

## Lee McClure Come Candidate Statement

Complaining about problems won't fix them. But pretending they don't exist only makes them worse. That's what happened to WBAI which is now bankrupt, and a quarter-million dollars in debt. Oddly enough, no one seems to be responsible. Not only does the WBAI board majority (called the JUC) not recognize the deficit but also claims no responsibility. JUC is in denial and has failed to responsibly oversee management. They all fiddled around while WBAI burned. Now they want to be re-elected, so they can continue fiddling until WBAI is in ashes. I say NO!

For 4 years, the JUC majority did nothing as daily revenues dropped by half. They did nothing after Gary Null, Robert Knight and Mike Feder were harassed and fired causing thousands of listeners to leave in disgust. They did nothing as pledge drives became so long they now take one out of every 4 minutes of air time. They did nothing when computers and audio equipment mysteriously "disappeared" from the station. Or when "friends" of management began to hang around all day, with apparently nothing to do, except beat up staff members who stepped "out of line" (as they beat up WBAI's Fulfillment Director in his own office).

The JUC majority closed their eyes when so-called "consultants" received large payoffs for work that management couldn't describe, and whose names it wouldn't reveal. Nor did they investigate when some of their own members took salaries from the station for "noshov" jobs. Nor did they ask why an award-winning reporter (a Black man) was fired after being told he "played too much White man's music" on his show. Or why WBAI's leading program (bringing in a third of its revenue) was abruptly cancelled after 27 years because the program director wanted to give that time slot to his personal physician. Or why the JUC won't re-broadcast "Democracy Now" for a second time in the evening, so working people can hear it when they get home.

The current JUC majority should be replaced because it has destroyed our finances, our audience, and our moral credibility. I hope you'll elect me as one of those "replacements." As Founder & Director of the Eclectix Chamber Orchestra, I know how to make creative people work together instead of fighting with each other (a big problem at WBAI). And since my orchestra is non-profit, I have to create realistic budgets, and stick to them, while st-r-r-r-retching every dollar as far as it can go.

As a yellow taxicab driver, I've also developed an understanding of many different nationalities and the blood, sweat and tears that working people and many immigrants endure to help their families here and abroad. These skills can help bring WBAI back to life, stronger and more glorious than ever.

I hope you will also vote for James Ross, Bernardo Palombo, Don Mathisen, Jennifer Jager, Carla Cubit, Seth Goldberg, Stefan Neutstatder, Bob Gold, Ken Laufer, Albert Solomon, and Pat Logan. Thank you.