



LP News

The Party of Principle[®]

February 2009

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Missouri Libertarians Assured of at Least Two Wins in April

Missouri has Five Libertarians Running for Office in the April 2009 Municipal Elections.

by Glenn Nielsen

Mike Ferguson of Grandview, MO is running unopposed for Third Ward Alderman and will be elected to the City Council in April. Mike has proven that getting involved in your local community can lead to success at the ballot box. Mike currently serves on the Grandview Planning Commission and the Transportation Commission. In 2007 he was elected to represent Subdistrict 2 of the Jackson County Public Water Supply District #1.

In Springfield, Missouri's third largest city, libertarians Tom Martz and Robert Stevens are running for the same general seat on the City Council. They were the top two finishers in a runoff primary in February. They will face off in the April election to



Missouri Libertarians Mike Ferguson (left) and Robert Stevens (right)

see who joins libertarian Doug Burlison on the Springfield City Council. Doug Burlison was elected to the Springfield City Council in 2007.

This is another example where hard work in your local community has paid off at the ballot box. Several years ago Doug Burlison led a successful petition effort to force a state

audit of the Springfield City finances. Subsequently over a million dollars was found missing from the City Clerk's office resulting in criminal prosecutions. Tom Martz helped found the Missouri Liberty Coalition, a non-partisan local government watchdog group.

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No Defending the Defense of Marriage Act

by Bob Barr



In 1996, as a freshman member of the House of Representatives, I wrote the Defense of Marriage Act, better known by its shorthand acronym, DOMA, than its legal title. The law has been a flash-point for those arguing for or against same-sex marriage ever since President Clinton signed it into law. Even President-elect Barack Obama has grappled with its language, meaning and impact.

I can sympathize with the incoming commander in chief. And, after long and careful consideration, I have come to agree with him that the law should be repealed.

The left now decries DOMA as the barrier to federal recognition and benefits for married gay couples. At the other end of the political spectrum, however, DOMA has been lambasted for subverting the political momentum for a U.S. constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. In truth, the language of the legislation -- like that of most federal laws -- was a compromise.

DOMA was indeed designed to thwart the then-nascent move in a few state courts and legislatures to afford partial or full recognition to same-sex couples. The Hawaii court case *Baehr vs. Lewin*, still active while DOMA was being considered by Congress in mid-1996, provided the immediate impetus.

The Hawaii court was clearly leaning to-

ward legalizing same-sex marriages. So the first part of DOMA was crafted to prevent the U.S. Constitution's "full faith and credit" clause -- which normally would require State B to recognize any lawful marriage performed in State A -- from being used to extend one state's recognition of same-sex marriage to other states whose citizens chose not to recognize such a union.

Contrary to the wishes of a number of my Republican colleagues, I crafted the legislation so it wasn't a hammer the federal government could use to force states to recognize only unions between a man and a woman. Congress deliberately chose not to establish a single, nationwide definition of marriage.

However, we did incorporate into DOMA's second part a definition of marriage that comported with the historic -- and, at the time, widely accepted -- view of the institution as being between a man and a woman only. But this definition was to be used solely to interpret provisions of federal law related to spouses.

The first part of DOMA, then, is a partial bow to principles of federalism, protecting the power of each state to determine its definition of marriage. The second part sets a legal definition of marriage only for purposes of federal law, but not for the states. That was the theory.

I've wrestled with this issue for the last several years and come to the conclusion that DOMA is not working out as planned. In testifying before Congress against a federal marriage amendment, and more recently while making my case to skeptical Libertarians as to why I was worthy of their support

as their party's presidential nominee, I have concluded that DOMA is neither meeting the principles of federalism it was supposed to, nor is its impact limited to federal law.

In effect, DOMA's language reflects one-way federalism: It protects only those states that don't want to accept a same-sex marriage granted by another state. Moreover, the heterosexual definition of marriage for purposes of federal laws -- including, immigration, Social Security survivor rights and veteran's benefits -- has become a de facto club used to limit, if not thwart, the ability of a state to choose to recognize same-sex unions.

Even more so now than in 1996, I believe we need to reduce federal power over the lives of the citizenry and over the prerogatives of the states. It truly is time to get the federal government out of the marriage business. In law and policy, such decisions should be left to the people themselves.

In 2006, when then-Sen. Obama voted against the Federal Marriage Amendment, he said, "Decisions about marriage should be left to the states." He was right then; and as I have come to realize, he is right now in concluding that DOMA has to go. If one truly believes in federalism and the primacy of state government over the federal, DOMA is simply incompatible with those notions.

Bob Barr represented the 7th District of Georgia in the House of Representatives from 1995 to 2003 and was the Libertarian Party's 2008 nominee for president. You can visit his Web site at <http://www.Bob-Barr2008.com>.

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"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

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LETTERS To The Editor

LP In-Fighting an Embarrassment

I was hoping to see the Libertarian Party boom after the 2008 election. While Bob Barr didn't do as well as I hoped (he wasn't even on the ballot for me in Louisiana!), instead I saw a whole bunch of bickering in the national committee on the blogs I read about the Libertarian Party. How do you think that looks to the people hoping to come from other parties to the Libertarian Party? NOT GOOD AT ALL!

I hope that you guys can all get it straightened out soon. Let's leave drama for the high schoolers, and get back to saving America.

Mary Doucet
Metairie, LA

New Director of Communications Doing Great Job

The new Director of Communications [Donny Ferguson] is doing a great job! I love coming to the Web site and always seeing a new blog entry. Bravo!

Al Brown
Scranton, PA

Thank You for Standing Up Against the Stimulus Package!

I just wanted to thank the Libertarian Party for putting up a consistent and principled opposition to the stimulus package and what's been going on with the financial crisis. It's good to hear fiscal conservatism is still "in." I can't stand those rotten liberals, who think they know what's best for MY money. And people said communism is dead! Hah!

Russell Smith
Hickory, NC

Protecting the Statement of Principles – the Right Way

At the recent Denver Convention, a proposal reported jointly by the Bylaws and Platform Committees was defeated when the delegates decided that the proposal was out of order – in spite of the independent Parliamentarian's

advising the Chair that it was, in fact, in order. (This person was actually hired by those opposed to the change to the Statement of Principles.)

One of the arguments against the proposal, which would only have required a two-thirds majority, was that it doesn't make sense to be able to amend a Statement of Principles – protected allegedly by a 7/8 hurdle – by only 2/3. That's more than counter-intuitive, it seems like cheating. But there's a problem with that argument: it is based only on a hunch, not on anything codified in Robert's Rules or our Bylaws. The insistence that the authors of the original Bylaws provision regarding modification of the Statement of Principles INTENDED to impose such a restriction carries no weight, because Robert's Principles of Interpretation insist that original intent only matters if the provision in question is unclear or ambiguous. But Bylaws Article 14, Section 2, is not the least bit ambiguous or unclear: "Article 4, Section 1 [specifying that the Statement of Principles may be amended only by a vote of at least 7/8 of all registered delegates] shall not be amended by a vote of less than 7/8 of all registered delegates at a Regular Convention."

But how is Article 14, Section 2, supposed to be protected unless the Denver delegate hunch is correct? The resolution of this difficulty hinges on the answer to this question. Because if Article 14, Section 2 is not protected, one argument advances, then another provision – Article 14, Section 3 – is required, which protects Article 14, Section 2, and then an Article 14, Section 4, is needed to protect Article 14, Section 3, etc. This regress is clearly vicious, because as soon as one stops – and one must stop – then the last provision is itself unprotected, leaving the entire cascade of protections vulnerable to amendment by 2/3.

The answer, settled on by the Bylaws Committee in our deliberations on the procedural (as opposed to the substantive) aspect of the Joint Proposal, was quite simple: reflexivity or, to use the language of philosophers, self-reference. Amend Article 14, Section 2, so that it protects not only Article 4, Section 1, but itself as well.

Thus the Joint Proposal, if adopted, would have finally left Article 14, Section 2, to read, "Article 4, Section 1, and Article 14, Section 2, shall not be amended by a vote of less than 7/8 of all registered delegates at a Regular Convention." Note that Article 14, Section 2 would explicitly protect itself as well as Article 4, Section 1.

Once it is appreciated that this solution to the infinite regress problem is sufficient to protect the Statement of Principles, it should also be instantly apparent that this enhancement of Article 14, Section 2, is necessary, as well, to protect the Statement of Principles. The members of the Bylaws and Platform Committee hoped that enough of the delegates would have read, and understood, the entire proposal – including the concluding 'padlocking' of the 'backdoor' by the reflexive amendment to Article 14, Section 2 – that the compromise would have been accomplished.

Because if those opposed to any change to the Statement of Principles had truly realized and accepted that there is a backdoor that allows modification by a series of 2/3 votes, then they would have understood that our Joint Proposal agreed to padlock that backdoor in exchange for certain modifications. Rejecting the Joint Proposal in effect leaves the backdoor available – and this article makes it clear to every LP member what that means.

On the other hand, the Joint Proposal also attempted to

The Parliamentarian

With LNC Parliamentarian M. Carling

Six Steps in the Life of a Motion



There are six steps in the adoption of a motion: The maker makes the motion; someone seconds the motion (if required); the Chair states the question on the

motion; the body debates the motion (if debatable); the Chair puts the question to a vote; the Chair announces the result.

The first three steps bring the motion before the body. Until these three steps have been taken, the motion belongs to the maker and can be amended or withdrawn by the maker. After the Chair has stated the motion, it belongs to the body and can only be amended or withdrawn with the permission of the body. The Chair's statement of the motion is critically important. It is the Chair's statement of the motion, not the maker's original motion, that is debated, voted upon, and adopted by the body.

Whenever possible, the maker of a motion should give a written copy to the Chair before making the motion.

When putting the question to a vote, it is the Chair's responsibility to ensure that the members clearly understand the motion they are voting upon and the consequences of adoption. He should clearly state the question on the motion and explain the consequences of its adoption. Following the vote, the Chair should announce the vote, whether the motion is adopted or lost, any action items that follow from the motion, and finally the next item of business, if any.

For more details on the handling of motions, please see RONR (10th ed.), pp. 31-54.

M Carling is a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians and the American Institute of Parliamentarians and is credentialed as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian. He will answer parliamentary questions related to the LP or an affiliate if directed to mcarling@gmail.com.

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Libertarian Party Congratulates Judge Jim Gray on Retirement

Libertarian Superior Court Judge Retires After 25-year Career

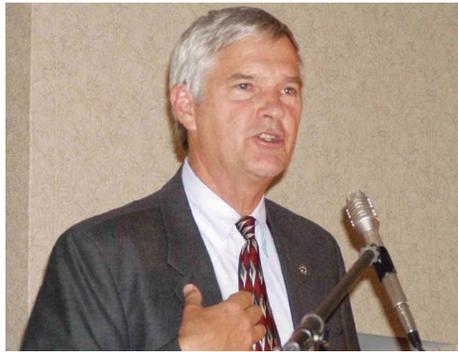


photo from <http://www.welcome.freeenterprisesociety.com>

The Libertarian Party congratulates Libertarian Judge Jim Gray on his retirement from the California Superior Court.

"Libertarians thank Judge Jim Gray for his decades of public service," said Libertarian Party National Chairman William Redpath. "Because of his commitment to good law, California is a better and safer place to live. We congratulate him on his retirement from the bench and look forward to his future endeavors promoting liberty."

Gray was appointed to the Santa Ana Municipal Court in 1983 by Governor George Deukmejian. In 1989, Deukmejian appointed Gray to the Superior Court. A Libertarian, Gray was the party's candidate for United States Senate in 2004.

He has served as a member of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Program's Drinking Driving Program Ad-

visory Committee, was co-founder of the "Drive Alive" program to deter teens from drunk driving, worked with the "Stay In School" program at local high schools and was a co-founder of BLAST (Bert Blyleven Leagues, After School Time) a program providing children with after school athletics and recreation.

Gray also help found the Association of Former U.S. Attorneys, and founded the William P. Gray/Legion Lex Inn of Court in conjunction with USC Law School. Named for his father, a respected federal judge, the program teaches ethics, education, and professionalism to judges and lawyers.

Prior to taking the bench, Gray served as a staff judge advocate and criminal defense attorney in the Navy JAG Corps. He was awarded a National Defense Ribbon, a Vietnam Service Ribbon, and a Combat Action Ribbon during his tour of duty. Gray later served as federal prosecutor in Los Angeles and a civil litigation attorney in a private law firm.

A respected jurist and public servant, Gray's Jan. 24 retirement party was attended by Libertarian, Republican and Democratic officials.

Gray is also known for his work in reforming drug prohibition laws, aimed at breaking up street gangs and organized crime, and making communities safer.

LP of Illinois Participates in Chicago "End the Fed" Rally



photo from <http://endthefedusa.ning.com/>

Fifty members of the Libertarian Party of Illinois joined a peaceful demonstration of 300 enthusiasts in downtown Chicago on Saturday November 22.

The "End the Fed" rally, sponsored by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, started across the street from the Wrigley Building and traveled two and a half miles to end across the street from the Federal Reserve Building.

The Chicago police were very helpful during the rally, with one officer indicating that he wanted to make sure our rights of free speech and peaceable assembly were respected.

Three inspirational speeches highlighted the march. The speakers were: Ken

Prazak, long time libertarian and radio host; Clyde Cleveland, author of "Restoring the Heart of America" and 2002 candidate for governor of Iowa; and Dan Druck, entrepreneur and two time U.S. congressional candidate.

Marchers handed out literature and DVDs. Onlookers waved, snapped pictures and voiced approval. Continuous chants of "Stop the Bailouts" and "End the Fed" echoed through the streets of Chicago, particularly at the end of the rally where the enthusiasm bounced off the nearby tall buildings in the empty financial district.

The rally received news coverage on a local Chicago television station. Event organizers have promised that this is only the beginning.

Taxpayer Watchdog Political Action Committee to Oppose Davenport Promise Program

A non-partisan PAC, Opt4Better, has been formed to promote limited government and lower taxes in the Iowa Quad Cities.

"There is a need for regular, reasoned opposition to programs expanding the scope of local government, and increasing the burden on Davenport's taxpayers," says Mark Nelson, founder of Opt4Better. The PAC will follow local political activities, and engage in issue and candidate support.

Its first project is assisting the taxpayers of Davenport in working to defeat the Promise Program, in the March 3, 2009 referendum. "This program is an unnecessary and unsupported burden on Davenport's taxpayers," says Nelson.

As noted in the Upjohn Study, conducted on behalf of the City of Davenport, "a high level of uncertainty clouds the fiscal impact estimates of the Promise." Nelson states, "Beyond this 'uncertainty,' there are several assumptions within the report that compound the level of problems. We want the tax-

payers to be fully aware of the limited benefits and substantial risks associated with approving this massive expansion of local government."

Mark Nelson was born and reared in the Quad Cities. For the past 15 years, he has lived in Davenport, working as a commercial real estate appraiser. Mark currently serves as the Chair of the Davenport Park and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Nelson previously has worked on several City of Davenport task forces, including Duck Creek, Fejervary Zoo and Credit Island. He has also been active in politics, chairing his precinct's January 2008 Republican presidential caucus, running for local office, is a past Chair of the Libertarian Party of Iowa and the former Treasurer of the Libertarian National Committee.

For additional information you may contact Opt4Better's Web site at <http://Opt4better.org>

LP Already Picks Up Two Seats in Local Missouri Races

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In Chillicothe, MO Libertarians have another winnable election. Jeff Foli is running in a partisan race as a Libertarian for Councilman at large. Jeff was elected Mayor of Chillicothe in 2001 as a Libertarian.

In St. Louis, Robb Cunningham is running for Mayor as a Libertarian in a partisan race. Robb was the Libertarian candidate for the Missouri First Congressional District in 2008 where he received 13.1% of the vote in a two-way race.

In 2007 Missouri elected three out of five libertarians running for local office. With two libertarians already assured of being elected and a third candidate in a winnable race Missouri could very well repeat with another three for five.

Indianapolis Councilman Becomes Libertarian After Fall-Out With Republicans



Edward Coleman, a member of the Indianapolis City-County Council, has switched his affiliation from Republican to Libertarian.

Coleman was elected in 2007 to an At-Large position, and will serve as Indianapolis' only elected Libertarian official.

"This is not a decision I take lightly, nor did I come to it without deep reflection," Coleman said Tuesday.

"I have found that the direction of the Republican Party has changed, and it is not the same party I joined many years ago," he said. "Nor do I believe its current leaders truly represent the ideals that the party markets and advertises to voters."

Coleman said he faced the criticism of his fellow Republicans when he opposed the secretive and expensive affairs of the Capital Improvement Board. "The two old parties want obedient followers, not leaders," he said.

As the Libertarian Party has long been a refuge for disillusioned voters, today's announcement did not come as a great surprise to Libertarian officials.

"I commend Ed Coleman on his courage and his recognition that the Libertarian Party is the only political party in Indiana and the United States that truly stands for limited, fiscally responsible government and real respect for civil liberties," said William Redpath, Chairman of the Libertarian National Committee.

"I gratefully welcome him, as I hope to do with other elected officials who are tired of the now clearly unaffordable politics as usual, and who yearn to join 'The Party of Principle,'" Redpath continued.

"This is an important moment for the

Libertarian Party of Indiana, and the Republican Party as well," said Chris Spangle, Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Indiana. "Councilor Coleman's switch is the result of a personal journey many former Republicans have found themselves on in the last year or two. They feel as though the GOP has left them, and they are left politically homeless."

"Former Republicans and Democrats are looking for a Party where words mean something, promises are fulfilled, and principles are important," Spangle said. "The Libertarian Party is the only viable political party that upholds true free market principles, true Constitutional government, true personal freedom, and a decent future for our Country. The Republicans and Democrats both are long on rhetoric, but hold true to the failed policies of the past. Many who follow politics are beginning to understand this."

Timothy Maguire, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Marion County, has the interesting situation of being a former opponent of Ed Coleman. "Ed and I were both candidates in 2007, campaigning for an At-Large seat on the City-County Council. While we may have been members of different parties at the time, I came to find that we were in agreement on matters of public policy more often than not."

Coleman, was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated from Warren Central High School and Ivy Tech College, is a veteran with twelve years service in the United States Navy and National Guard and has a medical industry background in patient care.

He was first elected in 2007 to the Indianapolis City County Council as an At-Large Representative in the 12th largest city in America, and represents over one million Hoosiers.

Coleman is now the highest elected official in the Libertarian Party within the United States.

North Carolina Libertarians Propose 'Liberty Agenda'

Urge State Assembly to Focus on Schools, Property Rights, Open Elections, End to Corporate Welfare

The North Carolina General Assembly should focus on annexation, public education, open elections, and corporate welfare during the upcoming session, the Libertarian Party of North Carolina said today in announcing The Liberty Agenda for North Carolina.

"These are the major challenges facing the people of North Carolina, because they address fundamental rights," said Barbara Howe, state party chair. During the 2008 campaign, gubernatorial candidate Mike Munger and several legislative candidates promoted this agenda.

The four-point Liberty Agenda is:

1. End forced annexation and stop private property seizure under the power of eminent domain by amending the state constitution.
2. Improve public education through school choice and competition.
3. Restore free, fair, and open elections to North Carolina by removing barriers to ballot access.
4. End all corporate welfare and subsidies.

"Ending property theft by government, improving education, ending corporate welfare, and restoring fair elections are only the beginning," said Howe.

The ultimate goal of the LPNC is to reduce the size, scope, and power of government at all levels and on all issues, and consistently oppose any increase in the size, scope, and power of government at any level, for any purpose.

Following is the full text of The Liberty Agenda:

We, [the] Libertarian Party of North Carolina propose [and] present this agenda for action to the 2009 General Assembly.

1. End forced annexation and stop private property seizure under the power of eminent domain by amending the state constitution.

Forced annexation and the seizure of private property ostensibly for "public purpose" is a violation of the fundamental rights of Americans. Forced annexation is not about providing services, or controlling growth. Forced annexation is about



money. Communities should only be annexed with the consent of those annexed. No government, at any level, should have the power to take or seize private property for any purpose, without the express consent of the owner, and without just compensation.

2. Improve public education through school choice and competition.

It has become fashionable to bash public education rather than sincerely seek ways to improve it. There are many good things happening in North Carolina education. The path to continued improvement is to foster choice.

The problem is that anyone who proposes thinking out of the box when it comes to education is beat over the head with the supposed public school mandate in the state constitution.

This selective devotion to constitutional principle is curious, since the legislature freely ignores other parts of the constitution, including the requirement that "all elections shall be free, fair, and open" by restricting the right of people to vote for anyone other than Democrats and Republicans.

3. Restore free, fair and open elections to North Carolina by removing barriers to ballot access.

North Carolina has one of the most restrictive ballot access laws in the nation. These barriers are specifically designed by the Democratic-Republican duopoly to restrict the people's freedom of choice, and to prevent independent and third party candidates from getting on the ballot. Elections laws also are used to restrict

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Due to budget constraints, we regret to inform our readers that LP News is going to be issued quarterly for the foreseeable future. We urge you to sign up for our monthly gift program by using the enclosed envelope which would qualify you to receive Pledge News so you can receive monthly updates on Libertarian Party news and events.

AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

ILLINOIS

Three Candidates Running for Local Office

The Libertarian Party of Illinois is very happy to report that it has three LP members running for local, nonpartisan elections in the Chicago area. Bill Stephens, of Carpentersville, is running for Dundee Township Library District Board. Chris Jenner, of Cary, is running as an incumbent for his third term on the Cary School Board. Mike Fogelsanger, of Sycamore, is running for Sycamore City Council.

IOWA

State Convention to be Held April 25 in Des Moines

The 2009 Libertarian Party of Iowa state convention will be held Saturday, April 25 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Des Moines-Urbandale, located just North of the 86th Street exit off of I-35/80. This is the same location as our 2008 convention.

In addition to our election of LPIA Executive Committee and platform discussions, we'll have guest speakers, petitioning coaching, recognitions of achievement and other activities to be announced.

Contact any LPIA Officer at www.LPIA.org, or see "Party" page for further details. We will convene at 9 a.m. and wrap up at 4 p.m.

MISSOURI

State Party Already Assured Two Election Victories

Missouri is already assured of two local election victories in April.

Mike Ferguson is running unopposed for a seat on the Grandview, MO City Council.

Tom Martz and Robert Stephens were the top-two finishers in a primary runoff for a seat on the Springfield, MO City Council. The two libertarians will face off in the nonpartisan April Municipal election to join Libertarian Doug Burlison on the Springfield City Council, who was elected in 2007.

Springfield is the third-largest city in Missouri.

NEW MEXICO

State Convention to be Held April 17 in Alamogordo

The 2009 LPNM Annual State Convention will be held April 17-19. The convention will be hosted by the Otero County LP in Alamogordo, New Mexico (no, you don't need passports--we're still part of the U.S.) at the Holiday Inn Express (575-434-9773).

The schedule will include speakers, banquet and the Saturday afternoon business session, including the election of officers and the Central Committee (CenCom).

The new CenCom will have its first meeting immediately following the Die-Hard Breakfast speaker on Sunday morning.

For information contact either Gil Heredia, email: thrill@zianet.com, or Jay Vandersloot, email: yprocrastinate-emailme@yahoo.com.

NEW YORK

Chairman Runs to Fill Vacant Congressional Seat

New York Libertarian Party chairman Eric Sundwall has filed a campaign committee to enter the special election for the 20th Congressional District seat vacated by Senator Kirsten

Gillibrand.

"We actually feel that given this particular election, if there is a low turnout, strange things can happen," Sundwall, who recently announced his candidacy, told the *Glen Falls Post-Star*.

To get on the ballot, Sundwall will need to collect 3,500 signatures within 12 days of Gov. David Paterson scheduling the special election.

OREGON

State Convention to be Held March 14 in Elizabeth Newport

The convention will be held at the Shilo Inn Suites Oceanfront Hotel located Newport 536 SW in Elizabeth Newport, OR. The convention will begin on March 14 and last through March 15.

For more information and to reserve your room you can check out www.lporegon.org. More information is also available at <http://libertarian.meetup.com/365/calendar/9651051/>.

There will be a lunch on March 14 with a featured speaker to be announced at a later date.

This convention has the potential to shape the direction of the Libertarian Party of Oregon for years to come because of the overhaul of the bylaws that are being proposed. Here is a link to the proposals submitted by the bylaw committee: <http://www.lporegon.org/bylaws>.

For more information, please contact Christiana Mayer at christianamayer@gmail.com.

PENNSYLVANIA

State Party Joins Lawsuit Over Ballot Access

The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania has joined a federal lawsuit being brought by the Center for Competitive Democracy challenging portions of the election code of the commonwealth. The suit will address the practice of assessing costs for validation of signatures

on nomination papers to minor party and independent candidates removed from the ballot, the requirement of having at least 15 percent of the registered voters in order to be recognized as a political party, and the failure to consistently count and record write-in vote totals.

TEXAS

LPT Opposes Smoking Ban Legislation

On January 10, the State Committee of the Libertarian Party of Texas (SLECT) approved two resolutions stating their opposition to a statewide smoking ban in Texas. The resolutions read:

"The Libertarian Party of Texas supports the rights of all property owners and only those owners to determine whether or not to allow smoking on their property.

"The Libertarian Party of Texas opposes proposed legislation for a statewide smoking ban on private property."

The bills filed to impose a statewide smoking ban in Texas in the current legislative session are: House Bill 5, authored by Representative Myra Crownover [R-Denton]; and Senate Bill 544, authored by Senator Rodney Ellis [D-Houston].

WASHINGTON

LPWA Takes on the Top-Two Forward Primary System

The Washington State Libertarians have retained Orrin Grover as our legal representative in the battle against the "top-two forward" primary. As currently implemented any candidate could claim to 'prefer' the Libertarian Party and that preference was on the ballot regardless of how much that person did or did not represent us or meet our standards for support.

There is also no clause for replacing a deceased representative.

Richard Shepard represented the LPWA until recently, and he did an excellent job going all the way to the Supreme Court, working to help the Washington State Libertarian party in this struggle.

LPNY Chair Runs For Vacant Seat



Libertarian Party of New York chairman and small businessman, Eric Sundwall announced on February 10, 2009, that he will seek the 20th Congressional District seat vacated by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and do the near impossible, run as an independent for a special election.

"We will have 12 days to collect over 3500 signatures to get on the ballot," says Sundwall. "We accept this challenge because the people of the 20th District are tired of the machine politics of a smoke filled room. Jim Tedisco is a career tax and spend politician and Scott Murphy is a self-funded candidate reminiscent of Sandy Treadwell. This special election gives us much better odds than an ordinary general election."

Sundwall, a 41-year old information technology consultant, is from the Town of Kinderhook in Columbia County, home of the 8th President of the United States, Martin Van Buren. He lives in the hamlet of Niverville with his wife Kathryn, a pharmacist at St. Peter's and their two children. His father John served on the Kinderhook Town Board and was county chairman of the Conservative Party.

Eric also produces and hosts Capital Outsider, a cable access public policy program that is seen throughout the state.

Sundwall attempted a run in 2006 and took the NYS Board of Elections to Federal Court in an attempt to find the state election law unconstitutional.

Sundwall plans to utilize the four-point model introduced by Ron Paul and used by other third party candidates for President. Foreign policy, privacy rights, the national debt and the Federal Reserve were the key points of that plan. The campaign hopes to attract a coalition of independents and main party voters unhappy with the current financial bailouts.

by Donny Ferguson

America's third largest party urged Senate Republicans and Democrats on February 6 to scrap their joint plans for a \$780 billion package of wealth transfers and expanded government spending.

"Poll after poll shows voters agree with the Libertarian Party. Employers and families need tax relief to create jobs and save," said William Redpath, Libertarian National Committee chairman. "What they don't need is politicians exploiting their fears to explode the size of government and burden our children with billions in new debt."

Recent polls show only 37 percent of voters support such a plan, with opposition rising fastest among independent voters. A Wednesday report by the Congressional Budget Office shows such a plan would cause long-term damage to the economy. With interest on the borrowed funds, the total cost to future generations of taxpayers would be around \$1.1 trillion dollars.

"With both Republicans and Democrats



siding against voters to explode the national debt and expand the government, it has become clear the Libertarian Party is the only party with a fiscally responsible plan to revive our economy," said Redpath.

Libertarians support replacing the wealth transfers and expanded spending

with billions of dollars in tax relief for employers and families. Recent polling by the Rasmussen firm finds 54 percent of voters support the Libertarian approach of tax relief over the Republican/Democrat approach of drastically increased government spending.

Bob Barr: Stimulus Bill Just Pork in New Disguise

by Bob Barr

The venerable Oxford English Dictionary defines "stimulus" as "something that promotes activity, interest, or enthusiasm." If, as appears almost certain, the federal government enacts legislation appropriating more than \$800 billion in a so-called "stimulus package," the next edition of Oxford might properly include further definitions for the already-overused term: "any massive federal spending program designed to funnel taxpayer monies into pet political projects; a term employed to disguise massive federal spending programs designed to funnel taxpayer monies into pet political projects, but labeled 'stimulus' in order to secure votes necessary for passage."

Of course, as is par for the course in proposing and enacting modern federal legislation, congressional leaders have attached a high-sounding and misleading moniker to this latest and largest ever so-called "stimulus package."

The legislation, which passed the House last week and the "senior" chamber Tuesday, is entitled "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009."

How clever be these members of Congress. They know you can never go wrong by including the word, "American" or "America," in the title of any legislation, since there is then always the implication that anyone who votes against the bill is, of course, un-



American.

But the true evil of this spending boondoggle is not so much its title as its substance. Virtually every pet project and constituency of the Democratic Party will be at the receiving end of the billions of dollars rushing down this latest federal money sluice. The disaster that is the "recovery and reinvestment act" is made far worse by the fact that every single one of its more than \$800 billion bills is borrowed.

When all is said and done according to the government's own estimate, this spending measure will add more than a trillion dollars to our national debt which already tops \$10.2 trillion.

Moreover, this appropriations vehicle comes on top of last year's "Emergency Economic Stabilization Act" — the so-

called "bailout" — and the now small, \$152 billion 2008 "Economic Stimulus Act." Thus does the true magnitude of the damage to the value of our currency and to the future economic health of our nation start to come into focus.

State and local government officials, including our own here in the Peach State, are already gleefully counting the billions they are slated to receive from Washington's "reinvestment" largess.

These are the same spendthrift state and local governments that have failed for decades to keep their own spending under control.

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Libertarian Party 2008 Annual Report

An executive analysis of the Libertarian Party's performance in 2008



★ FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

Prepare Now for 2010

by William Redpath

While I mainly want to address 2009 and the future in this column, I think I need to first reflect on 2008 for the Libertarian Party.

A lot of people worked extremely hard in 2008 in the entire process of seeking elected office. We had a historically high number of candidates seeking the Libertarian Presidential nomination, including two former members of Congress. The Bob Barr/Wayne Allyn Root presidential ticket was on the ballot in 45 states (and before more voters than any ticket other than the R and D presidential tickets), and received 523,686 votes, which was 0.40% of the vote.

I know we all hoped for better results, but, in my opinion, both candidates were outstanding spokesmen for liberty and clearly differentiated the Libertarian message from all other candidates and parties. Everyone involved in the Barr/Root campaign made serious sacrifices in the pursuit of freedom in our lifetimes, I profusely thank them for that.

We ran a total of 592 candidates for public office in 2008 (I was among them as our US Senate candidate in Virginia), which was down slightly from the 634 we ran nationwide in 2006. Twenty-two of them won public office (I wish I were among them). As of the end of 2008, the LP had 209 elected public officials across the United States.

A non-trivial bright spot from 2008 election results is that the Libertarian Party, without further



petitioning, is now ballot qualified in 27 states for the 2010 election, and that is a record high for the LP coming out of a presidential election. Let's use that as a springboard and aim for a record field of candidates in the 2010 midterm elections.

Call me crazy, if you want, but maybe the American people will be in serious search of real alternatives come November 2010.

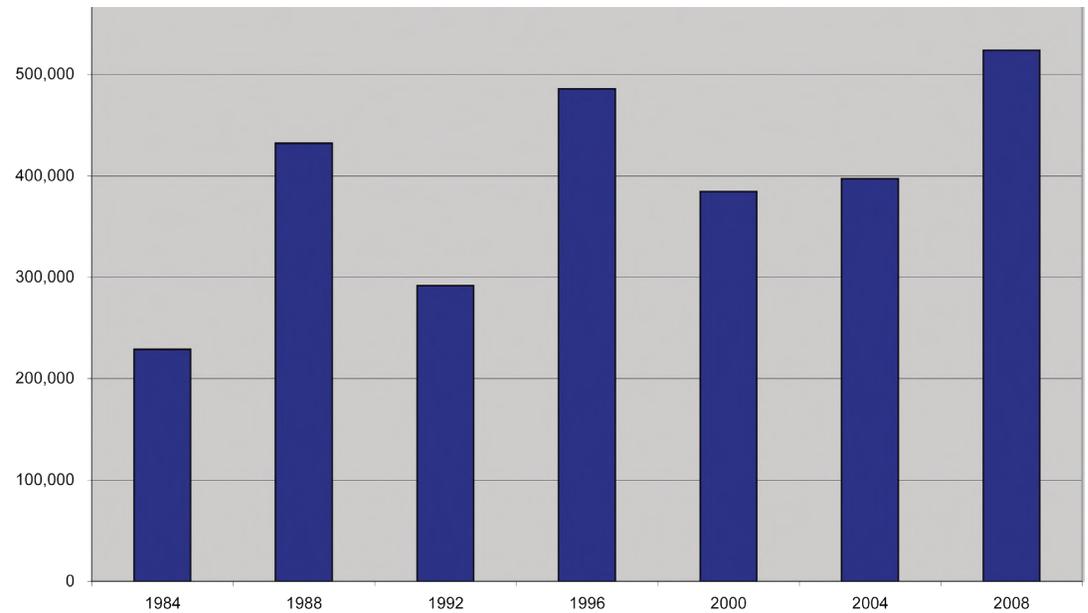
Sustaining membership (those donating \$25 or more per year) was up 8.3% in 2008, to 16,349 at yearend. Zero dues members increased from 107,748 at the end of 2007, to 113,024, as of December 31, 2008. Libertarian Party voter registration is at 240,328 in the 24 states in which people can register Libertarian and the states report the numbers (strangely, six states allow that, but don't report the numbers).

Now, on to 2009, the year after a presidential election, which is admittedly the relatively slow political year in each presidential election cycle. That said, there are

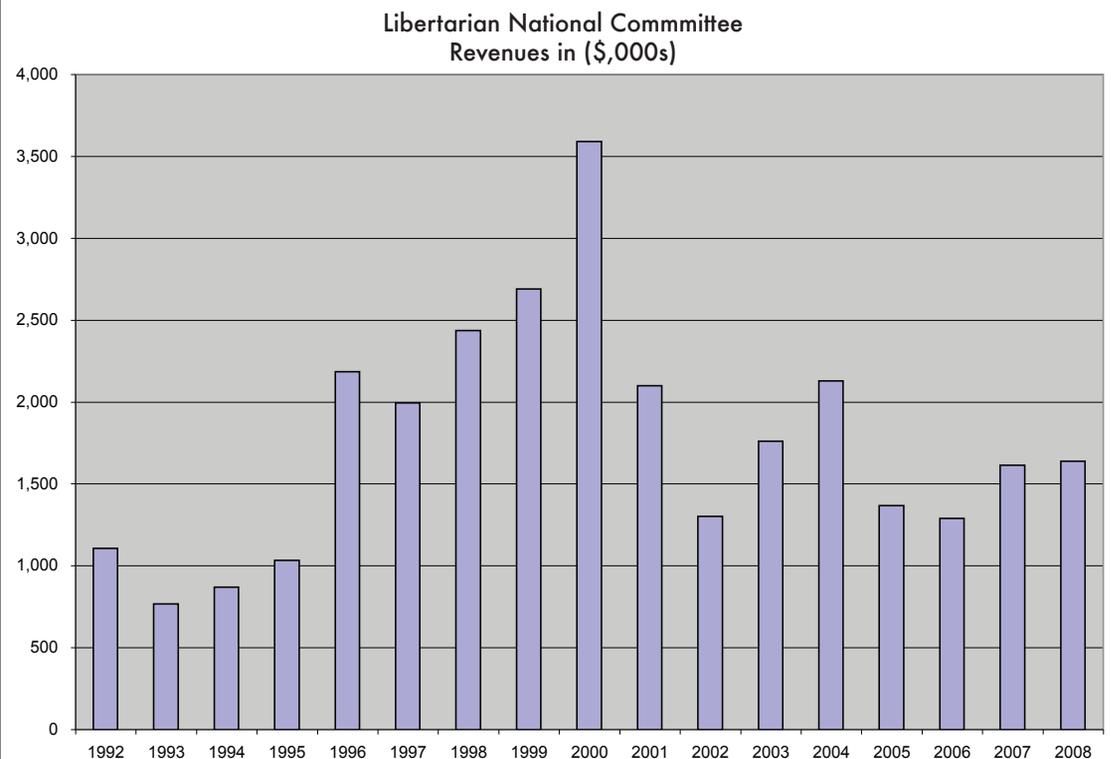
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Libertarian Presidential Vote Results by Election

(Includes Adjustment for States Without Ballot Access)



1992-2008 Revenue Summary



Libertarian Party 2008 Annual Report

An executive analysis of the Libertarian Party's performance in 2008



★ FROM THE NATIONAL TREASURER

2008 Rewarding, 2009 Challenging

by Aaron Starr

Last year was not easy, but it was rewarding. At the national convention in Denver, I predicted during the Treasurer's report that it was likely we would consume all of our reserves getting our candidate on the ballot in 2008.

Many more state party affiliates than originally expected did not have the needed resources to get on the ballot without assistance from the national party.

So instead of spending approximately \$250,000 on ballot access, as we did in 2004, we found that we had to spend over \$500,000 in 2008. And while the \$1,637,000 we were able to raise was \$200,000 more than we budgeted for 2008, this was more than offset by the increased cost of helping state parties to get our candidates on the ballot this year.

The Presidential campaign created enormous value for this investment, giving us a level of exposure in the media we have not enjoyed in recent election cycles and adding thousands of new members to our ranks. And to most everyone's delight, our Vice Presidential nominee, Wayne Root, continues to promote our party through the media even though the election season is long over.

But, as I predicted last May, our net assets were depleted by this noble endeavor and we now face a tremendous test to our party's finances for two reasons: Contributions

typically decline 30% the year after a Presidential election; and, people typically cut back on discretionary spending during a recession and it now appears that we are in a major recession, the size of which will likely dwarf any experienced during the Libertarian Party's 37 year history.

Given this challenging environment we face a "perfect storm," where it will be a stretch to even meet the almost \$1.2 million goal we have for 2009. And while it may be tempting to believe we could scale back our operations, now that the election season is over, this is precisely the wrong time to cut back.

When you think about it, considering that we run a national organization in D.C. with the budget of a small law firm, we probably offer one of the better values in the libertarian movement.

We need to build upon our successes so that we can have an even greater impact.

If we want to move forward, this is the time to invest heavily on our future to build on the progress we made in 2008.

And progress in 2009 is vital to the future of our country. The folks who believe in and profit from big-



continued on page 14

2006-2008 LNC Financial Summary

2006 -- 2008 LNC Balance Sheet Summary

	2006	2007	2008
Total Assets	67,618	335,150	203,935
Total Liabilities	66,847	58,013	80,530
Total Net Assets	771	277,137	123,405

2006 -- 2008 Revenue & Expense Summary

	2006	2007	2008
Support and Revenue			
Membership Dues	104,064	470,114	472,862
Donations	574,577	652,092	496,470
Recurring Gifts	326,157	317,956	297,018
Board Member Solicitations	96,125	86,738	72,729
Projects	15,224	0	0
Ballot Access Donations	13,308	81,098	266,141
Conventions and Events	101,956	0	7,620
Publications, Materials and Other Sales	58,380	5,730	24,300
Total Support and Revenue	1,289,792	1,613,727	1,637,139
Cost of Support and Revenue			
Fundraising Costs	128,075	208,665	242,255
Membership Fundraising Costs	39,444	184,796	72,085
Convention and Event Costs	120,203	0	40,479
Direct Costs	11,505	0	0
Total Cost of Support and Revenue	299,226	393,461	354,819
Net Support and Revenue Available for Programs	990,566	1,220,267	1,282,321
Program Expenses			
Administrative Expense	334,004	366,329	409,445
Compensation	404,076	396,920	393,059
Affiliate Support	86,936	9,396	3,231
Ballot Access	1,500	62,808	510,257
Brand Development	21,035	3,315	14,038
Candidate Support	25,260	22,293	500
Media Relations	7,909	5,251	251
Member Communications	60,435	56,838	85,705
Outreach	6,203	21,075	19,568
Total Program Expenses	947,359	944,225	1,436,053
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	43,207	276,042	(153,732)
Other Income	0	325	0
Net Surplus (Deficit)	43,207	276,366	(153,732)

* Note: Prior years' statements recast based on internal review, change in accounting method and post year-end entries.

Celebrating the Life of LP Activist Stu Seffern

by Rolf Lindgren

On January 1, 2009, Stu Seffern, a friend of all Libertarians in Wisconsin and his partner Debbie Loiselle tragically passed away from a plane crash in Joliet, Illinois.

Stu was a Libertarian Party member since the early 1980s. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin and the Chairman of the LP of Dane County. He was a successful owner of a carpet cleaning business for 29 years. My heart goes out to Stu and Debbie's families.

I've known Stu since 1995. In 1995, as a brand new member of the LP of Dane County, I was given a list of people to call and invite to the next local Libertarian meeting. One of those people I called was Stu Seffern.

I don't remember the first time I met Stu in person, but I do remember talking frequently on the phone about political topics with him. As a new and young Libertarian, Stu struck me as a very informed and articulate speaker, very thoughtful on issues and great at analysis. He was a pleasure to speak with. Stu's presence livened the atmosphere of LPDC meetings because when Stu spoke, he knew what he was talking about.

Over the years, I've worked with Stu on many projects. Among them, we worked in 2001 and 2002 on the Ed Thompson for Governor campaign. We worked on the Recall Governor Doyle project in 2003. We worked to oppose the Madison smoking ban in 2005. We worked together to raise awareness when the government was railroading innocent people.

In addition to these projects, Stu worked tirelessly for the Taxpayer Bill-of-Rights (TABOR). He almost single handedly stopped the proposed trolley-car system in Madison. Stu's greatest Libertarian passion was the opposition of wasteful government spending. Stu's nuts-N-bolts analysis of the trolley-car system, along with about 25 articulate radio and TV appearances, was crucial. Stu once quipped in a TV interview: "A 12 year old



LP activist Stu Seffern with Libertarian Mayor Ed Thompson

on the Internet could find out that this is not a good idea."

Stu also organized many neighborhood walks to deter crime. As Stu stated in another TV interview: "We found it was more effective than millions of dollars of investment." These great acts nominate Stu to the ranks of the greatest defenders of the taxpayer in Madison history.

On the personal side, Stu was a great person to know, always happy, positive, interesting and helpful. He had a great sense of humor. We talked on the phone over a thousand times, and often the conversation started with jokes about the latest ridiculous actions taken by the government. Many times, I was a guest at Stu and Debbie's house. They were very hospitable people. Stu always threw in one of his John Stossel videos when I was over. Stu also took me out to Watertown a few years ago to show me his airplanes. We walked around the hanger and he showed me the airplanes from all angles. I could tell that Stu's airplanes meant very much to him.

When word of Stu's death reached Wisconsin on the morning of January 2, Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, a frequent political opponent of Stu, said: "I was very sorry to learn of Stuart's untimely death in a plane crash. While we didn't always agree, Stuart was a tireless advocate for his south side community. He committed a tremendous amount of time and energy to the betterment of his neighborhood, and his strong voice will be missed."

The Wisconsin state legislature began its 2009 session on January 6 with a moment of silence dedicated to Stu and Debbie.

Book Review: *Hamilton's Curse*

by Austin Petersen

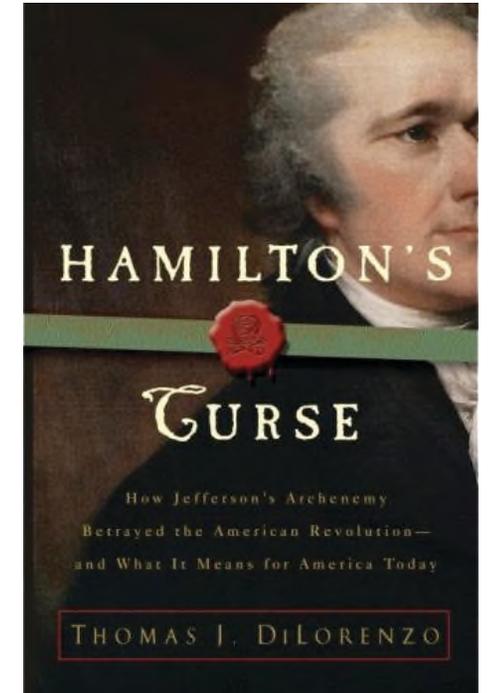
It's common to hear today from Americans that "if we knew then what we know today, we should never have gone to Vietnam." Even my father who served as a Green Beret and who agreed with the Iraq invasion visits his friends names at the Vietnam Memorial with a tear in his eye and regret in his voice. It's easier to look at Vietnam and understand the folly of that action, but how many people today could knowledgeably argue against the necessity of the Civil War while tracing its root causes? Now, ask yourself how many people could successfully trace today's economic problems directly to one founding father? Thomas DiLorenzo successfully does just that.

In "Hamilton's Curse," DiLorenzo eviscerates the Hamiltonian policies of Mercantilism. It's no big surprise to libertarians that the larger the government grows; the more incentivized businesses are to corrupt it and impose laws that benefit them. In this book the blame for today's system of crony capitalism is laid directly at the feet of Thomas Jefferson's archenemy, Alexander Hamilton.

DiLorenzo argues that it is the policies of big government and central banking espoused by Hamilton that laid the seeds for the Civil War. Also, DiLorenzo condemns Hamilton's intellectual descendents such as Henry Clay who imposed the "Tariff of Abominations" that drew the first line between the North and South. "Hamilton's Curse" does a great job of connecting the dots in history for where conservative small government policies were undermined by the central planners.

It's entertaining to read about how frustrated Hamilton was by Jefferson, who was

too concerned with public liberty. Their pitched struggle for decentralized control of the economy is one that is too often lost in the politically correct miasma of public education. It is sad to see that Congress today is filled with Hamilton's intellectual



heirs, rather than Jefferson's.

The book is a quick and worthwhile read for those who are interested in understanding the root causes for America's problems. DiLorenzo successfully argues that most of today's problems of American Imperialism arise from the fact that, although it is Jefferson we fondly remember, it is Hamilton's system we live under today. As long as America ignores its history and the perils of big government, more men will walk away from cold monuments with tears in their eyes and loss in their hearts.

Libertarian Party of North Carolina's Liberty Agenda

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free speech by limiting how much an individual can contribute to the candidate of their choice. The people should have the unregulated and unrestricted right to vote for and support candidates of their choice.

4. End all corporate welfare and subsidies.

Economic incentives and subsidies, more properly called corporate welfare, are an immoral tax on individuals for the benefit of corporate profits. Recent news reports that the Dell computer company may sell their three year old Winston-

Salem plant, built with nearly \$300 million in corporate welfare, demonstrates that corporate incentives are ineffective as well as immoral.

Conclusion: Ending property theft by government, improving education, ending corporate welfare, and restoring fair elections are our top four issues, the beginning. The ultimate goal of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina is to reduce the size, scope, and power of government at all levels and on all issues, and consistently oppose any increase in the size, scope, and power of government at any level, for any purpose.

Wayne Root: Welcome to Obamaville!

by Wayne Root



For weeks I've been interviewed nonstop in the media about President Obama's Economic Stimulus Plan. Again and again, even conservative hosts said to me,

"Well we have to do something. What would you do?" My answer is that sometimes the best choice is to do nothing. The response from talk show hosts and experts was always the same, "Huh? Are you mad? Do nothing?"

Well sometimes no decision is better than a rush-to-judgment. Sometimes "do no harm" is more important (and more successful) than "do something at all costs." Shouldn't we have learned that lesson from our decision to invade Iraq to stop Saddam Hussein from using his Weapons of Mass Destruction (that never existed)?

Why rush our decisions? Why rush multi-billion or multi-trillion dollar decisions that could make or break our entire American economy? Why not step back, breathe deep, listen to economists on both sides of the argument and slowly, deliberately make decisions after months of deliberations and debate.

Didn't we already rush a trillion dollar decision only a few months ago with the bailout? Did that work out well? The bailout can only be described as a disaster. Didn't we hear the same arguments from politicians? That without the bailout the economy will crater? Well we rushed to judgment with the bailout because of the hysteria. The result- we've wasted trillions of taxpayer dollars, dramatically increased our deficit and national debt, damaged (if not destroyed) capitalism and free markets, and the result is...NOTHING.

The bailout money has been spent (or should I say wasted)...the economy is in free fall; the stock market has continued its decline; real estate values have continued to melt away; jobs are being lost by the hundreds of thousands per month; and the companies that we gave the money to, in many cases already need more money- much more. And what have these companies done with the money? Paid it out in million dollar bonuses to executives that oversaw the disaster in the first place.

Bravo! Quite a job that Congress has

done once again! This just proves the folly of allowing or empowering politicians to control our lives; confiscate our money; transfer money from one group to another (a surefire conflict of interest); or make decisions on our behalf.

This bailout travesty proves the accuracy of what my friends at the Congressional Effect Fund have found. They have studied the effects of Congress on our economy for almost 50 years now. They have found that whenever Congress is in session for the past half century, the stock market is up 1.7 percent.

When Congress is in recess (NOT in session) the U.S. stock market is up 17.6 percent. Do you get it? Politicians do damage to our economy every time they open their mouths...every time they make a decision...every time they pass a bill. It turns out that doing NOTHING is in fact preferable to letting politicians provide a solution. If only politicians took a Hippocratic oath- ABOVE ALL ELSE, DO NO HARM. Based on historical data, this would mean doing absolutely nothing.

This is exactly what I've been saying and arguing for weeks on FOX News and hundreds of national and local radio stations across the USA. Perhaps we should put a common-sense S.O.B. (son of a butcher), small businessman, and citizen politician in charge of the economy. It could not be worse than the fools (and tax cheats) currently in charge.

The Fed has had the printing presses working overtime since Fall to print all the money to pay for all these bailouts and handouts. The result will be catastrophic double-digit inflation within two years. Once again government, just like under FDR, has found a way to make things worse and extend the economic crisis, and turn a deep recession into a full-scale depression. Perhaps even the CBO didn't have the heart to pass along this much bad news all at once.

FDR's toxic solution was more government intervention; more spending; more debt; more taxes; and more laws hurting the private sector while strengthening labor unions. Obama's solution is exactly the same. With his trillion dollar stimulus plan (I call it "The Obama Socialist Agenda"), Obama will hire hundreds of thousands of new federal employees- all members of government employee unions; hire at least 100,000 new teachers- all members of teachers unions; pass Card Check legislation making it easier for private sector

employees to be intimidated and coerced into unionizing; and handout \$200 billion dollars of stimulus funding to states- to keep millions of state and local government employee union members from being fired, downsized or having salaries and pensions reduced.

This is all economic suicide for America.

It will turn a deep recession into a long depression- just as FDR did in the 1930's. Do you know how we got out of the Great Depression? Only World War II ended a more than decade-long depression (1929-1940). By the way, for those who have forgotten history, unemployment rates were in the teens as late as the 1940's- almost as high as when FDR took over for Hoover.

But the worst part of Obama's socialist stimulus giveaway is being ignored by the biased-liberal national media. All of these government jobs being proposed by Obama will NEVER go away. The economic stimulus will only pay for them for 2 years. After that, the stimulus money is gone- but we still have a huge bill left over to pay for these bloated government employee salaries, pensions, and health care benefits for LIFE.

As of now- before any new government jobs are created- USA Today recently reported that the federal government retirement system has an unfunded liability of \$5.3 trillion- including \$1.2 trillion for retiree health benefits. This is just the UNFUNDED portion. Does anyone understand the "Perfect Storm" of debt headed straight for taxpayers? Now Obama will hire hundreds of thousands of additional government employees- who will all require salaries for the next 25 years; then pensions and medical care for another 25 years.

The result? If not the kind of disaster we experienced during the Great Depression, we can certainly expect the kind of misery we experienced under President Jimmy Carter- sky-high interest rates, sky-high inflation, and dramatically higher taxes for our children and grandchildren.

Welcome to Obamaville.

Wayne Allyn Root was the 2008 Libertarian Vice Presidential candidate. For more of Wayne's views, commentaries, or to watch his many media interviews, please visit his web site at <http://www.ROOTforAmerica.com>

Barr: Stimulus is Pork in Disguise

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Throwing even more federal money their way simply rewards their irresponsibility, and further disguises the necessity for state and local governments to rein in their own spending.

Some of the details of the "reinvestments" in the House's version of the stimulus package are truly amazing. For example:

- A billion dollars will continue to subsidize the perennial money loser, Amtrak; \$20 billion expands the already bloated food stamp program.

- About \$2 billion is diverted from the wallets of hard-working Americans to subsidize childcare. Some \$2.8 billion is slipped to global warming advocacy programs.

- \$600 million will buy more and newer cars for government bureaucrats, along with \$44 million to refurbish the Department of Agriculture, \$50 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, and \$150 million to spruce up the Smithsonian buildings.

- Another \$650 million is earmarked for helping consumers convert analog TVs to digital (because the government earlier decided to halt analog television broadcasting). More than \$400 million promotes anti-smoking programs and programs to fight sexually transmitted diseases. Those are just the tip of the fiscal iceberg.

There are minor differences in the House and Senate versions, but overall the amount of money spent and the amount of pork in each is outrageous and harmful; and besides, the House-Senate conference may very well add back in what the Senate took out but really just shifted around, in a typical example of congressional legerdemain.

When all the dust settles, the only thing this fiscal monstrosity will "stimulate" is making American citizens, businesses and state and local government even more dependent on Uncle Sam than before; even as we and our children and grandchildren are rendered the poorer.

Bob Barr represented the 7th District of Georgia in the House of Representatives from 1995 to 2003 and was the Libertarian Party's 2008 nominee for president. You can visit his Web site at <http://www.BobBarr2008.com>.

The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

New Members for 11/12/08 - 2/11/09

Lifetime

Tad Lumpkin
Carrie-Anne Mosley
J. D. Smith
Patron

Sponsor

Andrew Holloway
Kylee Kvassay
David Martin
Mario Morales
Amanda Owens
Tom Pierson
Paul Spoltore

Supporting

David Baukol
Chris Birkett
Bobby Bolin
Jeffrey Borrowdale
Benjamin Bowie
Robert Bryant
Jack Byer
J.D. Campbell
Robert C. Carew
Wayne Carson
Al Cerkan
Edward Chong
Kevin L. Cornwell
Andrew Crecelius
Amanda Cunningham
Nicholas DiDomenicus
Mark Donegan
Jayce Ericson
Josh Featherstone
Robert Freedman
Nancy V. Gallagher
Leon Galloway III
Alton Helm
John Hoover
Jerrold Hughey
Edward Keane
Bruce Kite
Fred Kurz
Luke Landwehr
Lee Lin
Dion Lowe
Garrett Mangum
Robert Marian
Marc Massar
Grant K. Mauldin
Michael Meehan
Gretchen Moran
Jeffrey T. Nelson
Richard Nelson
Anthony Nickel

Peter Osepchuov
Michael Parks
Kim Pino
Gerald Redd
Raymond Reynolds
Cheryl Riley
David Schultz
Harlow Scribner
Paul Simeone
Michael Smith
Derek West
John Wilson
Khurshid Abdul-Mutak-
abbir
Timothy F. Ahern
Tahsin Alam
Edna Alderman
Col. Jeffrey Alexander
Frank Allen
Mark Allen
Benjamin Allphin
Elizabeth Anderson
Shana Anderson
Robert Angelica
Eddie Angleton
Adam Armstead
Jill Arnzen
E. Thomas Ashworth III
John Bacon
Andrew Badgerow
Jason Baehler
Peter Bagnell
Buck Bailey
George S. Bain
Archelle Baker
Philip Baker
Richard Balint
Jeffery Barnes
Phred Barnett
William Bartholomew
Richard Bateman
Rebecca Bates
Jason Bausili
John Beckler
John R. Beers II
Lisa Behe
David F. Bekus
Gene Bell
Justin Beller
Brendan Berg
Aaron Bernard
Matthew Bianco
Daniel Bier
Clyde Billings
Matthew Bingham
Daniel Bjorndahl
Jeffrey Blair
Michael Blake
Silas Bland
Mariko Bliss
Jonathan Blocker

Sean Blocker
Pete Blome
David J. Blunier
Michael Bock
Jennifer S. Boggs
Abdon Bolivar
Laura Bonafede
Kore Bormann
Anthony Bott
Kathleen Boucher
William Boughton
Michael Bouington
Dustin Bowden
Timothy Boyle
Cherie Braun
Russell Brendel
James Brittain
Steve Brodeur
Brandon Brooks
Travis Brooks
Brian Brown
Carter Brown
RJ Brown
Robert Brown
Steven Brown
Ken Brueckner
Nathan Bruer
Jeffery Bruton
Damon Burch
Cindy Burger
Jordan Butcher
Mary B. Buzuma
Cole Cade
Charles A. Camp
Alan Campbell
Jonathan Campbell
Brett Canady
Mary Canady
Lee Cape
Robert Carpenter
John Carter
Heather Cash
David Champion
Foston Chandler
Todd Chapin
Jim Chesin
Jeff Chiarelli
Norman Childs
Lane Clark
Tyler Clark
Kathy Cody
Paul Coffey
Jerod Coker
George Comstock
Robert R. Conley
Matt Conlon
Jennifer W. Cook
Kevin Cornette
Ray Costanzo
Chad Cottrell
Edward Cozzette

Gary Crandall
Luis G. Cribeiro
John Cunningham
Joel Cupp
Kevin Currie
Ty Curro
Charles Daugherty
Gary Davis
John Davis
Steven DeBartolo
Mark Decerbo
John R. Decker Jr.
Justin K. Deeg
Robert DeGroat
Elliott Deilus
Chad Devonshire
Travis Dicken
Jerry Disch
Frank H. Ditto
Troy Dober
Jordan Dorman
Heino Dossing
Chris Dougan
Joshua Drake
Jason Drakulic
Michael Dunlap
Anne Dunlop
Wallace Dunn
Raymond Duval
William Econe
Ran Edwards
Mikhail Efroimson
Ari Eickert
William Ellingboe
Dera Enochson
Rick Ernst
Eteban Escareno
Rick Escareno
W. A. Evans
Lawrence Ewaldt
Craig Eyrich
Mervin L. Ezray
James E. Faidley
Luke Fain
Wendy Fairfull
Kyle Farrar
Thomas Faulkner
Michael Fearheiley
Robert Ferrara
Joseph Fetz
Bradley Fiene
Benjamin I. Fischbein
Mark Flederbach
John Fleenor
Benjamin K. Flores
Ryan Fogarty
Madison Fox
Sean Francis
Joel Franks
Douglas Frantz
Anneliese Frazier

Stephanie Frederick
George Freeman
Ryan Freitas
Melissa A. Friedline
Michael H. Friedline
William Fries
Stephen Funk
Joseph Galego
Dale Gallimore
Michael Galperin
Ryan Gannon
David Garrison
Dave Garro
John Gartland
John Gaynor
William Geffken
Charles Geraci
Paul Geromini
Kristin Giannantonio
Bradley Giesbrecht
James Gilligan
Clint Gilliland
Christopher W. Gilson
Charles Gipson
Bill Goggin
Jonathan Gooch
Aaron Gordon
Martha Gose
Timothy Goshinski
James Grady
Bruce Granheim
Erin Grant
Matthew Grau
Michael Graziano
Debbie Green
Parc Greene
David Grizzell
Fred Gudge
Ronald Guenette
Casey Guenthner
DeWayne Guimond
Justin Guthrie
Shawn Hadwiger
Joey Halbert
Jonathan M. Hall
Elizabeth J. Hallenbeck
Raymond A. Hallenbeck
Katherine Haloburdo
Justin Hardt
Sarah F. Hardy
Sean Harrington
Mark Harris
Andrew Hartline
Rick Hasselbach
Jamie Hause
Katherine Hayes
Kristen Hayes
Lori Hayes
James B. Hechim
Daniel Heck
Brian Heien

Diane Heim
Verle E. Helsel
Paul Hemingway
Raymond C. Herman
William Herrmann
Ralph Hershberger
Hartman G. Hessel
Timothy W. Higgins
Jay Hill
Veronica Hinkle
Timothy Hipp
Kurtis Hoffer
Patricia Hone
Donna Horning
Jeffrey Horning
Patrick Hortos
Judith Horvath
James Houck
Michael Howard
Ryan Hudson
Michael Hughes
Mark Humphreys
Jared Hungerford
Marc Huntley
Bradley Hurlburt
Bret A. Hurskainen
John Huson
David Hussey
John J. Hutchinson
Charles Hyden
Charles Ide
Brian Imhulse
Peter Isaacson
Christopher Isbel
Lee S. Jackson
Mike Jackson
Dianna Jaimes
Matt James
Benjamin Janssen
Jerome Jeal
Zayne Jenkins
Joshua Job
D. Scott Johnson
Brenda Jones
Hyrum Jones
Jeffrey N. Jones
Peter Jones
Robert Jones
Thomas Jones
Wesley Jones
Raymond Joyner
Victor Kace
William D. Kaiser
Clinton Kam
Teresa Karcich
Piper Keairnes
Cody Kelly
Dave Kendle
Eric Kenney
Joseph Key
Richard W. Key

The Libertarian National Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members

Hannah Kidd
Justin Kidd
Lorri Kieff
Jared Kile
Daniel Kilgour
Jonnathan King
Michael King
William Kinkead
Chris Kline
Michael Klukinov
Jeff Kocur
Joe Korode
Daniel Kossler
Justin L. Krass
Matt Krier
Zachary Kriner
Seth Krupar
Ross Kuhn
Jiri Kukol
Linda Kutzer
Joseph Kuzawski
Ralph Lake
Joann Langer
Jacob Laputka
John Latham
Richard Latham
Martin J. Lawler
Whitney Lawler
John P. Lawrence
Michael Lawton
Kenneth Lechner
Joseph Lee
Joseph Leeper
James A. Legel
Edwardo Leon
Jeremy Levine
Derek Lewis
Michael Lewis
Daniel Lichius
Aaron Lievers
Robert Liftig
Benjamin Lincoln
David Lindsey
Kevin Liotti
Tim Liu
Doug Loeffler
David Lord
Douglas Louks
John Luchetti
Richard Ludlow
Danny Lukic
Marvin E. Lund
Gary Lundeen
George A. Lyman
Dennis Lynch
John Madden
Jim Mainzer
John Makdad
Mark Malaszczyk
David Maloney
Richard Malson

Patrick C. Maney
Elliott Marks
James Marlow
Matthew Marria
Ed Martin
Nick Martin
Austin Mathews
Robert Mathis
Matthew Mattke
Eric Matzke
James McCarthy
Samuel McChristian
Robert McClellan
George McDermith
Branden McGee
Kyle McGinn
Carolyn McGuire
Glenn Mcguire
Bruce McKalip
Samuel McKay
Joseph McLaughlin
Lee McLaughlin
Patrick McNary
Sam Mehr
Eric V. Melin
Dawn Merryman
Kimberton-Ethan Messner
Jason Middleton
Kari Miler
Robert Miles
Les Milewski
Charles Millar
Tammy Miller
Tyler Miller
William Miller
Joel Millerband
J. R. Mills
Jess Mills
Debbie Misiolek
Andrew Mitchell
Robert Mitchell
Andrew Mladinich
George Monahan
Derek Montemayor
Kevin Moore
Ryan Moore
Victoria Moore
John Morandi
Lynne Morisette
John Morris
Darrell Morton
Sally Mosher
Wade Moss
Darrick Mowrey
William Moxham
Sean Mulder
Charles Murphy
Daniel J. Murray
Adeela Mushtaq
James Nahra
Bennett Nason

Chad Nason
Donald Navatto
George Nelson
Howard Nester
James Nester
Luke Netjes
Jeffrey Newsom
Richard Nicosia
Suzanne Nilsen
William Nisius
Chris Noble
Andrew Norman
Matthew Norman
Pamela Norman
James S. Norton
Michael Nottleman
Karl F. Nyqvist
Jefferson Oakes
Joseph O'Dell
John O'Donnell
Michael O'Donnell
Michael G. O'Halloran
Thomas O'Neal
Howard R. Onstott
Todd Opacinch
Andrew Ormiston
Danielle Osborn
Warren Overton
Robert Owen
Nicholas Palkovic
Joshua Palmer
Paul Palone
Arthur Parent
Shannon Parker
Fred Parrish
E. M. Partridge
James Patterson
Ryan Payne
Meghan Peak
Neil Pedersen
Charles Pederson
Barbara Pedoto
Joseph Pedoto
Russell Peltz
Eric Peterson
Ken Phelan
Stephen Phoenix
Steven Piehl
Zbigniew Pietranik
Randall Pike
Matthew Pilon
Richard Pitcher
Stephanie Poole
Jeffrey Potter
Stephen Pratt
Michael Prestwich
Dan Price
Frank Proulx
Richard Pruet
Robert W. Quilici
Alex Quintanar

Michael Quinten
Robert Radich
B. Matthew Ragan
Anne Ragsdale
James Raines
Jason Reed
Thomas Reed
Keegan Reeves
Melvin Reeves
Robert Repenning
Michael Revett
Frank Ricotta
Gladys Ringgenberg
David Ringler
John Riopko
Paul Ritter
Andrew Robinson
Gregoire Robinson
David Romano
Zachary Roski
James Rosnack
Carolyn Ross
Colin Ross
Jeffrey Rothermel
Scott Rothwell
Matthew J. Ryan
Steven Rybicki
Christina Ryder
Leslie Sammis
Neil Sarin
George Scheffer
William Schesser
Jessica Schlegel
Kim Schlitter
John Schneider
R.R. Schneider Jr.
Ryan Schnell
Christop Scneider
Thomas Scola
Jeff Sexton
Anthony Seyfarth-Lechner
Thomas Shevada
Patrick Shockey
Richard Shoemaker
William Shoots
Russ Shore
Serge Sibirsky
Cristendra Singh
Brandon L. Sipple
Jason Skalski
Edward Skelly
Mike Skinner
David Skovgaard
Brett Slansky
David Slater
Adam Sloan
Betty Sloboda
Stephen M. Sloboda
Brandon Smith
Liam Smith
Megan Smith

Randy Smith
Andrew Snow
Gilbert Snow
Matthew Snyder
Austin Speaker
Thomas Spencer
Srivatsan Srinivas
Wendy St. Dennis
Daniel Stamate
Steve Stanfield
Lewis Stanley
Robert Staples
Todd Starkey
Trevor Stasik
Robert Staub
Charles Stewart
James Stewart
Randy Stewart
Richard Stewart
Bruce Stratton
Joseph Strickland
Jeremy Sturdahl
Thomas Sturik
Robert Surratt
Richard Swint
Dan Swofford
Ryan Szukhent
Ben Szymanski
Adam Tabaka
Nicole Tamaro
Richard J. Tappan
Douglas Tate
Ronald B. Taylor
Howard L. Theriot
Michael Thomas
James Thomason
Al Thompson
Ben Thompson
David Thompson
Jason Thompson
John Thompson
Julie Thompson
Samuel Tisdale
Scott Toland
Edward Toppe
Robert B. Tormey
John Towers
Josh Tracy
Joan Treinas
James Troxell
Evelyn Tudor
Kevin Turnmeyer
Keith Tweed
Christopher H. Usndek
Greg Van Ewyk
Jennifer Vasil
Patricia Ver Schneider
Jennifer Verhey
Matt Vestrand
Alexei Vinogradov
Thomas Visic

John Viterito
Tara Vocatura
Joseph Volz
William Voris
Jeffrey Vos
Travis Voss
James Wagner
Neal Walerko
Bill Walker
Richard J. Walsh
Joshua Walters
Derek Walton
Neil Walton
Joel Ward
Mitchell Ware
Joshua Warren
Scott Weaver
Roger Webb
Eric Webber
Heather Webster
William Wehling
Tina Weisman
Tom Weisman
James Welch III
Amy Wells
Regina Welser
Tony Whitaker
John White
Michelle White
Frank Wickers
Joseph Willett
Thomas William
Brian Williams
Chris Williams
Douglas Williams
Edward Williams
Sandi Williams
Alexandria Williamson
Jared Wilsey
Cathryn Z. Wilson
Charles R. Wise
Matthew Wisniewski
Hang Kei S. Wong
Yuning Woo
Philip Woolman
Jerry Wright
Christopher Yonts
Niklas York
Terren Yost
Andrew Young
Jerry Yu
Stanley Yuzuk
Abraham Zamora
Justin Zeth
Troy Zimmerman
John Zumbum

2008 Annual Chairman's Report

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thousands of elections across our land this year, all of them state and (most of them) local elections. There are enormous opportunities for Libertarians to jump with both feet into elections in which they can make an electoral splash.

I will write this, however. Libertarians propose serious changes for society. If you choose to run, you are proposing such changes. So, get your ducks in a row. Study the issues and the governmental budget for the office that you are seeking. Propose serious, salable libertarian solutions to public policy problems.

I've been a candidate for office four times, and, while I won't represent that it is constantly fun, they have been among the most rewarding experiences of my life, and

I wouldn't have missed them for the world. I think you'll feel the same way after your campaign (and, hopefully, your time in office).

I will leave it to the LNC's able Treasurer, Aaron Starr, to speak in more detail to the current financial situation of the LNC. While, technically, we may not yet be living through the worst recession since the Great Depression, it sure feels that way. That means that we are in one of the toughest fundraising periods in the history of the LP. Monthly recurring donors (as I am at \$83.34 per month, but please don't consider that a ceiling) to the LNC are needed more now than ever.

Please give Louise Calise a call at (202) 333-0008, x. 235, or send an email to louise.calise@lp.org for a call back to set you up as a monthly recurring donor today.

Letters to the Editor: Protect the Statement of Principles Correctly

continued from page 3

placate those who wanted to change the Statement of Principles – offering them some desired changes in exchange for closing and padlocking the backdoor.

It is my guess that neither 'side' can muster the required 2/3. If the side favoring modification could command that fraction of the delegates, they could make the modifications and then leave the backdoor open for future changes. But if the side that opposes any changes could achieve the 2/3, then they could close the backdoor without any changes being made. That, too, is unlikely. The only way the required 2/3 can be achieved will be for both sides to agree – to make the

changes the Joint Proposal reported, and then to padlock the backdoor.

This compromise was rejected, at least partly by delegates who did not fully understand what we tried to do. I wrote this article to overcome that weakness in our original proposal – and still harbor a lingering hope that enlightenment will bring the spirit of compromise to the next Conventions.

Dan Karlan
Waldick, NJ

Dan Karlan is the Region 5 Representative on the Libertarian National Committee.



2008 Treasurer's Report

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ger government are not resting. The Obama administration is attempting to turn America into a land of socialism, similar to what plagues Western Europe, with its high taxes, high unemployment and bleak future.

We are the only political party that truly embraces and promotes the alternative of personal freedom, individual responsibility and limited government.

Without us ... without you ... there can be no freedom. Without you ... there is nothing to stop the march toward a future where our

children and grandchildren are serfs and the government their master.

We need your help now more than ever to spread the message of freedom far and wide.

Increase your financial support to the Libertarian Party. Become a monthly pledger or increase your existing monthly pledge. This steady source of cash flow makes it possible for our organization to focus on the future, rather than the crisis du jour.

Fill out the enclosed contribution form today. Or call the national headquarters right now at 202-333-0008 and ask for Louise Calise at extension 235.

2008 State Membership Report

STATE	ACTIVE MEM	STATE	ACTIVE MEM
AK	68	MT	59
AL	235	NC	405
AR	101	ND	27
AZ	324	NE	81
CA	2,010	NH	155
CO	475	NJ	352
CT	202	NM	132
DC	37	NV	201
DE	46	NY	648
FL	982	OH	680
GA	633	OK	115
HI	66	OR	197
IA	124	PA	589
ID	73	RI	36
IL	571	SC	185
IN	373	SD	34
KS	150	TN	337
KY	142	TX	953
LA	131	UT	95
MA	309	VA	608
MD	302	VT	31
ME	77	WA	416
MI	552	WI	260
MN	259	WV	57
MO	296	WY	43
MS	59	OTHER	65

Total LP Members/Subscribers: 16,349

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

Here is a comprehensive listing of upcoming events for which we have received notification. In the future, if there is an event we should be listing, please let us know by contacting our volunteer coordinator and provide what you can for details.

THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR CAN BE REACHED AT OUR HEADQUARTERS OFFICE BY CALLING 202-333-0008.



Event	Date	Location	Contact
LPKS State Convention	March 7	Emporia, KS	www.LPKS.org
LPOR State Convention	March 14	Newport, OR	www.lporegon.org
LPMI Regional Activist Conf.	March 14	Grand Rapids, MI	salvette@umich.edu
LPWA State Convention	March 28	Issaquah, WA	www.LPWA.org
LPNV State Convention	March 28	Las Vegas, NV	www.lpnevada.org
LPF State Convention	March 28	Jacksonville, FL	www.LPF.org
LPMS State Convention	April 4	Jackson, MS	chair@mslp.org
LPMI Regional Activist Conf.	April 4	Troy, MI	salvette@umich.edu
LPNC State Convention	April 17	Burlington, NC	chair@lpnc.org
LPNM State Convention	April 17	Alamogordo, NM	thrill@zianet.com
LPGA State Convention	April 18	Atlanta, GA	www.lpgeorgia.com
LPMO State Convention	April 18	Jefferson City, MO	info@lpmo.org
LPCA State Convention	April 24	Visalia, CA	www.CA.LP.org
LPNY State Convention	April 25	Rochester, NY	www.ny.lp.org
LPIA State Convention	April 25	Des Moines, IA	www.LPIA.org
LPO State Convention	May 1	Perrysville, OH	www.lpo.org
LPPA State Convention	May 2	Clarion, PA	www.LPPA.org
LPIL State Convention	October 23	Colinsville, IL	www.il.lp.org

Each issue, we'll ask you a question, and the answer will be provided in the next issue of *LP News*. Discussion on the question is welcome in "Letters to the Editor," space permitting.

Where will the 2010 Libertarian National Convention be held?

LAST ISSUE'S LP QUESTION:

Who was the first Libertarian Presidential Candidate?

ANSWER:

John Hospers was the first presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party, running in the 1972 presidential election. He and his vice-president running mate, Theodora Nathan, received 3,674 votes.

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Office hours: 9 am-6 pm ET
New Member Information:
Call (800) ELECT-US
E-mail: info@lp.org



Pictured (From Left to Right): Vince Mamo, Kimberly Moogalian, Robert Kraus, Austin Petersen, Louise Calise, and Erik Geib

LPHQ staff and interns weighed the pros and cons of getting arrested and possibly making the front page of the paper last week. When visiting the Senate and the House of Representatives, people are required to drop off their personal items in a drop box and grab a colored card to retrieve them when they return. Wishing to visit the Senate after the House, LPHQ staff made their way over to the opposite side of the Capitol when they were informed by the guard they could not enter the Senate. They must ride the same elevator up to the house, and would have to ride it back down, walk to the other side of the building, grab their belongings, walk over to the other side of the building, drop off their belongings again, and then go back up the crowded elevators with a different pass to visit the Senate. No, you could not just drop off your things in one location and then go visit the other side of the Capitol. That would have just made too much sense. After watching the house pass the pork laden “stimulus” bill, they were in no mood for complicated bureaucracy, and were ready to pick a fight until Austin Petersen stepped in and calmed them down.

What have you missed recently on www.LP.org?

Weekly Libertarian Party Updates

News of Libertarian Party Candidates for Office

Blog topics on LP issues

Question of the Day