



APC NEWS

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party Affiliate Parties Committee

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There Is No Substitute for ACTION!

By Joseph Knight

Editor's Note: Joseph Knight is State Coordinator for the Libertarian Party of New Mexico, as well as one of several successful LP organizers who have offered their services to the National Party for 1991. This article is the outline for another of Knight's "pep talks" that he has used in his work in New Mexico. It is just as applicable to groups around the country.

ACTION—Syn: deed, achievement, feat, accomplishment, exploit, battle, engagement, instrumentality, agency, exercise, motion, operation, behavior, activity, movement, work, business, performance, doing.

We should keep some broad objectives in mind when planning action:

Name Recognition—Many people have still never heard of the Libertarian Party. Our task is to make "libertarian" a household word.

Issue Identification—Many people who have heard of the LP don't know what we stand for. Our task is to make our positions known so these folks can figure out that they agree with us on more than they thought they would, and may even be libertarian.

Education—Our task is to show people that our principles are sound and right, and persuade them that our solutions are workable in the real world.

Credibility—Our task is to convince people that the Libertarian Party is indeed viable, growing, and capable of achieving increasing degrees of success.

Recruitment—Our task is to sign 'em up—as registered Libertarians and, whenever possible, as dues-paying LP members and active volunteers.

Votes—Our task is to get more and more

qualified LP candidates on the ballot and keep increasing our vote tallies until we start winning. Libertarians have won before: in Alaska, California, Kansas... We ARE growing. We CAN win in New Mexico.

Use the Media! Use one-on-one communication! Recruit! Keep local activities going!

Here are some ideas for activities for your local Libertarian Party group:

- Literature tables (flea markets, fairs, malls, college campuses, motorcycle runs/shows, gun shows, special events)
- Partisan Political Campaigns
- Socials
- Mailings
- Letter Writing Parties
- Introductory Presentations
- Sponsor or Attend Roundtable Discussions or Seminars
- Sponsor or Participate in Debates
- Radio & TV Talk Shows
- Press Conferences
- Lobbying Government Bodies
- Legal Actions
- Petition Drives
- Demonstrations & Marches
- Local Newsletter
- Community Service Projects
- Parades
- Paid Advertising
- LP Issue Statements
- Sponsorship (essay contests, scholarships, ball teams, Boy Scout troop)
- Joinings (League of Women Voters, etc.)
- Form Coalitions w/Single-Issue Groups
- Plays & Concerts (liberty-oriented)
- Shadow Governments (candidate training)

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New Party Membership Structure Approved by National Committee

By Karen Allard & Perry Willis

The Libertarian National Committee made important changes to the party's national membership structure at its meeting December 8.

Of special interest to our 51 affiliate parties is a change in national memberships solicited by state parties. These memberships, which state parties are encouraged to solicit, must be in the BASIC and SUBSCRIBING categories (see below) only. **State parties can sell joint memberships at the SUBSCRIBING level at whatever price they choose, as long as the affirmation statement and \$10 for each new or renewing member is forwarded to LPHQ.** Only the affirmation statement must be forwarded for BASIC members. When state parties sell *LP News* subscriptions, \$10 for each subscription should be sent to LPHQ.

Local party organizations should forward these items to LPHQ through their state party affiliate, unless the state party has waived this restriction.

All new membership categories require written affirmation of the member's opposition to the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals. Individuals may subscribe to *LP News*, without the written affirmation, for \$25 per year. The new membership categories and the benefits are explained below:

BASIC—There are no dues requirement for Basic membership. Basic members will receive member packets which include a bumper sticker, coupons, and a membership card. (Membership cards will be sent out only once.) In addition, they will receive two issues of *LP News* and a year-end report summarizing National LP activities. Basic member is the only category that will not be counted for purposes of affiliate delegate allocation for National Conventions.

SUBSCRIBING—Subscribing members pay annual dues of \$25 and receive the member

packet, the year-end report, and a one-year subscription (12 issues) to *LP News*.

The next four membership categories are premium categories and have been merged with the monthly pledge program. Pledging members in these categories are guaranteed ongoing status as paid members.

SUSTAINING—Sustaining members will receive all the benefits of SUBSCRIBING members, plus a one-year subscription to the special monthly insider's report, *Liberty Pledge Newsletter*. Cost is a \$10 per month pledge through credit card or EFTS (electronic funds transfer system), or \$100 in cumulative contributions during a twelve month period.

SPONSOR—Sponsors will receive all the benefits of SUSTAINING members, plus a one-year membership in **The Vice President's Club**. Cost is a \$25 per month pledge through credit card or EFTS, or \$250 in cumulative contributions during a twelve month period. Membership benefits of The Vice President's Club include a special quality print and a lapel pin.

PATRON—Patrons will receive all the benefits of SPONSOR members, plus a one-year membership in **The President's Club**. Cost is a \$50 per month pledge through credit card or EFTS, or \$500 in cumulative contributions during a twelve month period. Membership benefits of The President's Club include an LP 20th Anniversary mug and a private briefing at the LP National Convention.

LIFE BENEFACTOR—Life Benefactors will receive all the benefits of PATRON members, plus a one-year membership in **The Torch Club**, lifetime LP membership, and a lifetime *LP News* subscription. Previously-sold life memberships will, of course, continue to be valid. Cost is a \$100 per month pledge through credit card or EFTS, or \$1000 in cumulative contributions

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Interstate Networking

Fieldwork Plans Taking Shape... Affiliate Parties Chair Mary Gingell and APC Vice-Chair Steve Dasbach have begun planning and scheduling national fieldwork efforts for 1991.

Field organizers will be available to assist local activists in:

- Setting up viable local LP organizations;
- Revitalizing stagnant organizations;
- Planning and implementing candidate or issue campaigns;
- Planning and implementing local ballot access efforts; and
- Organizing other appropriate ongoing LP projects.

State and local chairs who would like the assistance of a field organizer in their areas should contact Mary or Steve to discuss the services the Affiliate Parties Committee can provide.

D.C. Contractors To Carry Out "Ombudsman" Role... The Affiliate Parties Committee has contracted with MKR Associates of Washington, D.C., for performance of a variety of services during 1991. One of these services will be helping state parties resolve problems with the National Office, as well as facilitating unusual requests made by state activists. Other services to be provided to the APC include production services for this redesigned newsletter, distribution of information packets to new state chairs, and coordinating special national projects with interested state and local groups. MKR Associates, operated by long-time LP activists Me-Me King and Kathleen J. Richman, will also be providing services to the LP Media Relations Committee and the Liberty Pledge program.

"The ombudsman role included in MKR's contract is one way we are implementing the mandate of the national party's management committee charging the APC with monitoring affiliates' satisfaction with the National Office and working to resolve any problems," APC Chair Mary Gingell said. "Not all problems can be solved to everyone's satisfaction, but MKR

will be working with the National Office to arrive at the best solution possible within budgetary and policy restraints.

"I have high hopes that MKR's close proximity to the National Office—and its good working relationship with the staff there—will help improve the state-national interface," Mary added.

The APC communications team (Karen Allard, Toni Black, Ron Crickenberger, Steve Dasbach, Mary Gingell, Vicki Kirkland, and Norma Segal) will be calling state chairs during the month of February with more information about this program.

APC Chair Relocates to West Coast... After visiting with family in the Washington, D.C., area for several months, APC Chair Mary Gingell has returned to live in the San Francisco Bay area. Mary reports that "being near the LP National Office was invaluable in APC problem solving and project development." She added that she hopes the new APC contract with MKR Associates (see previous item) will mitigate the effect of her move out of the area.

Effective February 1, Mary can be reached at her new address, listed in the Directory on page 4.

Calling All State Newsletters... Please add Kathleen Richman to the mailing list for your state party's newsletter, so she can better keep up with local developments for MKR Associates. Her address is listed in the Directory on page 4.

NATIONAL LP PRESS RELEASES AVAILABLE TO STATE CHAIRS

State chairs who so request will be added to the mailing list for all press releases put out by the national LP. Send requests to:

Kathleen J. Richman
MKR Associates
3490 Beaver Ford Rd.
Woodbridge, VA 22192

New Membership Structure

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during a twelve month period. Maintaining this level of giving beyond one year renews your Torch Club membership. Membership benefits of The Torch Club include a private dinner at the National Convention and a plaque.

The Membership and Finance Committees are excited about these changes, which bring membership dues into line with actual costs, prepare for expected postal increases, encourage members to enter the monthly pledge program, and attach deserved benefits to the premium categories. In addition, the enhanced "no-dues" BASIC membership should prove an effective recruitment tool. Questions should be directed to National Membership Chair Karen Allard.

No Substitute for Action

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Volunteer Day (give military recruiters a birthday cake, invite media)

Independence Day

Media Appreciation Day (wine & dine them, speak on libertarianism, free press issues)

Workshops for Local Activists

Raffles & Auctions

Yard Sale/Bake Sale/Book Sale

Supper Club or Breakfast Club

Organize "Young Libertarians" on college campuses

County Conventions

Put your "thinking cap" on, and add to this list. Put your "doing cap" on, and do a few!

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