

New Politics in Massachusetts



CPP

CPP

Citizens for Participation Politics
11 South Street
Boston, Mass. 02111
Telephone 426-3040

tear off and return to: CPP, 11 South St., Boston 02111

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____

I wish to join/renew my membership in CPP.

I enclose a contribution* (payable to CPP):
 \$10 \$15 \$25 other \$ _____

I am willing to help with:

- 1972 congressional campaigns
- 1972 state representative or senate campaigns
- community organizing
- legislative lobbying
- fund-raising
- state office work (typing, mailing, etc.)
- other _____

I would most like to get involved with:

- Health and Social Welfare
- Human Rights and Civil Liberties
- Tax Reform Peace Action
- Electoral Affairs Urban Affairs
- Environmental Problems
- Consumer Protection Education

The skills I can apply consist of _____

Please send me _____ additional copies of this brochure to use in my community.

*The first \$2 of your contribution will be credited to the \$2 annual assessment required of all voting members of CPP.

You can participate:

- by identifying and studying the great issues and small that affect our country's development;
- by making your voice heard and your commitment felt when you have formed opinions about them;
- by electing and supporting officials who will share your concerns and heed your counsel.

The hard way, getting involved, is the surest step you can take. By participating actively in our country's political life to insure its survival. Our way of life cannot survive if your chief aim is to use democracy to benefit yourself.

Getting you involved deeply, effectively, at a policy-making level

More than 6,000 of your fellow citizens in Massachusetts have decided that politics is too vital to leave in the hands of politicians. They have combined their strengths to make more effective their individual dedications to a better country in a better world.

They work at the grass-roots level in largely autonomous groups in 130 Massachusetts communities. They are Citizens for Participation Politics — CPP.

They represent no single political party but many; they are issue-oriented rather than ideologically oriented.

CPP, a different approach

What makes CPP a truly different political organization is its members' do-it-yourself approach to politics. If you feel that an office holder deserves to be turned out, you are encouraged to find, nominate, and elect his successor. Not just by typing envelopes or telephoning or baby-sitting as you probably would be as a beginner in a regular political organization. But actually planning and directing the candidate search and campaign.

You, the citizen, are the expert, the policy maker in CPP. We need your financial support, of course, but we want your active involvement at a responsible level, too. We are and will remain a do-it-yourself organization.

We start by informing you of things you might miss

Keeping you aware of what's happening is a cornerstone of our program.

Perhaps you should write our senators about a critical vote. Or a hearing in Boston may give you a chance to speak.

CPP will tell you about it in time.

We try for a full discussion of issues in their formative state

Our second objective is to achieve a full airing of an issue before it must be resolved.

We regard all public affairs as your concern: health and social welfare, electoral affairs and government structure, peace action and foreign policy, tax reform and fiscal affairs, urban affairs, the environment, education, human rights and civil liberties, and consumer protection.

Major issues lead to major discussions, both within and beyond CPP. We were instrumental in developing channels for direct citizen complaints against polluters. And we have served repeatedly both as a nucleus and catalyst for people and groups concerned with such issues as highway planning, welfare reform, and rent control.

You are offered ways to express your opinion effectively

Informed opinions are sterile unless they can be expressed forcefully. That's where CPP can be most effective for you. Not only does it offer you its own strength, but it joins other groups on issues of common concern.

Nominating and electing responsive, issue-oriented officials is one of the direct action channels. Our innovation, the citizens' caucus, has been a fulcrum giving the people the power to nominate congressmen, county officials and presidential candidates.

All of our methods of expressing your opinion are designed to work within the traditions of our system of self-government. We are pragmatists, not theorists; participants, not observers in ivory towers.

And your successes will be followed through

Your elected and appointed public officials deserve and need your continuing interest and support.

That's why CPP closely observes for you the day-to-day activity of local government as well as those at state and national levels. Insistence of office and abuses of its power are as reprehensible in a district court as in the Congress.

The idea would work better with your help

CPP has enjoyed some heartening successes and could do more if you helped. Whatever your skills and interests, you can translate your commitment to a better future into meaningful steps here.

Fill out and mail the card today, with your check, and we'll tell you where your assistance is needed. Or you tell us about something that needs doing, and we may pitch in and help you.





Citizens for Participation Politics

NEWSLETTER

11 South Street
Boston, Mass. 02111

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McGOVERN CAMPAIGN IN MASSACHUSETTS (by Archie Lyon, Framingham)

The Massachusetts McGovern campaign has only just started to get itself back on the track after various sputters and false starts since the spectacular Democratic Convention. The Eagleton fiasco was only the most visible of the obstacles in the campaign. Reaction to the selection of Sargent Shriver has been generally favorable, with many wondering why he wasn't selected earlier. In Massachusetts, John McKean has been designated campaign director, while superlobbyist David Harrison is New England leader. An attempt to improve relationships with party leaders led to a premature emphasis on Democratic State Committeemen as leaders of the registration drive among new voters (where were the State Committeewomen?). All this is being straightened out as letters have now gone out to all city and town coordinators, re-designating all but a handful.

The Massachusetts campaign really got underway with a Unity Breakfast on August 14, attended by every significant Democrat, from Doris Kanin to John Droney. Even Ms. Hicks joined in the general harmony with some words of praise of our standard-bearer. Endorsements have arrived from a number of labor unions such as the UAW, the social workers, state employees, etc. The Massachusetts operation has moved to a new office at 178 Tremont Street, 3rd floor. (Telephones are being installed as this is being written, so we cannot give the new number; call the old one and you will be referred to the new.) At the old address austerity had hit the staff with a posted announcement that there would be no more payment for parking tickets.

The campaign has three main sections: registration of new voters, fund-raising, and canvassing and follow-up to get out the vote on Election Day. In each of the 40 state senatorial districts, an individual has been designated to serve as coordinator and consultant on voter registration. Those willing to work on the vital procedure of searching out and registering potential Democratic voters should contact local McGovern coordinators, state committeemen or the state McGovern headquarters for the appropriate name. (Several regional headquarters or contacts are listed below.) There will also be some emphasis on local and statewide fund-raising, and visibility through local and regional headquarters will be essential. Local finance committees, with, it is hoped, the help of local Democratic town, ward and city committees, are in the process of being formed. Finally, the massive job of canvassing and identifying the McGovern vote will once more be directed by town and city coordinators. One interesting development, in view of the feeling that Massachusetts is, with South Dakota, the District of Columbia and perhaps Rhode Island, one of the three or four "safest" states for McGovern, is the recommendation by McGovern staff that students register where possible outside of Massachusetts, and especially if they are attending school in states where their votes might make the difference between winning and losing. (Massachusetts may not be as "safe" as it appears, however, and it would be unwise to campaign as if it were. --ed.)

With apologies to the far western members, for whom we seem unable to gather any new information, here are some regional headquarters for the McGovern campaign at the moment:

Worcester: 74 Franklin Street; 791-8626 (John Andrews)
Springfield: no address yet; call Doug Cummings, 733-7138
Brockton: 30 Legion Parkway; 584-6105 (George Papas)
Fall River: 31 Pleasant Street; 679-8582 (Bert Yaffe)

(For related articles, see pages 3 & 4.)

MIDDLESEX COUNTY REFORM SLATE

Many CPP members outside of Middlesex County may not be aware than an extremely important race is shaping up for the September Primary for the two county commissioner seats and for the treasurer's seat. CPP was the parent organization and main sponsor for the Citizens for Middlesex County (CMC) which held a caucus in March, attended by over 1000 voters from that county. They elected a reform slate of candidates, and that slate has been endorsed also by the CPP membership in that area and ADA.

The incumbents are the most scandal-ridden public officials in Massachusetts; but not since 1936 have the incumbents had to face a serious threat to their nomination for re-election. Visible signs of mismanagement, if not of outright corruption, as a county courthouse building whose construction is 5 years behind schedule and \$50 million over its cost estimate of \$16 million have finally forced voters to consider the wisdom of returning to office the men who have spent so much, and bought so little.

The reform "TRAC" slate of Tsongas, Ralph and Counihan, has a combined record of effective struggle against entrenched, self-serving politicians. All three are associated with CPP; with the exception of Mr. Counihan, who has not run for public office in CPP's lifetime, they have been CPP-endorsed (and winning) candidates before.

In this year of the more glamorous presidential campaign, it is easy to lose sight of the importance of local elections. But Middlesex County contains almost one and one-half million people, roughly one-quarter of the state's total population. Its annual budget approaches \$30 million. The interest on the bond issue for construction of the county courthouse alone will come to \$22 million, \$5 million more than the original estimate for the entire construction costs.

CPP of course hopes that every member living in Middlesex County will vote on September 19 for the TRAC slate. But it also urges members in other districts to help too, financially if possible. Efforts at county reform have proved unsuccessful in the past. Here is an opportunity to make a complete change, with a chance for real reform success. If it works here, the possibilities for success in other counties will increase dramatically. Send your check to TRAC, Box 371, Harwood Station, Littleton, Mass. 01460. To help in person, call Fred Woods at 661-9040 (Cambridge).

JONES FOR CONGRESS ATTRACTS SUPPORT

In the two and one-half months since CPP members in the 9th Congressional District endorsed Hubie Jones, the effort to unseat incumbent Louise Day Hicks with a true "new politics" community-oriented candidate has gained visibility and momentum. An intensive voter registration drive helped to sign up many more voters in Roxbury and South End areas of Boston, as well as in the seven suburban towns recently added to the district. Endorsements and visits by national figures such as Dick Gregory and Cong. Ron Dellums have also added to existing community interest.

Issues are both the motive and the strategy of the Jones campaign. As a social worker and community activist (Director of the Roxbury Multi-Service Center), Hubie Jones has fought hard for better systems of education and welfare for both the inner city and the entire state. A long time vocal opponent of the Indochina War, he is anxious to join the congressional anti-war forces seeking an immediate end to that conflict, combined with elimination of excessive military spending.

As CPP's only endorsed congressional candidate to date with a primary contest, the Jones campaign presents a good opportunity to members and volunteers from throughout the state to help this contest. Those interested can sign up for a weekend or primary day volunteer work by calling Jones headquarters at 442-1564 in Roxbury or 449-0199 in Needham. Funds are also needed -- checks should be made out to Jones for Congress and sent to 124 Warren St, Roxbury, Mass. 02119.

ESSEX COUNTY REFORM

The Citizens for Essex County Reform, a group with the same goal in mind as CMC (above) and also an offshoot of North Shore CPP groups, has unanimously endorsed Donald Gardner of Andover for County Commissioner in the September Primary. Residents of Essex County (and others interested) who wish to support his efforts and/or find out more about the group may call Mickey Williamson in Ipswich at 356-5563.

As of August 31, CPP-endorsed candidates for the state legislature include: CHESTER ATKINS (D-Acton) for State Senate; LORRAINE GOLDIN and ROBERT OWENS (Ds-Framingham), ROBERT KLEIN (D-Arlington) and MALCOLM Mc-GREGOR (D-Westfield) for Representative. Groups who may have made additional endorsements should notify the state office as soon as possible. It is also gratifying to see that many CPP members are themselves running for office around the state.

PETITION EFFORTS AGAINST VIETNAM DIKE BOMBING BY U.S.

CPP supports the efforts of the MIT Peace Coalition to obtain signatures in support of a U.S. Senate resolution designed to block attacks on the dams, dikes and hydraulic systems in North Vietnam. On August 4, 1972, Senators Edward Kennedy, George McGovern, Birch Bayh, Frank Church, Thomas Eagleton, Fred Harris, Warren Magnuson, William Proxmire, Abraham Ribicoff and John Tunney submitted a resolution calling on Mr. Nixon to spare the "complicated and ancient system of dikes and dams" from the heavy American bombardment of North Vietnam. CPP members are urged to send messages of support to Senator Kennedy for this Senate resolution, which declares that the U.S. shall not bomb or otherwise attack by air or sea the dams, dikes or hydraulic systems in North Vietnam; and to initiate such petitions to obtain signatures among friends and at meetings in their own communities. For more information, contact Eugene Bell, MIT Peace Coalition, Room 16-820A, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02139, or call 253-5358.

McGOVERN-SHRIVER FUND-RAISING

An extravagant plan is unfolding for a mammoth fund-raising event for the McGovern-Shriver campaign. Details are not completely settled yet, but a mid-week, mid-October date is certain. Organizers are suggesting the probability of having a "star" show at the Boston Garden, with such attractions as Liza Minelli and/or Alan King. The show would be scheduled to start at 9 pm, so that individuals could have parties, dinner or cocktail-type, in their own communities beforehand. The suggested price for a combined dinner party and show is \$25.00 per person, with tickets for the show alone to be made available at various prices for those who cannot make it to private parties. Since it is not certain that CPP will have another general mailing before the date eventually decided upon, it is suggested that those interested in helping (by having a party or by selling tickets or otherwise working on the event) call Helen Rees at the McGovern headquarters, and she will have further information.

A combined 5th and 7th Congressional Districts Candidates Appearance and Fund-Raiser "COCKTAILS FOR McGOVERN" will be held on Saturday, September 16, 8 pm - midnight at the Marist Field House (next to the VA Hospital) on Spring Street in Bedford. The \$15 per couple (single, \$7.50) covers unlimited drinks at an open bar, food, music by a 17-piece orchestra, free McGovern buttons and bumperstickers and plenty of literature; and best of all, a promise of NO SPEECHES by all the Congressional candidates for the two districts who will attend and be introduced, but not talk. They will make themselves available throughout the evening for individual talks however. For more information or to help sell tickets, call Maureen Edison in Burlington (272-5575) or Larry Whalen in Billerica (667-6435).

GRASSROOTS McGOVERN VOLUNTEERS

An organization called Grassroots McGovern Volunteers was formed in Miami the day Sen. McGovern was nominated, when 450 people from across the nation met at the Doral Hotel and decided to push together for a strong, active issue campaign.

GMV believes that interest in George McGovern springs from a desire for change in priorities and from concern for issues. They believe that their involvement must not only supplement the campaign of a particular candidate, but must involve a basic lasting commitment to deal with the issues. Because this is the philosophy on which CPP itself was founded, we hope that people will consider seriously what this new young group has to say.

They are concerned at the delay of the McGovern campaign in Massachusetts in

getting off the ground, and are upset; as many others are also, at the apparent backsliding by Sen. McGovern on issues and at his turning to "both local and national party bosses instead of to the grassroots who got him nominated".** GMV would like to see the campaign become directly involved in issues such as rent control hearings, anti-war rallies, support for David Deitch, the lettuce boycott, etc.

GMV is planning a meeting, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7.30 pm (place to be announced later) to discuss these ideas and other suggestions. Everyone is welcome to help in this issue-oriented effort. For more information or to help, call Blair Hodgman, 288-0579 (Boston), Susan Russell, 566-2736 (Brookline) or Dianne Rich, 871-1076 (426 Washington St., Abington 02351).

**CPP would not oppose in any way efforts of the McGovern campaign to involve all Democrats and others, but would hope that more emphasis could be placed on issue- and community-oriented people.

CPP ENDORSEMENTS - READ BEFORE USING YOUR BALLOT

Much is often made of organizational endorsements: candidates seek them for publicity value and occasionally financial contributions. An organization's endorsement binds no individual member to work, or even vote, for the endorsee.

CPP's endorsement has been different in the past, and should continue to be different if it is to mean anything in the future. Although its publicity and financial value are relatively low, a CPP endorsement means a significant release of energy into the candidate's campaign: scores and even hundreds of volunteers who will do the hard, foot-soldier work of the campaign.

CPP has already endorsed a presidential candidate, which is going to mean a lot of hard work going into November. Several congressional districts have already endorsed candidates, as have local groups for state representative and senator, and additional endorsements may reasonably be expected.

CPP urges each member to weigh the reasons for every endorsement vote. A paper endorsement is of no use to the candidate and would be damaging to CPP. Those not willing to make a serious effort and commitment of time and/or money to a given candidate should consider very seriously the alternative of voting for "no endorsement" in that race.

Finally, a clarification as to who can vote: only those members who have paid at least the minimum financial requirement (\$2.00) for this year will have their ballots counted. The \$2.00 is per person and does not cover a couple voting. Each individual must have paid. This money and additional contributions may accompany any ballot. However, from this time on, only paid-up members will receive Newsletters and ballots.

STUDENT SERVICE OFFICE

A new information agency run by students working within the Massachusetts Department of Education has been set up to provide teachers and students with information about students' rights, alternative education programs, disciplinary codes, teacher evaluation by students, open campus, etc. Future plans include the filing of legislation pertaining to students' rights, due process procedures for suspension and expulsion, confidentiality of records, and grievance procedures. Many of these areas are covered in the CPP Platform and will be of interest to members. To avail yourself or others of the services, write to the Massachusetts Department of Education, Student Service Center, 4th floor, 182 Tremont St., Boston 02111, or call 727-5757.

JOHN ELDER LEAVING

By the middle of September John Elder, one of the founders and first State Chairman of CPP, will have left Massachusetts to take a new job in the Rochester, New York area. While he was Chairman, CPP grew from 600 to over 4000 issue-activists, from a few chapters to over 100 local groups. He gave an incredible amount of time to the organization, not only in his leadership role, but also doing the unglamorous, hard, envelope-stuffing kind of work that must constantly be done. CPP has survived and grown over these four years, due in large measure to the personal efforts of John Elder. His place will be impossible to fill: we will all miss him very much.

But we eagerly look forward to a future liaison with a Rochester area CPP.....