press. Ed Stillie received good press in the Conservative Weekly. Huge picture on the front page. Snarling. Must have gone to Sears, too. Problem is this magazine is preaching to the choir. Bill Wolfe showed up at the Men's club with eight supporters. The ones that wouldn't let me speak at UWSA because I was political. United We Stand is populated with people problems. From what I've seen, they've gone to hell in a hand basket, losing members along the way and refusing to be open about the organization, finances and number of members. Only media hype and Perot money can revive this group. It is not grass roots, but some of the folks in it act like they put some in their brownies. Did 22 petitions signed by 11:30 at the government complex. One of Bill Wolfe's people stopped by and asked if he could set up. I wasn't very pleasant, after the cold shoulder I've received from his folks. So far their motto has been, you play ball with me and I'll shove the bat up your ass. I recommended the Rich Island County office as an alternative. Two fishermen on the same stream will decrease the total number of fish or petitions, even in front of a hatchery or government complex.

March 19, 1994 Walking retirement town at 10:00 a.m. today. Tee shirts are in. This time, my name is spelled right. The local paper has zip. They really do need a political reporter. All they have going for them is a terrific format. Must be something in the water that turns them proactive. The letters they print are generally from extremists on the right and apologists on the left. About the only way one can voice an opinion is to buy a bird and a cage. Seven of us busted our buns walking for four hours for about 120 petitions. I'm worn out. I don't know about the others.

March 20, 1994 UWSA Issues Galore symposium attracted one live State Legislator and he looked like a fish out of water; two gubernatorial candidates, a Whig (wearing a tri-cornered hat) and an Independent (the one who has folks screwing up the petition trail) running for governor; and eight congressional candidates. Met the Independent from West County and the youngster from out of our District. If this was a final debate, I'd say two candidates eliminated themselves, Ed Stillie and Mike Shukdinas. Mike accused the voters of apathy for his, so far, failure to attract followers. Stillie is accusing Mike of dirty politics. He was almost booed off the stage for his economic platform and laughed at for his Foreign Policy by the isolationist UWSA crowd. He had trouble speaking without a script. Bill Wolfe came on strong, but is playing to his crowd. As for me, I'm beginning to wear down. The speech trail is tough enough, but going after petitions five hours a day is

eating away at my fortitude. Knowing that the numbers are against me, doesn't help. I now know what a gazelle feels like just before a lion breaks its neck. However, I look around and see no lions among the other candidates, but when I look out at the audience I see the real lions. This audience was made up entirely of activists and their spouses. Almost everyone was wearing a candidates badge except mine. We don't have funds for that type of foolishness.

March 21, First full day of spring. Symbolic of man seeking renewal, but moving to his ultimate end. The news covers yesterday's affair on the front page. "The event helped would-be office holders. Many, such as Self Important Town's Mike Shukdinas and Large Town's Jim Owen, need petition signatures and financial support to get on the ballot. They were two of the eight candidates at the meeting..." How about that, made the front page. Gary Smith had a Medal of Honor friend decked out in uniform as his guest. We talked for 30 minutes or so. A nice guy and a real hero. Having said that, it looks like my opponents are pulling out all the stops. Pretty hard to compete with a man that five star generals must salute. 60 petitions garnered at the government complex. Teamed up with two of Bill Wolfe's people in spite of my better judgment. Helped both of us. John H. and Ralph A. (Wolfe's minion) initiated this effort in the morning. Shows promise. I didn't think it would work. I stand corrected. Wonder if Wolfe will give me the same courtesy in South County. I'd better duck

under a chair. Pigs will fly if that happens. Working together does help here and it won't hurt to ask.

March 22, 1994 Maybe I can talk Ralph A. into convincing Wolfe that we ought to work together in a South County effort. I'll ask him this morning. Desperation makes for strange partners. We work together gathering petitions at the Self Important Town's County government complex today. We're having difficulty getting volunteers out. Wonder if Wolfe has been able to get some UWSA activists out. His are trained. Ours are not. Wonder who made out? Worked from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. and ran out of gas. 40 or so signatures. Ralph A. and I were doing well getting petitions signed when Mrs. Shukdinas showed up. She positioned herself in front of the door and met each native Floridian with a fast, arrogant, New Jersey spiel. For 30 minutes we didn't get a soul. Tom B. arrived early and took over at 10:30. Don't know what he did, but he garnered 52 petitions. Said Mrs. Shukdinas left at noon. I don't know how Mike's doing on the petition trail, but their New Jersey approach is sure grating, like chalk on a blackboard. All I know is that you don't infringe on a Southerner's space. You leave some distance between you and him (or her) and ask politely.

March 24, 1994 Speech at the River Kiwanis Club at noon and UWSA at the retirement community this evening. Bobbie L. isn't going. She is fed up with United We Stands selective partisan non-partisan practice. Three weeks to go and we still need

2400 petitions. It doesn't look good. We can get 900 more at the government complex and maybe 300 at the Air Force Base, Saturday. That means we need 1200 each weekend in the next three weeks. The gun show may do it. Better clear up what I said about Stillie and Shukdinas. Ed has trouble answering questions and Mike is strident and nervous during his speech. Mike's campaign is beginning to look like a hollow shell and Ed's like smoke and mirrors. Nice crowd at the Kiwanis meeting. Every registered Republican signed my petition. UWSA meeting at retirement community had three in attendance and all were Wolfe supporters. Except for Old Town, Too, UWSA appears to be dead in the water.

March 25, 1994 We have 2,220 petitions in hand and another 300 to be picked up and three weeks to get 2,200 more. Bill Wolfe showed up last night at the UWSA meeting. His pitch to the UWSA is, he is carrying on Perot's banner. I mentioned how well we were doing as a team and offered to set up at other spots with him, but he didn't respond. My election office contact said that Kevin McKeown called to find out what it will cost to get on the ballot. Worked with Ralph A. at the government complex. He garnered 31 and I, 29 signatures. I asked two people that had signed mine a few days ago to sign Wolfe's. They refused. We live in strange times. Will be working the Craft show at Melbourne Auditorium on Sunday. Wonder if Wolfe's people will work with us. Bobbie L. relieved me at 12:30. The assistant manager of north South County's

Hospital, called at 2:00 p.m. I made an appointment to talk to her and the administrator at 11:00 on 7, April. Kevin is going to work the Air Force Base Retirees. He saw the elections office voter registration announcement for a Military retirees roundup at the Air Force Base in the elections office. Bobbie L. picked up another 22 signatures this afternoon.

March 26, 1994 Need to get my April letter finished this weekend. Plan to touch on constitutional issues. Bobbie L. and I will work the retired crowd at the Base **and five of** our volunteers will walk a trailer park. Tomorrow we'll try the craft show at Melbourne Auditorium.

March 27, 1994 Retirees day was a bust. Last year they had 6,000, this year less than 1,000. We left as soon as it began. Bobbie L. and I didn't feel comfortable. We couldn't advertise or even display a name badge and it didn't seem proper to do political work on a military installation. We covered the Craft Fair at the Melbourne Auditorium. Mike and Mrs. Shukdinas and their Campaign manager arrived in high 'G'. Blocked the front door and hassled the crowd. Lady in charge called the Police and they calmed down. Mike's group has all the finesse of an elephant in a crystal shop.

March 28, 1994 144 signatures this weekend. Mike showed up again at the Craft Show, Sunday. Parked in front of my table and hassled the crowd. Media letter follows.

Media Contacts

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

Some in my Party have replaced our Constitution with a new faith they call, "God's Law." I have searched my Bibles for this new litmus test and have not found it. I have found that our Constitution remains a clarion call to free, religious people, everywhere. I've selected a few Articles that you might find interesting, in light of the challenges to our Republic and our Constitution.

Article XIX of the Bill of Rights states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

Article I of the Bill of Rights states that, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

Article VI of the constitution states, "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

I want to thank you for any coverage you can provide in advance. As we are in the middle of a petition drive, I do not have time to stop by and chat, but you will find me at Self Important Town's County government complex. At 3,000 petitions and counting. Need 2,000 more. Esse quam videri,

Jim Owen

March 28, 1994 Have a Kiwanis speech today. Forgot to put it on my schedule. Dennis and John H. are working Self Important Town's County government complex this morning. I work tomorrow morning. We should have 3500 petitions at the end of this week with two weeks to go. Tom B. is in Germany until the 16th. We'll miss him. He was our number one petition getter. September song time. The days are growing short. Received three petitions through the mail and nine at the Kiwanis Club. Not bad. Out of 24 there, seven were out of State and two were Democrats. I rambled too much in my speech. Need to tighten it up.

March 29, 1994 I'm working Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning at the government complex; Saturday and Sunday morning at the Gun Show. Garnered 68 signatures at the complex. About triple the amount we can do walking. Gary Smith's lady showed up dressed too lightly for the weather and without clipboards. We took her petitions. She went home to change and buy clipboards. Never did return.

March 30, 1994 Picked up 2,000 new fliers today for our stretch drive. Will need 2,000 more petitions. Rewrote part of my platform. Should have rewritten the money part. No one seems to care how much is contributed to me as long as it doesn't come from PACs or lobbyists.

March 31, 1994 Wolfe's North County Campaign Manager stopped

by at the complex. She wants to have a three candidate meeting tomorrow night. Gary Smith, Bill Wolfe and me. I have some ideas about a South County mass attack the next two Saturdays, but I'll need the cooperation of Bill Wolfe. If we can get 21 people out and they can get 25 signatures for each candidate, we can get 500 each Saturday. That may be all we need to go over the top. George Thompson called. He received my flier and talked with the new political reporter of our local newspaper who is supposed to call and chat. Don't know about what. George recommended that he cover our April Executive Meeting. Meeting tonight is off. Smith is busy and Wolfe has gone to ground (Won't respond). I talked with Gary last night and he will support a petition drive in South County the last two Saturdays before the witching hour. Bill Wolfe appears to have only six volunteers (including him and his wife). He doesn't wish to support. We'll need at least 10 and Gary Smith will too. Wonder if this will work? Bobbie L. has 2,520 petitions in hand. I have 130 or so, Al S. in Titusville has 120, my election contact has 30, Patricia O. has 70 and there are probably another 100 out among the volunteers. Rounds off to 3,000. If we can get 1,000 on a two Saturday effort, 250 at the Gun Show, 500 at the Self Important Town County Government complex, that will make 4750. We might just make it. I'm having Wolfe's and Smith's petitions signed wherever we work, but except for Ralph A. they aren't reciprocating.

April 1, 1994 Gangbusters at the complex again. I had 40

petitions by noon. Ralph A. says it's the first of the month crowd. Talked with Wolfe's North County Campaign Manager. Bill sees conspiracy in our working together and he's not certain he wants to do a South County petition drive. I really don't care. Gary Smith and I can work together. Wolfe's Campaign Manager thinks Dennis, the District UWSA Chairman is working for us. Not true, he only works when we have more than one candidates' petitions. Politics is a lot like golf. You create your own problems, i.e. you hit it there, you have to play it as it lies. Can't blame it on the crowd. In Wolfe's case, he came in late and hasn't generated a following, none of which is anyone else's fault. Gary Smith came in early, but started working late. I came in early and worked at all the wrong places. So if we have problems, we all should look at our own belly buttons. In the meantime, I personally will have between 400 and 600 petitions signed for Wolfe and Smith. How many will they have signed for me when the dust settles?

April 2, 1994 Came home early from the Gun Show. Paul K., who is running the event, asked us to go inside. He gave us a table. Ed Stillie was already set up. Mike Shukdinas came along late and wasn't allowed to work out front. He hassled one to many patrons, again. Don't know what transpired. Hope he wasn't counting on this show. We were getting about 25 an hour. Should be a 200 petition day. Bobbie L. is concerned that Wolfe isn't playing fair, working his own petitions and not ours. He is a slippery little devil. Later in the

afternoon, Wolfe showed his true colors. While Gary Smith and I sent our extra folks home to abide by the show's instructions, he had his working only his petitions on the outside. Floyd with his TAXCAP scam (a cover to get people to sign petitions for an independent for governor) was set up at the side of the auditorium. I questioned Floyd about his working for an Independent and Mike Shukdinas at the same time. Must be a different set of rules out there for the anti-abortionists. If our State Committeeman was doing this, Floyd's group would have white crosses burning on his front lawn and a petition started to kick him out of the Republican Party.

April 3, 1994 Have come to the conclusion that I'm outnumbered. Too many have entered the Primary using my message. What's left of UWSA is out helping Bill Wolfe. At least six showed up at the Gun Show. Shukdinas and Wolfe are threatening to attack anyone entering the race by the money (normal) method. May be doing it themselves. This is getting to be a little tiresome. I catch myself making comments that I shouldn't. A fair fight is one thing, but then, just maybe I don't understand politics.

April 4, 1994 Gun show on Easter Sunday wasn't as good as yesterday. About 100 petitions today vs. 200 yesterday. We are at 3300 and should be to 3700 by next Saturday. Meeting of the volunteers on my back porch, today. Should be interesting. Common complaint of the voters; after they sign

April 5, 1994 Our Congressman announces that he will not run for Congress. Must have seen the handwriting on the wall. One down for everyman and one to go. Stillie, Smith and Losing Candidate were quoted on TV. They didn't say anything I could remember. I received two phone interviews, the new political reporter at the local newspaper and the South County paper. (Didn't hear either name as my 14 month old granddaughter was in high 'G' and my son, just back from a three month's sail on OBSERVATION ISLAND, was playing a Stan Kenton record). Our local paper quotes me, "I know of nobody out there with a campaign chest in the Democratic Party. Anyone with any brains would not jump in now." Republican candidate Owen compares Losing Candidate to Harold Stassen, the former Republican governor of Minnesota who ran unsuccessfully for president in 1948, 1952, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1980. "Even the people who are strong on abortion have seen enough of him," Owen said. "He might be able to win the Primary, but the Democrats would trounce him if they put up somebody on the conservative side." Have to accept our new political reporter's version. He left out the ability to get 4,000 or so petitions in less than two weeks and the unfairness of our Congressman dropping out this late in the campaign with no other Democrat in the race. I've accomplished what I set out to do. Why am I still running? Ego? Yes and I have to live it to write about it. Carole Jean Jordan got lucky. She announced her intention to enter the Congressional Campaign and received coverage on TV 9 (only for her comments on our Congressman). In the background were a

few signs and little else. No ground swell out there. Hair pulled back in a bun, she is impressive. Looks good in a suit and has ten pounds of rings on her fingers. The local Federated Ladies are glad to see her out of the State President's office. Not very popular here. Should be an interesting race. Will Losing Candidate jump in? I hope not. That will make our group of candidates a football 11, but he is parsimonious and an inviting target. Stillie and Shukdinas have keyed their campaigns on our Congressman. Wonder what they'll do now. As Kipling wrote, "When 'Omer smote 'is bloomin' lyre, He'd 'eard men sing by land an' sea;" "A generation of men is like a generation of leaves: the wind scatters some leaves upon the ground, while others the burgeoning wood brings forth --- and the season of spring comes on. So of men one generation springs forth and another ceases. Homer wrote that in 700 B.C. and it still fits today.

April 7, 1994 Have a meeting with Nancy F. at North South County Hospital at 11:00 today. Hospital administrators want to question me on my platform. Have to work at Self Important Town's County government complex this afternoon and tomorrow. Surprise, the hospital administrators questions were a grilling on anti-abortion. They agreed with everything except my position on a lady's liberty. Christian Right is on a fishing trip. Picked up 30 odd petitions at the complex.

April 8, 1994 Working at the complex this morning. Shukdinas

has done a flip flop on NAFTA. He is really becoming a politician. Arrogant is the descriptive word most people use when they talk about him. Picked up another 30 signatures at the complex and working the library tomorrow. Hubris is a spreading infection among my opponents. Wonder if it will get to me. I certainly am not overconfident. Am suffering from retribution by the Christian Coalition. After the Executive Committee Meeting next Thursday, they might have a contract out on me. They have violated not only our Constitution, but Republican principles. My speech for the candidate forum, follows.

Ten score and eighteen years ago, our forefathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men and women are created equal.

I believe in individual freedom for all. Good government is based upon each individual. Each person's ability, dignity, freedom and responsibility must be honored and recognized.

I believe we must retain those principles of the past worth retaining, yet always be receptive to new ideas. As Republicans, we must maintain an outlook broad enough to accommodate thoughtful change and varying points of view.

One principle from the past rings as crystal clear as our Liberty Bell... Article Six of our Constitution. It states unequivocally that... "No religious test shall ever be required as a

Qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

I was given a religious test... as a qualification to the office I seek... by members of this Executive Committee, by a Colonel, on the retired list, who is honor bound to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and by our State Committeewoman. Several organizations within this hall have given this single issue... religious litmus test... to most of the candidates on this podium. If we continue to condone this type of activity, we, as members of the Republican Party Executive Committee are in direct violation of Article Six of the Constitution of the United States of America.

We have sat idly by as members of our party have accused our candidates and officers of reading... of thinking... of being good citizens. We have watched silently as these same members preached against Fluoridation... of a massive conspiracy of multiple murders at the highest levels of our government. We have stood without raising our voice as one of their candidates for Congress promoted an Independent for governor and Presidential impeachment as part of his campaign strategy and petition drive. We have sat silently as they have accused honest Republicans and citizens wrongfully of election fraud.

We would be highly incensed if the Knights of Columbus, The Masons or the Jewish Defense League tried to take over our party.

And yet, we have welcomed with open arms the participation of the Christian Coalition with their single issue religious litmus test and open political agenda. We are trampling on our Constitutional guarantee of religious freedom!

As God Fearing Republicans we cannot stand idly by and watch as our Constitution is crucified on the cross of political Christianity. It is time to render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's. It is time for Christian Republicans to stand up... to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. It is time to throw the money changers out of the temple!

April 10, 1994 Son is over at Tampa so I have my office back. We had four people out yesterday. Probably got 100 petitions at most. Talked with Gary Smith and he said the Air Show was a bust for petitions, too. We have been cleared to work the libraries. We are at least a thousand short, with eight days to go. Planning on working the Self Important Town's library today and the government complex tomorrow. Our local newspaper finally comes alive: "Big names may seek Congressman's seat." Eight in the race today, two more contemplating a run. They list people I've not heard of before; Sue Munsey of North Beach Chamber of Commerce; Roger Dobson, a former county commissioner and as a maybe, Losing Candidate. Strange, everyone claims they've had a lot of people call them. No one has called me, must be a political ploy. Most of the phone calls I get are

to call me a baby killer and to get out of the race. I was going to drop out, but I think I'll use the write-in strategy if we don't get the required petitions. Our newspaper listed my name along with the other unknowns under, "In the running." Losing Candidate, Dobson and Munsey all have their photos in. Editorial page has a one full page interview with our retiring Congressman. Quite a few Mother Teresa style photos for a lame duck. Story is mostly how he lives in Washington and what he reads. Lots of self delusion, but I've seen this egocentric style from most office holders I've known. Occasionally, I have flashes of this disease when I tend toward exaggeration. Our Congressman confuses what is and what is not true. Part of a letter to the media giving advance notice of my speech follows:

Media Contacts

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

I've been under harassment by the Christian Right since the campaign got underway. Thought it was time to clear the air of their political pollution. I don't mind the attacks. It goes with the turf. I do mind the passiveness of the silent majority as they ignore the loss of political and religious freedom. Quite frankly, these people are one step short of burning crosses on front lawns. I can see why the Democratic Party was pleased to be rid of them. (I attached my speech to the Republican Executive Committee)

April 11, 1994 Our newspaper has another story on Sue Munsey, who switched Parties and may run as a Democrat for Congress. She will, it's a done deal. Reeks of establishment controlling the process. She hasn't declared so the newspaper is giving her a lot of coverage. Patsy K. is also mentioned. I'd like to see her run. She would be an easier target than most of the other Democrats. From Iowa, and a cousin of Gephardt from Missouri (a product of Northwestern). Wonder why our newspaper is putting up a straw lady. Must be trying to show that a choice will be made when it's already a done deal. I Have around 3900 petitions (we think). Spreading out to a number of public places to try to get an average of 150 a day. Wolfe didn't campaign this weekend and I called Smith. He has no idea how many he got for us. We picked up a little over 100 for them and will get more, today. I'll work Large Town library. Bobbie L., Self Centered Town library and Ralph A. at the government complex. We might have someone cover Self Centered Town's northern library. Asked Gary Smith to cover Old Town and Rich Island libraries.

April 12, 1994 All day all night at Large Town's library. About 195 today. Was accosted by another one of the Covenant Presbyterian youth movement. Really quite good looking. Another blonde fourteen year old with a tape recorder implanted into her brain. Interfered with my petition drive on the porch of the library for over forty five minutes. I wonder how long it takes these children to memorize the CC line?

April 13, 1994 All day at Self Centered Town's north library. Received my qualifying package from the State. They'll accept my forms early and file them on time. The number of CC folks standing in front of me and my volunteers is growing. So far they only interfere with twenty five percent of our time. Someone has programmed these folks. They have a party line that would make Big Brother green with envy.

April 14, 15, and 16, 1994 Twelve hour days getting petitions and fending off an increased blocking effort by the CC. Have about 4824. Estimate 5500 or so needed. Touch and go at best. A 12% error rate will give us 4800 valid ones. Candidates Forum last Thursday proved interesting. I mulled it around in my head for a few days before commenting. Seven men on the platform. Sue Munsey and Carole Jean Jordan didn't show. Microphone trouble cost me 45 seconds. Didn't finish my speech. The CC did me in again. I was cut off two minutes early and couldn't get to the part where I throw the money changers out of the temple. Losing Candidate stood at the back of the room in his dark blue campaign suit. Lots of posturing in the speeches, but not much substance. Hard to say anything, but sound bites in three minutes or in one minute answers. I stumbled on crime (didn't hear the question) and I didn't answer it. Paul A. said we all lost. My son taped it so I can review my mistakes. The newspaper refused to write a story about the split in the party. Had their view of what I said, but didn't not quote me. Only mentioned Heneger, Smith and me. Quoted

our Fluoride and anti-abortion advocate, Ray O. He said, "Owen doesn't follow our platform," but didn't mention which one, Christian Coalition or the Party's. Said abortion was only one of the issues (meant the only one he cares about, if you fail that, his mind is closed). No one faced this issue. My election office contact was quoted, "privately pro life and pro choice to make that decision." The anti-abortionists must believe that they have eliminated me. They are hunkered down in the stealth position. Listened to the tape. My crime answer was pretty good. As a matter of fact, all my answers were pretty good. The Christian Wrong doesn't have an open mind on new ideas to curtail drugs. I guess they see symptoms not the disease. They still believe in amputation, not antibiotics. Should be an interesting next few months. Gauntlet is thrown!

April 18, 1994 Delivered 499 petitions to the South County Supervisor of Elections. Bobbie L. mailed 19 petitions to West County. Volunteers picked up 120 petitions at two libraries, government complex and super market before noon. The supermarket asked us to move on after an hour. Found out, too late, that we can work the parking lot according to the Supreme Court decision. Just can't be on their sidewalk. That doesn't make sense. We turned in a 5202 petitions and we need 4778 good ones. Have scheduled a volunteer party at the Air Force Base Officer's Club, Thursday evening, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Free hors d'oeuvre are served. Fits my frugal campaign. Back to reality tomorrow. We're all worn out today and I still

need to go over the lessons learned on this petition drive. One thing; The anti-abortion plank in the National Platform. The Religious Wrong has chiseled this in stone and is breaking the tablets over our heads at the local level. Wrote a hand written letter to our newspaper at a quiet time on the library porch. Won't try to re-do it here. Tried to correct what they said in the article Sunday. Took Ray O. to task for his platform scam. Will write more tomorrow.

April 19, 1994 Slept most of yesterday afternoon, evening and night. Talked on the phone with Kevin McKeown at dinner time. He and Mike Shukdinas were the only candidates invited to the Nazarene Church candidates forum. First request was for the born again Christians to stand (he's Catholic and didn't). Glad to see the anti-abortion Christians have an open mind to those that think the same way. Wonder why these Christians weren't Christian enough to invite all the candidates. I Apologized for the run-in between one of my people and one of his on the petition trail. Talked with a newsman from South County's northern paper. Article will be out on Friday. Called our local newspaper's new political reporter to ask if it was his opinion or the editors on my coverage. He left the Executive Committee early, before all the speeches were finished. He wasn't in and did not call back. Talked with the South County political reporter about the petition drive. In the local newspaper, the new political reporter has an article about us turning them in. Wonder where he got his figures. Had me for

5288. Wolfe claimed 6731. Stillie at 6000. Shukdinas - 5549. The only one correct is Stillie's (I think). Says that Gary Smith, Kevin McKeown, Carole Jordan, Richard Henegar, Losing Candidate and Sue Munsey may cough up \$10,070. If you ask me, paying is not a good bet. Odds are too high against anyone winning, 8 to 1. Have to drive to West County Supervisor of Elections to sign an oath tomorrow morning. Long story. They won't accept a personal check or cash. Has to be a campaign check. Our campaign account is a savings account, in trust. A checking account costs more than we have (\$130±). I'll have to sign an undue burden oath as I did in South County and Northern County. Not to do so would cost 10¢ a petition or \$520.20. The process is an undue burden. Received \$20 from D.H. N. of Large Town. A Maritime type with a sense of humor. No phone, so I can't call and thank him and his family. Gary Smith's wife called for a chat. I like her. She is straight and to the point. Said Stillie showed up at the Moving Vietnam Wall with campaign buttons etc. Was told there was no politics there. Gary is wrapped up in the Vietnam Veteran's reunion. Believe she was trying to find out if I was upset over not getting a quid pro quo of petitions. We did 500 and received none from them for the week they promised to help. Gary did 25 at the line up for the parade escorting the Wall to the park. I wasn't upset, just disappointed. His failure (and Wolfe's) to deliver as promised may cost us our chance to get on the ballot. The political reporter called. Said it was his article. So I had to disagree. However, he didn't quote me, just

paraphrased my comments. It was still misleading. We agreed to disagree.

April 21, 1994 Drove to West County to sign my oath. All of that for 19 signatures. Out at 7:00 a.m. and back at 10:00 a.m. Sue Munsey may run as a Democrat, says a local columnist. John A., our State Committeeman, will run for School Board. Our State Committeewoman says John A. does not represent "our" thinking. Someone else will run against him (means Christian Coalition). John A. is really a good, honest troop. Know the CC wouldn't pick on him because he's black, probably because he's Jewish. Have a speech set for tomorrow night at a trailer park north of Old Town, Too. Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 p.m. I'm not supposed to show up until 7:00.

April 22 and 23, 1994 Our newspaper has a front page articles on Sue Munsey switching parties to run for Congress. I don't give her much of a chance, even against the Religious Wrong. She came in to late because of our Congressman's waffling. There is a conservative surge. And, she is a Republican who switched parties without first establishing a power base. "Congressman Backs Munsey." Stillie comments that, "she is a liberal." Sue says, "The local Republican Party is not tolerant of people who believe woman have a choice." She is right about the Executive Committee not being tolerant, but not the Party. Over sixty percent are not against abortion and have tolerated the Religious Wrong way past their time.

April 24, 1994 In the local news, "Republican defections reflect GOP shift" The new political reporter is really kicking this issue around after denying that a split exists within the Republican ranks in our last phone call. Must be a hidden agenda out there. Article is a rehash of what was said by Sue Munsey yesterday, but quoting the County Chairman and Kevin McKeown. The straw man being set up by the reporter is that Sue Munsey had to run as a Democrat because the Republican Party is a closed shop. It isn't, but the primary may be if the majority doesn't bother to vote and the Religious Wrong gets its troops out. Truth hasn't won out.

April 25, 1994 Talked with my election office contact. The Democrats have offered ballot slots to two other candidates and they can keep their Republican philosophy. Weird! Bill Wolfe has qualified. Shukdinas is undergoing a random sampling and mine are still waiting to be counted. Will know by the end of the week. Shukdinas is paying to have his counted (random is less than \$100). Speech at the north retirement recreation center went well. Shukdinas showed up with his entourage. He spoke second. Had to change his speech from against Bacchus to what he stands for. I can't remember anything he said. Stillie says Mike sent a letter to Saint Louis requesting Stillie's military records and to the University of Maryland for college records. Wow, Dick Tuck is alive and well in North County. Next page is a list of agencies and departments that should be eliminated. Used this as the keynote of my speech.

Eliminate 5 Departments:

- o Department of Agriculture
- o Department of Labor
- o Department of Health and Human Services
- o Department of Housing and Urban Development
- o Department of Education

Eliminate 7 Offices:

- o Council of Economic Advisers
- o Council on Environmental Quality
- o Office of Science and Technology
- o Office of United States Trade Representative
- o Office of Policy Development
- o Office of National Drug Control Policy
- o Office of Administration

Eliminate 36 Agencies:

- o Action
- o Equal Opportunity Employment Commission
- o Farm Credit Administration
- o Federal Election Commission
- o Federal Maritime Commission
- o Federal Trade Commission
- o National Foundation on Arts and the Humanities & NEA
- o National Labor Relations Board
- o National Science Foundation
- o Selective Service System

- o Small Business Administration
- o Tennessee Valley Authority
- o U.S. Agency for International Development
- o U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
- o U.S. Information Agency
- o U.S. International Trade Commission
- o Administrative Conference of the United States
- o Appalachian Regional Commission
- o Commission of Fine Arts
- o Federal Labor Relations Authority
- o Inter-American Foundation
- o Merit Systems Protection Board
- o National Commission on Libraries and Information Science
- o Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
- o Panama Canal Commission
- o Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation
- o Postal Rate Commission
- o President's Commission on Employment of the Handicapped
- o Presidents Council on Physical Fitness
- o Railroad Retirement Board
- o U.S. Parole Commission
- o General Services Administration
- o Consumer Product Safety Commission
- o Export Import Bank
- o Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service
- o National Mediation Board

April 26 1994 Finishing up on last night's speeches. Mike defended the use of perks by congressmen and caused a fire storm from the retired folks. The Clerk of Courts spoke after us and went on and on, at least twice as long as Mike and four times longer than mine. Lots of heads nodding after a large pot luck dinner. Mike used yellow legal note paper and stumbled through most of his speech. His campaign manager took notes on what I said about what should be cut. Wonder how they plan to use my answers against me. Talked with Bobbie L. about fund raising ideas. We may start a tin cup campaign, sending out our volunteers to designated areas, passing out literature and asking for contributions in a tin cup. Back to a Populous approach. Has to be the cheapest form of fund raising. No one wants to attend fund raising affairs. Too many of them. Most of my volunteers didn't attend our celebration party at the Officers Club last Thursday. We had eight total vs. the 20 that should have attended and it was my treat. Didn't matter, we had a good time anyway. But, when volunteers won't attend a free party, what does that say about fund raisers? Still need to talk about lessons learned during the petition drive. Probably too soon. Will do it after we know who made it on the ballot. Conservative weekly has a column by the head of North County's Young Republicans (Who is getting old in the tooth). He rates the candidates. He gives Mike Shukdinas high marks. Mike was on his (NCYR's) radio show as a guest host. His comments about me, "This gentleman calls himself the compassionate conservative. One thing I have noticed about

Jim Owens is that he is not a big fan of the Christian Coalition, perhaps because they are pro life and he is pro choice. Also, at a Republican forum he said on the question of drugs, "we must take the profit motive out of drug pushers." Does that mean legalize them? He has taken pot shots at former congressional candidate, Losing Candidate. Is he a threat if he jumps in the race? But I will tell that Mr. Owens takes a good stand on the military, he opposed environmental takings of private property, he opposes retroactive taxes and I agree with him." I can see that it will be difficult to provide my solution to the drug problem in sound bites. He misspelled my last name.

April 27, 1994 The elections people are still counting Ed Stillie's petitions. They can do about 200 an hour. Mike Shukdinas' random sampling is taking longer than they expected. Will be awhile before they can pull all the cards at random. They follow a complicated mathematical formula. Maybe I should have gone the random count, too. I discovered a place where I can get 30 bumper stickers for \$35, but it will take 4 to 6 weeks. My campaign manager, Bobbie L. is going to Texas to assist her daughter while she is having a second child. Leaving on the 2nd and returning in 10 days, maybe. I have no speeches scheduled.

April 28, 1994 South County has counted all our petitions. Had an 11% error rate, 54 were bad and 450 were good. If this

holds true for North County, I'll have 4183 + 450 or 4633 + 19 from West County, 4652. 126 short. An 8 & 1/2% error rate will put us over the top. Doesn't look good, the indicator says our error rate will be at least 11%. The election office says our count won't be complete until next week. Wolfe has made it and it looks like Ed Stillie will too. Wolfe had an 18% error rate. I'm dead if this represents my percentage and it should. We had the same people signing for at least a thousand or so. Shukdinas' count begins today. I thought it began two days ago. Talked with Bobbie L. She said don't buy the bumper stickers by mail. We can get bumper stickers locally at a much lower price. Wrote letters to Senators Warner, Nunn, Mack, McCain, Fowler, Lott, Moynihan, several House of Representative members of the Armed Forces Committee, and Secretary of Defense, Dr. Perry, in support of the keeping the 301st Rescue Squadron at our local Air Base. Clinton's folks want to return them to the Miami area as a political pay off. My favorite State Representative (former Chairman of the Republican Party) and Self Important Town's mayor volunteered to help right away. Our Democratic, elected officials, are sitting on their hands. The 301st has an excellent case as they support the Space Shuttle. I might not be able to help, but at least it is worth a try. The members of the 301st don't want to return to Homestead Air Force Base south of Miami. The base will be repaired, but local housing? That may take two or three more years. The letter sent out to the legislators and the media is the next page.

301st First Sergeant
Self Important Town

April 28th, 1994

Dear,

Sending along photo copies of the current committees. As you can see, there is a paucity of members from our State on any of the committees. I've underlined the ones I think are important and starred the ones I believe will be receptive. I'll write Kasich, Kyl, Fowler, Warner, McCain, Lott, Robb, Glen, Nunn and Graham, along with Perry at Defense.

I recommend that Afro-Americans write Dellums and let him know how they feel about staying here. He is head of the Black Caucus and you will have to use all and any leverage that you can. Lott, Robb, Glen, Kasich, McCain, Warner and Nunn should be receptive to your wishes.

You must emphasize that as a Reserve unit, it isn't base facilities that dominate, but off-base housing and living conditions for your families. Off hand I'd have to say that someone in Dade County is more interested in your presence as a group rather than your people as individuals.

Labor omnia vincit,

Jim Owen

Enclosures Committees & letter

Senators, Congressmen, SECDEF and Media
Washington D.C. and Any Town
USA

April 27th 1994

Dear Senators, Congressmen, Dr. Perry and Media,

I'm writing on behalf of the Citizen Airmen of the 301st Rescue Squadron. They are scheduled to return to Homestead Air Force Base next year. They don't want to go. They have homes, family and friends in the Cape Canaveral area. As a Reserve outfit, if they are sent back to the demolished Homestead area, they'll be forced to live on an economy that is in ruin. They are being treated as an object. No one has considered their wishes or their unit mission.

The cost to return the 301st to Homestead is estimated at \$3,500,000. Flying NASA support missions from Homestead adds an additional \$1,420,000 a year. The cost of constructing facilities at Homestead is estimated at \$35,000,000.

The 301st was permanently assigned to Patrick after the August 24, 1992 hurricane. Since arriving, it has grown from 240 to 500 members, most from this area. As Reserves, a return to Homestead would result in many losing their jobs. Our elected officials need to be reminded of three rights; mission, cost and people.

(I enlisted the help of our State Representatives. Our two Democratic State Senators did not return my phone calls. Our Congressman was aware of this situation, but did not help. Later, Dr. Perry and the military reversed the decision and the 301st stayed).

In statu quo ante bellum,

Jim Owen

April 29, 1994 Called my contact at elections. As far as he knows they are still counting Ed Stillie's and Mike Shukdinas' petitions. Gary Smith, Kevin McKeown, Carole Jean Jordan and Heneger did not turn any petitions in. Bill Wolfe is the only one who has qualified. I will not support him and I will not support Mike Shukdinas. Gary Smith's actions in not fulfilling his promise to actively solicit petitions has me on the fence. Ed Stillie? I have mixed emotions. Carol Jean Jordan and Heneger are opportunists without substance, i.e. say the right things and get elected. Doesn't leave much. Sue Munsey also moves with the opportunity and not conviction. It looks like vox populi will be on the short end of the stick in this election. What does seem strange is the number of so called citizen activists who have deserted the citizens to support politicians. Strange bedfellows indeed. Motive? Emotion and charisma must be the motivating factors in election campaigns. Must be something wrong with the process if we can't sort out the right people. Come to think of it, I'm not impressed with me either. I seem to more than lack the charismatic leader thing, though it certainly isn't required for Congress. I'll have to call it the X factor. Maybe we're still picking a leader for the hunt. Someone who will provide meat on the table while us gatherers huddle around the tribe's fire.

April 29, 1994 We have really wound down. I don't have one speech scheduled for May. The next one on my calendar is the South County Federated Women's Candidate Forum on 8 August.

The local newspaper has George Thompson and Dan's left and right column about switching parties. No real confrontation, just opinions. George says, that's life and Dan says it's opportunistic. Elections has finished Mike Shukdinas' random sample and are awaiting word from the State as it covers four counties. They'll begin counting mine today. If they work this weekend, I should know by Monday.

April 30, 1994 Perot really screwed up. There are a whole lot of us out there that are ready for a new political party. One that is pragmatic and conservative. It looks like both traditional parties have been taken over by the inmates. Even my wife is ready for an alternative and she's been a Republican for over 40 years.

May 1, 1994 I need to have my candidates oath for office sworn by the officials at elections this week so it can be mailed up to the State. I double checked the write-in candidate qualification rules. Not very complicated. I send in the same form as for a regular party candidate. The Orlando newspaper mentioned my name in an article about Sue Munsey and her party switch. They called me a Perot activist, which I am not. I called the reporter who wrote the article and he apologized. Said there'd be a retraction in his next column and he asked for background data, which I sent along with a two page letter, list of canceled agencies, and my speech to the Republican Executive Committee. Bobbie L. was called by a Perot activist.

be much greater and I'd have to go looking for cash. As it is, I can coast a bit, for now, and still be the gadfly in the election ointment. I'll be much freer to tell it like it is (won't be any different than it is now). At least I won't have to spend a fortune on campaign literature. Wonder how the Righteous Wrong is going to nullify me. They have to have some trick up their sleeve. The rumor is out and about, that they signed quite a few of mine with false or incomplete names and addresses.

May 3, 1994 The news has an article on Losing Candidate's announcement tomorrow on the front page with a color photo. They must really want him to run. Ed Stillie is quoted and uses the word "fellow" to describe Losing Candidate. Talked with my contact at elections. He has heard of an anti-Losing Candidate group trying to keep him from placing any higher than fifth in the Primary Election. He, personally, will support a yellow dog Republican to win the election and doesn't want Losing Candidate to be that yellow dog. From the tone of his voice and comments I haven't included here, believe that my contact at elections is trying to nudge me out, but I won't go. There is no one out there running that comes close to my ideas and convictions. No, I won't support a yellow dog and I won't drop out. I love a good free for all and I wouldn't miss this one for the world. I listened to Losing Candidate's announcement over the conservative radio program hosted by his friend and mentor (the one who yelled at me). He is not running

They were furious that I was called one of theirs. She wasn't able to convince them that I was not behind this misinformation. I would imagine that all the folks for or against Ross would be upset.

May 2, 1994 My contact is not in at the Election's Office this morning. Not a typical Monday. They may have worked all weekend. He returned my call. His car was in the shop. The good news is that our reliability count is better than anyone else. The bad news is that it may not be good enough. Ed Stillie made it and Mike? The results of his random count are still at the State. The Supervisor of Elections called from his Old Town office. He tried to let me down easy, but I didn't make it. I missed by 200 or so signatures out of approximately 4800 that were needed. He said that Mike Shukdinas made it by the random count and Kevin McKeown is going to pony up the \$10,000 to run. That makes five so far; Carole Jean Jordan, Ed Stillie, Bill Wolfe, Mike Shukdinas, and Kevin McKeown. That leaves Gary Smith and Heneger still to commit. Losing Candidate has a press conference scheduled tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. The elections office believes there will be seven Congressional candidates in the race. If that is so, as a write-in candidate, I can make the Primary run off with 20%. It's a long shot, but it can be done. The others might self destruct. Besides, I have this book to finish and I won't run away from a Bully Pulpit. I feel both disappointed and relieved. If I made the ballot, my commitment to spend campaign funds would have to

for Congress. Instead, he is entering the race for the State House of Representatives. That leaves Kevin McKeown and Mike Shukdinas, anti-abortionists against the field. Let the games begin. I entered into this campaign to eliminate our current Congressman and Losing Candidate. They are both gone and it looks like I will be, too.

May 4, 1994 Losing Candidate's announcement made the local section of the newspaper with his photo. I wrote eleven media releases and sent same to West Counties and South County Republican River Executive Committee Chairmen. Kevin Mckeown called last night to see what I am doing. Gary Smith called today. They have to be fishing for support. Gary Smith was surprised that no one has backed out. So am I. Money: I have \$140 and have spent about \$800. Mike has \$800 and has spent \$4,000. Ed Stillie has \$22,000 after spending \$14,000. He hired a professional petition guy and paid students to go door to door. One of my volunteers called. I mentioned our petition results and that we intend to run a write-in campaign. She has a local guy for bumper stickers, 250 for about \$125, if we can get them on cars. Ed Stillie's comments were in another article about Losing Candidate. Our newspaper now quotes him each time they have an article about other candidates. Maybe it is because Ed has had trouble answering questions that aren't on the script and our newspaper is setting him up as the easiest candidate for Sue Munsey to contest. If I can win the Primary as a write-in ... Boy is ego fogging my brain.

BREAD AND CIRCUSES

"The people that once bestowed commands,
councilships, legions, and all else,
now concerns itself no more, and longs
for just two things . . . bread and circuses!"

Decimus Junius Juvenalis 55-130 A.D.

May 5, 1994 The difference between a candidate and a normal person is that a candidate dies many deaths (to paraphrase Winston Churchill) and a real death doesn't last as long. I am invited to speak for two minutes at the Republican Club candidate forum in South County on the 25th. Dinner is at 6:30 after everyone is full and ready to nap. Carole Jean Jordan, Ed Stillie, Gary Smith, Kevin McKeown and Heneger get to speak for 15 minutes. Bill Wolfe, Mike Shukdinas and me get to speak for two minutes (say hello). Conservative Weekly says that all of us qualified by petition. Wish it was so.

May 6, 1994 A retired General, head of the local Retired Officer's Assn. called to ask if I would support Ed Stillie. Told him no, not until the Primary was over. He was as surprised as Gary Smith and Kevin McKeown that no one has dropped out. Strange bedfellows time again. Here I am the only retired officer running and the retired guys are supporting Ed Stillie. The Campaign consultant called from Jacksonville. Carole Jean Jordan is up to her old tricks. She's badmouthing a candidate in the 3rd District primary. She and Kevin McKeown attended the National Republican Congressional Candidates forum in Washington D.C. The one I couldn't afford to go too. Talk about taking the winds out of my sails. It looks like I'll be the first one to qualify for the general election ballot. I just discovered that, according to Florida Law, a write in candidate can not compete in the primary. I can run as a Republican candidate, but not as the nominee. Weird. I would

think they would want to get me out of the way in the primary. If the Religious Wrong wins the primary, I'll be an alternative. So, out of the eight declared candidates, I'm the only one qualified to run in the general election. They sent me pink forms. That's so the powers that be can identify the malcontents, without reading. I have until May 20th to fill the pink forms out and send them back to State Elections. This State's election laws have to be the most convoluted, screwed up and politicized election laws in the union.

May 7, 1994 The newspaper has an article on the Congressional campaign, "Three Republicans qualify to run for Congress. A fourth candidate - James Owen of Large Town turned in more than the required 4,778 signatures, but only 4,493 were verified, so he didn't qualify." I missed by 285 signatures. It goes on to say: Bill Wolfe turned in 6,731, Ed Stillie turned in 6,000 and Mike Shukdinas, 5,549 (after the required number were verified, they stop counting). "Although Owen said he is out of the primary, he is not out of the race. "I am going to be running as a write-in candidate in the general election," Owen said. "I will run as a Republican as a write-in candidate, but will not be the Republican nominee. I will be the alternative to whoever the Republicans and Democrats put up." He has submitted the paperwork, which must be in by May 20th, to run as a write-in." How about that. They gave me the only quotes. Looks like McKeown, Smith, Jordan, Heneger, Wolfe, Stillie and Shukdinas will brawl.

May 8, 1994 I haven't received one call from anyone about the article yesterday and we didn't hit the lottery last night, so it looks like I'll be running as a write-in for sure. I have twelve days to re-submit my loyalty oath and candidates oath on the pink form. I'm surprised that no one has called me about running as a write-in. I could cause severe damage to either Party's candidate, but mostly Republican. I'll need publicity. That may be hard to come by. About the petition drive, what lessons did I learn. If I had to do it over, I'd have the ladies work the parking lots of discount and grocery stores. Don't use men, they're too threatening. Libraries are good for three weeks. After that, you get repeat customers and don't count on any Party support. Party activists are egocentric. If they can't run or be the king maker, they could care less about you, me or anyone. Hard line party people are not interested in ideas. They are interested in control and nothing else. This time around, even the anti-abortionists supported two candidates during the petition drive. Who will they support now? Probably Shukdinas. Perot people? I attracted only the compassionate idealists. The power/control types went with Bill Wolfe. Not that they liked him. He carries around more than a few crazy economic ideas in his baggage. He did a better job of coercing them to volunteer. When he gets past his sound bites, there is not much depth. I wonder if he was behind my lost petitions at Perot Headquarters in Old Town? After two years, Perot's organization is dying out. Perot said his organization was getting involved in the

primaries, supporting all candidates. Fat chance. That didn't happen. The few Perot people that were left were partisan to the extreme. The only way to get this group active again is to have Perot come forward and lead now. Next year will be too late. (June 1996. Perot is making noises about running again and trying to set up a Third Party. He waited too long and came in too late, again. This time he'll cost Clinton votes by attracting students. There is no ground swell or structure left. Only a few hard core folks and an empty shell remain).

May 9, 1994 Went to the election office to get my oath witnessed and it's in the mail. Conservative Weekly gave me a guest column. Put in everything except the agencies and offices I want closed. I wrote my resignation letter to the Republican Executive Committee Chairman as I'll be in opposition to their candidate, a violation of the oath we took to be on said committee. Anyone on the committee supporting me after the Primary will have to resign. I don't have to resign until the campaign for the general election, but it's the right thing to do.

May 10, 1994 Wrote letters to North Beach Federated Women and the Republican Club of South County advising them of my change in status. I canceled reservations to the North Beach luncheon and left the decision up to the South County group. From what I understand, I'm the first federal write-in candidate in some time (or ever) under this election law. Phoned four newspaper

reporters and three of them returned my phone calls. Each had a touch of skepticism in their voice. Phoned South County's Chairman of the Citrus Commission. He was out.

May 11, 1994 Newspaper has two articles in the Local Section. "Dobson declares candidacy." "Former County Commissioner Roger Dobson will announce a campaign today, the only question is, for what office?" Doesn't say if he will run as a Democrat, Republican, or Independent. They list Jordan, Shukdinas and Wolfe as paying \$10,020 to qualify on Monday. Shukdinas and Wolfe qualified by petition. Talk about whiffle and wrong. Of interest is the amount of money raised by state office candidates; \$9,900, \$3,750 and \$10,005. Not much money in this County. Congressional Candidates listed in the State section are Jordan, Munsey, Shukdinas, Wolfe and Rick Smith, a write-in from West Self Important Town. Who is Rick Smith? Might be a liberal Democrat challenging Munsey. The Citrus League Chairman phoned. The Citrus League is apolitical. I can be introduced by a grower member and pass out literature, but no speeches. He didn't mention Ed Stillie. Ed said he had their backing. Fib? Sort of a nice turn down. Heard on the radio that Dobson is running for Florida State Comptroller. Seems like all of our political reporter's sources are giving him disinformation. My contact in the election office phoned, Rick Smith has filed as a write-in candidate. His affiliation is unknown. I've lost my uniqueness. My second thoughts says he is a spoiler from the Righteous Wrong.

May 12, 1994 No word yet on McKeown, Smith or Heneger qualifying. Radio news reports that the Republican County Chairman has announced for the State Senate and will run against Marty D. in the Primary. The Chairman and Losing Candidate have two things in common; they both lost three elections and have sold out to the Righteous Right. Marty D. is a nice guy. He has worked hard on the campaign trail.

May 13, 1994 Our local newspaper has; "Weldon In Crowded Race. A Self Important Town Internist and conservative activist." Can't believe this guy. He is running on the pro-serf platform. "When I went to school we learned that European serfs were exploited by landowners." Weldon is head of the Space Coast Family Forum which is far and away to the right of the Christian Coalition. The real anti-abortion candidate has arrived. Wonder why they didn't keep on supporting Shukdinas? The three front runners are Weldon, Jordan and Stillie. Two entered late and paid their way on to the ballot. And we have Mark Smith who is another rabid anti-abortionist running as a write-in. Probably in their to nullify me or actively run if one of theirs doesn't make it through the primaries. I checked with elections. If the Christian Coalition is the Mensheviks of the anti-abortion movement, Dave Weldon is a Bolshevik. Election contact says that Weldon is devoid of any ideas or convictions except that he passes the litmus test. He has his one issue and pamphlets from the National Party. If he is elected we'll be sending a proxy to someone, but who?

May 14, 1994 Talked with the new political reporter today. He has received an unsigned letter accusing another candidate of living fast in the past. He believes it is the Shukdinas campaign going in full negative gear. None of the papers will print it as all of the accusations are unsubstantiated. This group of amateurs has moved into big time political mudslinging with a bang. The local newspaper picks up on the crowded field, "GOP galore in U.S. District 15 race." To paraphrase: Sue Munsey is running unopposed and will not face a primary. Seven Republicans qualified. Henegar had second thoughts and decided at the last minute not too pay his way in. The new political reporter believes Henegar is a sleeper right-to-life entry and, with Weldon in the race with big time backing, was told to drop out. "Jim Owen of Large Town did not qualify for the ballot through his petition drive and will run as an independent Republican." The candidates are: Carole Jean Jordan, Kevin McKeown, Michael Shukdinas, Ed Stillie, David Weldon and Gary Smith, all Republicans. Sue Munsey, Democrat. Chuck Lanier, Independent. Jim Owen and Rick Smith, write-in." Rick Smith again. Still no sign of who he is, but he has to be in there to nullify me. The Religious Wrong is the most politically astute and trained of all political parties. Democrats and Republicans are amateurs in comparison. I should have waited until the last minute before tipping my hand. Talk about an amateur. "There are two things, science and opinion; the former begets knowledge, the latter ignorance." Hippocrates, 460-377 B.C., said that and if true, all I have is opinion.

May 15, 1994 Came up with a good campaign slogan for my idea to use Merry-go-round music as a theme. "The Merry-go-round Broke down" ... Get off the political Merry-go-round ... write in Jim Owen for Congress ... Music; Boston Commandarie March, which is Onward Christian Soldiers. Use a 30 second sound bite. Additional words to insert: Tired of going around in political circles, vote for Jim Owen, or The systems broke, fix it by voting for Jim Owen, or The choice is yours, establishment politicians or Jim Owen, or The Washington Merry-go-round is broken fix it; send Jim Owen to Congress.

May 16, 1994 News has a feature on politicians leaving Congress. Our Congressman lists family as his reason. Ed Stillie held a fund raiser Friday night with about 150 in attendance. Spoke effectively. Most were there to see if he is a real candidate. Price was \$50. Paid for his petition drive (if he hired petitioners). Need to do a strength and weakness chart on the competition.

o Carole Jean Jordan: Strengths: Looks good in a suit. President of State Federated Women. Reeks of establishment. Power base is Indian River. Can raise money. Can make the run-off. Weaknesses: Suit may be empty. Establishment candidate. Switched from pro-life to pro-choice so she lacks conviction and credibility. Federated Women of North County don't care for her. Spreads false rumors.

o Kevin McKeown: Strengths; Image of a nice guy although he

can be negative at the one on one level. Records what the other guy says. Right-to-life, but not a gun carrier. Has a small corps of active supporters. Weaknesses: Dark horse with two other anti-abortionist running. Lack of money. Catholic and the local evangelicals aren't too keen about supporting one of them. Can't campaign full time. Not known away from North County's beaches.

o Mike Shukdinas: Strengths: Looks good in a suit. Says what everyone wants to hear. Works hard at campaigning. Well organized. Weaknesses: May self destruct. Questionable about making the run-off with Weldon entering the race. Went publicly anti-abortion at the last minute. Christian Wrong has abandoned him. Negative campaigner. Switches opinions for the audience. Sending out literature on opponents that is below the belt. Plays fast and loose with truth. Lack of money. Works, can't campaign full time. Name is hard to pronounce. Wife is a mirror image of Carole Jean; large, overbearing and mean spirited.

o Gary Smith: Strengths: Looks good in a suit. Campaigns on togetherness and patriotism. Narrow base of Vietnam Veteran support. Has a positive image. Individually pro-choice, but publicly avoids issue. Has a chance to make run-off.

Weaknesses: Lack of money. Wears beard. Words don't match actions. Can't campaign full time. Weak campaign staff.

o Ed Stillie: Strength's: Looks good in a suit. Message is Madison Avenue. Has the second most money (approx. \$50,000). He looks like a Congressman, statuesque. Has support of the establishment. Can raise money. Can make the run-off if he

reads up on issues. Weaknesses: Suit may be empty (He has the brain power, but hasn't studied his audience or the issues). Establishment candidate. May not have enough money to run the campaign he's outlined (i.e. TV instead of radio). Has no apparent convictions except that he wants the job. Has a problem with exaggeration. Can't campaign full time.

o David Weldon: Strengths: A phalanx of active volunteers from anti-abortion extremist groups. Support may be enough to help him make the run-off. Will win if voter turn out is low. Weaknesses: Extreme anti-abortion position. Physician, can't campaign full time. Only conviction is anti-abortion. Meaner than a junk yard dog. Will be a proxy candidate.

o Bill Wolfe: Strengths: Stand up comedian. UWS volunteers. May make the run-off. Weaknesses: Stand up comedian. UWS volunteers. Lack of money. A New Jersey minute. Chiropractor, can't campaign full time. Conspiracy type. Everyone is plotting against him.

No reason to discuss Sue Munsey, Rick Smith, Lanier or me. We're not running until the general election, but we all have more weaknesses than strengths. Conservative Weekly has three articles that mention me. The Young Republican responds to my letter. I disagree with his terms of our debate, but I am pleased that he debated with me on substance and not emotion. I'll agree to disagree and let it go at that. Litera scripta manet. ".... Replies to Owen Letter" "My friends, a few weeks ago I did my review on the congressional race in the 15th

District U.S. House of Representatives. My goal was to briefly report from what I saw and the facts that I had obtained. One gentleman in the race was Jim Owen. My goal was not to bad-mouth anybody, but to report the facts. Owen took exception to the "thumbs down approach by me and the religious right." I am not a member of the Christian Coalition, nor am I a member of the American Family Association, nor am I a member of any political religious organization. I mentioned the abortion issue because I was receiving calls on my show, and at home and it is an issue that people wanted to know about. In reference to what Mr. Owen said about Britain's drug situation, the drug problem in Britain is not getting better but worse. Read the Wall Street Journal. Crime is not dropping, neither is prostitution. Both are on the rise. Lastly, in reference to Mike Shukdinas, I have not endorsed Mr. Shukdinas, but he has told me he has always been against NAFTA ever since he understood the treaty. I don't know what kind of tactics Mr. Shukdinas used during the petition drive, but I do understand he made it on and Owen didn't." Rest is my party, right or wrong, my party. Someone said that it doesn't matter what people say about you as long as they spell your name right. Mike's response on NAFTA. Damned with faint praise.

May 18, 1994 Advertising rates for radio; \$30 a minute for Country Western and \$25 for Glen Miller station. Says something about the body politic when hillbilly music stations charge higher ad rates than stations playing music with melody.

May 20, 1994 Kevin called last night. He is keeping his lines of communication open. Complained that his name isn't spelled right. It's McKeown and I'm guilty too. His estimate of the number of votes that will be cast in the primary is 50,000. I figured that it would be 100,000. He says 10,000 is the magic number required to make a run-off. My estimate was 20,000. Talked with the lady in charge of candidates at elections. She has a verbal on my qualifying as a write-in candidate, but nothing in writing.

May 21, 1994 Conservative Weekly printed my two line telephone response to the Young Republican, i.e. I was happy he stuck to issues and would agree to disagree. Bobbie L. is returning from Corpus Christi, Texas today. Campaign will either heat up or die a benign death. Filled out a questionnaire for the Congressional Quarterly and sent it in. Wasn't as biased as some.

May 22, 1994 Received rate schedules from the Country/Western and the Talk stations. Talk will allow 30 second commercials. About the same as previous rates.

May 23, 1994 News has an article on who has money in State Governor's race. Bush has the most, Crenshaw second and Smith third. I didn't know that the state gives matching funds after one raises \$150,000 if the campaign is limited to \$5,000,000. That's a lot of cash for a State election. Bobbie L. returned

early Sunday morning. Seems several people showed up at our celebration party and were turned away by the Club. I really screwed that one up. Forgot to tell the administrative types that we were in the bar and to send people in. I did check the door on occasion.

May 25, 1994 Newspaper has an article about a State Senate candidate being placed under arrest for petitioning at the Post Office. No one knows the laws. For my first outing since we failed in our petition drive, South County Republican Club wants me to come visit, anyway. Jordan, Stillie, McKeown, Smith and Weldon may speak. As I commented before, Wolfe, Shukdinas and myself get two minutes to say hello. Meeting is a dinner at 06:30 p.m. Bobbie L. is going with me. Should be interesting. West County Executive Committee meeting is tomorrow night. I get to say hello after the meeting is over. North County Chamber of Commerce meeting is Friday Morning. May get a chance to speak.

May 26, 1994 South County Republican candidate forum was a bust. Wolfe, Shukdinas, Jordan, Stillie, and Smith showed up. They changed the format. Stillie, Jordan and Smith still spoke, but instead of two minute hellos, everyone was allowed to answer questions. That cut me out as I'm not running in the primary. Bobbie L. and I left after finishing desert and just as the first candidate (Smith) said, "If you've heard me before raise your hands." We voted with our feet. Observations:

Republican Party insiders are more interested in form over substance. Bobbie L. asked me, "Why are you still running?" Because I entered on ideas that can make a difference. The others are, paraphrasing a TV theme, "I'm a poll watcher." Add your own Wheel of Fortune music. She will stay the course until after the primary. Jordan's husband went outside and put up signs while everyone was eating dinner. Someone said he is a retired Eastern Airline pilot, which is probably why they need this job. From what I've heard they all took a big hit on retirement pay when their strike closed Eastern down. A lot of sign planting going on in politics these days. Maybe I missed the point. The substance that our founding fathers prided themselves in has been replaced by image. It's not what you say or promote, it's how you say it, how you look doing it, and how much money you spend.

May 27, 1994 Didn't go to the West County Republican Executive Committee meeting last night. Decided it wasn't proper as I'll be running against their candidate. Wrote a letter to Republican Clubs in South County and West County. Didn't attend the North County Chamber of Commerce Meeting this morning (7:30 to 9:30 am). Our Congressman was the invited speaker and other candidates were to be a fill in if he didn't show. Not a good bet for a write-in. Called elections. I am listed as a write-in candidate, my papers were received at the State. Rick Smith is also listed as a write-in, but no one knows who he is. This comes under Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid; "Who is this

guy and where did he come from." Ed Stillie had TV and radio ads running yesterday. TV had him standing next to airplanes (hero) and words on screen, "Conservative." Radio, haven't heard. He is spending early. Must be trying to show himself as a front runner and trying to switch from moderate to conservative.

May 28, 1994 News has an article about George Thompson running for School Board in local briefs. They gave him the same treatment they gave me. Kevin called. Ed Stillie and Mike Shukdinas showed up for the Chamber of Commerce affair. Our Congressman sent a minion. Weldon, Shukdinas, Smith and Stillie showed up at West County Executive Committee meeting.

May 30, 1994 Memorial Day. Wrote letter to Mr. explaining why it was inappropriate for me to participate in Friday's candidate forum with the Republican primary group.

June 1, 1994 Bobbie L is making noises about bailing out. Don't blame her. Offered to let her go, earlier. Will have to do it again. Rescheduled our get together for tomorrow.

June 2, 1994 Received formal notice of my qualification from State Director Division of Elections. UWSA sent a survey. Filled it out and sent along position papers. It was straight forward. Didn't have loaded questions like others sent from Washington. Paul L. called. Bobbie L. is sick, meeting

canceled. What are my plans? I'll continue on at low key until after the Primaries. If an anti-abortionist wins, stay in. What are the facts? No money, no support and I'm not going into debt over this foolishness. Wishes? All the other candidates will self destruct, I hit the lottery and can fund a real campaign and that our media will treat all candidates fairly. I'll track all the other candidates for this story. The opera ain't over, but the fat ladies are singing, "An honest politician is one who when he's bought, stays bought." Says Simon Cameron, sometime between 1820 and 1880. Thomas Noel clearly knew about me when he wrote in the early 1800's, "Rattle his bones over the stones! He's, only a pauper, whom nobody owns!"

June 4, 1994 Newspaper has an article about Mike and Cathy Shukdinas being upset over David Weldon entering the race. He and his group ran them through a litmus test and then he turned on them and ran himself. This is what Wolfe did with me. First or second rule in politics is; don't ever attend another persons organizational meeting or don't ever ask someone over to give their views and then run against them. This says a lot about Dave Weldon's character or lack of, but then hypocrite does come from the fellows name that doctors swear by or to and us folks, at. Weldon, who I will from now on refer to as the Religious Wrong's creation, "monster," avoids answering questions about his wrongdoing and sniffs a flower, "they're underfunded and can't win!" Kevin says this is much ado about

nothing. It is more than three anti-abortionists fighting over turf and ring around the anti-abortion bush. Kevin would not have entered the race if the Christian Wrong was still supporting Mike. The monster and his mob blindsided Kevin by entering after Kevin paid his ten grand. Talk about two sides of one mouth, Virginia has its own monster; Ollie, Ollie North, all in free, wins their Republican nomination at a convention? The Christian Wrong has figured out how to eliminate outsiders, hold a convention. The Virginia convention reminds me of a Nuremberg torch lit parade in the early thirties. Ollie is running against, Them. A conspiracy nut, he has two scarlet CCs tattooed to his chest.

June 5, 1994 Ollie, Ollie All in Free almost makes me want to form a Conservative Party and let the CC have the GOP. Of course they'll have to change our symbol from elephant to dead fetus. As a group they are as thin lipped, narrow minded, Bible thumping, long necked, second cousin marrying, sanctimonious bunch of Yahoos as I've ever seen. How about that for an impartial, unbiased observation.

June 6, 1994 Summer time and the politics is hazy. Bobbie L. called. She agrees, we do nothing until September. Paul L, my wife, her and me will meet and discuss at our neighborhood bar this Friday.

June 8, 1994 I have come to the conclusion that summer is a

bad time to politic. Zip going on. Not even rumors. My least favorite biased talk show host has Jordan and McKeown on his radio show. They both fumbled their first questions. After the second question, they improved. The monster called and gave the litmus check. Jordan; Pro-Choice with an ever growing nose and Kevin; anti-abortion. The host's format is not to repeat a question. Kevin won, but that doesn't make any difference. Form will always out over substance. Shukdinas, Smith and Wolfe, tomorrow. Monster and Stillie on Friday. Interesting selection. It would seem that we have four front runners and three losers. If so, losers are on tomorrow.

June 9, 1994 Losers day. Shukdinas gives the poor boy pitch. Wolfe gives the change America pitch. Smith gives the Patriotic pitch. A Shukdinas supporter calls and tries to nail Smith and Wolfe. Smith and Shukdinas support GATT. Wolfe wants to abandon Korea. Smith stumbled, Shukdinas is mugwump and Wolfe is America first. None completely answered questions asked. No Litmus test today. Tomorrow, Stillie and The Monster. Bobbie L. called. Our District Chairwoman held a meeting at Headquarters. She wanted to have teams; one anti-abortionist and one pro-choice go door to door. Cooler heads prevailed. Litmus test was to be avoided. Maybe CC should be changed to FW (flat worlders).

June 10, 1994 Not much going on. Executive Committee meeting last night. Bobbie L. went. She said that Mike Shukdinas gave

a five minute speech under old business. The Monster and Stillie had their fifteen minutes of fame on Talk radio. Stillie did not answer three budget questions. Almost had dead air time as Smith did yesterday. Said our national debt was 1.5 billion and corrected that to 1.5 trillion. Only three trillion or so off. Abortion question was asked. The Monster tried to duck it. I wonder if he will tell the inmates that they really are showers and there is nothing to worry about. If sounding good is the criteria, Stillie won. Neither was impressive with their grasp of facts. Wolfe had his first commercial in the middle of the program. Mom, apple pie and GM autos. New Jersey minute talk. I'm receiving a lot of GOPAC stuff in the mail. Newt must be trying to prove that it really is an all candidate PAC. Our new political reporter has an article on the Shukdinas political ploy. Got to admit that Mike has chutzpah. He wants to give a free airline ticket to our Surgeon General so she can campaign for Sue Munsey. Ploy: take center stage, attack the Democrat by painting her as a liberal and a Clinton clone. Right out of the mail I've been receiving from National. Lets see; Mike doesn't have an original thought, he's overloaded with blind ambition and underloaded with funds. Comes under the heading of motion as work. His victory will depend on a nonattentive electorate. Meeting with Bobbie L. went as expected. She can't get up the courage to say we're in a lost cause. We did agree to do nothing until after the primaries. Not really a problem. I'm the only one left in my campaign. Kevin asked her to join his campaign,

but did not talk to me. Isn't there anyone out there that is honest and above board?

June 11, 1994 Sent out nine media letters.

June 12, 1994 Space Station dominates front page. Our Congressman is working on getting North County the new Veteran's Hospital. I said that we'd see snow here before it would show up. It's hanging in there by a thread. A VA hospital shows us what damage bureaucrats can do and that snow doesn't fall this far south.

June 13, 1994 Lots of stuff in the news about the Religious Wrong taking over the Republican Party. Wonder where the news people were for the last two years. How did they do it? Simple. Take over the leadership and the administration. 100 activists can do it. Like the Communists, they show up at every meeting and wear a normal citizen down. The problem is not the CC, but the Party. It's always set itself up so that a small group of activists can be in charge. It's normal procedure to freeze out the rank and file, ergo the problem is the system. In Virginia, one percent were able to bypass a primary and hold a convention. Presto, they nominate Ollie, Ollie All In Free who passes their one issue litmus test, even though he is a convicted felon, commingles funds and is an embezzler. The press sets up the Religious Wrong as THE Conservatives and everyone else, moderate. Not true. The Religious Wrong are

socialist reactionaries who give lip service to individual rights and conservative values with "Onward Anti-abortion Soldiers" as their theme. As one newsman said about the Virginia convention, they'd vote in the anti-Christ if he passed their single issue test.

June 15, 1994 Governor buys a house and has 40 acres to mow. Florida politics is like watching mimes talk.

June 16, 1994 We may send contributions back to local supporters. So far I've only spent my own money. Our savings account is costing three dollars a month. We closed it down and placed our funds in a mayonnaise jar.

June 17, 1994 Our local newspaper has a lead article about a Democrat who is not running for the School Board, with a full color photo, no less. I was right, one can only get coverage when one announces that they are not running for office.

June 18, 1994 Ed Stillie is in Washington D.C. to video tape his new TV commercials and our State Republican race for governor is heating up over homophobic issues, i.e. who will hire homosexuals.

June 19, 1994 Received my new FEC financial report forms. My report is due in by the 15th of July. I'm in trouble. There is no place on the form to list my bank as a mayonnaise jar.

June 20, 1994 In the news an article by our new political reporter about black voters not being energized to participate. Problem one; small percentage of total North County voters. Problem two; they're almost all Democrats and they are taken for granted. Problem three; no one pays attention. My view? If I was black and attended our local Political Executive Committees meetings, I'd feel as out of place as a cat at a dog convention. The Religious Wrong has raised lip service to an art form. Nod nod, wink wink, we're open to all Republicans, nod nod, wink wink. Problem is, anybody but a CC or one of their fellow travelers is a token, black or white.

June 21, 1994 First day of summer and not much going on in this world except O.J.'s problems. I remember Sam Shepard's summer of 1954. Nothing was going on then, either and the press jumped all over the trial. Tried and convicted him of the murder of his wife. Sam spent ten years in jail until the error was corrected. Don't know if O.J. is guilty or not, but a jury should decide, not us or the press.

June 22, 1994 A repeat of yesterday.

June 23, 1994 In a rut.

June 24, 1994 Received two phone calls late yesterday. Head of West County's editorial board called for an interview. When I explained that I've qualified for the general election as

a write-in and that Florida law would not let me run, as such, in the primary, he said they'd schedule me after the primary. UWSA called and asked that I participate in a forum on 16 August and 22 October. Invited anyway (above). Otherwise, a repeat of the last two days.

June 25, 1994 Our Congressman's office manager becomes Sue Munsey's campaign manager. Claims they'll get money from disenchanted Republicans. Labor endorses George Thompson. Pro abortion and anti-abortion groups are attending church services to cheer lead their way to another confrontation over the latest Supreme Court ruling. What a mess.

June 27, 1994 Our new political reporter has a lead article about independents on front page. Inside, he paraphrases my man without a country statement in quotes, giving me credit. Conservative paper almost printed my news release verbatim. Wife said it read like I was a few cards short of a full deck. I reread it and by golly she's right, about two cards short. That's why I didn't include it here. Hey, it's my book. Lincoln Day dinner was last week. I didn't get an invitation. Bobbie L. went on two free tickets. No bigwigs attended. A local political type filled in as the speaker and did a good job. Lincoln's Birthday is 12 February. 24 June? The CC members in charge of our party must be using the Julian calendar, four months and 12 days late. A flat world and erratic moon can cause these kind of problems. Jeb Bush was in town for a fund

raiser the same night. The local paper's founder, Al N. was on Network TV Sunday. Acquitted himself well. Kept his comments to what was news and what wasn't in the context of O.J. Simpson's trial. It'll be a long time before he's ready for a nursing home. Doesn't look good for fairness in our local newspaper.

June 28, 1994 News and editorial page and letters are as dull as these hot, humid summer days.

June 29, 1994 Zip.

June 30, 1994 Received an invitation to attend a candidates fair from the North Beach Citizens League. No speeches, just tables and mingling. South County Heritage Center asked that I buy ten, \$5.00 fish fry tickets for a 30 July affair in downtown Beach. Ed Stillie called. After twenty minutes of candidate bashing, he got down to why he called. Wanted my support. Told him I might give it to him after the primary. Didn't seem happy with that response. He mentioned the odds against a write-in candidate. I agreed that they're long, but no one ever accused me of being politically suave. He continued to press for my support. Doesn't know when to quit. I said that I have only ten supporters, no political base, no money, no friends and will have no impact on his primary. Still wouldn't give up, but neither will I.

July 1, 1994 Two governor candidates select lieutenant governor

running mates, Bush and someone else. Abortion clinic wins their case for thirty foot buffer zone. Stand by for a revolution. The flat worlders are bound to do something illegal.

July 2, 1994 Our new political reporter's column covers another Stillie and Shukdinas spat. Ed told an insensitive joke to UWSA at Cocoa. Shukdinas video taped it and is showing it around. Shukdinas is conducting a Hindu funeral; trying to throw every candidate in the fire, but it's his corpse that's burning. Talked with a Harris VP on the golf course. They consider Stillie not viable, Shukdinas one step from being fired for his exaggerations (junior executive claim) and Kevin a nice guy, but not seriously considered as a candidate. It looks like they will wait until the Primary is over.

July 3, 1994 Politics are on vacation and that's it.

July 4, 1994 Worked the gates, selling tickets for Large Town's Fourth Of July Festival. Was it ever hot standing around in the sun. Bill Wolfe, Kevin McKeown and The Monster were in a parade, sponsored by the J.C's, that began in the boondocks and went to nowhere (no city center). The Monster walked behind forty or more supporters pushing toddlers in strollers. The Religious Wrong is open in their support. Bill Wolfe rode a patriotic float of his own construction and I missed Kevin. Strange, here I am working for my city and I wasn't invited to walk from tedium to boredom.

July 5, 1994 The newspaper said it wasn't much of a parade and that the politicians didn't add anything. It was held in the middle of nowhere and watched by few. Must be a statement about our modern cities, no downtown and no one cares. The children are the only innocent ones. The Monster has a nasty group. Much ado about nothing. I was elected President elect of Large Town's Kiwanis to replace a resigning member. Means I'll be President for a year beginning in October. I spoke at so many of their meetings around North County that I felt obligated to join, though I may not be what they have in mind to lead their organization.

July 6, 1994 Jim Smith is the governor candidate for the day in the newspaper.

July 7, 1994 Crenshaw is the governor candidate of the day. Is Forest Gump next?

July 8, 1994 Mrs. Gump is. Carol Jean Jordan opens an office on US# 1. The Streets of Laredo; You can tell by her outfit that she is a candidate. Gallagher is the governor candidate of the day. With seven Republican Congressional candidates competing in the Primary to run against one Democratic lady, it's too good a shot to pass up. Right . . . it's Walt Disney time and the Evil Queen is running against the Seven Dwarfs. Mickey Mouse could win this one in a landslide. Unfortunately, he isn't running.

July 9, 1994 Kevin McKeown is opening an office on middle Beach. Everyone, has an office, but me. Everyone is going into debt, except everyman isn't. Self Important Town Real Estate Group want to interview me on July 27th at 11:00 am. Sending along my bonifides. I'm addressed as Mr. McMillen (My middle name). I must be a filler.

July 10, 1994 School Board candidates and drag racer (Big Daddy) are part of the news. Jeb Bush wants all governor candidates to decline state campaign funds (he doesn't need any).

July 11, 1994 Finished novel number four yesterday. Beer Drinker's of America asked for my support. I gave it and more. I want to repeal the 1990 alcohol and luxury taxes. West County is having a political meat market in October and the Viet Vets asked that I attend their forum August 8th.

July 12, 1994 Just a comment on our bike rides. Haven't found a penny in three or four months. Does this say something about our economy. Noticed an auto with a Norman for Congress sticker in it's window on the bike ride. Must to be an Independent. Checked with our Supervisor of Elections. No one's heard of Norman. They located Rick Smith. He is a 32 year old West Self Important Town Republican. No one has seen or heard of him. My bet is that he is an anti-abortion candidate waiting in the wings if a Pro-Choice type wins the Primary or to nullify me if their candidate, The Monster, wins.

July 13, 1994 Jim Smith's ads were on TV. Using the contract ploy, listing his sound bites and signing at the bottom.

July 14, 1994 Jim Smith picks his running mate (Lt. Governor), a lady by the name of Todd. Talked with the new political reporter yesterday afternoon. Said he will write a few lines about me in Saturday's paper.

July 15, 1994 Received a computer generated message about the Republican Executive Committee meeting last night. Ended with, "God bless you." Glad we are keeping Church and State separate. Must not have read my resignation letter. Bobbie L. attended and left early. The CC has taken over. Darned few secular conservatives were there. Biggest argument was over the prayer. A CC minister or lay evangelist didn't want to do a nondenominational one, but finally agreed too. Carole Jean Jordan had her five minutes of fame. Received two AFL-CIO questionnaires and invitations for interviews. Declined as I won't accept PAC money, but will accept their endorsement.

July 16, 1994 Our new political reporter's column supports my premise that by announcing that you are not going to do something, one will get press. "Independent candidate for U.S. Congress Jim Owen of Large Town released some big news from his campaign this week. "I want to make an announcement that I'm not opening a campaign headquarters," said Owen a published author. "And I'm not holding a fund raiser." Of course that

doesn't mean his following isn't growing by leaps and bounds. "I've got the wife, the dog and about 10 supporters. I haven't asked anybody to support me. I guess I'm not a politician, I never bother to ask," Owen said. You might say this man is not very serious about running. Owen simply says he's 60 years old. After working so hard in an unsuccessful attempt to get the signatures to get on the ballot as a Republican candidate, Owen said he needed a breather from campaigning. Since declaring his candidacy as an independent, Owen has had a falling out with the Republican Party, criticizing its religious right wing. In the meantime, he's sent his most recent manuscript off to the publisher with a title reminiscent of an old Bullwinkle episode. It's called, "Off We Go: or How to Herd Sheep at the Pentagon." He said it started out as a humorous novel about America's political history but got serious when "LBJ decided to go full-bore into Vietnam." He's beginning work on an autobiographical venture entitled, "How to run for U.S. Congress on Less Than \$5 a Day: or Yes Virginia, There is a Religious Right and They Really Do Have an Agenda." Maybe this noncampaign will pay some dividends after all." Not bad, almost verbatim except for being published. I have four unpublished novels. This story about politics is quirkier than fiction.

July 17, 1994 Gary Smith's campaign manager called. They were on a fishing trip for my support. Told her I wasn't dropping out now, but would support Gary if he wins.

July 20, 1994 Must be the heat. Received a call from a friend on the Republican Executive Committee. The Christian Wrong is attempting a Beer Hall putsch, removing Christians that don't believe as they do from the Committee. Brown Shirts and the night of the Long Knives?

July 22, 1994 A hot spell in July and a cold spell on the political front. Drove by McKeown's and The Monster's campaign headquarters this week. Lots of signs and no people. The Monster is near the hospital and his office in Self Important Town. Kevin's is over the causeway, in Middle-Beach. Stillie, Shukdinas, and Jordan have also opened headquarters. Smith, Wolfe and Munsie may have. Everyman hasn't the funds, or I would.

July 23, 1994 News covers a Republican candidate who challenged the Post Office on their policy of no political activity, to include petitions. He has cooled down. Wise choice, he would lose if he pressed on.

July 24, 1994 Received an invitation to speak to the West County Voters League. I called and no one answered.

July 25, 1994 Have to remember to call West County Voters League, again. United We Stand America called from Old Town, Too, to apologize for a typo and to see if I was going to be in attendance. I said I was. Getting a ton of political stuff

from GOPAC. Talk about a waste of funds on me. Is Newt a candidate for the oval office? Clerk of the U.S. House requested that I send in my Financial Disclosure Statement. Don't have too, as I haven't spent enough money, yet, so I won't. Our Federal election laws have been tampered with by our lawmakers one too many times. You can drive a Brink's Truck through the loopholes if you have cash and it really is a brick wall if you don't have funds.

July 26th: Called the West County Voter's League. Their forum is for the Primary so I won't attend. Bobbie L. called the Vietnam Vets about their 8 August forum. Foggy answer, so we'll back out and let the Primary people have at it. The South County Federated Republican Women are having quite a big do on the same evening.

July 27, 1994 Had an interview with the Realtors today at 11:00. Quite an affair. I was sandwiched in between Sue Munsey and Mike Shukdinas. Most of the questions were about Real Estate issues, Demographics, etc. I said I wouldn't accept PAC money, but thought that the rules that created PACs were foolish as were most Federal Election Laws. We had individual interviews. I asked for individual support, not PAC.

July 28, 1994 Received a call from a State Senate Campaign Manager. Wants me to give a talk to a couple of Rotary Clubs after my book is finished. I promised I'd support his candidate

with words and action. Received a phone call from a South County reporter. I was busy cranking away on this book and didn't catch her name, although she seemed pleasant enough. Seems to be some sort of brouhaha going on with a South County hospital board. They invited Sue Munsey to speak and no one else. Something about being an ovarian cancer survivor. Wanted to know what I thought about this. I said a public board should be fair to all candidates and if being a cancer survivor was a criteria, my wife is a recent breast cancer survivor. A shame that I don't get the South County newspaper. The campaign is heating up down there.

July 30, 1994 This news article is too good to pass up, "Darwin Meets County Politics." Seems the Religious Wrong sent out a thirty five question survey about the origin of man (and ladies). Creationism is rampant in North County. Lead question, "Do you maintain that Darwin's theory of evolution is a scientific fact?" Darn, I didn't receive a survey. Could have had a lot of fun with this one. Not all of Darwin's theory is considered scientific fact today, but he is a lot closer to the truth than the Creationist folks will ever be. They have proven one theory true! Ignorance and superstition will always win out over science and fact. Our State Committeeman read his and commented that these folks were Neanderthals. Wish it was true, as the Neanderthals were a genetic dead end. One can only hope. I wonder if they asked about belief in their other Deity, anti-Fluoridation.

July 31 1994 Newspaper lists campaign contributions. Sue Munsey has \$105,665 of which \$20,000 is her own. Carole Jean Jordan has \$130,343 of which \$73,000 is her own. Ed Stillie has \$82,415 of which \$20,000 is his own. Gary Smith has \$4,200. I had \$995, spent \$850 and still have \$145 in my Mayo jar. Wolfe, The Monster and Shukdinas were absent. They have all bet quite a bit of money on themselves. Much too early to count money. This tempest in a bank vault reminds me of an Old English Proverb, undated and Anonymous.

A swarm of bees in May
Is worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June
Is worth a silver spoon;
A swarm of bees in July
Is not worth a fly.

RISING FROM THE POLITICAL DEAD

"Somebody said it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That maybe it couldn't, but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he tried.

Edgar Albert Guest 1881-1959

August 1, 1994 Wonder where politics went?

August 6, 1994 Charley B. and Marty D. are being challenged by a Gay activist in the Republican State Senate race. Charley comes off as homophobic and the Gay activist, a Democratic pawn. Received invitations to speak at: Southern Homeowners Association next Thursday, Sun.... Master Homeowners Association October 29, Rich Island Executive Council September 3 and Holy Name Of Jesus Ladies October 11. Vacation is almost over.

August 8, 1994 News has an abortion survey: Sixty one percent say keep it as it is. Twenty nine percent, to save a life, rape or incest. Eight percent say never (guess who) and two percent don't know. 140,000 favor the law as it is and 58,000 of those won't vote for an anti-abortion candidate. Those who want to change the law; 85,000 and 45,000 won't vote for individual liberty, freedom to choose. This is a strong, fundamental religious county.

August 9, 1994 Shukdinas signs are springing forth from the earth. Jordan has an elderly lady singing off key in her radio ad. The Monster's signs are second. Wolfe, Smith and McKeown have some, but not many. Self Important Town's Realtors recommend Stillie and Munsey. They list Jordan, McKeown and Shukdinas as qualified. The Monster, Smith, Wolfe and me weren't mentioned. Maybe I shouldn't have interviewed in a golf shirt, shorts and tennis shoes.

August 10, 1994 West County newspaper backs Stillie in the Primary. He gave the best interview to their editorial board. Received a questionnaire from Florida Planned Parenthood.

August 11, 1994 Another questionnaire from Florida Action and Education Association. Another set of loaded questions. Spoke to Southern Homeowners Association tonight. Shukdinas, The Monster and I were on early, Wolfe later and Jordan showed up as I was leaving. We all talked about ourselves. Last time I do that. Talk about being rusty! Didn't project.

August 13, 1994 Shukdinas is plagiarizing from Ollie North's campaign literature. A conspiracy is out there to prevent him from winning.

August 14, 1994 Newspaper says the Fight For Congressman's Seat May Be A Brawl. "There is so much internal fighting right now, I don't think the Party will survive the way things are," said Jim Owen of Large Town. Owen was a member of North County's Republican Executive Committee until he left because he declared himself a write-in candidate for the congressional race. "That's why we've put a Democrat up there, even though we're a conservative county and conservative district, he said. "This is going to be a donnybrook," Owen said. "Anything can happen." They also quoted; Shukdinas, Jordan, Stillie, McKeown and Stillie. As I've said before, it is better to be misquoted than not quoted at all.

August 15, 1994 The local news features an article about Jordan with a color photo. She is now pro-choice (flip), the most experienced candidate (flop), and was a Stew at Eastern. A political conviction must be one that is written on sand.

August 16, 1994 Newspaper features Kevin McKeown. Nice guy image, West Point graduate, lost last time out, right-to-life and waffles on the rest of the issues. The West County newspaper political reporter quit to go to work for the Wall Street Journal, no connection with their lack of coverage? UWSA forum in Old Town, Too was very interesting. Sue Munsey didn't show. Everyone except the known loser, everyman, was up tight. There were so many of us on the podium it looked like a high school football team. Three weeks until the election and the stress is beginning to show. The questions were real doozies; how is the Trilateral Commission effecting our economic policies, what is Bilderberger and other esoteric issues. Wolfe has filched most of my platform, but blames everyone else for stealing his ideas. Shukdinas stressed morality and character. Stillie stressed his resume and West County newspaper. The Monster stressed the Religious Wrong's most significant code word, family values. Rick Smith stressed ultra conservative themes. Yes there really is a Rick Smith. Kevin McKeown stressed duty, honor, country. Carole Jean Jordan stressed her membership in the National Rifle Association and Republican Party. Gary Smith said look us over and decide. The Monster danced all around the abortion issue. These folks not only

lie, they're down right two faced scoundrels. Bill Wolfe did his issue-a-second routine. Carries a copy of the Constitution in his pocket and wants all the candidates to read it. I know he has, but he may not understand what it says and its application to term limits and congressional organization. Sue Munsey isn't going to display herself at this type of meat market until there are only two cuts left. Rick Smith came right out of John Birch, but he is staunchly Righteous Right. After seeing him and listening to him, I've changed my mind. He is not in this contest to run if a freedom of choice type wins the primary, he is in to nullify me. With three I compete. With four, no more. Carole Jean Jordan was more than unfriendly, she was downright surly. In the newspaper, Shukdinas is the candidate of the day. Says he is the most conservative, aggressive, and right-to-life. Signs will be his ad efforts. Running an in-your-face campaign.

August 18, 1994 Candidate of the day is Gary Smith. Has three college degrees, is a veteran, school teacher and works for a contractor at Kennedy Space Center. Most of his platform is the same as mine. Shukdinas' photo is in the newspaper holding a sign cut in two. He claims that there is someone out there trying to get him. The campaign is heating up. Looked into pencils as an ad idea. Hand them out at the Polls. 100,000 will cost \$5,600 through political sources. Has to be a better price. Wolfe purchased thirty minutes of radio time on a talk show. Issue-a-second time. He is like the Platt River in

Nebraska, a mile wide and a foot deep. Says he won't work the after hours circuit in D.C. or talk with anyone who doesn't vote for him. If Wolfe wins, he is going to be very lonely. Stopped by Stillie's headquarters. They are going after endorsements. They say that Mike Shukdinas is vandalizing his own signs.

August 19, 1994 Candidate of the day is Stillie. He is pro-choice and pro-veteran. Most, if not all of his issues are from the National Republican Campaign Committee. He is trying to run a big time campaign with small time funds. Main issues; stable long term funding for NASA, turn Military installations into prisons and high Military funding. Clerk of the House sent a letter requesting my twelve day pre-election report. Not in the Primary race and haven't spent any money so I'm wasting funds on another stamp. Have to answer or Federal Marshals may surround my house

August 21, 1994 Shukdinas has two fund raisers, one hosted by a contractor and another at a South County Beach Inn. Sue Munsey has a campaign kickoff tomorrow at Rotary Park. I'll have to schedule a non-kickoff in September.

August 22, 1994 The Monster is the candidate of the day. As a former head of a radical anti-abortion group, he has been endorsed by Florida anti-abortion. Issues are family values and whatever else he can find in the National Republican Campaign

package. Carole Jean Jordan purchased radio air time to get her message out, but unfortunately, she doesn't have one. She is going to buy a Recreation Vehicle with government funds, if she is elected, and fill it with volunteers to serve her constituents. Neat way to pay for an RV to take on vacations or live in in Washington D.C. Her voice has a high nasal quality. Had 250 fliers reproduced at a cost of \$15.80. Who will make the run-off? Stillie and Shukdinas might; The Monster and Jordan may; Smith, McKeown and Wolfe won't. Home states; Shukdinas is from New Jersey, The Monster from New York, Gary Smith from Nebraska, Bill Wolfe from New Jersey, Ed Stillie from Oklahoma, Carole Jean Jordan from Virginia, Sue Munsey from Virginia, Kevin McKeown from Florida, and everyman from Ohio. Except for Kevin, we're all carpet baggers.

August 23, 1994 Candidate of the day is Bill Wolfe. Bill says he is a conservative Populist. His issues are from UWSA and my fliers. He is America First. His supporters include Tax Cap and the National Rifle Association. He is running an inexpensive campaign. His campaign is right out of Disney with an evil queen and the seven Dwarfs. Signs are now all over the District. The Monster is using yard signs. Makes it easy to spot who the rabid anti-abortionists are. My neighborhood is full of his signs. No wonder I couldn't get anyone to sign and the ones that did, used wrong names. I have to attend the State Kiwanis Convention on the west side of the State. Will check West County signs on the way.

August 24, 1994 Fifteen days prior to the Primary election. Carole Jean Jordan is making heavy use of radio and a mailer that has a full page photo of her with her hair pulled back. The Monster is campaigning with yard signs and expensive mailers. My favorite; the image of the common man standing by a tractor in shirt sleeves just below banner print saying, "THE AMERICAN DREAM" and inside The Monster's mailer, "Plan to Renew the American Dream." Now, don't get me wrong, but I thought the American Dream was liberty and justice for all, not just men. He is the major anti-abortion candidate and not once does he mention the only issue, besides medicine, that he is well versed in or cares about. The price for maintaining freedom is an educated society, but the Religious Wrong, Creationists are not about to let anyone know what their agenda is until it is too late. This individual and other politicians of his ilk are a clear and present danger to a free society. Gary Smith, Ed Stillie, Mike Shukdinas, and Kevin Mckeown have half as many signs and mailers out and Bill Wolfe must be hoping, like me, for a miracle. He does have a slick handout that covers issues and he is the only one so doing. The Heritage Foundation sent nine background papers on health, economy, term limits and crime. I expect The Monster to quote all of these any day now. Newt's GOPAC sent another audio tape, Aggressive August. This is the 6th tape I have received. If I didn't have a brain in my head and my ears were open, these tapes would provide all I ever need to know about issues and elections. I hope the electorate wins and the three anti-abortionists nullify each other.

August 25, 1994 Elections called. All the other candidates may draft a letter to Mike Shukdinas accusing him of destroying his own signs. Curses, Drat and Godfrey Daniels, The doctors at Med School must have implanted a near photographic memory into The Monster. He has memorized the Heritage Foundation issue papers, avoids the anti-abortion question (it's easy when your side is the only one that asks) and is finally doing well in candidate forums. Shukdinas is alienating his volunteers by harassing them to do more. I'm off to the State Kiwanis convention for three days.

August 29, 1994 Back from the Kiwanis convention. State and National Kiwanis have a lot in common with Congress. They are run by insiders, are an old boy network, collect money from minions and gives nothing, but paperwork, in return. As soon as my term is up, I'll probably depart this group. I joined to serve my community, not a national organization. National and State receive ninety cents out of every dollar in dues and spends it all on administration and charities that they choose. Sound familiar? Shukdinas, The Monster and Jordan had most of the signs out in West Counties.

August 31, 1994 Brochure from the Christian Coalition is on my driveway. They support; The Monster. Dirty tricks are alive. Shukdinas' folks are calling in to talk shows accusing Wolfe of being pro-homosexual and they have put up signs accusing Stillie of being a liar. Interesting! Ed Stillie has a new

mailout. His Combat missions have gone from 250 to 100. Theme; "A Conservative Republican We Can Be Proud Of." Student lieutenant photo climbing into a T-38 jet trainer. He flew the line in transports. Left the Air Force after ten years. Last day of August, we'll all be singing September Song, soon. September 1, 1994 Talked with Kevin McKeown and Ed Stillie. Stillie is up tight and McKeown is relaxed. McKeown has radio ads on the Glenn Miller station. McKeown, anti-abortion, has picked up the pro-choice Party regulars. Won't help. The king makers waited too long to choose a king. The Religious Wrong has sent out literature accusing Wolfe of being pro-homosexual, among other lies. Shukdinas' volunteers are calling in to the Talk Shows and passing out dirt. Gary Smith has a radio ad; low voice extolling God, veterans and Country. Carole Jean Jordan has a new one, but I missed it.

September 2, 1994 Gary Smith has dumped more than a few dollars into Cable TV ads. The big spenders; The Monster and Carole Jean Jordan. Moderate; Ed Stillie and Kevin McKeown. Low budget; Mike Shukdinas and Gary Smith. Frugal; everyman and Bill Wolfe.

September 3, 1994 Ads all over TV and radio. The seven Dwarfs have dumped in more than a few nickels. Smith, McKeown, Stillie and The Monster have new fliers in the mail. I'll include these in the back of this effort as examples. For a bunch of non political types, they sure put out slick ads. Water into wine

time. Our newspaper takes on Gary Smith for deceptive literature. He used a loaded comparison chart. He listed things that only he could do. At least it wasn't dishonest and he didn't lie. Our political reporter should read the others and see what exaggeration really is. He corrected Carole Jean Jordan's home State. It is West by-God Virginia. Wolfe has an ad in the newspaper. Now he's borrowed my campaign slogan. Our new political reporter says it will be Stillie and The Monster in a run-off. The pancake breakfast at Kiwanis Park on Rich Island had more candidates than forum. I pulled into the parking lot and couldn't believe the size of the crowd. Huge! Then I noticed a Little League football game next door. My table was between Kevin McKeown and Mark Smith. Mark has nothing, not even a flier. Nullification time! I was interviewed by a roving TV reporter, but it was not run. Sue Munsey finally showed up. Has an entourage. Maybe that's what I need, a movable clique. Hot! We were in an open pavilion surrounded by water and no breeze. Humidity had to be one hundred percent. Next event is at the southern retirement community. Only four more days until the Primary.

September 5, 1994 The forum at the retirement recreation center again had more candidates than forum. All ten candidates for Congress and fifty or so for other offices showed up. The only good thing was the free coffee and donuts. I mingled a bit, but it wasn't my show. Maybe the only folks interested in this election is the Religious Wrong. If so, we've got trouble.

Spoke for three minutes. Three days until the Primary.

September 6, 1994 Local newspaper is without political ads or comment. The seven dwarfs must all feel like wallflowers. The UWSA State organization offered time at the Tupperware Convention Center in West Country. I turned it down. Not in my District. Had Sue Munsey speak at my Kiwanis Club. She is an RN, surgical nurse who hasn't nursed in some time. If The Monster wins they can play doctor. They have the backing of all the Medical Associations. Our local one is headed by Dixie S. who lost the last primary to Losing Candidate. She told me they are not political. Hmm. Sue spoke well, but off the written page. Wore the political uniform, a red dress.

Two days until the Primary.

September 7, 1994 Kevin McKeown, Gary Smith, Carole Jean Jordan and Mike Shukdinas have ads on Talk Radio. Found a penny on our bike ride. We now have \$167.04 in our mayonnaise jar and \$2.21 in my golf trophy mug. The South County political reporter phoned. Their poll of South County has Jordan on top, Shukdinas second and Wolfe a distant third. Old Town Chamber of Commerce has a candidate forum September 29 at the Miracle Mall. Three to five minute speech. One day to the Primary.

September 8, 1994 Election day. North County Supervisor of Elections estimates a turnout of between 90,000 and 100,000 voters. Talk radio says it's a low turnout. A low turnout

means the Monster wins. Jordan is listed first on the ballot. That is worth five percent. The turnout for a run-off will be low. The elections office says there are about 3,000 absentee ballots by Saturday. Last election, Presidential, there were 30,000. A TV station phoned and asked for directions to my house. Wanted to know where the celebration will be. Doubt if they will show, but I'm giving my dog a bath anyway. He promised not to bite any news people. Carole Jean Jordan sent out an invitation for her fund raiser September 10. Now that's chutzpah! Dog didn't wake up or bite anyone. Of course the TV folks didn't show up.

September 9, 1994 The final results are: The Monster, 11,821 (23%); Carole Jean Jordan, 10,763 (21%); Ed Stillie, 8,405 (16%); Kevin McKeown, 6,821 (13%); Gary Smith, 5,841 (11%); Mike Shukdinas, 5,230 (10%) and Bill Wolfe; 3,267 (6%). 37% of the Republicans voted. The Righteous Right polled 46% of the vote. With a low turn out expected for a run-off, it will be The Monster that wins over Jordan. If so, I'm back in the race. The local newspaper has a photo op of Sue Munsey and her supporters. My new slogan will be **PSST WRITE IN JIM OWEN FOR CONGRESS, PASS IT ON!** We will run a whispering campaign. Kevin McKeown called. Blames his defeat on a low turnout and heavy rain. I'd say he started too late and jumped into a free for all. He said my chances of winning were slim and none. He's right, but I'm writing a book about this nonsense. My only nightmare; What if pencils aren't provided in the voting booths.

September 10, 1994 News says abortion will be the main issue in the October run-off between The Monster and Carole Jean Jordan. Before she jumped into this campaign she claimed to be as rabid an anti-abortionist as ever came out of the hills of West Virginia. So it looks like we have two candidates hiding their true agenda from the voters.

September 11, 1994 Haven't heard a peep out of the losers, except Kevin. The Monster's theme will continue to be: A Way Of Life. Sue Munsey's theme: Moderate Mainstream. Carol Jean Jordan's theme is: Experience, commitment, courage and ability with ELECT as the key word in her mailer.

September 12, 1994 Worked all day on two speeches. I don't like either one of them. Better at question and answer.

September 13, 1994 Sue Munsey has Al Gore coming to town for a fund raiser at Al N.'s house. Al N. is the multimillionaire ex publisher of our local paper. Al G. is our Vice President, the one with the gold spoon in his mouth. The media is ignoring minor candidates, me.

September 14, 1994 Finished my latest media letter. I will try humor, nothing else seems to work. Rick Smith is violently anti-abortion. If he stays in the race it will be to keep me from challenging as the only independent. Carole Jean Jordan approached us through Bobbie L. asking for our support. No.

September 15, 1994 Elections thinks that Jordan has an excellent chance against The Monster. I don't, she has too many negatives.

September 16, 1994 Zip!

September 17, 1994 Kickoff meeting of my campaign went well. More than seven showed up on my back porch. Quite a few good ideas. Whispering campaign received a go. P.J. recommended we use fold over business cards as a hand out. Everyone was upbeat, knows we can't win, but is willing to give everyman a shot at fifteen minutes of fame. And we plan to have fun, fun, fun till the voters take our dreams away. Newspaper has an article about candidates with three names losing elections.

September 18, 1994 My word processor blew up. Won't store anything on discs and it erased two. Need to come up with a simple radio ad. "Get off the political merry-go-round, Write-in Jim Owen for Congress. Who? Jim Owen. Write-in Jim Owen For Congress! Okay."

September 19, 1994 Clinton's foreign policy is to speak loudly and wave your stick around. John McAleenan, a local surfer and columnist takes Sue Munsey to task for her \$100 a person affair at Al N's Pumpkin Center. "Sue Munsey, who I am given to understand couldn't spell Democrat until a few months ago." The rest of it was nonsense. Media letter and cards are next.

Media Contact
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear Media,

Godfrey Daniel! The **PSST, WRITE-IN JIM OWEN FOR CONGRESS** Campaign recently received great news. Unqualified endorsements from: William Claude Dunkenfield, who is famous for saying, "All things considered, I'd rather be in Philadelphia." Professor Curtis T. Bascom of no known University. Senor Gullermo McKinley and Charles Bogle who have been known to purvey spirits. Chester Snavelly, that well known disposer of bodies. Mahatma Kane Jeves, an expert Indian snake charmer who will charm my opposition candidates out of their baskets. Our lawyers; Posthlewhistle and Smunn, barristers for the bent. Cuthbert J. Twillie, a man of patent medicine to duel with any doctor or nurse that lay claim to being candidates. Sneed Hern, a telegrapher and our director of communications. Mr. Claude Milsap, a shirtmaker and our button pusher. Larson E. Whipsnade, an impresario for all ages. A. Pismp Clam, our Hollywood connection. And, J. Pinkerton Snoopington, our director of security.

Unlike Al, gold spoon in his mouth, Gore, they will not fly into the local Air Base at government expense on Air Force Two. Instead, they will arrive by Ford Tri-motor in the open pasture that surrounds (and extends forever) North County's county center. W. C. Fields summed up why he is supporting Jim Owen, thusly, "He's not a Libertarian or a Dixiecrat, He's not on the ballot as a Republican or a Democrat, He's what our District needs, he is a political acrobat." The juggernaut is rolling, let the games begin!

PSST, WRITE IN JIM OWEN FOR CONGRESS PASS IT ON!



Paid for by Himself
J. Owen

Media Contact
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear David,

Exciting news, we have changed the name of our committee from **OWEN NOW** (which I borrowed from a 1982 Hawaiian gubernatorial campaign) to **HIMSELF**. I did this for several reasons. We are using the candidates mayonnaise jar as we can't afford a checking account for our committee (the administrative fees would wipe us out) and I was being confused with the National Organization for Women, which I am not. So, our political disclaimer will say; Paid For By Himself, which more aptly describes what is really happening. We challenge our three opponents; Pinocchio, Mumbo Jumbo and Munsey Mouse to reveal the sources of their funding.

A write-in campaign is no different than a regular campaign. What are Himself's plans? Buttons, bumper stickers and cards with the **PSST** theme. If we can generate funds; four weeks of newspaper ads using the card (appears larger in the mirror). And if we can generate additional funds; two weeks of radio ads using merry-go-round music, "Get Off The Political Merry-Go-Round ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress."

Can it be done? Yes. Strom Thurmond did it and won. The campaign must be focused and the message simple. The opposition must have sufficient negatives e.g. : Carole Jean Jordan as Losing Candidates puppet and stealth anti-abortion; The Monster as single issue anti-abortion, and Sue Munsey as the cheer leader for special interest groups. None of them propose to represent the average voter. Fronti nulla fides! Whispering,

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

September 20, 1994 As a power surge blew out my word processor, will buy new rather than get this one repaired. Discovered that a new one is over one hundred dollars less than the old one. Now if Japanese competition in auto results were the same? Proofed my new **PSST** political cards. Looks good, but they're not inexpensive. I'll have to shop around for another printer or photocopy.

September 21, 1994 Going to be a political hob nob at a North County Park on November 1st. May not be invited to speak at the United We Stand candidate forum at the community college on the 22nd. If not, I'll attend and pass out literature. Betcha The Monster is behind this one. Quite a bit of local politics on Cities and County in the news. Sounds like our boys at the top aren't listening to the voters, again. Raising fees, taxes and the voters; hell.

September 22, 1994 Picking up my cards today. We may not win this election, but we'll have the neatest political cards in this District. Soap box time again! If we want to stop money from influencing campaigns we'll have to institute a few changes. Newspapers, TV and radio should provide free time or space to all candidates. Campaigns should be limited to six weeks, three for Primaries and three for keeps. Signs should be allowed only if they have a person holding on at the other end. Anyone mailing out literature before the six week period should be disqualified including incumbents. Use of government printing

offices and free Congressional mass mailouts should be illegal at any time, including elections.

September 23, 1994 Running several booths at Large Town Days today. Should be a neat affair. Children can ride the kiddies rides all day for one dollar. most everything else will cost 50¢ (except food) and there will be no professional carnival. All games and food are provided by local service clubs. Should be affordable fun for Large Town's children. My Service organization is running a dunking booth, duck pond, darts and over and under games. (I knew it was too good to last. The next year a professional carnival was hired and our children were ripped off, again.)

September 24, 1994 Worked from noon until 9:00 p.m. yesterday running midway games. Fun but hard work. Will help this evening from 7:00 p.m. to closing. The new political reporter smokes out The Monster's anti-abortion stand in a column about debates. The Monster wants one or two and Carole Jean Jordan says they've debated twenty times and said all they can say. They should debate at least five more times and she is right; they have said all that the National Republican Congressional Campaign Committee can say. Neither she, nor the Monster have an original campaign platform thought. The reporter writes that we are all meeting at the South County's Second City's Council room the night before the election. I called his answering machine and left a message that it was news to me. He goes on to write

that we all meet at our new County complex way out in the middle of the Duda's large cow pasture fields (Duda, Duda). Sue Munsey has her Gore fund raiser scheduled a week from today, Saturday afternoon, 1, October. Al N. is putting up a tent on his forty acres of beach front.

September 25, 1994 Lightning struck the Fair. It was closed down at 4:00 p.m. yesterday afternoon. I dropped by this morning. Everything was soaked, water and mud was everywhere. What a mess. The community college political forum was canceled because of infighting amongst Perot's group. Probably because their candidate didn't make the run-off.

September 26, 1994 Campaign meeting is at Bobbie L's house this evening and a forum at Old Town Thursday evening. North Beach ladies are meeting at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. That may conflict with Kiwanis. Will prepare my October issue letter for the media. Picked up a good idea. Place my campaign cards under windshield wipers at shopping centers around the county. Guy did this in Oklahoma and beat the incumbent. We'll talk about this tomorrow night. May be the tactic that puts us over. However, it'll cost a few nickels. I talked with a new printer last Friday. Maybe she can produce my tent cards cheaper than \$110 a thousand. Received another packet from the Republican Party. Lots of propaganda, etc. about Health Care, Crime etc. Wiped out another small rain forest printing this. Received a letter from an AIDS education group that asked what I'd do

if elected. That letter is the next page. Lady called from Old Town's shopping center. She wanted to fax three pages of instructions for the Forum on Thursday. Since I don't have a fax, she'll mail them. It looks like there will be more candidates than shoppers at the event. We will set up booths in the center walkway (like peanut vendors).

September 27, 1994 Received a phone call from a volunteer. We may have the people power necessary to get the cards out. Would be nice if we could afford signs. We would need at least 150 signs to have one at each poll. Important to have a volunteer holding each. Neither The Monster nor Carole Jean Jordan have advertised, yet. The Monster has a few signs out and that's it. He is using loaded anonymous telephone polls to slam Carole Jean and his folks don't sound like pros. GOPAC and Newt are holding a Republican contract sign up on the Capitol steps (yes, the same name as the satire group). Silly contract ploy, again. Barnum time for us elephants. Politics as usual being disguised as Populist for Populi. Received a nice note from a syndicated columnist for the West County newspaper. He has a lot of respect as a straight writer and talker (as in straight shooter). The Old Town Mall sent a letter giving forum ground rules. No signs or banners attached to the walls. VCRs and music must not interfere with the next booth and I have three minutes to speak. Four out of five in my race are going to show up. Thirty candidates in all will attend. A straw poll will be held between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

THE MONSTER MASH

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
"To talk of many things:
Of shoes--and ships--and sealing wax--
Of cabbages--and kings--
And why the sea is boiling hot--
And whether pigs have wings."

Lewis Carroll 1865

SCAN

M... ..

North Street, Suite A

....., .. -.....

Dear M...,

If elected, I will push for two things: 1. Treatment of AIDS as a public health crisis and not a civil liberty debate. 2. Public Health funding for control and cure.

We have sat idly by while millions of our population have been infected. If we cannot cure a disease, we can at least try to control it. How so? If this was plague or TB, we would identify the carriers, advise and, if necessary, isolate. It does not matter how the disease is transmitted. What matters is that it is transmitted and we have not identified or warned the carriers. It does not matter what your sexual orientation happens to be. What matters is that you, we, deserve protection from AIDS. We cannot continue to stick our heads in the sand. We must do what we can until a cure is found. The alternative is an exponential explosion of a controllable disease.

Pushing condoms as protection against AIDS is the same as prescribing lead weights as life preservers. Ecce signum,

Candidate for Congress, 15th District

Jim Owen

September 28, 1994 B.J. put together three signs for our campaign and she has made up three, foot high pencils. Will use them as advertisements at the forum in Old Town. The Monster's flier showed up today. Photos of six folks endorsing him, including my dentist (ex now). Jordan's flier can't be too far behind. Surprised that Old Town, Too's State Legislator is supporting The Monster, but then he was rabid in his anti-abortion stand when he questioned me. Mike Shukdinas is also a surprise supporter after the number his fellow anti-abortion travelers did on him. Bait and switch isn't confined to used cars.

September 29, 1994 Sending out my October issues letter to the newspapers. Not mailing it to TV or Radio. Don't have the funds and they haven't responded. Carole Jean Jordan must have her flier positioned for Saturday delivery. The Monster showed up at the Capitol steps with the rest of the sheep signing the contract. What a silly lockstep display. This one will come back to haunt the party. Newt needs a new political adviser. We've got this election locked up. Now is the time to show statesmanship, not showmanship. He is too bright to have thought up this sophomoric effort up. I read the contract and it covers all the standard conservative issues, i.e. term limits, balanced budget, etc. The contract I'd like to see signed is: listen to my constituents, cut spending ten percent and do don't talk. My media release, providing this month's issues, is the next page.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

This month's issue: The Federal Budget; in it's present form is a fuzzy political mess. Receipts by source are: Individual Income taxes, Corporate Income taxes, Social Security and Insurance taxes, Excise taxes, Estate and Gift taxes, Custom Duties and that All American catchall, other. Outlays by function are: National Defense, International Affairs, General Science, Energy, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Commerce and Housing credit, Transportation, Community Development, Education, Health, Medicare, Income Security, Social Security, Veterans Benefits, Administration of Justice, General Government, Allowances, Net Interest and undistributed receipts.

We can't balance the budget through the budget process. Its been tried and failed, but if we control appropriations we control the budget. Cut appropriations 10% below receipts, except for DOD, Social Security and Medicare. Remove Social Security and Medicare from the budget and protect these funds from Congress. If taxes are perceived as fair, we'll raise more revenues. Raise tariffs on imports from unfair trading partners and eliminate most favored nation status. Provide tax incentives to manufacture within our own borders. Cut all taxes to a top rate of no more than 25%. Eliminate taxes on interest income below \$30,000. Medical expenses and medical insurance should be deductible. Eliminate 48 Offices, Departments and Agencies, restructuring existing agencies to incorporate needed functions e. g. protection of food supply. The devil is in the details. Littera scripta mannet. Whispering,

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

September 30, 1994 Our community college called and asked that I speak for eight minutes for TV taping. I'm scheduled Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. Worked up an eight minute speech which follows this page. Old Town Mall Forum wasn't well attended. My PSST theme went over well. My speech was on the mark and on time, but I finished to deafening silence. Then I noticed that the only folks applauding we're the other candidate's clagues. Sue Munsey, The Monster and me were the only Congressional Candidates there. The Monster's clague was thin lipped and unsmiling. What a way to live. Didn't stay long enough to find out the results of the straw vote. The local newspaper gave me some press and a few quotes, "It's time to stop the merry-go-round. Can't those guys in Washington get anything right? They spend taxpayer's dollars like drunken sailors," said Jim Owen, write-in candidate for the U.S. Congress District 15 seat. "Write-in Jim Owen for Congress," Owen said." Not bad for a \$5 candidate. They didn't quote Munsey or Monster. The Monster's second flier showed up in the mail. He did the Gary Smith thing of comparing himself with Carole Jean Jordan. Not an accurate portrayal. I received 2% of the straw poll votes. That's more than I expected with the evangelicals on hand. 240 or so voted before the speeches were finished. There were an average of five supporters per candidate, not including the CC which packed the hall with 100 or so. Couldn't have been more than forty civilians. Took along my portable disc player. Played merry-go-round music by Klavier Records, with permission. Attracted the other candidates. Speech follows.

I CHALLENGE YOU TO GET OFF THE POLITICAL MERRY-GO-ROUND

- o What are the real issues.
 - o Our economy and a society in shambles.
- o Has Congress addressed these issues?
 - o They have, but throwing money at them hasn't worked.
- o What has our Congress done?
 - o They've wasted billions trying to spend the poor ... rich.
 - o and billions trying to spend the ignorant ... smart.
 - o and billions on crime without making a dent.
 - o and billions on social workers and bureaucrats.
 - o and none of this foolishness has worked.
- o Can't our Congress do anything right?
 - o Not when it comes to spending.
 - o They've built constituencies for the poor, homeless, lazy and criminal ... all seeking funds, grants and influence.
 - o They've run up a five trillion dollar debt for our children.
 - o They give so much pork to wealthy supporters and special interests ... our National Capitol has become a hog farm.
 - o They generate paperwork for us and pensions for them.
 - o They spend taxpayers money like drunken sailors.
 - o They've robbed their own Post Office.
 - o They've robbed their own Bank.
 - o And ... they're robbing us.

- o What is Jim Owen's political philosophy?
 - o I'm a throwback to an earlier age. I'm a Teddy Roosevelt ... Independent ... Republican.
 - o I don't trust big government ... big business ... big labor ... big welfare ... big education ... single issue groups ... PACs or special interests.
 - o I don't have all the answers ... no one does. I do have ideas. I'll let you know where I stand and give you the opportunity to change my mind.
- o Can Jim Owen make a difference?
 - o Yes ... but I'm a realist. A new Congressmen has as much clout as a wet tissue. Honesty ... Integrity ... and My word as my bond counts at Kiwanis and in Congress.
- o Can Jim Owen get things done?
 - o Yes ... I've made things happen in Washington. I've chaired National committees. I know how to move mountains.
- o Will I support NASA?
 - o Yes, but not blindly. If it's a waste of your taxes I'll let you know. NASA is in dire need of new vision.
- o Can a write-in candidate win?
 - o Strom Thurmond did it in the 1960s. We can too.
- o Should you write-in Jim Owen?
 - o Yes ... if you want a voice in Congress.
- o Will Jim Owen be affiliated with a Political Party?

I am a Republican, but an independent one.
- o Who is Jim Owen and where does he come from?

If you have the right stuff you let your stuff speak.

o Does Jim Owen favor a National Health Care Program?

o We cannot cover everyone, it's impossible. The programs being proposed can only work if Medicare and the middle class pay for it. We need insurance reform, including the non-profit tax exempt. Doctors, apothecaries, clinics and hospitals that lie cheat and steal should be prosecuted. I would like to see Medicaid replaced with a viable Public Health Service, administered at the county level.

o Do I support Social Security and Medicare?

o Yes, but they need to be removed from the Federal Budget. Set them apart in a trust fund that can accrue interest. Get our politicians' fingers out of this pie.

o Does Jim Owen support Term Limits?

o Yes. If it's good enough for the Presidency it's good enough for Congress. I recommend 12 years for both houses. It will probably require an amendment to our constitution.

o What would I do about abuse of power and privilege?

o Congress has reams of rules and regulations controlling ethics and privilege and none of it works. One simple rule ... Don't lie cheat or steal. One simple code ... no lawyer can serve in Congress, it's a conflict of interest.

o Does Jim Owen support Free Trade?

o Yes, Free, but Fair Trade. NAFTA and GATT aren't.

- o What are Jim Owen's ideas on our economy.
 - o We've given our wealth away and neglected our infrastructure.
 - o We buy more than we sell until we owe more than we have.
 - o And we're doing it on borrowed money.
 - o We are the world's number one debtor nation.
 - o Our railroads and highways are deteriorating.
 - o We have no merchant fleet.
 - o Our cities are crumbling from within.
 - o Crime and drugs are rampant.
 - o We sell raw materials and buy trade goods.
 - o We have become a third world country.

- o How did we get into this mess?
 - o After World War II we helped restore world trade.
 - o We encouraged unfair trade practices.
 - o We created Counterpart funding.
 - o We succeeded beyond our wildest dreams.
 - o Heady with success ... we're doing more of the same.
 - o So ... we're on the losing end of a growing trade imbalance.
 - o We've allowed foreign trusts to dominate our trade.
 - o We've lost our manufacturing base.
 - o Our machine tool industry has disappeared.
 - o Our electronics industry is vanishing.
 - o Our textile industry is in Asia and South America.
 - o Our automobile business is moving to Mexico.
 - o Our fast food business is flourishing.
- o Our largest employer is National, State and Local governments.

- o What does this mean to the average citizen?
 - o If we buy more than we sell, we must borrow.
 - o If we borrow, the value of our dollar goes down.
 - o Costs rise and our purchasing power diminishes.
 - o Wages will remain constant or decrease.
 - o Industry goes overseas and jobs are lost.
 - o As a result, we'll be forced to import less.
 - o If so ... expect a worldwide recession.
 - o And then ... a rise of economic nationalism.
- o What can we do?
 - o Make it profitable to manufacture in our Country.
 - o Sell more than we buy until our trade deficit is eliminated.
 - o Practice the golden rule in foreign policy (do unto ...).
 - o Balance our National Budget and pay down the debt.
 - o Restructure government by eliminating five Departments,
7 Offices and 36 Agencies.
 - o Increase revenues and stimulate our economy by setting a
top rate of 25% for all taxes.
 - o We can either be an economic power or a footnote of History.
- o Should abortion be an issue?
 - o Not if we are running for local or state office. It is
for National office because of the Christian Wrong.
- o Where does Jim Owen stand.
 - o Our Constitution gives women the right to decide about their
own body. It's a private matter not a public one. (Pledge)

- o I grew up in Ohio, working two farms while in high school.
- o I worked my way through college as a Greenskeeper, Cook, and Night Watchman.
- o After graduation, I was an Assistant Advertising Manager.
- o I served 26 years in the Air Force, promoted ahead of my contemporaries to Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel. I have launched a missile above the Cape, won the Royal Air Force Bombing Competition, had MiGs at my six and served at the top of Air Force Intelligence.
- o I was Director of Marketing, Program Director and International Marketing Coordinator for three companies after retiring from the Air Force.
- o I've written four novels and one book of poetry and have just begun How-Not-To Run For Congress.
- o I'm happily married to Bobbie J. for over 38 years. We have four children and one granddaughter, the apple of our eyes.
- o Community service: Past elected president of my homeowners' association. Past elected representative to city council. Current elected president of the Large Town Kiwanis.
- o We're having a great time. Why don't you join with us. Let's throw a little sand into the gears of the election process. Isn't it time for voters to take control? Wouldn't it be fun if you really did have a Congressman who responded to you? Let's all get off the politics as usual merry-go-round.

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

No one was allowed inside the house; white carpet. Can't blame his wife, but the ladies were irritated. The local newspaper covers the Gore affair. Sue Munsey's theme will be to paint the Republican candidate as an anti-abortion nut and herself as the toady of big business. She is right on both counts. Spoke too soon. Carole Jean Jordan did the Monster's thing in a newspaper ad. A false comparison. Her's was worse than his and the Monster's was intellectually dishonest. Finished the card version of my speech, questions only.

- o Who is this guy and where did he come from?
- o Why is Jim Owen a candidate?
- o Why aren't you running as a Republican?
- o What is the key issue?
- o What's wrong with our economy?
- o What's Jim Owen's ideas?
- o What about National health care?
- o Do you support Social Security and Medicare?
- o How about Term Limits?
- o How long will you serve?
- o Do you support Free Trade?
- o What about welfare?
- o What will you do about crime?
- o What about education?
- o Should abortion be an issue?
- o Will you support NASA?
- o Can you get things done in Washington?

- o Can a write-in candidate win?
- o Who is this guy and where did he come from?

October 3, 1994 If Carole Jean wins I'll adjust my questions. Local polls of the ones who will vote shows her losing big time. In the news are two campaign articles. Our local political reporter covers the dual position paper aspect where both candidates twist the other's position and enhance theirs. The second article covers campaign workers. The Monster has three paid workers. The CC must have really come through. Jordan has one. He says that The Monster has support of the anti-abortion activists. This includes the Space Coast Family Forum and the reluctant CC. He must have at least 500 volunteers. We had a door hanger delivered Saturday morning. This requires at least 5 or 6 volunteers per Precinct. A small percentage of fanatics can win a Primary. When the general election comes around, it may not work. My target group is the 65% of Republicans who can't abide by a single issue candidate, 17,000 independents and 60% of Democrats that can't swallow a turncoat toady. If we just had \$10,000 and 200 volunteers and the Supervisor of Elections puts pencils in the voting booths, we might win this thing. Unfortunately, we have \$200, 10 volunteers and the Supervisor is a Party man. Buying \$15 worth of lottery tickets. Odds are 1 in 14,000,000, better than mine in the election. Forum at Port Town tonight. Bobbie L. called. We were not invited to the Chamber of Commerce breakfast. I'll stand outside and pass out cards or place them

under windshield wipers. I might picket with our signs. Bobbie L. can get fifty signs for \$153 by next Wednesday. We'll do it! Can't picket without a sign.

October 4, 1994 Apathy again won the debate in Port Town. Congressional candidates were on last and at least 30 minutes late, 10:00 p.m. When my turn came to speak, I looked out and spoke to handlers and organizers and no one else. Jordan didn't show. Talked with Mark Smith. Mark said that he is running because he needs a job. He has no idea what's going on. Notice that he talks in whispers to the Monster. He copied my flier format. In the news; The Monster is chastised by the State Republican ethics committee for misrepresenting Carole Jean Jordan's positions on the issues in his flier. Front page, lead headline. Guess who they are backing. Run-off election day is today. The Monster delivered his flier so that it would be too late for Carole Jean to reply. Elections estimates a 40,000 voter turnout. Notice that when I finished my talk, what remains of the audience looks stunned (or are they comatose). Tape my speech for local Public TV this afternoon. It will be broadcast twice during the election. The video taping lasted seven minutes. Really difficult to talk to a red light. Have no idea how I came across. Out of all of the issues, I covered six and stumbled through health care and welfare. It is now 8:00 p.m. and no election results are available. Not a sign of fraud, just old machines. We have money for palaces for School Board and County offices, but not for voting.

The Christian Coalition has purchased radio ads recommending voting against all Constitutional candidates, i.e. those candidates that believe in liberty and justice for all, not just men. Anyone in favor of individual decision making must be cast out of the temple. These religious radicals are socialists, advocating that we give up our individual freedom to the state. Listening in to our local talk shows, while waiting for election results, to see what the CC will do about the attack on The Monster by the local newspaper. Operation Rescue's leader called in, espousing his views of the Bible. He said that Billy Graham and everyone else is wrong and that he has personally excommunicated the latest doctor killer. Funny, a Protestant Church or Religious movement that does the excommunication thing, but still recruits killers. His attack on Billy Graham is unwarranted, but can be expected for a my way or the highway political religious movement. Wild Talk Show programs this evening, comparing a national I.D. with the mark of the beast. This is really through the looking glass country. 10:00 p.m. and the results are final. The Monster won, but it was closer than I thought it would be. Carole Jean Jordan carried her own (South County) and The Monster carried the other three. 20% of the Republicans voted; 18,739 for The Monster, 16,836 for Carole Jean Jordan and 80% for apathy. Apathy was the real winner. Carole Jean Jordan lost by losing North County by over 4,000 votes. I am still surprised by the low turnout. My new media letter is the next page. I will attempt to do one a week.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

Our 15th District Republican Party has again picked the jawbone of an ass to lead our populi into the wilderness. And now ... our voters are being asked to choose between a religious fanatic, a turncoat toady opportunist or a malcontent (me) to represent them in Congress. It's crystal clear that ignorance and superstition have again won out over science and fact. It doesn't get any better than this.

I am still in the race as an Independent Teddy Roosevelt Conservative. I qualified last May as a write-in just in case we decided to shoot ourselves in the foot again (which we did). Newspaper political reporters have interviewed me for their election specials. In case anyone has forgotten where I stand, hopefully they'll give a fair presentation. My flock of unpaid volunteers, The Over The Hill Gang is working hard. Anyone that wants to leave the mid-life crisis bunch (both candidates) and support one of us will be welcome.

Al N. allowed 400 folks, paying \$100 each, onto his property on the beach to hear Al Gore help an opportunist. Al Gore allowed 200 of us movie extras into his mansion north of Potomac, Maryland, to film Broadcast News. We all fit into his billiards room. Our \$200 went to the Northern Virginia Chamber Music Orchestra which is famous for it's rendition of The Sound of the First Cuckoo in spring. If our 15th District buys the platforms of a Democrat turncoat toady or a Republican religious fanatic we'll all be guilty of being the first Cuckoos in fall. Art est celare populi. Whispering,

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

October 5, 1994 The Monster is attacking Sue Munsey's support of the new North County government center. Sue Munsey is following the State Democratic theme, painting The Monster as a radical anti-abortionist, a race between the mainstream and the extreme. I'm covered in the bottom of the new political reporters article in today's news. "Lest the community forget, there are two other candidates in this race: write-ins Jim Owen of Palm Bay and Rick Schmidt of West Self Important Town. "I look at the Republican Party as immolating itself again," Owen said. "I don't think he's a bad guy, but he's strictly a one issue guy and that's abortion," Owen said of The Monster. "I know he has other things going for him, the guy is obviously intelligent enough to become a doctor. But he cares about that one thing and everything else is a cover up to hide from the abortion issue." He didn't put in what I said about Sue Munsey. There was a very light turn out. If the voters cared about the candidates, they would have been out there voting. So my conclusion is that the voter is not at fault, the Parties are, by nominating opaque candidates. Interesting evening at the Rich Island Veteran's Center. I was chewed out by The Monster and accused of being a spoiler. When I looked into his eyes, I saw a red meanness that is sometimes associated with the anti-Christ. He apologized afterwards, but I came away with the unsettled belief that this follower of Hypocrites is one mean son-of-a-bitch. I got in my licks and passed out cards to all. As most of the questions were on veterans and military, it was an easy night.

October 6, 1994 The new political reporter hypes the Chamber of Commerce Forum as a kickoff of the campaign. I wasn't mentioned. I attended and left. They were down right unfriendly. Nasty, is the nicest thing I can say about the Self Important Town Chamber of Commerce members that I met. I checked inside to see if they were serving breakfast or setting up a torture chamber. A letter explaining their actions to the media is a must. Talk to AARP at noon in Kiwanis Park on Rich Island. I haven't been completely shut out. Questions should be about retired things. Did quite well. Afterwards, everyone came up and said that everyman was the only one that answered the questions. Even the opposition's supporters. Bobbie L. said that it was okay, but I need to talk into the mike's top, not the side. Bobbie L. has queried the various Republicans powers and the establishment is going to unify behind The Monster. They want us to drop out. We are being called divisive and spoilers. So be it. I warned them six months ago and they didn't listen. If I didn't know better, I'd say they are looking for a scapegoat for their own apathetic action. Great, we'll work even harder. My volunteers are meeting tomorrow night at Bobbie L.'s house to plan a garage sale. Everyone seems upbeat. The printer is going to print 5,000 cards for us for \$215. That's 3,000 more for less money than the other place.

October 7, 1994 The news covers The Monster and Sue Munsey, but not me. The Monster says that he understands the issues

and Sue Munsey says she'll fight for the issues. Love these straight from the shoulder gutsy political types. The rest of it was sound bites derived from the polls. Received a call from the Holy Name Of Jesus Church about their Forum next week. We can bring guests and I have a host and greeter. Have decided to do another walkabout, beginning next week in Retirement Bay and South County's Second City and continuing on to First City. Will deliver cards to Keith A. in North Beach this evening. Called Trish O. and she agreed to pass out cards. Bobbie L. has ordered another 5,000 cards. I should have enough to pass out until they're delivered on Tuesday. Sent out the return card to the Federated Women's silent auction. Advised that as I was not a Republican nominee, I could not attend, but I wished them well. No response to my letters in any media. Like dropping them down a deep well. Let's see, everyone bitches about candidates not facing issues and telling it like it is, but no one will publish a discussion of these same issues by a candidate. Could it be that the media gives only lip service to Freedom of the Press and that old masthead "The Truth Shall Make You Free." Called G., a Stillie backer. No return call. Christopher Morley wrote about my political chances in 1943, "There was so much handwriting on the wall that even the wall fell down."

October 8, 1994 The new political reporter uses part of my letter in his column. "No one envies the write-in candidate" "Jim Owen and Rick Smith (he got his name right this time) have

not been invited to the party. They're running as write-in candidates for the District 15 U.S. Congressional seat, but that's not something many people know. Owen, until recently a member of the Republican Executive Committee of North County's Republican Party, tried to run the old-fashioned way: as a member of a party. He fell short of the more than 4,000 petition signatures needed to qualify for the ballot. His only other option would have been to run the really old fashioned way - buying his way onto the primary ballot with a qualifying fee of more than \$10,000. Instead, the former military intelligence officer resigned himself to the status of write-in candidate, a position considered by politicians to be less enviable than a dung beetle. Consider what these two are up against. Despite qualifying as write-in candidates with the state of Florida, they are invited to almost none of the debates, candidate forums and other flesh pressing opportunities. Just this week when party candidates Sue Munsey - the donkey and The Monster - the elephant - were asked to debate, Owen and Smith were not included. Owen called the Self Important Town Area Chamber of Commerce and asked if he too, could participate in the debate as there might be a chance someone would want to vote for him."

"I called the chamber a week before this event and asked to be included," Owen said. "I was told that it was too late, Munsey and The Monster would be the only ones allowed to speak. Realizing that a week may not be time enough to place another chair at the table, I decided to attend anyway and unobtrusively pass out my campaign business cards." That was not allowed

either. Chamber head Larry Malta said it was a matter of scheduling and the write-ins will be included in the future.

"I felt like Dumbo's mother when the matriarchs turned and locked her out with their backsides," Owen said. "Remembering the theme of the Musical 'Cabaret,' liberty is not lost in one fell swoop, but in subtle escalating steps." Our new political reporter gave me a pretty fair shake, but he gave Rick more than he deserves. I didn't include the four paragraphs of Rick Smith's issues because Rick has an unlisted phone number and hasn't taken the initiative to get out there amongst them.

Anyone running for public office by sitting on their backside and having an unlisted phone number isn't serious about serving or listening to the populi. He is still in the race to make my candidacy irrelevant by diffusing it. This has been an unlucky political turn of events. Damned with faint praise and diffused by a nuisance. Rick's main issue is anti-abortion and U.N. troops occupying our country (like Wolfe). I wonder if these guys are members of a stealth patriotic military and militant religious political alliance. The West County columnist gave me a quote in his column today, right after the rabid raccoon. "The local Republican Party has again picked the jawbone of an ass to lead our populi into the wilderness. And now ... our voters are being asked to choose between a religious fanatic, a turncoat toady or a malcontent (me) to represent them in Congress." These two articles ought to stir things up. I am invited to another forum Tuesday night and that's it for the week. Media release follows.

Media Contact
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear Media,

No Room At The Inn

I now know how a Jew must have reacted when turned away from his favorite Beer Hall because a bund meeting was in process. Remembering the theme of the musical Cabaret, liberty is not lost in one fell swoop, but in subtle escalating steps.

This morning, the Sef Important Town Chamber of Commerce held a Congressional candidate forum at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront. I was not invited, even though I am a qualified candidate. I called the Chamber a week before this event and asked to be included. I was told it was too late, Sue Munsey and The Monster would be the only ones allowed to speak. Realizing that a week may not be enough time to place another chair at the table, I decided to attend anyway and unobtrusively pass out my campaign business cards. When I attempted to do so, I was told I could not. My literature must be placed, in limited quantities, on an out of the way table. I felt like Dumbo's mother when the matriarchs turned and locked her out with their backsides.

Our citizens may be apathetic to the election process because it's perceived to be a closed shop. As far as our Chamber of Commerce is concerned, only the two major Party candidates may apply. This may be no more than a little loss of our freedom to see, hear and choose. But, little losses add up. We may all wind up like Dumbo's mother or the Weimar Republic. J'accuse! Whispering,

Psst ... Write-in Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass it on!

October 9, 1994, Four weeks before the election. Our newspaper has a number of political articles, but none are local. I'll head down to retirement Bay and South County's Second City this Monday to pass out cards. Tuesday, Self Important City. Wednesday, Large Town. Thursday and Friday, South County's First City. Can't get our message out to absentee voters, no money for that. Looks like we'll have enough for cards, fifty signs and that'll be it. Conventional Wisdom says that is not enough. If we can only motivate the apathetic 80%. Our garage sale will be on October 22nd in front of the Hospital on U.S. #1. Volunteers are charged up. Hey, who knows?

October 10, 1994 News has a letter taking our new political reporter to task. Ambiguous or an excellent plant by the Democrats, it identifies The Monster as a one issue candidate and our reporter is helping him. Weird. The Monster is on the conservative Talk Show for an hour today. Both Sue Munsey and The Monster are receiving lots of free air time. The Monster's Poll shows him with 42%, Munsey with 31% and 29% unaccounted for. He claims great strides in the money raising race. I need a new media message. Our press isn't listening. Walked parking lots for eight hours today, placing my cards under windshield wipers. Can get a lot of them out in very little time. I now know why cops chase cars instead of crooks.

October 11, 1994 Heard that the Middle Beach Forum starts at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 on the radio. Ought to be fun watching

the evangelicals squirm in a Catholic Church. Paper didn't cover this affair today. Did yesterday. Cranking out the media message today. Wonder how this one will play. Passed out cards at Office Depot, Home Depot and Super Markets parking lots. Heavy rain held the attendance down at the forum in the Catholic Church gym, about 150. We had four volunteers passing out cards. Had only a minute to open, close and answer. Mark Smith was there, but Sue Munsey and The Monster didn't show up. Although they committed to the Forum early, both received an invitation from the Tiger Bay Club, an establishment group of money and egos. They stiffed the ladies of the Church and went for the money using lame excuses. Says something about integrity.

October 12, 1994 News covers the gubernatorial race, Republican unity picnic and a fund raiser. Signs and cards are not ready. Will be ready tomorrow. Problem time. League of Women Voters is not going to include me in their forum. If so, this is the third one that I know of. I'll call and plead my case. Their rule is 5% or more of the voters. Can't figure out how they've decided that I won't draw 5% if they don't ask. Rich Island Press sent a question and our newspaper sent a detailed questionnaire.

October 13, 1994 News covers the governors race and that's all folks. Called our new political reporter. He is moderating the League's forum. Plead my case on the reporter's recorder. New media release is the next page.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

I've been acclaimed by negative affirmation. One of two favorite candidates selected by an overwhelming majority of Florida's 15th District registered voters. What constitutes this majority? Why they're the independents who have no candidate ... 64% of Republicans that didn't vote for the Primary candidates and all registered Democrats who were prevented from selecting a congressional candidate. However, this eclectic grouping, which runs from activist to apathetic, may not know we're running because of the dastardly dirty tricks of my co-favorite.

Who is this nefarious hornswoggling vote stealer? It's not one way Monster... it's not mugwump Munsey ... it's none other than 'None Of The Above.' N.O.T. Above is standing by, silently, on William Tecumseh Sherman's platform, "I will not accept if nominated and will not serve if elected." Genderless, it spreads a message of ... a plague on both Parties.

We are out amongst them ... campaigning to convince None Of The Above's supporters ... that there is a reason for them to vote. We plan to go that extra step ... announcing, in the tradition of Eisenhower, our intention to go outside the United States ... flying in the face of danger ... crossing over the Potomac ... into a live fire combat zone ... inhabited by bank robbers, postal fraudulents and election swindlers. Knowing we have nothing to fear but fear itself, we are proud to announce that if elected we will go to Washington D.C. In utrumque paratus, Whispering

PSST ... Write In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

October 14, 1994 Placed cards at the local newspaper, radio stations and Republican Headquarters. Picked up signs and cards. Received our formal invitation to the Hob Nob. Get to speak for two minutes and I have two free tickets. John C. and I are going to South County this afternoon to pass out cards. A newspaper from West County called and interviewed me. Sending out some stuff to them today and added them to my media list. A legislative reporter called from the State and asked several questions; age and I forget the rest. Signs work well in the car. We are passing them out for that and keeping some to wave. Gather up in groups and scatter out in bunches. Radio returned my phone call. Ann U. of the League of Women Voters told the news manager that she was opposed to my participation in the Forum. She has a full litany of excuses. When one doesn't work, another one pops up. He said that the radio and newspaper were only helping. The League was in charge. He is straight talk, so he isn't the one fibbing. Bobbie L. called and pleaded our case. Ann U. said she'd contact the national group and see what they say. My opinion; Ann U. is in the Munsey camp.

October 15, 1994 FT; John C. and I passed out almost a thousand cards in South County yesterday. We're putting signs in our cars. Beginning to get noticed.

October 16, 1994 Our local newspaper editorial board endorses Sue Munsey. Surprise! I am invited to be in the League of Women's Forum. Newspaper questionnaire follows.

QUESTIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES

1. What is the most important issue facing voters in the 15th District and how can you help with it? How to cope with a dollar that is shrinking in value. In 1950 a hot dog, french fries and coke cost 25¢. Today it's \$2.50. Minimum wage then was (approximate) \$1.00, it's about \$4.25 today. Costs have risen 10 times and wages only five so our dollar is devalued. We need to raise it's value to create greater purchasing power. How? We must produce goods here and import less. Congress can help with tariffs, eliminating most favored nation status and making it profitable to manufacture in the U.S. And we must downsize the federal government to effectively pay down our debt. Balancing the budget hasn't worked. If we are serious, cut appropriations to all federal agencies except Social Security, Medicare and Defense by 10%. Eliminate 48 Departments, Offices and Agencies including; Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services. Restructure needed functions into remaining Departments. And, we must honor our pledge of medical care to active duty and retired military. As a general rule, we should provide care, not welfare. This can't be done in a day, but we must begin. Our debt is five trillion and climbing.

2. How can the U.S. Congress assist workers laid off from jobs in space and defense? By providing a business climate that favors creativity, manufacturing and productivity. I am reminded of the Smithsonian Institution advertising for one Art Historian.

100,000 applicants applied. Our Congressman held a job fair last year. 10,000 scientists and engineers stood in line, resumes in hand, but there were no jobs. We can create job welfare or we can create a climate that allows business to flourish. Dollars spent on the first disappear. Those spent on the second, multiply. Education is admirable, but jobs are the solution. Jobs come from industry and entrepreneurs, not government. We must provide a climate that will nourish both.

3. Can you sit on a congressional committee involving space and build coalitions with the other members? Yes. I've chaired one multiagency space committee and was a member of another. The secret to success lies in knowledge of the subject matter and the ability to make things happen with very little clout. I have conducted systems engineering studies of the Space Station and other manned and unmanned space vehicles. Although a new congressman has as much clout as a wet tissue, he can build a coalition with knowledge, reliability and integrity. He must be willing to labor hard, working on mechanics and substance while others are posturing. If he does this and remains honest and straight forward, he will build coalitions and serve his community and country well. There is another part to this equation, the ability to communicate on and off the job. I am a member of Mount Vernon Country Club and have long established friendships at Congressional and Burning Tree. I will hit the ground running, an insider with an outsider's attitude.

October 17, 1994 We have a major effort going this morning. Passing out cards at multiple sites under the wiper blades. Our newspaper endorses Howard F. for State Representative. Must be their token Republican. Howard is our State legislator and one hell of a good guy. His opponent is too. If Howard wasn't running, I'd vote for him, a barber, he has what it takes to do the job. Worn out from passing out cards. We did about 2,000 today and have only 1900 left. Called the print shop and ordered 10,000 more. Our local newspaper called and complained. We carded their staff lot. I called our new political reporter and thanked him for helping get on the League of Women Voter's debate. Said he hadn't, but wanted to schedule an interview with me, Friday. We settled on 10:00 a.m. He is planning a piece for Sunday's profiles of the candidates in the congressional campaign. Spoke too soon, again. Ann U. of the League called and disinvited us to the TV Forum. Said WIRB's Washington lawyers informed the station that we could not appear. I called WIRB management and they don't have Washington lawyers. They were surprised, said they'd look into it. Still believe Munsey's people are behind this lock out. Our political reporter was also surprised that we were not interviewed by his editorial board for endorsement. Said we ought to complain. Looks like all of politics is full of surprises. I did moon the newspaper's parking lot with my political cards, so I got my half penny's worth.

October 18, 1994 WIRB will interview me next Monday. If I

don't participate in the Forum, I'll talk to the UWS Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. John C. and I will moon the beaches tomorrow morning. Maybe West County on Friday. We need to revisit South and North Counties, everywhere. Too little time and too few volunteers. Will have to play this by ear.

October 19, 1994 Bobbie L. believes it's to our advantage to be excluded from the Forum. Maybe. They do have an audience in South County. John C. and I are going to pass out cards along the beaches today. We'll stop at shopping centers, traveling north to the Cape. Sue Munsey attacks The Monster on TV. Running one ad on each West County station at news time. She is showing dead doctor photos. The Monster's backers passed out dead baby photos last year. We now have two candidates advertising the dead. Must be Chicago. John C. and I did about 700 cards. We traveled a long way between Malls. Received a nasty letter about carding cars at Rich Island Square Mall. Called Efrain T., who signed it, and tried to have a peaceful discussion, explaining the Supreme Court Ruling of a California case. He took a hard line and said they would sue. I asked that they expedite their litigation as I can use all the free publicity that this legal action can give. Will have to look in my notes for the title of the Supreme Court's action. Found it, Pruneville vs. the State of California, 1990.

October 20, 1994 Have to speak to leadership North County, 3:00 to 4:30 in North Beach and then the National Management

Association, 5:00 p.m. Back! What a day. Left at 9:30 a.m. and didn't return until 9:30 p.m. Leadership forum was iffy. The leadership class all wanted to be leaders and answered the questions they asked. Lots of Sue Munsey supporters. Ran into one lady who had worked at OMB and of course she defended the budgeting process. Her expertise was in Science & Energy budgeting. Gave me that old saw about entitlements are 70% of the budget and Social Security and Medicare are gathering interest in a trust fund. News to me. If Congress can get at it, it can't be in trust. The National Management Association turned out to be a corporate chapter. Munsey, Monster and Smith were there. It was recorded and will be televised on the local public television station in a few days. My plug about, "It's time for the little guys to win just one," received cheers. Called the station. They are going to air it at 9:00 p.m. Sunday night. I'm calling all the talk shows and attempting to get the word out.

October 21, 1994 Our new political reporter is scheduled to drop by at 10:00 a.m. this morning and interview me. John C. and I are going to moon Self Important Town this afternoon. 11:15 and our reporter is a no show. Called Bob S. at the newspaper's Metro Desk and he's going to put a plug in the paper. The reporter phoned. We rescheduled for Monday morning at 10:00 a.m. He forgot.

October 22, 1994 Didn't moon as much as we would have liked,

yesterday. Ran short of cards and the new batch won't be done until late Saturday or Monday morning. 15 days at 600 cards a day will be 9,000 cards. May have over purchased. Garage sale today, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on the hospital ground along route #1. Can't advertise our political affiliation. We're hoping to net \$500. Received a call from the Chamber. I'm invited in on the Channel #14, Public Access debate being held around 7:00 p.m. 15th District, Congressional Candidates, only. Squeaky wheel does get greased. The Cable company got us on. Garage sale netted about \$304, \$40 from my old word processor. Quite a few volunteers showed up and it was fun. The hospital is a mental one. Fits my campaign. My printer's printing press is acting up. She is working on our cards this afternoon. Called and they are drying. I can pick them up tomorrow. I mooned three parking lots during the garage sale. Meeting a more receptive audience out there. Asking for people to sign petitions gets them angry, asking for votes, doesn't.

October 23, 1994 The newspaper did not write about the debate scheduled for this evening. Boy, talk about the fair play doctrine! They did hype the Wednesday night debate, the one I was disinvited from. I called the Civil Liberties Union and left a message, asking for their help. We'll see. Squeaky wheel time. We are wearing down. Three volunteers working the northern part of North County while I pass out cards in the middle. John C. and I might hold signs at intersections tomorrow during drive time. Media release is next page.

Media Contact
Newspaper or Broadcast
Any Street
USA

Dear Editorial Board,

No Room At The Inn II

I feel like Dumbo's mother, when the matriarchs turned and locked her out with their backsides. First; the Self Important Town Chamber of Commerce holds a Candidate Forum for 15th District Congressional Candidates and I was turned away. Second; Tiger Bay held another forum for congressional candidates and I was not invited. Third, Your Editorial Board interviews candidates and I was not invited. Fourth, West County PBS provides 30 minutes of free air time for candidates and I was not invited. Fifth, the League of Women Voters is conducting a TV debate on the 26th and I was invited and then turned away.

I am actively campaigning as a qualified (had to by mid-May) write-in candidate, with a flock of unpaid dedicated volunteers. Admittedly, we are running a frugal campaign, but wouldn't it be great if just one time we elect someone from the people, who didn't buy his way on the ballot? Who am I? I'm the alternative to a Democrat that shows dead doctor photos and a Republican that has passed out dead baby photos. I am an Independent Teddy Roosevelt Republican that hasn't sold out to big business, big government, big labor and foreign trusts. I don't ask for your or any organizations support or endorsement. I do ask for fair; the right to be heard. Our citizens may be apathetic to our election process because it might just be a closed shop to any, but those who can buy their way in. Whispering,

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

October 17, 1994 We have a major effort going this morning. Passing out cards at multiple sites under the wiper blades. Our newspaper endorses Howard F. for State Representative. Must be their token Republican. Howard is our State legislator and one hell of a good guy. His opponent is too. If Howard wasn't running, I'd vote for him, a barber, he has what it takes to do the job. Worn out from passing out cards. We did about 2,000 today and have only 1900 left. Called the print shop and ordered 10,000 more. Our local newspaper called and complained. We carded their staff lot. I called our new political reporter and thanked him for helping get on the League of Women Voter's debate. Said he hadn't, but wanted to schedule an interview with me, Friday. We settled on 10:00 a.m. He is planning a piece for Sunday's profiles of the candidates in the congressional campaign. Spoke too soon, again. Ann U. of the League called and disinvited us to the TV Forum. Said WIRB's Washington lawyers informed the station that we could not appear. I called the station's management and they don't have Washington lawyers. They were surprised, said they'd look into it. Still believe Munsey's people are behind this lock out. Our political reporter was also surprised that we were not interviewed by his editorial board for endorsement. Said we ought to complain. Looks like all of politics is full of surprises. I did moon the newspaper's parking lot with my political cards, so I got my half penny worth.

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Media Contacts

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

We must be getting our message out. Both Democrat (mugwump) and Republican (one way) have asked that I not be included in forums and debates. Could it be that I have the audacity to answer the question asked, or am I a threat to the establishment. I've received a threatening phone call from Our Newspaper and a downright nasty letter from Rich Island Square Mall because I was petitioning for electors in their parking lots. A frugal Populist candidate must move quickly or he'll be a stationary target for the powers that be.

Meeting quite a few folks who just might write in an Independent Teddy Roosevelt Republican. They look to me as an alternative to a Democrat that broadcasts dead doctor images on TV and a Republican who passed out dead fetus photos. Has the whole world gone insane or does our 15th Congressional District have a corner on the market? Oops, I forgot about Ollie North. I've nicknamed my unpaid hardworking volunteers the "Over The Hill Gang." We're out there everyday, except when ailments catch up. Don't need to address why candidates can't get the word out. You folks already know. If this was Lincoln's day, political speeches, forums and debates would be front page news. In the information age, it is only if you pay for it. Campaigns cost a bundle because access to all media is limited to those with deep pockets or run naked through the streets. Press, TV, radio and candidates must all acknowledge Pogo's final caption, "I have seen the enemy and he is us." Whispering,

PSST ... Write In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

Association, 5:00 p.m. Back! What a day. Left at 9:30 a.m. and didn't return until 9:30 p.m. Leadership forum was iffy. The leadership class all wanted to be leaders and answered the questions they asked. Lots of Sue Munsey supporters. Ran into one lady who had worked at OMB and of course she defended the budgeting process. Her expertise was in Science & Energy budgeting. Gave me that old saw about entitlements are 70% of the budget and Social Security and Medicare are gathering interest in a trust fund. News to me. If Congress can get at it, it can't be in trust. The National Management Association turned out to be a corporate chapter. Munsey, Monster and Smith were there. It was recorded and will be televised on the local public television station in a few days. My plug about, "It's time for the little guys to win just one," received cheers. Called the station. They are going to air it at 9:00 p.m. Sunday night. I'm calling all the talk shows and attempting to get the word out.

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Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

How about my volunteers? We are truly the "Over The Hill Gang." In spite of our age, we're out there before sunup at major intersections with a sign in our hands, a friendly wave and a smile on our face. I have never seen a more dedicated, hard working group. Everyone is motivated by ideals, not emotion. Says something about our society when those over 60 are more concerned about the future of our children than the Republican or Democratic mid-life crisis bunch.

And, I'd like to say a few words about our senior citizens. I haven't met one who wouldn't sacrifice for the good of our country and their grandchildren. All they ask is that citizens of all ages sacrifice together. If we're going to make our country solvent again, it should be a shared experience.

We made a pact not to clutter up the landscape, so we haven't. When you see one of our signs, a person or car will be attached to it. On the campaign trail; most of the candidates of both Parties have whispered their support and a promise to vote for us. Won't identify them, wouldn't be proper. If half the folks, that say they'll support us, show up at the polls we may have a surprise for the establishment. I have consulted my own Pole, Ron S., an engineer of Booze Allen fame. He predicts, "You'll wind your watch tighter than a drum and if you keep waving at cars, exhale when a diesel passes. Look for three camels swimming from east of Judea, all whispering,"

PSST ... Write In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On!

October 24, 1994 Our local newspaper gives both Munsey and Monster front page coverage about the space program. Neither one knows the name of the Major General who is the local Space Wing Commander. Neither did I. In letters to the editor, a special section of negative letters on both candidates. No mention of the forum on local public access TV tonight or last night's forum on Public TV. Or West County's Public TV coverage. Have to face it, I'll not get any more coverage from our local paper. If I could buy ads? Picked up some of my cards from the printer and will pick up the rest this evening. The press is out and she was overloaded with customers this morning. We're on the air at 08:37 p.m. this evening and I checked in with the radio station and mentioned my possible American Civil Liberty Union legal action against the League of Women Voters. Sucked in exhaust fumes at the corner of B. and Large Town Road this morning from 07:15 to 08:30 a.m. John C. is going to be there this afternoon. The new political reporter is supposed to be here at 10:00 this morning for an interview. Interview wasn't bad, but I talked too much. He didn't write much down. John C. and I covered Self Important Town's shopping centers this afternoon. I taped an interview with local TV and it will be shown on the Wednesday news. The forum on public access went well. Believe it or not, I taped it on timer and it worked. Came across well, but I don't have charisma. Smart, but forgettable. Munsey and I were the only ones there. The Monster didn't show. The radio invited us on their Thursday night forum after Bobbie L. called and asked.

October 25, 1994 John wore his sandwich sign board at Large Town's major intersection from 6:45 to 8:15 a.m. while sucked exhaust at Self Important Town's. We may have 5 or 6 volunteers out tomorrow. The radio station disinvited us this morning at the insistence of their Station manager. Bobbie L. is checking on what we can do. I am attempting to get the FCC Washington D.C. telephone number for fair play. The ACLU waffled on this issue. Looks like they only handle crack pots and liberals. Carded the radio station's parking lot, downtown Old Self Important Town and Self Important Town's Golf course parking lot. I will hold a sign on the causeway in the morning. The Monster spoke at our Kiwanis meeting. He really gave an excellent Heritage Foundation presentation. Memorizes well. We'll have at least six sign wavers out tomorrow. We meet with new volunteers for West Self Important Town and Rich Island this evening on our way to the North Beach Forum, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Forum went well. Picked up quite a few voters and made a few more friends. The Monster was there, but Munsey was not. He speaks straight from Heritage Foundation pamphlet and is burying himself in statistics. For a doctor, he has learned lawyer-politician obfuscation speech quite well. Impressive sounding and well delivered, but is going over the audience's heads. If we had a way of getting our message out, i.e. money, I think we'd have a fair shot. Munsey and The Monster may be on a self destructive path. Munsey is hell bent on a negative campaign, too close to the election and The Monster is speaking platitudes and avoiding his anti-abortion reason for running.

Talked with the Self Important Town section of UWSA. Met one of the UWSA leaders from West County. He's promised to give us a leg up over there. John C. and I plan to card West County Friday morning. We covered quite a few intersections today. I was over at the barrier island for morning drive time. Estimate over 5,000 cars passed by. We're out there. Hope it does some good. Tomorrow, we go to South County. I have an interview with the political reporter at 10:00 a.m. Moon over South County Beach!

October 27, 1994 I listened in to the radio forum that I wasn't invited too. Sounded like wooden heads. No animation. Bobbie O. recorded my 192 second interview on the TV news program. Did better than I thought at the time. The answer to drugs and crime made quite a bit of sense. The South County Press interview went quite well. They are going to run it in their election special the Sunday before elections. We carded a bunch of parking lots. I talked with at least 150 people and I'm bushed. Received a nice letter from the Self Important Town Chamber of Commerce and another from our Community College thanking me for showing up.

October 28, 1994 Doesn't bode well for sign waving. We have a low pressure area moving east from the Gulf and wind is up. Not to mention a skift of rain. Maybe the beach area will be free. Checked the weather. Surface winds are from the east so we're having coastal showers. West County is rain free.

It's pouring outside. No way we'll be able to wave signs at the traffic. We'd be a nuisance to wet weather drivers. John C. and I spent about 30 minutes out in the drizzle. We carded West County. Looks 1933 and shows it, but the people are real mid-America. Great folks. We stopped in barber shops, beauty shops, bars, Veterans clubs. It was great. The small West County Paper is down to two issues a week and is not covering politics at all. The West County's big time newspaper had a good sized staff and seemed receptive. West County is a great place to live with genuine folks. I'm impressed.

October 29, 1994 Pancake breakfast in West County and a forum at Self Important Town's Sun City. Another long day. Breakfast at the United Methodist Church in West County was fun. The Monster showed up, but not Munsey. Good crowd, good people and good questions. The Monster is still spooling the Heritage Foundation stuff. About half way through a long winded answer, the audience dozes off. UWSA in West County wants us to talk next Saturday. The Sun City forum was interesting. Our local news reporter conducted an interview that I almost missed. Might as well have. Not one mention of any of my one liners the next day. The candidates for the other races broke up over, "If talk could solve our problems we'd be living in Utopia" and "Munsey has Clinton around her neck, The Monster has Ollie North and as for my guy, Teddy Roosevelt, he's in the ground." The Monster got mad and stomped out. Both he and Munsey turned their tapes on and spouted out themes. Media release follows.

Media Contact

Newspaper or Broadcast

Any Street

USA

Dear Media,

I'm going to beat a dead horse one more time. Everyone complains about our election process, but no one studies it to see what's wrong. It's plain as a wart on the end of your nose, everyone looks at politicians as cash cows. Don't know who caused this original sin; the candidate that discovered he could buy an election or the media that allowed him to do it. Now, political ads fill the lean time between Labor Day and Thanksgiving. So we're stuck with sound bites from Mr. Gardener, Forest Gump and Betty Boop. The Chamber Of Commerce has jumped on this bandwagon, holding political Hob Nobs as major fund raisers for their own coffers. Even National and State Parties join in on financial candidate mugging.

How do we change this sorry state of affairs? Hold down campaigns to three weeks before the primary and three weeks before the general election. Allow all candidates free air time and print time to answer a set number of questions and provide ten minutes or 500 words to sell themselves. No other form of campaigning would be allowed, except for citizen forums and handouts and no signs, unless someone is holding one or it's on a citizen's auto. Incumbents would not be allowed to send out franked mail during the 365 days before elections. Anyone caught cheating would forfeit to his opponent. Not very difficult, is it? This would make candidates stand on their own and almost eliminate negative campaigning. Now, where do our charlatans, political consultants, spin doctors, hype specialists and matinee idols find work? Piece of cake ... at the garbage dump or as press agents to the stars. Whispering,

PSST ... Write-In Jim Owen For Congress ... Pass It On

October 30, 1994 Our new political reporter left the Sun City forum before questions flew. His coverage in Sunday's paper was about their poll. We were called, as well as others, who said they were voting for the write in, but the newspaper's poll didn't count our answers. Didn't go into the undecided vote block either. Looks like the media is trying to fool itself or create a self fulfilling prophecy. Think I'll wander down to retirement Bay and pass out cards this morning. Can't let the bastards get us down. Retirement Bay was a bust, however the new Wal*Mart super store in South County's Second City was more than I could handle. Going to try middle North County and Route #1 tomorrow morning.

October 31, 1994 Watched my seven minute claim to fame on Community College TV. Not bad. Wonder if anyone will watch. It will be on 3 more times. If more media would do this, maybe we could take the process back. It's what should be done. Talk about a ton of cars. More than 10,000 passed by my sign between 7:05 and 8:30 a.m. on Route #1. After that, I mailed manuscripts at the base post office and carded the Rich Island Super Wal*Mart. Half way through, an old fart, Monster supporter, yelled at me about defacing private property. He talked to the manager and a Sheriffs car showed up twenty minutes later, cruising through the parking lot. I made it out one step ahead of the law. Carded another Wal*Mart and super market parking lot. As I was pulling out, another sheriffs car was turning in. A lady called in to the conservative Talk Show

Host's radio program. She had seen the TV presentation and was voting for me. The Talk Show Host tried to talk her out of it, but she countered every one of his arguments. I called in later and explained why I didn't buy my way onto the ballot and said that I was a Teddy Roosevelt Independent Republican who would have a place in Congress. He was pleasant and courteous as I talked, but turned on me after I hung up. Received a call from a lady in north North County. She picked up one of our cards and wanted to know about me.

November 1, 1994 Finally got an article in the newspaper.

"Write-in candidates are serious about election. Jim Owen calls himself a man without a country. In reality he and Rick Smith are men without a party. The two of them are write-in candidates for U.S. Congress. Though they have been involved with the Republican Party at other times in their lives, the GOP does not claim them now. "If anyone could get on the ballot by saying I want to run, the ballot would list thousands of names," said William Claggett, an associate professor of political science at Florida State University. "We need to distinguish between real candidates and joke candidates." In some cases that's difficult. Owen, 60, of Palm Bay says he is a serious candidate but definitely has a sense of humor. He said he means to win this race, but if he can't do that at least he'll offer some entertainment along the way. Consider this quip made after butting into an interview being conducted with Sue Munsey and The Monster, the major party candidates for the office. "The

Republicans have Ollie North around their necks and the Democrats have Bill Clinton around theirs," the former military intelligence officer said. "I'm a Teddy Roosevelt Independent Republican. At least my guy is dead and buried, so he can't embarrass me." Owen who tried to qualify for the Republican primary but fell short of having enough signatures on his petitions, is tailoring much of his message to retirees. His campaign staff - affectionately known as the "over-the-hill" gang - is 60 or older. Owen has a conservative platform with a twist. He supports standard Republican issues such as tougher penalties for juvenile offenders, but he also favors legalization of some drugs and is a staunch opponent of the Religious Right. Owen said he is arriving politically. After being denied a spot in several debates and candidate forums with The Monster and Munsey, he has had the Brevard County Sheriffs Office called on his campaign staff for putting notices on cars in parking lots." So, at a glance his article is both good and bad. I have to answer the drug thing. Can't believe how often I'm misunderstood. Must be because of the attention span.

November 2, 1994 We were at the Hob Nob, overwhelmed by The Monster's and Munsey supporters. Turned out to be one of those cheer leading emotional rallies with more Munsey supporters buying their way in than The Monster's. I'm not certain, but I think there were two bus loads from the local shelters. My Over The Hill Gang was there and proud. John C. had his sandwich board sign. Got a lot of notice, but no press. We weren't

listed on the computer ballot and you couldn't write us in. Not a good sign and not a fair shake. We left before the counting. The Talk Show Host who complains about how unfair elections are gave me three minutes of radio time and then denied me access to the debate his station was holding. Munsey and The Monster have been invited to debate on Friday afternoon at 3:00. Another snub. The local newspaper covers the Hob Nob. Munsey's tactic of busing in homeless to vote for her worked. She won 60% to 40%. The local newspaper's editorial does a number on The Monster and screams out it's support for Munsey. Gary Smith phoned and said to stand outside the Space center at 06:30 to 07:30 a.m. on Route #3. Will do that tomorrow. Bushed after waving my sign on Route #1. Carded South County's Second City again. Only six days to go. Strange, quite a few people came up and said they were going to vote for me in the real election at the Hob Nob last night. The paper didn't advertise the none of the above votes.

November 3, 1994 Won't do that again. Up at 3:50 a.m. and at Gate 3 of the Space Center at 6:00 a.m. Waved my sign at cars until the Federal Police asked me to move on. I was inside a white line, but outside the restricted area sign. Just as well. An accident on a feeder highway diverted traffic from the gate. A launch is scheduled for today so Old Town and Old Town, Too were out. I waved my sign next to the Ron John Surf Shop corner from 7:40 to 8:40 a.m. and carded a few parking lots before heading home. The Over The Hill Gang is going down

to South County Beach at 10:00 a.m. Received a call from a voter who asked a few questions and mentioned that our newspaper didn't have us on Compu-Serve. Called and got a recording. Not a good sign. More voters calls coming in. Have to remember that our Community College TV has three more shows on the way. Howard F. invited us to his election party. I called and asked if I could bring the Over The Hill Gang so they could see what a winner looks like. Really surprised at the shut out our newspaper is pitching at me. We have been all over the place, working harder than any of the other candidates and my Gang is a bit older than theirs. I would believe that in another time and place, we would have media all over us. The populi has not picked up on our whispering campaign. I guess man bites dog has been replaced with woman has a dog on her lap at our local newspaper. Will have to talk to Bobbie L. about where to go tomorrow morning. Called the West County newspaper to see if they will cover us. Howard F. phoned and invited the gang. Talk about class!

November 4, 1994 Doing the beaches again, waving and sign holding. We need to show presence. A few more candidates greeting the morning traffic today. Wish South County Beach had traffic. Go to West County tomorrow for UWSA meeting and plan to pass out cards in the two main towns. I am almost out of cards. No one can say we didn't do all we could on a shoe string. We still have ten hard workers. With forty more and seventy thousand pencils?

November 5, 1994 In the news; negative campaigns dominate. Talk about nuclear escalation. If I had a few bucks to advertise, I might have made it. Hope we can make a good showing, anyway. The Gang is going to have a get together next Saturday at Tom and Lisa B.'s house. Tom and Lisa B., Bobbie L., John C., Renee and I are all going to West County. With six of us, we flooded the towns with cards. We're just about out. UWSA meeting that afternoon was sparsely attended. John C.'s national debt sign was a real attention getter. Munsie showed up. She had trouble with GATT, but the UWSA audience was primed on that issue. She came across very political, which is good for most, but not UWSA. My bet is that she'll win. Abortion will turn the tide in her favor. The Monster is still single issue. I have to hedge my bet. With a low turn-out The Monster will win. Why am I so many negative about The Monster and Munsie? The rest of us had the same problem after six months of campaigning. They started late and reaped the benefit of no negatives at primary time, but now it's catching up. Familiarity breeds contempt and our voters dislike politicians.

November 6, 1994 I'm waiting for the election guide. Up at 5:30 a.m. and the paper is late. Arrived at 7:45. We made the local newspaper's election guide. They cut bits of my education and professional experience, but other than that it was better than nothing. The West County news left us out of theirs. The South County Beach Press Journal had none (Sunday)

and I drove twenty mile to buy their paper. I'm on an ego trip. Been so busy running in place, I've almost forgot that one of my reasons was to write about the process.

November 7, 1994 Last day of sucking in exhaust at Route #1. Folks in cars look like they've had enough. So have I! Two of The Monster's supporters took turns on the other side of the street. Our newspaper covers The Monster and Munsie, only. I'm covering the poll at retirement Bay tomorrow.

November 8, 1994 Set up a table with my sign and a pot of coffee in front of the recreation center in retirement Bay, one of the largest precincts in North County. Stayed with it until afternoon and went home to pick up the wife to vote. Our precinct voted at the Large Town senior center. My heart stopped when I entered the booth. There were no pencils and no surface to write on if there were. I walked back to the precinct voting workers and asked for a pencil to write my name on the ballot and was informed that they couldn't provide a pencil. I asked to see the person in charge. When I explained that I had a right to write in one of the two write-in candidates as they had qualified under State Election Laws, she phoned the elections office and I was given a pencil. I came out of the voting booth steaming. Even with a pencil, I still didn't have a surface to write on. Had to use the side of the booth. I phoned Bobbie L. and she said the same problem had occurred throughout the District. The wind is out of my sails. We won't even make

a blip under these circumstances. I returned to retirement Bay, finished my coffee and returned home. I'm going to challenge the election. The law was violated in more than one way: No tools to vote with. No surface to write on. Being forced to ask for a pencil is a violation of privacy and shows other voters and officials whom I was voting for. The voting officials failed to notify voters that only qualified write-in candidates would be counted, who they were and on and on. The Over The Hill Gang and I met at Howard F.'s election celebration at a hotel on the beach. He had a great party. The Party Chairman's Party was next door. He won his race for the State Senate, but his party was quiet. My worst nightmare came true, no pencils and no place to write in the voting booths! The turn-out was lower than anyone had forecasted. The Monster won, Sue Munsey lost and we all had a wonderful time tilting at windmills. I owe Howard F. He couldn't have been nicer to me and my volunteers. And we were not in his District! We couldn't vote for him. Says something about the man!

November 9, 1994 The Supervisor of Elections said we received 223 write-in votes in North County. We were ignored by party, press, populi and the election's office. Talk about a clean sweep. Looks like South County will have a doctor in the House. Cleaned up my office and boxed all of the political stuff. Time to move on to something else. Cleaning my golf clubs and heading into the sunset. Wonder where Roy, Trigger and Happy Trails are?

November 10, 1994 Final count. 734 write-in votes for the 15th District, four counties. 117,026 for The Monster and 100,512 for Munsie. Don't know how many votes we would have had if the booths had pencils, the voters knew who the candidates were, and the booths had a level writing surface. I spent about \$1.00 a vote from September on. Munsie and The Monster must have spent between \$4.00 and \$9.00 a vote. The cost of losing is high. Talked with Munsie's campaign manager. They aren't interested in mounting a challenge. Told him that Sue Munsie should have accented her positive side; flag, apple pie, religious freedom, liberty for all, etc. The negative stuff and cheer leader approach came across too shrill. The Monster used voice over, as his voice was a bit fey, to emphasize, "your in good hands with ..." Made one feel warm and fuzzy. A good ad campaign can make Adolf look like a humanitarian. The Monster's photo is in the paper. Looks like another doctors creation. Must have been a hard night. My wife says to let it go. Don't contest the election. She's right. Wonder if we can straighten out the write-in problem. Besides, it will take The Monster two years to find the Capitol building and he won't be able to reverse Roe vs. Wade overnight. And maybe the leopard will change its spots. With his knowledge and commitment to issues other than anti-abortion, it looks like our District has elected a proxy for Newt.

November 11, 1994 New count of over 900 for me. Renee called the elections office. Don't have an exact count. Wonder what

it really is. The West County newspaper columnist wrote a terrific column about me, yesterday. He voted for me. Called me an idealist and even though he is a lifelong Democrat, he still voted for me. Said that his Editorial Board is stacked with 30 minute wonders. I'd be a perfect match. As a candidate, I qualify. We chatted on the phone last night. Like George Thompson, he makes a lot of sense. Concern for our country transcends party lines and ideology. We don't argue about the problems, just the cure. Time to say why the Republican ship of state may wind up on the rocks. One faction sees individual freedom as the ability to move money and jobs wherever they want too (overseas). Another group looks at individual freedom as the right for individuals to prosper in our own country and a very small minority have an extreme religious agenda. If the Republicans choose number one or three, it's between the rock and hard place time. GATT will be the high water mark of the new Congress. The West County newspaper columnist included my candidate as a cash cow letter in his column. Verbatim. After notes. Losing Candidate did it again. He lost his race for a State House seat in a Republican landslide. The Monster made his first three appointments. The head of his Washington Office is one of the three founders of the Space Coast Family Forum (rabid anti-abortion) and his number two local person is from the Covenant Presbyterian Church (militant anti-abortion). The Righteous Right has smite! George Thompson lost his race for the school board to a member of the Righteous Right. At least George listens. Howard F. won his race.

November 16, 1994 Doesn't seem to be a way to find our final count. My contact at elections is going to call the other counties and see if he can come up with a number.

November 18, 1994 Republican Men's Club meeting today. Our Executive Committee Vice Chairman and Scott E. defended negative campaigning over issue campaigning. Pogo is right again.

June 18, 1996 I'm finally putting the finishing touches on this tome. The consensus among those that can read and write is that we would have been better off if we sent a real proxy to Newt instead of The Monster to Congress. If he was still a practicing doctor, he'd be sued for legislative malpractice. Guess he didn't mean it when he got to that part of his oath, "To do no harm." Paraphrasing Southern Words and Sayings, by Fabia Rue Smith and Charles Rayford Smith, 1976; Church is out, the fat lady has sung. And for The Monster: Physician, heal thyself, Luke 4:23. What did I learn? Everyman doesn't have a chance without money or kind. The political deck (laws) is stacked against anyone except the incumbent or challenger from the other major party. A small fanatical group can control a larger group if that larger group has its head where the sun doesn't shine. Can everyman campaign on the cheap and win? Yes. Read on. The next section tells how to win with or without funds.

CAMPAIGN ON THE CHEAP

"Everyman's work, whether it be literature
or music or pictures or architecture or
anything else, is always a portrait of
himself."

Samuel Butler 1903

In the beginning there is fire and vigor. In the middle there is fatigue and repetition and at the end of a political campaign, panic and stupidity. That is, if you plan well. If not, chaos. Can one campaign on the cheap and win? Yes, but it is not an easy path and cheap does not mean without funds. If one has one hundred volunteers willing to work four hours a day for thirty days before an election, it is do-able. With half that number, one should have enough funds to purchase billboard space at strategic locations throughout the District, fliers, buttons, bumper stickers, signs and radio advertisements. Fifty thousand dollars would be enough in the first instance and one hundred thousand in the second.

I did not plan to run for Congress. That's the first lesson for everyman. If you're going to do something, plan first. If you don't, your campaign strategy can get out of order. Our Army war college teaches order with a simple allegory; rape first, then pillage, and then burn only after all else is done or as in the case of the current occupants of the White House, when being investigated. I embroiled myself in a political quagmire because of emotion and idealism, compounded by an incumbent that would sell out for a wheelbarrow full of harmonicas. That's everyman's second lesson. Never go into politics on emotion and idealism. That worked in 1776, before political parties, radio, TV and newspapers (that carry advertising). After the Constitutional Convention, a limited, elite electorate picked their own candidates from a pool of

gentlemen farmers and businessmen. Ideas and past performance were at a premium when life was at a slower pace, and no legislative body would dare meet when there was work to be done, between planting and harvest. Politics was a part time job in the nineteenth century and the central issue was Federalism and State's Rights. Everyman's lesson number three. Politics is now a full time job and the central issue remains.

Everyman's lesson number four. The electorate today is anyone that can pull a lever. This makes me wonder if we are sons and daughters of the French Revolution instead of our American. Should those without property or funds be allowed to vote sustenance out of those that have? Do you have to be qualified to run for Congress? Yes and no. You can be illiterate or insane, as evidenced by our sitting Congress, but there are three requirements mandated by our Constitution. You must be 25 when sworn in, a U.S. citizen for seven years and live in your State and in some cases you are even required to live in the District you choose to run in at the time of election (unless you are Al Gore or a Kennedy). You will be bound by oath to support the Constitution, but remember, there is no religious test.

Most States have additional requirements. My State, as an example, will allow you to run for and occupy only one office at a time. One must resign if you hold public office and are qualifying for another office (if the terms run at the same

time). You must file qualifying papers and pay a qualifying fee, election assessment, and party assessment, if any. All of this qualifying nonsense must be done within a limited amount of time between specific dates. In my State, between 120 and 116 days prior to the first primary.

If you decide to go the petition route to avoid paying the big bucks, another set of dates apply. As an example, in my State another oath is required between the first Monday in January and the 21st, in the year of election. Petitions can be signed only after the oath is received at the Department of State. In 1994, I had to file this oath between January 5th and January 21st. Petitions had to be completed and turned in by April 18th. In the 15th District (mine); 4,101 valid petitions were required for Democrats and 4,778 for Republicans. This represents three percent of registered Party members. Qualifying by petition is an alternative method. The normal method requires big bucks. My State has a fee equal to 4.5% of the annual salary of a Congressman. Today it's \$10,070. \$6,706.62 of this goes to the Party. In my District, four Republicans and one Democrat paid the filing fee. There are 23 districts. If two from each Party pay the fee, each Party can fleece \$308,504.52 from Congressional candidates, alone. Add in two Senators, Governor, forty State Senators, one hundred twenty State Representatives, twenty judges, State attorneys, Cabinet, Public Defenders, County and Local elected offices and one can understand why political parties allow this overly

restrictive, reverse poll tax to continue. Collection of this fee is the major money maker for political parties. This fee, (or the required number of petitions), had to be paid between May 9th and May 13th for Federal Offices, except for write-in candidates and the last day for that was May 21st. And again, everyone must sign an oath. You can't lose the Primary and run as a write-in. If the incumbent is arraigned as a pedophile and the opposition candidate as a serial killer, and there is no write-in candidate, the voters have a choice between the lesser of two evils. Each State has its own set of obstacles, placed there by incumbents and lawyers.

Our Constitution establishes the rules for Federal elections. It allows the States to establish nonconflicting codes, reserving the right for Congress to revise and amend. If State and Federal guidelines conflict, then the Federal rules prevail for Federal office. The Federal election code book is 383 pages in length and my State's Election Laws, 109 pages. Outside of setting election dates and procedures, these codes and laws are based on three major premises; don't get caught cheating, don't run against an incumbent and make these words sufficiently foggy so that we can keep lawyers off welfare. Don't trust your political party, State House lawyer, local elections office or the Federal Election Commission to interpret them for you. Where do you get these books? Call the Federal Election Commission on their toll free number; (800) 424-9530 or ask individual election offices from bottom, up.

Everyman's lesson number five is: know the ground rules. The why, how and when are in the FEC's book, Campaign Guide. Legally, you must pass the \$5,000 threshold in contributions or expenditures to become a candidate. If you truly run on less, there's no way you'll ever spend or receive that amount of money over the term of your campaign. So, don't let the bastards get you down, declare anyway and let the lawyers figure it out. Tell the FEC what you intend to do and they'll send books and forms. Fill out the Statement of Candidacy and send it to the Clerk of The House of Representatives. Whatever you send to the Clerk, must also go to a State office. In my State, the Division of Elections, Department of State. To find yours, call your local supervisor or board of elections. All of the information has been generated by lawyers or bureaucrats so the fog factor can reach to infinity.

Everyman's lesson number six. Declare early, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Now, if you're going to run for Congress or any office, you'll need cash. As far as money goes (and it does go), you'll need at least \$50,000 for 676 days of campaigning if you run a frugal campaign or you are running unopposed and you have one hundred volunteers. If you are frugal, plan on a twenty two month campaign. Twelve months walking about to get name recognition, three and one half months (maybe more, maybe less, depending on your State's requirements) on a petition drive, and six and one half months campaigning for the primary and general elections.

Everyman's lesson number seven is stamina. Going this route requires young legs and endurance. With a lot of cash, you can run a sprint. On less, it's a marathon.

Everyman's lesson number eight. You can overcome the lack of cash by hard work and shoe leather, but if you don't have endurance, you'll need cash. A walkabout will get name recognition. Plan on walking your District four days a week for at least five hours each day. Going house to house is non-productive at this stage. Wait till you have campaign workers. Most likely, both parents are working or if retired, out playing golf. Save this tactic for your petition drive. Walk business districts, professional offices, grocery parking lots and medical buildings. Pass out a single page handout with your resume' on one side and platform on the other. Introduce yourself and be prepared to discuss all issues. Take a stand, don't waffle. You must set yourself apart from the traditional politicians. Don't stand and argue or try to convert anyone.

Everyman's lesson number nine. Be responsive and courteous. Don't use a phone bank and if you do, for Pete's sake don't ever call at dinner time. If you don't have funds, shoe leather is the only way. A non-slick two sided handout with your photo will cost about \$100 per thousand, but you must shop around. Layout charges are extra. Don't waste funds on bumper stickers or buttons or signs at this stage. Don't purchase more than

2000 handouts at a time. This will cost you more, but you won't be stuck with out of date fliers. You'll want to revise change and improve as the campaign goes along. You will need a name tag. If you have a computer available, generate one and enclose it in the typical convention type plastic holder. It's best not to look too slick early on. Stay away from plastic monstrosities. You want to show a little class, not look like a clerk.

Everyman's lesson number ten. Don't go on an ego trip, conserve your funds for the primary campaign. What other way is there to achieve name recognition? The media. Will they respond? Only if you're newsworthy. Send out a letter style news release, personalizing each with sentences and or paragraphs that apply only to the addressee. You'll need a list of radio, TV and newspaper contacts for your district. Big money campaigns hire consultants. You can get this list for free through the supervisor of elections or county government in your District.

Everyman's lesson number eleven. Send out a monthly news release and at any time something significant happens. Don't ever get discouraged by the media's indifference. Teddy Roosevelt knew this in 1899. "Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory or defeat." In other words, when dealing with the media, "Keep on truckin'." Robert Crumb undated.

Everyman's lesson number eleven. It may be easier to become a brain surgeon than to get free media coverage. Most newspapers print a small article when you announce. They printed mine, but I screwed up. I sent out a news release and failed to have a simultaneous press conference. I also failed to send a photo along with my copy and, since I didn't have a news conference, I didn't call media outlets the day before to insure attendance and coverage. Call a press conference, send out news releases and follow up with telephonic reminders to insure coverage. Call early in the day, before 10:00 a.m., so they can schedule you in. Find out who the political reporters are and request a face to face interview. Do it yourself. Don't let anyone else do it for you. Reporters have egos. They want to talk to the candidate, not an intermediary. Meet over lunch or a beer, if need be. Letters to editors may make you feel good, but are a waste of time. They won't be published unless you fit the bias of the editor and never after you declare, but they may give you a guest column. Oh, I almost forgot, you must have something to say and don't repeat the Party line. When being interviewed remember what Confusus wrote in 500 B.C., "Fine words and an insinuating appearance are seldom associated with true virtue."

The spoken word, radio. Ask for an on air interview with the news director or news reader. Pester them, politely, if you must. After you announce, you may get one or two hearings. After that, the fairness doctrine applies and you'll receive

no more free air time, unless it's newsworthy (i.e. you rob a bank, become a serial rapist or run nude through the streets). Don't talk in sound bites and don't talk in paragraphs. Try to be somewhere in-between. Practice with a tape recorder. Call in to radio talk shows to hone your interview technique. You don't have to give your full name so this is the time for stuttering. Think before you speak, but don't leave any dead air time. Practice deep breathing and any other relaxing technique you can think of. If you don't know an answer, don't prove it. Say, "I don't know." If your voice is too high, practice holding low tones, deep down in your throat, for as long as you can expel your breath. Several weeks of this and anyone can sound like Orson Wells or Karen Carpenter. Everyman's lesson number twelve was best said by John Wayne in 1970 when he gave advice on acting, "Talk low, talk slow and don't say too much."

TV, the boob tube, television, America's cultural wasteland. In a large television market, your chance of being noticed by network affiliates is slim and none. They may cover your candidacy announcement on the earliest news when no one is watching, but that's about all. Rich network affiliates are not interested in public service. They are interested in the press agency of playing at public service. Every charity or cause they support will be dominated with the faces of local news readers filling the tube. The best you can hope for are local afternoon talk shows, UHF and cable programs. Plan

accordingly. Get the name, address and phone numbers of local producers and let them know you're available for interviews. The last hard local political news covered by our West County Station was a series of vignettes after one candidate sprayed another candidate's house with bullets. Everyman's lesson thirteen. You may get on, but is anyone watching? Everyman's lesson fourteen. After you become locally famous for fifteen don't go on an ego trip. Remember lesson thirteen and what was written in Gnomologia, 1732, "Fools' names, like fools' faces, are often seen in public places."

Will you need a campaign staff? If you're frugal and announce twenty two months before the general election, back up another two months for planning. You won't need a staff at the beginning, but you do need to plan. Besides, if you decide to run a campaign on the cheap, you're not the pick of the local power structure. Not to worry, as Kinsella wrote for Shoeless Joe, "if you build it, he will come." When they do, you'll need a manager, scheduler and treasurer. Unless you have a lot of volunteers, run a tight ship. Let your manager know that the buck stops with you and that you will be responsible for all mistakes. If you have a conflict, let him or her know ahead of time that yours is the last word. If you have a large district, you will need a separate manager for each county under your overall manager. If he or she is doing their job, they won't have time to argue. Don't get tied up by the Cool Hand Luke syndrome, "What we have here is a failure

to communicate." Talk to each other, don't play "I've got a secret." You have two months to plan and twelve months to build a proper staff. Everyman's lesson number sixteen. Take your time and do it right.

What does it take to be a candidate. Forget about being qualified. From what I've seen of the political process, that means campaign funds, not ideas. As a matter of fact, most political gurus, like Charlie Cook, won't consider anyone serious who doesn't have a large campaign chest. To a great extent, this is true. You can have a smiley face, empty suit and a Forest Gump brain and get elected with money. If you question that, see how many of the following attributes our incumbent President has. To campaign without funds requires:

- * Physical stamina.
- * Emotional stamina.
- * Physical presence.
- * Political ideas.
- * Speaking ability.
- * Writing ability.
- * Moral fortitude.
- * Purity, somewhat near that of Caesar's wife.
- * Elephant hide like toughness to personal criticism.
- * Stubbornness.
- * Desire to run for office.
- * Opportunity (your incumbent quits or is lame).
- * A sense of humor.

Of course you can be a little crazy and ignore all of the above. Start early and run hard too:

- * Get name recognition.
- * Practice (or how do you get to Carnegie Hall).
- * Throw the fear of God into the incumbent.
- * Discourage other candidates in your own party.
- * Find out if you have the right stuff.
- * Find workers.

The risk of starting early is that you have an unlimited opportunity to make mistakes and appear ineffectual. If you do, everyone including their sister will jump into the race, which is what happened to me. Everyman's lesson number seventeen. You have to be a little crazy to run for political office as no sane person can meet all of the requirements listed above.

So far I've given you a lot of True Grit, "That's mighty strong talk for a one eyed fat man." You need a yellow brick road. A performance chart won't fit. Besides, after systems analysts or computer planners create one it's never referred too, except to assess blame or win a government contract. Let's back up twenty four months from the general election. I'll highlight what I would do to win an election in an outline, time line format, based on a fall primary. A Federal Campaign is my example. Modify it to fit state, county or city. Everyman's lesson eighteen follows.

* Twenty Four Months: To begin a campaign on the cheap, you must have \$5,000 for initial campaign expenses. You will need a word processor or computer with a letter quality (not dot matrix) printer. If you don't have one and don't wish to purchase one, seriously rethink about running for office, any office. A word processor will cost about \$300 and a full up word processor computer with printer, about \$2,000. Now you can write an election plan, store it on disk and modify as time flies. Use this twenty four month time line, outline as your planning guide. Now, let's get down to the nitty-gritty. To begin, you will need a two sided flier with a campaign photo. The photo comes first as it will take a month to complete. A word of caution. Have your photo finished before any advertised special for infants. I wound up in line behind twenty two infants, all crying. Allow at least three weeks for the photo and another two weeks for your flier to be completed. Call the FEC toll free number and request the appropriate forms. Advise the County and or District Party Chairman of your intentions and ignore their advice. You're as welcome as a hive of killer bees. Contact the State office responsible for candidates and inform them of your intentions. Also, contact the County(s) Supervisor(s) of Elections. You'll need local and State ground rules for ballot access with or without funds.

* Twenty Three Months: Buy a map of your congressional district from the state or county. Drive your District to become familiar with the territory, and then set up your first month's walkabout

schedule. Plan on walking your District within three months and schedule accordingly. Request a list of media contacts from your County(s) or City. Prepare and send out a news release. Common sense applies here. Send your letter to the News Director or PSA (Public Service Announcement) contact. Don't discount business publications and don't waste your stamp on elevator music or rap FM. Target the stations that match your voters demographics. I sent out over thirty letters on my first mailout and about a dozen on my last. If you don't get a response, after five or six letters, and the outlet is minor, save your stamp. Send your candidacy announcement with your walkabout schedule and your first flier. Set your news conference for 1:00 p.m., Monday or the first work day after the holidays. Take advantage of a slow news days.

* Twenty Two Months: Have refreshments and snacks at your news conference. Gourmet quality will leave a lasting positive memory and is money well spent. Even though you are running a frugal campaign, show a little class. Pick a spot that matches the theme of your campaign. If it's throw the rascals out, county courthouse. If it's crime, jail; education, school. You get the drift. If tables aren't available, you can tailgate or picnic your refreshments. Have copies of your walkabout schedule and fliers available. Be prepared to answer any question. The abortion issue will come up. Can't help you here except, be honest and show compassion for the other side (whichever). Don't duck an issue. Those days are long gone. Follow your

walkabout schedule. At the end of this month, prepare your next news release. Cover your experiences on the walkabout and revise your next month's schedule. It's bound to change because of weather, illness and what you've learned during the first month's walk.

* Twenty One Months: Continue to walkabout and send out your third news release. You should have positive or negative feedback to your campaign message by now. This is the time to review and revise, if necessary. You should have had your first brush with single issue voters. Stand firm on principles and be polite, smile!

* Twenty Months: You should have completed a walk of your District by the end of this month. This month's news release should cover the lessons you've learned on your walk. Now is the time for your first reality check. By this time, you should have picked up a few supporters along the way. Mid-month is the time to invite them over for a chat and an organizational meeting. You will probably be bombarded with questions. Answer, but don't use this time for speeches. Ask your supporters for their input on issues and staff. Begin and maintain an open dialogue. If possible select a temporary scheduler. Listen to the music before hiring the band. This early in the campaign, handle your own treasury and file your own reports. It's your money and responsibility. Keep daily records and receipts. You are required to make quarterly and yearly reports to the

Clerk of the House of Representatives if you are running for Congress. The FEC will send you forms and schedule. They are fairly simple, except for double entry bookkeeping. If running for another office, know your reporting requirements. Schedule the next walkabout of your District and include where you will be in your news release. Revise your flier when you need to and replenish. Ask for inputs to your flier from your supporters.

* Nineteen Months: Start your second walkabout tour. Cover places missed the first time around and revisit promising areas. Schedule speeches to District Political Clubs and Committees. Let them know you're around. Prepare a five, ten and fifteen minute speech. Make sure to ask for and respond to questions. You may not get a warm reception or an invitation. Keep a list of all your turn downs. Your Party may have an agenda that's quite different from yours. List all turn downs in this month's news release. Take the offensive. You may be offered membership in a Party Committee. Don't take it. Turn down all efforts to control your campaign. Political Parties don't have money to give you (read the new campaign laws).

* Eighteen Months: Your scheduler should be contacting social and service clubs where you can speak or meet the shakers and movers. Create a non-political speech. Create a position and issue handout without political rhetoric and trappings. Place this on the seats or tables. It will generate questions. As

most social and service organizations won't host political speeches, the local, state and federal process usually is an eye opener. A word of caution. Don't put down the incumbent or any other candidate. Speak straight. Let the chips fall where they may. You may irritate a few, but in the long haul you'll be remembered for your honesty and given the alternative, they'll vote accordingly. Abortion is not topic A to these groups. By this time, your walkabout should be winding down and speeches and appearances winding up. Take time out to call your media contacts. Ask if they want to continue receiving your news releases and request a face to face discussion or interview. Offer up a newsworthy topic. Don't forget to mail out a news release.

o Seventeen Months: Your walkabout should be reduced to no more than two days a week. The next three months you should stand down. It's time to review your chances of winning the primary and general election. If your message isn't selling and you do not have voter (not Party) support, think seriously about hanging it up. If the word is go, you need to promote or find a manager to full time or look for a new one. The news release should cover results of your walkabout.

o Sixteen, Fifteen, and Fourteen Months: If you're still hanging in there, now is the time to reorganize your campaign plan. If you don't have them, you'll need a treasurer and manager, volunteer coordinator and county chairmen (if in a multi-county

district). Your two key individuals are manager and scheduler. If you were running a big buck campaign, it is the treasurer. Your treasurer will gain importance as you attract more funds. Know your limits if you're subject to the Federal Election Campaign Act. \$1,000 from individuals per election, \$5,000 from multicandidate Political Action Committees (PACS), and there are a few others such as a \$50 limit on anonymous contributors. The Local and State Party Committees are limited to a combined \$5,000 a year and National Party Committee to \$20,000 a year. You must keep records; \$50 or less by day and amount. \$200 or less by day, amount, name and address. \$1,000 or less by day, amount, full name, address, occupation and employer. The last one, requiring employer information is a violation of individual privacy. It will provide the incumbent with information on your contributors. If you are elected, please eliminate all current Federal election laws and replace with, "don't lie, cheat or steal." Send out your monthly news release and your next quarter walkabout schedule.

* Thirteen Months: Begin another walkabout, but keep your schedule loose. By this time you should have name and face recognition. Take your time and smell the roses along the way. Don't worry if you cannot cover all of your District. Talking to and listening too voters is more important than a sprint through town. If your walkabout has not received press coverage, the third time around may be the charm that works. If this is the time for an off year election, station volunteers at

volunteers at each precinct to hand out fliers. Now is the time to purchase buttons and bumper stickers. If frugal, keep the amount small. Not more than 300 bumper stickers and 500 buttons. Give them to supporters only. Strangers won't put them on their cars. Scotch tape bumper stickers to the inside of rear car windows. Your monthly news release should be used to clearly state where you stand on the issues. Try to separate yourself from the opposition.

* Twelve Months: Continue your walkabout. Follow up with your monthly news release. Hold a mid-campaign staff conference and reality check. This is the time for another go, no go decision. If your chances look good, continue on. Your news release should contain a review of your first year of campaigning with a realistic assessment of your candidacy.

* Eleven Months: Wind up your walkabout. Round up at least twenty volunteers for the petition drive. Schedule petition signing locations; drivers license, libraries, tax offices, etc. for your volunteers. Include these locations in your news release.

* Eleven Months: Begin your petition drive. You can get a walking list of registered voters from the Supervisor of Elections. You may wish to schedule several precinct walks on Saturdays. This will get a few petitions signed (about 20 per volunteer), but won't get the job done if you need over

3,000 signatures. Precinct walks are to show presence and momentum. Again, know the rules. You may be able to have any citizen sign, or any registered voter, or be limited to registered voters of your own party. The last is the most restrictive and the most difficult. Have your volunteers go where the people are. You can set a table up in front of the Post Office, if there are public sidewalks, but it's against federal law to petition on Post Office property. You can set up in front of libraries, auto tag, drivers license, county tax office, or any other local government office. You can walk the parking lots of grocery stores, discount stores or set up on a public sidewalk, if there is no parking lot intervening. There are two Supreme Court decisions that relate to the Constitutional right to petition. One upholds the law that created the U.S. Postal Service and separates it from political influence. Bottom line is that you can't petition on Postal Service property. The other allows you to petition in commercial parking lots, but not in front of doorways or on their sidewalks without permission. Walking of parking lots should be done by lady volunteers. They are less threatening than men. As a general rule of thumb, women do a better job of soliciting signatures on petitions. Attempt to get one half of the petitions you need by the end of this month. Each volunteer can get at least 30 petitions per half day at a table and 20 per half day on a walkabout. Pass out fliers to each person asked to sign a petition. This month's news release should cover what you've learned on your petition drive.

* Nine months: Complete the required number of petitions. You'll need 25% over, to cover non-valid signatures. Depending on which side of the abortion issue you're on, your volunteers will be impeded by the other. Of the two, the anti-abortion group will give the most problems. If you are pro-choice, expect a campaign of harassment against your volunteers at every turn. My recommendation is to smile, turn the other cheek and always say, "God bless you" when they depart. From personal experience, expect five confrontations per half day. If anti-abortion, make sure your volunteers stay away from this issue. If not, they'll spend an inordinate amount of time trying to convert the other side and this will interfere with the job at hand. Don't forget to send out a news release.

* Eight months: Wrap up your petition drive and take time for another reality check. If you're not getting the job done, drop out. If you have sufficient support, continue on. Announce the success of your petition drive in your news release.

* Seven months: Make sure you have all the T's crossed and I's dotted on the required forms and sent to the appropriate state or local office on time. Your staff meetings should concentrate on signing up volunteers for the Primary campaign. Two per precinct would be great. In the real world, if you have 20 hard workers you're ahead of the power curve. Work on a new news release that uses the list concept or any other attention getting device. Examples of this are in the last

chapter. Hold a party for your volunteers to thank them for their help. Each hard working volunteer is worth the equivalent of \$30,000 in campaign contributions. Treat them as if they are your best friends because they are. Now is the time to create your ad campaign. Ask for volunteer inputs. Look for the most cost effective way of getting your message across. I'll give you a few recommendations: 1. Signs in volunteer's yards. 2. Sign holding at major intersections during drive time, morning and evening. You may want to use this method for several weeks in May to establish yourself as a viable candidate and a front runner and again two weeks before the primary. 3. Billboards, two per county, three months before the primary, with an option for an extension through the general election. 4. Radio commercials on stations that the voters listen too. We had a lady candidate using Rap words on a Glen Miller station running for governor in a State that has a demographic average age over fifty. She lost big time. Make your radio commercial attention getting and make it fit your audience. My preference is for merry-go-round music as a lead in and exit for a thirty second or one minute spot. As an example. Lead in with Merry-Go-Round Broke Down and voice over, "The Washington merry-go-round is broken, Send to Congress. He'll fix it." Exit with Boston Commandery March (Onward Christian Soldiers). Or use Glenn Miller's Moonlight Serenade as an entry and American Patrol as an exit. Let music get the voter's attention and leave them with a warm fuzzy feeling. Music recalls memories and unless one has fallen off

a merry-go-round or has been run over by Glenn Miller's band bus, these should be fond ones. Use Radio the first week in June, two weeks before the primary and two weeks before the general election. Campaigning on the cheap, that will be all you can afford. I didn't mention TV or news papers. Unless you hit the lottery, they are too expensive.

* Six months: Try to have as many speaking engagements as you can squeeze in this month. Your news releases should be increased to twice a month. Work at increasing your part time volunteers. Organize sign holding and waving at major intersections during drive time.

* Five Months: Begin to wind down for the summer. Send out two news releases. Look for a free place for your volunteers to meet. A Campaign Headquarters should be avoided unless you have sufficient funds to open one or someone donates space. Respond to interview and speaking requests, but don't initiate. Begin to mend fences in your Party, if need be.

* Four Months: Go into hibernation. July is vacation month except for power brokers and they vacation in August. Take time out to rest and relax. When the powers that be are on vacation in August, that is the time to begin your final drive toward the Primary. Start slow and build momentum. Go over your campaign plans for the primary and revise to fit funds and needs.

* Three Months: For this example, assume that your Primary is on the first Tuesday in September, about five weeks away. Build up your campaign so that you peak the week before the Primary. Send out a news releases each week. Answer false allegations by your opponents head on with a news conference the day after they're made. Radio ads should begin two weeks before and continue until the day before the Primary. Have your volunteers, sign hold and wave at major intersections during morning and evening drive times during the week (6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.). Walk precincts Saturdays and rest on Sunday. Expenses? If you are campaigning on the cheap, you should have spent \$2,000 for bumper stickers and buttons, \$5,000 for fliers, \$2,000 for signs, \$5,000 for billboards and \$2,000 on radio advertising. You'll need additional signs, buttons, radio, fliers and administration funds if you win.

* Two months: It gets simple. Get your volunteers to the polls with their signs showing support. Don't pass out fliers or any campaign literature unless requested to do so. Don't hassle the voters. Instruct your people to smile and answer questions, but to otherwise remain silent. Some states will not allow any form of advertising near the polls on election day. If so, sign wave at major intersections during morning and evening drive time. If you lose, throw a party for your supporters and send out a news release. If you win, throw a party for your supporters and send out a weekly news release. Take every

opportunity to debate your opponent, talk free on radio or TV and interview with the media. Be on time. Be courteous and show compassion for your opponent. If you've done everything right, and your message sells, he or she is going to lose. Extend your billboard leases. Purchase enough fliers for two complete walk-arounds by your volunteers. Hire school children if you do not have enough volunteers. Your fliers should be different, one for early and the other for the two weeks before elections.

* One Month: Your State and local Party should have kicked in with funds. If so, you'll have up to \$25,000 for additional advertising. Buy radio, signs and fliers. How about mail outs? At 22¢ a flier for postage and if there are 300,000 registered voters, your cost will be \$66,000. Add in the cost of printing and it can put a real dent in the campaign chest of a frugal candidate. If you follow this path you'll be lucky to have two percent of them read. What's the alternative? Live volunteers walking and talking during the two weeks before the election. Brief them so that they are knowledgeable enough to answer questions and smart enough to steer clear of debates and arguments. Even if some of the voters don't agree with your platform, be polite and listen to them. Your people will win more than a few over. Fairness is part of the political equation. Keep you focus during this last month. Don't let Chicken Littles divert your attention, clamoring for media ads that will send you over budget. Follow your plan and deviate

from it only to answer false allegations. Continue press releases at least twice a week. Sign hold and wave at major street intersections during drive time the last week. Begin your final radio ad campaign the last week of October.

* Election month: Sign hold and wave at major intersections up to election day. Phone in press releases, it's too late to mail them out. Repeat the same campaign techniques you used during the Primary election on election day, i.e. have folks at the polls with signs and coffee, if allowed. Continue your radio ads up to election day. Hold an election eve party in your barn or garage. Pitch a tent if need be. Have your volunteers bring covered dishes and you pay for beverages. If you lose, throw a party for your volunteers and the media. If you win, do the same. Either way, your campaign for the next election begins the day after the last one.

What if your campaign profile doesn't fit this chronological order? No problem, adjust it to fit. The general rules still apply even though your Primary may be early winter, late spring or mid-summer. As you can see, even a frugal campaign isn't cheap. Nota bene (note well), "Political campaigns are designedly made into emotional orgies which endeavor to distract attention from the real issues involved, and they actually paralyze what slight powers of cerebration man can normally muster."

James Harvey Robinson 1937

AFTERTHOUGHTS

"Everything is funny as long as it happens to somebody else."

Will Rogers 1924

We remember our mistakes and forget how we do things right. Error is our most lasting teacher. I never forget what I've done wrong. And if I use my head, I use this lesson to my advantage. That's what neat about politics, after a politician makes a mistake, he can erase it. Voters can only erase their mistake at the next election, unless you live in a one party state.

No one can guarantee that you'll win. Only you or the voters can. If you are in the minority, as a Republican in Hawaii, your chances of winning are the same as an ice cube in a furnace. And if there is a contest for ideas and your message doesn't sell, you can do all the right things and still lose. If you have unlimited campaign funds, you can overcome all of the above. If error is our teacher, what were mine.

- * I lacked sufficient funds.
- * I began my political effort eight months late.
- * I limited my campaign contributions to five dollars.
- * I didn't plan.
- * I learned how to campaign while campaigning.
- * I didn't know the ground rules, only the laws.
- * I underestimated the number of petitions I could solicit.
- * I could not find a town center for my walkabout.
- * I believed a petition page could have more than one signature.
- * I believed any registered voter could sign a petition.
- * I discovered too late where to get petitions signed.

- * I discovered that citizens don't tell the truth.
- * I failed to solicit volunteer support until too late.
- * I walked neighborhoods instead of parking lots for petitions.
- * I didn't do a quarterly reality check.
- * I let my ego take over.
- * I discovered that sanity and politics are an oxymoron.
- * I overestimated the intelligence of the voter.
- * I discovered that a write-in candidate is not viable.
- * I lacked the stamina for a one person effort.
- * The fire went out when I was confronted with eight opponents.

After sixteen years as a super snoop, the first lesson we were taught was to blend in. On the campaign trail, I became the invisible man. This gets down to the last item needed to run for public office, charisma. It is helpful to fit the image of the leader of the pack. To be one is not always determined by height, weight and appearance. The lead dog is the one that can find food and develop strategies to make the pack successful. My first live encounter with a charismatic leader was General Curtis E. LeMay. He wasn't more than five foot five, but when he entered a room, a bolt of electricity rattled off the walls. He had what the military calls Command Presence. In politics and movies, it's called charisma.

It's nice to have brains to go along with charisma, but fate sometimes decrees that leaders will be more like Forest Gump. Then how does one develop charisma? It's not difficult,

if you exude confidence and havechutzpah. An example of this is the experience of champion golfer, Lee Trevino. He bet on himself for more money than he had in his pocket. He knew he could win. He radiated confidence. If he was a politician, this confidence would radiate to the voters. To develop charisma you must believe in yourself. However if you have enough money, which equates to power, you can buy charisma, too. If you think not, then why are we governed by those that have? We are a country founded on ideas, by writers and thinkers. George Washington did not even have teeth. Abraham Lincoln was downright ugly. We are now being managed by Forest Gumps with bouffant hairdos who owe their election to money, madness and manipulation. If you do win, don't let hubris take over. If you feel it coming on, remember what Aristophanes said about politicians in 424 B.C., "You have all the characteristics of a popular politician: a horrible voice, bad breeding, and a vulgar manner."

"I tell you folks, all politics is applesauce."

Will Rogers 1924

Office of the Clerk
U.S. House of Representatives
Honorable New Guy Clerk
Washington, D.C. 20515-6601

In the year of our Lord
Dec 27th, 1994
James McMillen Owen
Independent Republican
C00282988 FL/15 121094 N450

Dear Mr. Whomever,

Himself (AKA as Owen Now) has sent in it's termination statement. We don't have any money and we don't owe any money. Newt is still sending me tapes that aren't biodegradable and the FEC is wasting taxpayers money by sending me forms.

The current members of your august body seem to think that they are the cause of their election. Not so. The former members of your august body were the culprits. Congress could save me and themselves a lot of time and the taxpayers a few nickels if they'd revise the election and ethics laws to say no more than: Don't Lie, Don't cheat, Don't steal and Don't go into debt over this foolishness. Several FEC rules that you won't find published are:

- o FEC rules give incumbents money and challengers paperwork.
- o Candidates and monsters are constructed, not born.
- o We learn too late that viruses are spread by shaking hands.
- o The Religious Right gives new meaning to jawbone of an ass.
- o Anyone can walk on water, it's the duration.
- o By voting for NAFTA and GATT, stupid is as stupid does.
- o Newts are able to calculate, but not collate.
- o Contracts are lawyer things, neither can be trusted.
- o When waving signs at traffic, exhale when a diesel passes.
- o Monsters look better in photo ops when sniffing flowers.
- o The Monster of the Religious Wrong is in the new congress.

Il faut cultiver notre jardin,

Jim (no longer a candidate) Owen

United States House of Representatives
Honorable Robin H. Carle
Clerk of the House
Washington, D.C. 20515-6601

March 2nd 1995

Dear Robin,

Himself (AKA as Owen Now) wishes to thank you for stopping the FEC forms and Newt's tapes. Burning the excess in my fireplace almost created a conflagration that would have cleaned the pine tar soot out of my chimney.

My book, tentatively titled **How To Run For Congress On Less Than Five Dollars A Day Or Yes Virginia There Is A Religious Right**, has caused quite a stir among the local politicians. Responses like "We don't want those folks on our necks," "Are you crazy" and "Not on my watch" remind me of the last election. My wife says I'll have better luck if I title it; **Politics; False Smiles, Hogwash And Dining On Road Kill**.

Several presses and agents may look at it so you can tell your folks that my sure fire vote getter (I got a whopping .3%) might be ready to assist on their next try. Lessons learned:

- o I knew I was in trouble when the Supervisors of Elections failed to provide pencils and writing surface in the voting booths.
- o Carry garlic and a cross to ward off the Religious Right when they try to interfere with peaceful petitioning.
- o Spend \$50.00 a day, not \$5.00.
- o Start late, familiarity breeds contempt.
- o Given a choice to run for office or take Social Security, choose the latter.
- o Vox populi vox Dei? Vox media vox populi!

Jim (Independent Republican) Owen

POLITICAL POTPOURRI

"What is the use of a book," thought Alice, "without pictures or conversations."

Lewis Carroll 1865