

from front

Nobody as Commander-in-Chief?

Admittedly, Nobody's campaign platform is a bit, ah, unusual. Confronting the current upsurge in patriotic jingoism, the bumper-stickers boldly call for, "US out of North America." And though the low

voter-turnout in the last outing accounted for Nobody's unheralded victory (50 million eligible voters voted for nobody, compared to only 40 million who cast ballots for supposed winner Jimmy Carter),

the 1980 campaign button declares that, "Apathy Sucks — Nobody for President."

Nobody has a platform like that. California, which has given the country those perpetual candidates former Gov. Raygun and Gov. Moonbeam, has recognized Nobody's legitimacy and placed it on the ballot. Gravy and Spangler, meanwhile, are on their way to New Hampshire for next week's primary contest.

Gravy, usually described in the media as a satirist or a comedian, also has a serious side, a person devoted to acts of joyful healing and somber love. An accomplished clown, he frequently appears at children's wards in hospitals, dispensing therapeutic laughter; and at a moment's notice, he stops the tongue-dancing to speak earnestly about the SEVA institute, a world-wide foundation seeking to eliminate blindness.

"Let there be sight," is SEVA's motto, a nice switch for a man who a few generations ago sought the inner light primarily through massive ingestions of LSD and other psychedelics.

"My chromosomes have amnesia, man," Gravy says of those mind-bending days when he and the rest of the extended Hog Farm Family got on the bus and rode it to the frontier of Further. "All I know is, it takes two to tango — and three to tell the truth."

To tell the truth, Nobody tells it better.

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David Salinsky photos courtesy The Daily Cardinal

The candidate chatters into a sea of confetti.