

PARTIES AND  
OTHER  
POLITICAL  
ORGANIZATIONS

# NEWSLETTER

A Continuing Subfield of the American Political Science Association

CHAIR, 1981- Kenneth Janda, Northwestern University  
SECRETARY, 1979- Kay Lawson, San Francisco State University  
CHAIR, 1979-1981: John Bibby, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

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No. 3      Northwestern University; Evanston, Illinois 60201      November, 1981

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## Report on Business Meeting, September 4

The annual business meeting of Parties and Other Political Organizations (POPO) was again held in conjunction with the American Political Science Association Convention, this time at the Hilton Hotel in New York. About twenty members attended the meeting, which was chaired by John Bibby (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), with Kay Lawson (San Francisco State University) as Secretary. Discussion ranged over several topics: panel plans for the 1982 APSA convention; publication of this Newsletter; the status of our proposed journal, Political Organization; broadening POPO membership; and the directory of POPO members. The meeting concluded with election of a new chair to succeed John Bibby. The main points discussed in each topic were as follows:

### Panels at the 1982 APSA Convention

David Mayhew (Yale University) is organizing the Section on "Political Parties and Other Organizations" at the 1982 Convention. He has coordinated his plans with POPO and even chose a section title that reflects our name. He indicated that he would report on his panel in the next issue of our Newsletter (and he did, see his item below). As usual, POPO's plans for a panel at the convention will depend on what materializes in the official program. Our policy is to supplement that program, not replace it. By agreement with Mayhew, however, POPO will sponsor at least one panel, that on organizational theory and political parties. Persons who wish to participate in this panel should send their proposals to Kay Lawson at San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA 94132.

### New Directions for this Newsletter

It was suggested that the Newsletter might be issued more frequently and expanded in coverage to improve communications within POPO. The excellent newsletter of the British Politics Group was cited as a model effort. As a first step in improvement, perhaps ours might publish items about on-going research projects along with abstracts of recent convention papers. In keeping

with those suggestions, this issue describes some current projects. Subsequent issues (plans are to have three per year) will report abstracts of papers on parties and political organizations delivered at professional conferences. (See the request for abstracts later in the Newsletter.)

#### Status of our proposed journal

Kay Lawson, who took the leadership in planning for a journal tentatively titled Political Organization, reported on the outcome of her negotiations with M.I.T. Press, which had our proposal under serious consideration since the 1980 APSA Convention. Although they showed considerable interest in the proposed journal, the Press lacked funding to take on another journal at this time. The favorable reaction to our proposal was encouraging, however, and it was decided to press ahead in the search for a publisher. (If you know of a likely possibility, please send your suggestions to Ken Janda, who has agreed to take over the mission from Kay.)

#### Broadening our Membership

It was noted that nearly all of our 194 members are American academics. We should try to increase the size and diversity of our membership by inviting applications from non-academics (such as journalists, with David Broder named as a prime example) and from foreign scholars. (Such a program is now underway. You can help by inviting colleagues to apply by returning a copy of the membership form at the end of this issue.)

#### The Membership Directory

The 1981 directory of POPO members was sent to all who paid their 1981 dues. (If you paid and failed to receive a copy, write Janda. If you did not pay and want one, send in \$1.00.) The directory, which lists members alphabetically and also by topics of specialization, will be updated in 1982. The suggestion was made that it be sent to publishers and journal editors who might use it as a source of potential reviewers.

#### Election of a New Chair

John Bibby, who chaired POPO since its founding at the 1979 Convention through the efforts of Kay Lawson, decided not to seek re-election for an unprecedented third term. His departure might have produced a spirited contest among leaders in the field to succeed him. Instead, Kenneth Janda was elected by unanimous acquiescence. Our Founder, Kay Lawson, agreed to continue as POPO Secretary, calming many unnerved by the leadership change.

#### 1982 APSA Panels on Political Parties and Other Organizations by David Mayhew

As of November 1, with a month to go before the deadline on submitting paper proposals for 1982, I have received sixteen proposals for panels or papers. Five proposals for papers look especially good and fit snugly into the section, and I have accepted them. I have commissioned one paper and shall commission more. I am waiting for the December 1 deadline before reaching closure on panel titles. Papers can be grouped in various combinations, and I think it makes sense to wait until December 1 before reaching final decisions on the groupings.

The section will have seven panels. One of these, by decision of the

overall program organizer, will be a "state of the discipline" panel featuring a paper on the "state of the discipline" in the section -- probably on the study of parties. I shall probably set up a roundtable on presidential nominating. A good bet, given the flow of proposals so far, is that panels will accommodate work on PACs, party organization, interest groups, and possibly party reform.

My PS notice on the "political parties and other organizations" section may be worth repeating:

The panels in this section will deal with extra-governmental organizations whose activities in or between elections affect what happens in elections or what governments do. Examples: party organizations, candidate organizations, political think tanks, conventional interest groups, movement groups such as the Moral Majority, media organizations in their role as coverers of elections or government. Examples of kinds of treatments welcomed: the activities of organizations; their transactions with politicians, publics, or public officials; the incentive structures that get them started and keep them going; their impact on elections or government; accounts of how contemporary types of organization resemble or differ from historically antecedent types, who or why not and so what. Treatments of American organizations will be welcomed, and also treatments comparing American organizations with ones in other countries.

If you wish to participate in the section on parties and other other organizations, please write me promptly at the Department of Political Science; Yale University; 124 Prospect Street; New Haven, CT 06520.

Past APSA Panels on Parties and Other Organizations  
by Kenneth Janda

For lack of anything better to do, I tried to determine the treatment accorded to parties and other political organizations in the official programs from 1971 through 1981. The treatment varied greatly. Some programs had a section devoted exclusively or nearly so to parties or organizations, while some only offered a few panels on the topic couched within some broader section. In 1972, for example, there was no section on parties or organizations and only two panels, both under an "American Politics" section. This was the least attention given to parties and organizations in the eleven conventions studied. Attention increased only slightly in 1973. There was again no pertinent section but there were four relevant panels, three under "American Politics" and one under "Comparative Politics: Communist Areas."

The 1972 and 1973 conventions stand out as low points in the space given to papers on parties and organizations over the period. Perhaps these two conventions reflected a reaction to that in 1971, when the section "Conflicts, Groups, and Party Alignments" offered ten relevant panels. In any event, interest was reawakened in the 1974 Convention, which had two relevant sections: one on "Theory and Politics of Organization," and the other on "Comparative Party and Electoral Systems." While the first section had only three pertinent panels, the latter offered eight. The interest continued in 1975, with a section of six panels on "Political Organization and Political Action" and one related panel under "Comparative Politics: Western Areas" and another under

"Political Involvement and Political Behavior."

The attention given to parties and political organizations kept about the same through 1976, 1977, and 1978. Although there was no section on parties again in 1976, there were seven panels that qualified under four other sections. A separate section reappeared in 1977 as "Political Organization and Political Action" with nine panels and four others qualifying under three other sections. There was no separate section in 1978, but still there were six panels under three different sections.

Beginning in 1979, we see the influence of our Founder and our former chair in the official program. Kay Lawson organized a section on "Parties and Other Political Organizations" in 1979 with seven panels. Five other panels under five other sections complemented her section. John Bibby in 1979 organized a section with an equivalent title: "Political Parties and Interest Groups." It had six panels and four others appeared under four other sections. Again in 1981, there was a section (organized by Martin Shefter, Cornell) on "Representation in the Modern State: Political Parties and Their Alternatives," with eleven panels. Ten others (mostly on non-party political organizations) were held under eight different sections. In addition, POPO sponsored its own panel (its first) on "Comparative Analysis of Local Party Organization," which was chaired by William Crotty (Northwestern University). It is referenced in his report below.

This review of treatment accorded to parties and other political organizations in our national conventions during the past eleven finds a substantial increase in attention given to the topic since a low point in 1972 and 1973. Although the evidence is not reported in this review, a study of the panel titles over time suggests, however, that the organizational theory side of political organizations has received relatively little attention. This neglect occurred even in the 1981 convention, which had more relevant panels than any other year. The perceived lack of attention given to parties and other groups as organizations has led to the decision to have POPO sponsor such a panel at the 1982 meeting. If you are interested in participating, please write Kay Lawson, panel organizer, at San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA 94132.

Comparative Study of Local Party Organization  
by William Crotty

A comparative study of local party organization and activity was executed in five cities: Los Angeles, Detroit, Nashville, Houston, and Chicago. The study employed a common questionnaire and surveyed the most available local organizational unit closest to the voter (precinct or ward committeemen or their territorial equivalents). The focus of this research was on the demographic characteristics of the activists; motivational patterns; organizational structures; intra-party decision-making processes and party activity levels. Initial reports of the findings were given at the POPO-sponsored panel on local party organization at the APSA Convention in September. The principal investigators of the study are Samuel Eldersveld (Michigan), Anne Hopkins (Tennessee), Dwaine Marvick (UCLA), Richard Murray (Houston), and William Crotty. Copies of the original analysis for each city can be obtained from the authors.

Comparative Parties Panel at 1982 Southwestern Meetings  
by Kenneth Janda

I am organizing a panel on comparative political parties for the 1982 Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency and St. Anthony Hotels in San Antonio, March 17-21. If you are interested in presenting a paper that deals with the comparative analysis of parties or party systems, please write promptly or (better) call (312) 492-7450 to express your interest in participating.

Research on Party Failure  
by Kay Lawson

Peter Merkl (University of California, Santa Barbara) and I are seeking proposals for contributions to a new book, When Parties Fail: Emerging Forms of Political Organization. The book will be composed of case studies of political organizations that are presently threatening to take the place of established parties, e.g., single-issue groups, street action and fringe movements, minor parties, and so on. Please write me at the Department of Political Science; San Francisco State University; San Francisco, CA 94132.

RNC Clearinghouse on Election Reform Studies  
by Judy Van Rest

The Republican National Committee has established a clearinghouse to trace and monitor all studies being conducted on the problems of this nation's election process. The clearinghouse was created for two purposes: first, to aid the RNC's special study group, The Committee to Study Election Reform, which is reviewing election reform across-the-board, including the proliferation of primaries, spending and contribution limits, the Federal Election Commission, and so on; and second, to offer an information service to those interested. A listing of such studies will be published in the next issue of Commonsense: A Republican Journal of Thought and Opinion, which will focus on election reform.

The clearinghouse seeks your help in identifying these studies. If you or any of your colleagues are involved in election studies, individually or in a group, on the presidential, congressional, state, or local levels, please contact Judy Van Rest, Editor of Commonsense, with the following information: a brief description of the study, the participants, the source of funding, and when and how the findings or recommendations will be presented. Please send to 310 First Street, S.E.; Washington, D.C. 20003; or you may call (202) 484-6688.

### Call for Author's Abstracts of Their Convention Papers

The plan is for future issues of the Newsletter to contain a section reporting papers on parties and organizations that have been recently delivered at professional meetings. It would help greatly if authors of relevant papers delivered at recent conventions (such as the 1981 APSA and Southern meetings) would prepare and submit 150 word abstracts for publication in the Newsletter. This should facilitate the dissemination of research in convention papers that often escapes attention. Please send your abstracts (with full citation as to author, title, and conference particulars) to Kenneth Janda; Department of Political Science; Northwestern University; Evanston, Illinois 60201.

### Who Does What and Where in POPO? by Kenneth Janda

POPO members were asked to check fields of specialization from a list of 59 (see attached membership renewal form). This information is used to generate the membership directory by specialty as well as alphabetically by name. A simple computer count of special fields and of place of residence offers a quick answer to who among POPO's 194 current members is interested in what and where they are located. The five most frequently checked specialities are "American" (81), "Elections" (46), "Organizations" (43), "Interest Groups" (37), and "Comparative" (30). Another 14 members did not check "Comparative" in general but did note a particular area: "Western," "European," "British," "French," "African," "Asian," or "Developing Areas."

The substantial interest of POPO members in comparative parties and organizations is noteworthy in view of the overwhelming proportion of Americans among its members. Only 3 of 194 POPO members reside in a foreign country (Britain, Canada, and West Germany). Of those who live in the U.S., most live in California (19), followed by Illinois (13), and Massachusetts and New York (9 each).

### New and Continuing Membership in POPO

In an effort to keep our membership directory up to date, I ask that you complete and return the membership form at the end of this newsletter. If your mailing label is wrong, please strike the offending portion and write in the correction. Also, please recheck your interests on the list of 59. This time be sure to LIMIT YOUR CHOICES TO 8 or fewer to force some selectivity in choice. Although the mean number of choices was 4.6, some members checked as many as 20 or 30 categories, diluting the notion of field specialization.

Those who wish to become new members of POPO need only copy the form and submit it with \$3.00 dues for 1981-82. This will register them to receive the POPO Newsletter and enter them in the 1982 membership directory, which will be prepared and mailed in the Winter of 1982. New members may receive a copy of the 1981 directory immediately by enclosing an extra \$1.00 with their 1981-82 membership dues.

## PARTIES AND OTHER POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS

A Continuing Subfield of the American Political Science Association

Title and Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If the mailing label on the reverse side is incorrect, please check here ( )  
and revise on reverse side or give correct address below:Please check your special interests (up to 8 choices) on this revised list:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 00 ORGANIZATION:<br>PURPOSE/ACTORS/STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 SYSTEM STABILITY/CHANGE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 01 Ideology/Policies                         | <input type="checkbox"/> 51 Institutionalization              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 02 Strategy/Tactics                          | <input type="checkbox"/> 52 Decline/decomposition             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 03 Members/Activists                         | <input type="checkbox"/> 53 Reform/renewal                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 04 Elites/Leaders                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 54 Alignment/dealignment             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 05 Candidates/Officeholders                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 Competition                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 06 Factions                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 56 Minor Parties                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 07 National Conferences/Organs               | <input type="checkbox"/> 57 Anti-system/Revolutionary         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 08 Local/Constituency Organs                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 AMERICAN POLITICS: AREA/LEVEL/ERA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 ORGANIZATION: PROCESS                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 61 Southern                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Recruiting/incentives                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 62 Eastern                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Decision making                           | <input type="checkbox"/> 63 Midwestern                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Campaigning                               | <input type="checkbox"/> 64 Western                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Fund raising                              | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 States in general                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Nominating candidates                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 66 Local/City/County                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Discipline/cohesion                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 67 Before 1900                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Propagandizing                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 68 1900 to World War II              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Social Activities                         | <input type="checkbox"/> 70 AMERICAN POLITICS: STRUCTURE      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 RELATIONS TO THE PUBLIC                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 71 Primary elections                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Political Participation                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 72 Pres. Nomination Conventions      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Mass movements                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 73 Third Parties                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 23 Anti-organization attitudes               | <input type="checkbox"/> 74 Black/Hispanic politics           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24 Community groups                          | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 Political Action Committees       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 Social Cleavages                          | <input type="checkbox"/> 76 Federal Election Commission       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26 Voting behavior                           | <input type="checkbox"/> 77 Democratic Party                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27 Clientelism                               | <input type="checkbox"/> 78 Republican Party                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 RELATIONS TO GOVERNMENT                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 80 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS/INTEREST     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 31 Executive leadership                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 81 Western Democratic                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 32 Coalition government                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 82 Communist Regimes                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 33 Legislative participation                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 83 Non-communist Authoritarian       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 34 Bureaucracy                               | <input type="checkbox"/> 84 Latin America                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 Linkage functions                         | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 N. Africa/Middle East             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 36 Lobbying activities                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 86 Africa south of the Sahara        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 37 Political finance laws                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 87 Asia                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 38 Elections/Electoral Systems               | <input type="checkbox"/> 88 Transnational/European Community  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40 NON-PARTY GROUPS                          | <input type="checkbox"/> 89 Specific countries: _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 41 Private interest groups                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 90 STUDY OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 42 Public interest groups                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 91 Organizational Theory             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 43 Single interest groups                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 92 Historical analysis               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 44 Extremist groups                          | <input type="checkbox"/> 93 Statistical analysis              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45 Media as organizations                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 94 Modeling/simulation               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 46 Political consultants                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 95 Concept analysis/measurement      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> 96 Data collection                   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> 97 Definitions/Typologies            |

NB: Send with check for \$3.00 dues (payable to Northwestern University) to Prof. KENNETH JANDA; DEPT. OF POLITICAL SCIENCE; NORTHWESTERN U.; EVANSTON, IL. 60201

★ Please send news items for publication in the Winter NEWSLETTER.