



The Georgia Green Party

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Ecological Wisdom • Grassroots Democracy • Social Justice • Peace & Non-Violence
Decentralization • Community Based Economics • Feminism • Respect for Diversity
Personal & Global Responsibility • Future Focus on Sustainability

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Georgia Green Candidate Announces

more Greens to declare soon for Georgia's 2000 ballot

Askren pledges to help average citizens be effective change agents for their communities

Rovene Askren, an outrageous, 52 year old mother of five, grandmother of thirteen, former exotic dancer and midwife, now a homesteader living near Milner, announced today her candidacy for the Georgia General Assembly, House District #109. She was one of three candidates for local office nominated by the Georgia Green Party at their state convention on March 17th in Americus Georgia.

"It's time we build a future worthy of our children," said Askren. "They deserve better than being driven over the cliff by what passes for public policy these days." The Lamar County candidate said her personal priorities include democratizing the Electric Membership Cooperatives, ensuring that clean, organic food is grown in school yards and eaten in the cafeterias, and addressing the abuses of the Department of Human Resources which break up functioning families while allowing children to go unprotected from systemic abuse.

Askren has launched a campaign to obtain 2,600 signatures necessary to survive the validation process and obtain ballot access for the 2000 General Election this November. Her petition team will also be working to place the Green Party's Presidential candidate on the ballot. Ralph Nader and Stephen Gaskin are both seeking the Party's nomination at their Denver Presidential Nominating Convention June 24-25, 2000.

"I'm excited to have an opportunity to run on Nader's coat tails," said Rovene Askren, who is also a delegate to the Denver Convention in June. The state Convention in March was divided evenly between delegates who preferred Gaskin or were in Nader's camp. But Askren reasons, "In 2000, we can do so much more for our nation and this planet than simply taking that 5% and earning public funding in 2004. The polls show we already *start* there. Look, I've long respected the work of Stephen and Ina Mae and their whole community for their commitment to International peace making and disaster relief. Ina Mae has been a shining voice in our movement for safe and sane childbirth."

Reuters News Service today reported on a Zogby Poll that asked 1,004 likely voters, "In the Presidential elections in November, if the candidates were Democrat Al Gore, Republican George W. Bush, Reform Party's Pat Buchanan, and the Green Party's Ralph Nader, for whom would you vote?" While Gore and Bush were at a statistical dead heat, Nader outpolled Buchanan who took 3.3% to Nader's 5.3%. Nader tallied 8.9% of the Independent vote, as well as 5.7% of Democratic respondents and a smaller 2.1% of the GOP.

Ms. Askren authored a 1983 book, *Parents, Love Your Children*, penned under the name, Eve Howard. As Kyle Emerson, her editor put it in his preface, she offers a systematic approach to help parents manifest in their children the "inate good that lies at the core of all humans" The book asks parents to avoid the ego of parenthood and to simply enjoy the privilege of being a parent and loving a child. Her approach is to accenuate all a child does that's good, ignore all the bad and to create with one's children confidence in their strengths and in their capacity to excell. As her Editor wrote, "Beneath every word of this book, one finds the underlying theme that there is nothing in the world more precious than one's children."

"I love them both and really hope the Gaskins continue to work to build the Green Party and to deliver the vote for our eventual nominee. These grandchildren need their help too. When I wrote the book, I thought it's mere publication would end child abuse. The next newspaper report of a child murdered by his parent was crushing. I've raised my own, now and I have a lot to offer and the time is certainly now for action. I feel Nader is our Party's best standard-bearer. This campaign will deliver our vote for Nader in November and seat me in the Georgia state House. This ain't an ego trip. Our Green slate is ready to go to work for you. I invite people to call me at 770-412-1513 and let me know what matters to you."