



Order Quiz
Door Hangers
on Page 7

The Party of Principle™

August 2010

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

Volume 40, Issue 3

Meet Your 2010 Libertarian Party Candidates - Page 7

Redpath Takes Top Honors at Convention - Page 8

Chairman's Corner Page 2 Letters to the Editor Page 3 State Affiliate News Page 5 What Have You Missed at LP.org? Page 16

Libertarians Launch Quiz Across America

by Arthur DiBianca

▲ I want to put every willing Libertarian in America to work!" says Wes Benedict, executive director of the Libertarian National Committee.

The LP is implementing a plan to distribute Libertarian door hangers to volunteers nationwide. The effort is titled "Quiz Across America."

In each of the 2006 and 2008 election years, while Benedict served as the executive director of the Libertarian Party of Texas, the state party printed and distributed about 200,000 Libertarian door hangers. "In 2010, I'm hoping we can send at least a million of these all across America," said Benedict.

The door hangers feature the World's Smallest Political Quiz and brief information about the Libertarian Party. They en-

courage people to visit the LP website to join the party.

"One of the things that has always frustrated me is when people contacted the Libertarian Party offering to volunteer, but we didn't have a good way to put them to work," said Benedict. "This has proved to be a great, simple way for both new and long-time Libertarian volunteers to promote our party."

While the Libertarian Party is always looking for new candidates and party officers, those activities can require a significant investment of time, and lots of people aren't able to make such a big commitment. "Putting up 200 door hangers just takes three or four hours in an average urban or suburban neighborhood," said

...continued on page 6



See larger images inside on page 6.

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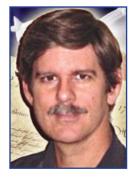
Libertarian National Committee, Inc. 2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20037



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

An Introduction

by Mark Hinkle



his is my first column as LNC Chair.

Let me briefly introduce myself. I've been involved with the Libertarian Party since voting for John Hospers for

President in 1972, and I officially joined in 1974. I've been at this a long time.

I'd like to share a lesson I've learned along the way. During my time in the Party, I've seen plenty of post-election blues, infighting, and finger pointing. I've heard just about every possible organizational strategy championed, from grassroots to top-down and everything in between.

During my race for LNC Chair, I heard from a number of activists, and even more since being elected. Some want us to concentrate only on winnable (typically non-partisan) races, while others want to show the flag in partisan races with the LP Logo waving proudly.

My job as LNC Chair is to facilitate as many of these strategies as we can, with the limited resources we have available.

Our members and donors really do tell us what they want from the LP. Sometimes we listen well, sometimes not. Be-

cause our membership numbers are slowly rising, I think we're doing a slightly better job of listening. And our finances are much improved as well. Another good sign we seem to be on the right track.

As a service organization, which is what the LP is, we have to serve our members and donors—our customers—or they go elsewhere.

By the way, while serving as a regional representative on the LNC these last two years and since becoming LNC Chair, I've become more aware of the talented and very dedicated staff we have at LP Headquarters. We're very fortunate that we have a very bright and very hardworking HQ staff. They know how to make things happen.

Some folks want the LP to run more candidates for local winnable races. Hopefully no one is against that idea. I certainly am not.

And other folks, myself included, want to see the LP run a Libertarian presidential candidate, even with little hope of that candidate getting elected. Ditto for U.S. Senate races, Congress, and most state legislative positions, which are just not winnable currently.

So, where's the conflict and why the disagreements?

Here's how I see it: some folks who support candidates running for local office see money spent on non-winnable races as a waste of money.

But, since it's not their money, why should they object to other people funding non-winnable races?

Folks who support partisan races see value in getting the name Libertarian before the voters and the media, and will fund them voluntarily.

Folks who support local winnable races will fund them voluntarily.

Folks who support non-winnable races will fund them voluntarily.

Folks who support top-down management (LNC directed projects) will fund them voluntarily.

Folks who support grassroots organizations will volunteer and fund them voluntarily.

Folks who want to run on a reform platform with interim strategies will do so.

Likewise, radicals will run on a radical or anarchist platform.

The LP, as an organization, must support all of these strategies because that's what our membership wants. Even if we could, and we can't, why would we want to stop anyone from pursuing a strategy they think will work and especially if they're putting their time, money, and talent where their mouth is?

Ditto for those who want educational campaigns or any other type of campaigns, such as campaigns against tax or bond measures.

To exclude any group is to weaken the organization and prolong our fight for freedom.

If those who support winnable campaigns are more persuasive or more successful, they'll likely raise more money. So, they'll get more of what they want.

Ditto for those who want the LP to run more candidates for partisan offices. For the most part they are non-winnable currently, but they provide other benefits to the Party and to the cause of freedom.

So, rather than view these two strategies as mutually exclusive, let's change that paradigm and see it as meeting the needs of both groups.

And, of course, there are folks who reside in both camps.

I've run for non-partisan office twice and the State Assembly five times, and I am currently running in a special election in California's 15th State Senate district. Plus I've given funds to winnable races (John Inks for City Council most recently) and to non-winnable races, such as every presidential candidate since John Hospers. And I've given money to ballot access, even though California, where I live, already has ballot access. And I've written so many anti-tax and anti-bond measure statements that I've lost count.

So, let's stop viewing these strategies in terms of what's "right" and what's "wrong" or what's "more cost effective" or "less cost effective" and view them instead as multiple strategies that have supporters who are willing to support them. And we, as a service organization, need to support all of our customers. If we don't, they won't come back.

In the long term, if one of those many strategies is the "right one," we'll have helped the cause of freedom.

Nothing wrong with that, is there?

Mark WA Hinkle

Libertarian Party News
(ISSN 8755-139X) is the official
newspaper of the
Libertarian Party® of the United
States. Opinions and articles
published in this newspaper do not
necessarily represent official party
positions unless so indicated.

NATIONAL CHAIR:
Mark Hinkle
2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037
E-mail: chair@LP.org

LPNews

The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

The Party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities; nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and supporting Party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and, entering into public information activities.

LP NEWS EDITOR:

Wes Benedict editor@lp.org

Send News, Articles,
Essays or
Photographs:
Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: (202) 333-0008
E-mail: Editor@LP.org

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES To: Libertarian Party 2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20037 Phone: (202) 333-0008 Email: members@lp.org

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Strategy Recommendations

ith the concern over huge government, massive bailouts, and enormous debt at an all-time high, the Libertarian Party should be on the brink of electing scores of national leaders. Instead, the disorganized Tea Party and Big-Government has-beens like Sarah Palin dominate the news.

Meanwhile, the LP seems content to do what it's always done and get what it's always got. Desperate voters, not knowing where to turn to rein-in government, will give their votes to the already-failed borrow-and-spend Republicans.

What can the LP do to bring in voters and donors? I suggest a Libertarian approach: 1) offering donors a contract; 2) focusing on real campaigns; and 3) achieving message discipline.

The first thing I suggest is that the party and its candidates offer prospective donors a use-of-funds contract. What do I mean? Personally, the last thing I want my donation used for is to try to raise additional funds from me. However, I'd be more than willing to become a monthly donor if the LP were to promise me that at least 90% of my contribution would be used for TV/radio airtime and that fundraising appeals to me would be limited to one per year. Other libertarians might respond to different contract options based on their priorities. If the LP ever wants to succeed, we must respect individuals' differences and use the voluntary contracts we champion.

My second recommendation is that the LP stop ballot access drives where it's far easier to get our real candidates on the ballot individually. By "real candidate," I mean one who started serious efforts nine or more months before the election, has built a volunteer organization, and has raised significant funds. Ballot access should remain a priority only where it can be easily maintained once achieved. Real campaigns should be our focus lest the Libertarian label remain synonymous with paper tiger candidates.

Finally, the LP must reach message discipline (i.e., having all candidates focused on the same issues and

solutions). Voters never will have any clue what we stand for when each libertarian says something new. The LP must have volunteers conduct extensive polls to determine which libertarian proposals appeal most to voters during each election.

The key positions and results must then be distributed to candidates and members. This is where the party can add value to every campaign. Do we force candidates to toe the line, or add every talking point to their campaign? No. We show and teach candidates how key Libertarian positions can appeal to their voters and then allow success to reward the candidates who put the data to use.

Remember, there's no point in wasting a campaign discussing Libertarian solutions to issues that no one identifies as a problem (for example, private roads are a great idea; however, public roads are not in the "top 100 things wrong with our government," so the issue just doesn't resonate).

Let's create a marketable, consistent message that appeals to our candidates and to voters, put our emphasis on real campaigns, and offer donation contracts which match individual donor priorities. Then the LP will be able to take advantage of the Libertarian swing in the nation, win at the polls, and rescue our country from the brink of bankruptcy. Let freedom ring!

John R. Pack Parker, CO

Great Depression II

bama and his toadies keep comparing our present economic situation to the Great Depression. They are more right than they know!

Hoover responded to the October 1929 market crash with more intervention and more government spending. FDR convinced voters that Hoover was responsible for the crash, was doing all the wrong things to fix it, got himself elected and imposed even more interventions, government spending and higher taxes. All of the analysis by

credible economist I've read concur that Hoover, FDR and their misguided stimulus programs and economic controls succeeded in prolonging what should have been a 18 to 24 month recession into the decade long "Great Depression."

Fast forward eight decades and we had another big-spender Republican presiding over misguided programs to keep the economy booming forever and another bubble that collapsed. This time it was the real estate market instead of the stock market but the causes and effects were the same. Now we have another socialist Democrat blaming his predecessor and, like FDR, doing more of the same things that had already been tried and failed.

We can hope that history won't be repeated through five election cycles as they were between 1932 and 1952 and voters will finally come to realize that governments *always* fail at attempts to control economies and make them better. There is no example in the world or in history of any succeeding. Successful economies exist where property and economic decisions are owned and controlled by individuals. In fact, how can one define freedom without these rights? Some define freedom as being free from needs and wants — the right to someone else's property or earnings to provide benefits like health care, free food, subsidized housing, etc. to those who can't afford and haven't earned them.

Our nation's founders rebelled against royal ownership and control and were wary of a democracy assuming the same kind of power over individuals and property. They carefully crafted our Constitution in clear language to protect us against this eventuality. They couldn't have anticipated the arrogance of elected and appointed officials that would think the words in their oaths of office and the Constitution, which swear to uphold and defend, to mean anything that suits their purpose.

Government's proper role is to protect property rights by enforcing contracts and defending against theft and fraud, period! When we elect people who respect this concept we may have some actual hope of restoring our country and prosperity. We may have to look beyond Democrats and Republicans to find them.

Dale Burrow *Chico, CA*

The Time is Now

he liberty movement is larger and faster-growing than ever! Our party revenues are up almost 50% and we have over 700 candidates running for office. We have multiple programs on the Fox Business channel completely dedicated to freedom and libertarian ideals. We now have more than a handful members of in our national House of Representatives that are very friendly to freedom and the Constitution.

Never have our schools been filled with such libertarian beliefs and anti-government sentiments.

I want to encourage everyone to realize that it is our time to act and our time to enact real change. With our government pushing such a socialist agenda, never has it been so easy to convince others that central-planning doesn't work and that all our ills are caused by big government, not the free market. We need to vote Libertarian on every single ballot, we need to donate anything we can spare, we need to run for office, support campaigns, and most importantly, spread the word of libertarianism to your friends, family and neighbors.

Don't be afraid to represent the party, we are the most fair, honest, logical and caring political party there is. Remember, the truth always prevails.

Logan Hinkle *Morgan Hill, CA*

Do You Have Something to Say?

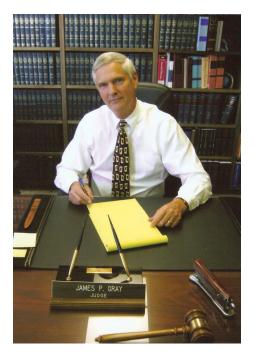
Ling their minds. If you have something to say about an article you've read in LP News, you can submit a letter to the editor at editor@lp.org.

Remember, not all letters received will be printed, and those that are printed may be edited for content, grammar, and length. Please include your name, city, and state with your letter.

Submit your letter to the editor to editor@lp.org

A Voter's Handbook:

Effective Solutions To America's Problems



by Judge James P. Gray, Ret.

or us to maximize everyone's chances of fulfilling our desires for prosperity we must listen better to that great thinker and Nobel Prize-winning economist Dr. Milton Friedman and his equally brilliant wife, Rose.

Yes, we as citizens and voters actually have to consider economics because this is the "invisible hand" that in so many ways drives our decision-making process and also that of our great nation as well. The basis for our prosperity is simple: the basis is "choice," or as the Friedmans put it in the title of the economic bible they wrote, we must be "Free to Choose."

What does that mean? It means that the foundations of prosperity based upon our free choice are private property rights, a fair and foreseeable system of justice, and entrepreneurship and all of the calculated economic risk-taking that this entails.

This sounds like intellectual egg-head talk, but it really is not. It simply means that we must set up a system that maximizes ways people can choose for themselves how to work and spend their money instead of having the government make those choices for them. This necessarily means that people will benefit from the good choices they make and be responsible for poor ones. That is the way to prosperity. Therefore, every time the government substitutes its "wisdom" for ours, it is taking us further away from prosperity.

Now to take this discussion one step

further, for example, who has more incentive to plant, organize and develop a better apple grove, private people working for their own self-interest, or the government? For the answer to that question, ask the people of Poland, the Czech Republic or Cuba. Or compare the productivity level of South as opposed to North Korea, or previously West Germany as opposed to East Germany. Furthermore, what is a better way to decide how many washing machines to manufacture or how many black cars to produce instead of red cars? To have a government bureaucrat make the decision or a private company that is sensitive to the free market choices of its customers? To have a system of government decisions in the marketplace leads to what the Friedmans call the "tyranny of control." Bureaucrats always have a natural tendency to increase their power and their area of influence. That is a major explanation for our government being so large and controlling today. But to have the decisions made privately brings the most rational decisions in manufacturing and distribution. And that brings prosperity!

We should arm ourselves with the slogan "Free to Choose," because it demonstrates the fact that we can and do have an influence in our government—at all levels. Our prosperity depends upon it.

And these principles can specifically be adapted to the problems we have in America today. As we discuss in this book there are concrete ways we can simplify and change the direction of government, with specific suggestions for the improvement of the criminal justice system for juveniles, adults and the mentally ill; for the overall system of education by instituting competition, reducing dropout rates, utilizing school uniforms and implementing successful programs of meditation; healthcare, by severely limiting the government's involvement and returning to a system of competition; and a way to severely curtail the critical problem of illegal immigration. Those voicing support for A Voter's Handbook include Jim Doti of Chapman University, Manny Klausner, Steven Greenhut and Kevin Takenaga, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of California who states We must get copies of this book in the hands of our candidates as quickly as possible.

Judge Gray is a member of the Judicial Committee of The Libertarian Party and a former Libertarian Candidate for the U.S. Senate.

Bad Drugs: The DEA and FDA

by Wes Benedict

t the national convention banquet fundraiser in May, the attendees assigned some homework to me. That was to write about two bad three-letter federal agencies: the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Like many federal programs, the creators of the FDA probably had good intentions. They probably wanted to help insure that people had access to safe food and drugs, or at least safe food. However, like with most well-intended government programs, the government's involvement has made things worse.

The FDA currently has over 9,000 employees, and a budget of more than \$2 billion.

The basic idea behind the agency can probably be summed up like this: "Foolish and uninformed people will choose to buy foods and drugs that are bad for them. We can't let that happen, so we have to stop those foods and drugs before people can buy them."

The FDA has driven up the cost and time it takes to get new life-saving drugs to patients causing premature deaths. Whenever a federal agency has so much control over products worth billions of dollars, those businesses start hiring lobbyists to gain favor with politicians. The opportunity to squeeze special provisions into legislation creates an incentive for corruption. Many large pharmaceutical companies are perfectly happy with the FDA because FDA regulations create a major barrier to entry for competitors, which protects the existing drug companies and boosts their profits.

Likewise, FDA food testing and labeling requirements make it harder to get into the food distribution industry. That protects existing companies.

The FDA is unnecessary, because private organizations are perfectly capable of satisfying consumers' demand for food and drug safety and quality information.

An example is kosher food labeling. Several private organizations test and certify a wide variety of food products, to ensure that consumers who want kosher foods have all the information they need. The system works very well, and there is no need for government

intrusion.

We should get rid of the FDA and allow private labeling, certification, and common sense guide the food and drug marketplace.

It's hard to think of anything good to say about the DEA. The experience with alcohol prohibition should have taught Americans that drug prohibition would cause far more serious problems than the drugs themselves. Unfortunately, too many people failed to learn the lesson. Now we're saddled with the DEA, which today employs over 10,000 people and has a budget of more than \$2 billion.

"DEA" might as well stand for "Drug-lord Empowerment Administration." Their activities sustain a hugely profitable black-market industry for domestic and foreign drug traffickers. Like all government officials who work in close proximity to black markets, DEA agents are susceptible to corruption.

The DEA also routinely threatens Americans' Fourth Amendment rights. DEA agents often participate in no-knock raids, which can have needlessly violent and destructive outcomes. And there have been botched raids, where errors or corrupt informants have sent DEA agents to houses that have no connection to the drug trade, sometimes resulting in deaths or injuries, and always resulting in property destruction.

Probably the most complimentary thing that can be said about the DEA is that it helps weed out the least efficient drug traffickers. The traffickers that are best at sneaking drugs past the DEA, or corrupting DEA agents, succeed and thrive. Only the incompetent traffickers fail.

It's too bad that America still fights the War on Drugs, which has caused such a long list of serious problems. We should end the War on Drugs and get rid of the DEA.

As I wrote this, I noticed that there are actually some similarities between these two government agencies. They have similar employee counts, similar budgets, and they both claim to make people safer.

Unfortunately, it's not an exaggeration to say that both agencies have produced very serious negative consequences, including many people's deaths. Both agencies should be done away with.

AFFILIATE

NEWS AND EVENTS

Affiliate news and events are provided to LP News by Libertarian Party state affiliates.

Illinois

Big Goals for 2010 Election

ith former Illinois governor George Ryan (R) in prison for corruption, former Illinois governor Rod Blagojevich (D) currently on trial for corruption, and the state headed off the cliff of insolvency, Illinois voters are ripe for the Libertarian alternative.

The Libertarian Party of Illinois (LP Illinois) recruited candidates Lex Green for Governor, Ed Rutledge for Lt. Governor, Bill Malan for Attorney General, Julie Fox for Comptroller, Josh Hanson for Secretary of State, James Pauly for Treasurer, and Mike Labno for U.S. Senate.

In June, the LP Illinois delivered 48,039 petition signatures to put those candidates on the ballot for the November election, almost twice the 25,000 signature minimum. The Libertarian threat to the established political order was recognized and LP Illinois petitions were challenged. LP Illinois is resisting the challenge through its legal and volunteer defense teams. Contributions to the Party to support the legal defense are welcome at www.LPIllinois.org.

LP Illinois expects to emerge victorious and go on to make Libertarian history in Illinois on Election Day, November 2, 2010.

Across the state the campaign has heard from all kinds of people. Libertarians recognize that Lex's campaign is the most aggressive of its kind. Republicans understand that their candidate is weak and unqualified for the job of Governor. The Democrats have been realizing that they are more Libertarian than they once thought. Everyone in Illinois is watching for someone that they can believe in. If the Libertarians and Green keep up the fight, the party could see their first Governor.

Fox has been actively campaigning for Illinois Comptroller in this her second run for the post. Fox spoke with reporters on June 21st in Springfield, along with fellow candidates, after filing LP Illinois' candidate paperwork and petitions. Fox discussed Illinois ballot access issues on Free & Equal's June 27 blogcast along with

other LP Illinois candidates who were challenged on June 26, LP Illinois PR Director Kent McMillen, and others. She made an appearance in the Elgin Independence Day Parade on July 3 with Rutledge, and both appeared on local ABC News the following day. She spoke, along with Green and Rutledge, at the Lake County Tea Party on July 5. Fox also appeared on Good Morning America with cousin Katie Helt and fellow LP Illinois member Alan Hall, carrying campaign signs, when the show filmed in Fox's hometown of West Dundee after a neighborhood in the town won GMA's "Best Block in America" award. In addition, she was interviewed by William Kelly on Kelly's Truth Squad show on WIND radio 560 AM in July.

The DeKalb County LP chapter staffed an informational outreach booth at Malta Days on June 12 and 13. Green met and greeted people at the booth. Fox also shook hands and passed out literature. Signatures were also collected for the LP Illinois petition drive, and members helped spread the libertarian message of limited government. The next event will be Kingston Fest in Kingston, IL on Saturday July 17th from noon until four PM. We will continue to promote and support our slate of candidates while trying to grow our chapter in DeKalb County.

LP Illinois will host an informational booth at the Illinois State Fair in August. With an estimated attendance of over one million, this will be a fantastic opportunity to grow our party and promote our candidates as well as the Libertarian philosophy.

Attendees at the 2010 LP-Illinois Convention will find an exciting speaker lineup at the September 10 through 12 event in Springfield, Illinois. Speakers include Sheriff Richard Mack, author of "The County Sheriff: America's Last Hope"; Dr. Sharon Presley, author of "Standing up to Experts and Authorities: How to Avoid Being Manipulated, Intimidated and Abused"; and David Nolan, co-founder of the Libertarian Party and creator of the Nolan Chart (the basis for The World's Smallest Political Quiz). Outstanding workshops will feature such topics as Marketing Our Party, The How-To's of Running for Office, Libertarian Living, and Growing The Revolution With State and National LP Working Side-By-Side. LNC Vice Chair Mark Rutherford and LNC Region 6 Representative Dianna Visek will be serving as co-presenters of this State and National LP workshop. For more information and to register for the convention being held at the Hilton Garden Inn, visit the Convention Page of the LP Illinois website at: www.lpillinois.org.

Montana

Montana Libertarians Speak Out

The Ravalli County Libertarian party took first place for their entry in the Corvallis Memorial day parade and won the best overall entry. Thanks to Dan Cox, Jim Pearson, Tobiaz Martin, Wayne Kelly, David and Leona Merrick and family members. Congressional candidate Mike Fellows had an entry in the Butte 4th of July parade, which is the largest in the state. The first televised congressional debate sponsored by the Montana Broadcasters Association, took place in Whitefish in June with two more planned.

The Missoula County Libertarian Party spoke out against two planned Missoula citywide special districts in July, one on parks, the other on roads, that will increase taxes on Missoula property owners. "The Missoula City Council budget is 500,000 dollars short and the Council does not want to make the hard choices of reducing the budget," said state chair Mike Fellows.

Coming events will be the Missoula Gun Show, the Ravalli County Fair, the Missoula County Fair and Jury Rights Day among other candidate activities.

New York

Petition Drive Begins

Tuly 6 marked the beginning of the Libertarian Party of New York's annual torturous foray into masochism (also known as our petition drive) to secure enough signatures from registered voters to get our candidates on the ballot in November. Unlike many other states that allow for a filing fee, the Demopublican Board of Elections does not like competition or choice for voters. Hence they require Independent Nomination Petitions be completed in six weeks during the height of vacation season and 90 degree heat.

LPNY has a full slate this year with 19 candidates statewide. Warren Redlich, an upstate attorney already holding local office, tops the ticket as our gubernatorial candidate. New York election law dictates we secure 50,000 votes for governor to be considered a "party" in New York. Accomplishing this feat would secure the LPNY with "permanent" ballot status—which would mean collecting fewer signatures in the next four years. It also positions the LPNY in a better place for Election Day 2012.

In addition to candidates for governor, lt. governor, comptroller and attorney general, we have two candidates running for U.S. Senate and five for U.S. Congress, one for New York state Senate and many for local offices.

LPNY volunteers and paid petitioners are out on the streets, beaches, festivals, fairs and flea markets gathering signatures for our stalwart candidates.

For additional information on the candidates check the LPNY website at http://ny.lp.org.

Ohio

Voters Can Now Officially Register

hio now has voters registered with the LP. This has happened only three times in the history of the LPO, the last time being about 10 years ago. We have approximately 4,400 Ohio residents registered with the LP. This is more than all the other minor parties combined. The LPO is sending a professionally prepared letter to each of these voters. The letter will provide contact information and request contributions.

The LPO successfully managed a booth in the Ohio State Fair, the second largest state fair in the country. The LPO had an indoor corner booth in the largest air-conditioned building on the fairgrounds. Thanks to the LPO statewide candidates for stepping up in a big way and filling the 36 shifts over the 12 day period of the fair. It has been nearly 20 years since the LPO participated in the state fair.

Strategy planning meetings have started. We have reviewed the SWOT analysis, reviewed the top priorities, and will address a one year, two year, four year, and eight year plan.

Please go to www.lpo.org for more information on the Libertarian Party of Ohio. Also consider joining us on Facebook, an LPO Regional MeetUp, and signing-up for our LPO Statewide Announcements (SWA).

For more information, feel free to email us at info@lpo.org.

LP Quiz Across **America**

Volunteers Distribute **Door Hangers**

...continued from page 1

Benedict.

Quiz Across America gives everyone of all skill levels a simple job they can do to promote the Libertarian Party at their own pace when it fits their schedule.

In Texas, many candidates attached their campaign business cards to the door hangers. There is also space for local Libertarian organizations to attach a label with local contact information.

The door hangers can be ordered online at LP.org, or by filling out and mailing in the order form on this page.

"Some of our Texas volunteers put up one or two hundred door hangers in their neighborhood, while others put up thousands in the surrounding areas as well," said Benedict. "We welcome volunteers at all levels."

"It's a low-stress activity," continued Benedict. "You don't have to confront people one-on-one and preach to them. You just leave the door hanger on their door, allowing them to look it over whenever they have time.

"Some people find it kind of addictive. In Texas we would get an order for 200 door hangers, and then a week later the same person would order another 200 or 400."



World's Smallest Political Quiz!

For each statement, circle A for Agree, M for Maybe, or D for Disagree.

How do you stand on PERSONAL issues?	<u>20</u>	10	0
→ Government should not censor speech, press, media or Internet.	Α	M	D
→ Military service should be voluntary. There should be no draft.	Α	M	D
→ There should be no laws regarding sex between consenting adults.	A	M	D
→ Repeal laws prohibiting adult possession and use of drugs.	Α	M	D
→ There should be no National ID card.	Α	M	D

SCORING: 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D:			
How do you stand on ECONOMIC issues?	20	10	
→ End "corporate welfare." No government handouts to business.	Α	M	
→ End government barriers to international free trade.	Α	M	
→ Let people control their own retirement: privatize Social Security.	Α	M	
→ Replace government welfare with private charity.	Α	M	
→ Cut taxes and government spending by 50% or more.	Α	M	
SCORING: 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D:			

→NOW FIND YOUR PLACE ON THE CHART!

Mark your PERSONAL score on the lower-left scale; your ECONOMIC score on the lower-right. Then follow the grid lines until they meet at your political position. The Chart shows the political group that agrees with you most. Liberals tend to value personal freedom. Conservatives tend to value economic freedom. Libertarians value both. Statists are against both.

LIBERTARIAN CENTRIST STATIST

OKAY TO REPRINT QUIZ WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS WITH CREDIT TO THE ADVOCATES

Find out more about the Libertarian Party at

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * Minimum Government Freedom

While our nation is declining dangerously right now, a turnaround could be straightforward and simple with steps like these:

- 1. Bring our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 2. Stop rewarding failed companies with bailouts.
- 3. Cut taxes and spending and let the free market work.

We are America's third-largest political party. Many Libertarians serve in elected office throughout the U.S. We have affiliates in all 50 states. We run hundreds of candidates for all political offices from President down to U.S. Congress and city councils. Win or lose, every vote for a Libertarian sends a clear message for liberty. Don't waste your vote on the corrupt Republicans and Democrats who keep delivering more of the same failed policies that benefit their friends in big business and big government. Vote Libertarian.

* Get more door hangers like this one at LP.org * Pass them out in your neighborhood!

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Quiz Across America Order Form | Meet Your 2010 Candidates

by Arthur DiBianca

n November 2, over 800 Libertarian candidates are expected to appear on the ballot in at least 44 states, a significant increase from the approximately 600 Libertarians who ran in 2008.

Most of these Libertarians are running for partisan offices such as governor or other statewide offices, U.S. Congress, and state legislatures. Some are running for nonpartisan offices like city councils and school boards.

Meet a few of the Libertarians running throughout America.

In Georgia, John Monds is running for governor. Monds is one of two Libertarian candidates in history to receive over 1 million votes, in his 2008 run for the Georgia Public Service Commission. He is expected to be the first African-American to appear on the November Georgia ballot for governor. His website is www.votemonds.com.

In Florida, Alexander Snitker is running for U.S. Senator. He has been very vocal about unfair treatment from the media, such as a major poll that left out his name and a press event that excluded him. Another poll put him at 3-4%. His website is snitker2010

In Texas, Robert Nowotny is running for state representative in District 73. Yvonne Schick, the 2008 Libertarian nominee for U.S. Senator in Texas, has said, "[Robert] has endorsements from Texans for Accountable Government and Kinky Friedman.. Robert is bright, has good personal presence, and has the freedom to campaign." His website is www.needtovote.com.

In Ohio, 26-year-old Travis Irvine is one of the youngest candidates for U.S. Representative in America. One of his goals is to make and publish a 45-second campaign video every week. A Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research poll showed him at 10%. His website is www.irvineforcongress.com.

In New Hampshire, Brendan Kelly is running what might be the most winnable state legislative race in the country for a Libertarian. New Hampshire districts are very small, and the average winning candidate spends less than \$1,000. Kelly holds elected office as a selectman in the coastal town of Seabrook. His website is



^{*} Federal law requires political committees to report the name, address, occupation and the name of the employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Competitive Chair Race Drives High Turnout for LP National Convention



Mark Rutherford (pictured center), who was elected Vice Chairman of the Libertarian Party at the 2010 Libertarian Party National Convention, stands with North Carolina Libertarian activists Amanda Owens (left) and Michael Shanklin (right).

by Wes Benedict

his past Memorial Day weekend, over 500 Libertarian delegates gathered in St. Louis for our 2010 national convention. Last winter while planning the convention, we were only expecting around 400, so we were especially pleased with the turnout.

I think most of the convention planners would agree that the highly competitive contest for national chair drove up turnout for the convention.

When people called or emailed and asked who I supported, I said something along the lines of "I love them all and look forward to working with whomever is elected, but LP Headquarters staff is required to be impartial and fair to all candidates for LNC offices."

Mark Hinkle from California finally won on the third ballot

Each of the five candidates

for Chair brought unique qualifications to the table, and based on comments since the convention, it sounds like all five will continue working for the cause of liberty. For example, runner-up Wayne Allyn Root ran for and won an at-large position on the LNC, and John Jay Myers is running an active campaign for Congress in Texas.

Mark Hinkle joined the Libertarian Party in 1974. He has served ten years on the Libertarian National Committee and has done just about every imaginable volunteer job within the LP.

He served for six years as Chairman of the California LP, during which: state party membership more than tripled; revenue more than tripled; the state party opened an office; the state party hired an Executive Director; and, a record number of Libertarians were elected to California public office via Project Breakthrough.

Additional officers elected were Mark Rutherford, Vice-

Chair; Alicia Mattson, Secretary; and James Oaksun, Treasurer.

Five At-Large Members were elected: Kevin Knedler of Ohio, David Nolan of Arizona, William Redpath of Virginia, Wayne Allyn Root of Nevada, and Mary Ruwart of Texas.

The following individuals were elected as Regional Representatives and Alternates. (The composition of the regions is not listed, but you can find it at LP.org.)

Region 1 Representatives: Doug Craig (Georgia), Stewart Flood (South Carolina), and Daniel Wiener (California). Alternates: Scott Lieberman (California), Guy McLendon (Texas), and Brad Ploeger (Georgia).

Region 2 Representative: Rachel Hawkridge (Washington). Alternate: Vicki Kirkland (Florida).

Region 3 Representative: Rebecca Sink-Burris (Indiana).

...continued on page 14

Outgoing LNC Chair William Redpath Earns Party's Highest Honor

From Convention Minutes Prepared by Outgoing Secretary Bob Sullentrup

t the Saturday, May 29 awards luncheon, outgoing LNC member and national convention committee chair Admiral Michael Colley presented distinguished Libertarian Party activists with awards

Alicia Mattson earned a Distinguished Service Award. Ms. Mattson has been platform committee chair in both 2008 and 2010. She is the volunteer who puts together the pre-convention surveys for the bylaws and platform committee reports, and she provides free membership management software to many state LP affiliates. A former volunteer state chair and treasurer, she has served as an At-large Member of the LNC since February 2009.

Emily Salvette earned a Distinguished Service Award. Ms. Salvette has years of service on the credentials committee, both as chair and member. She has served on the LNC, and has undertaken her duties with class and dedication.

Ben Bachrach earned a Distinguished Service Award. Ben designed and developed the web-



Outgoing LNC Chair William Redpath was awarded the Thomas Jefferson Award, the party's highest honor, for his leadership, character, devotion, and dedication.

based credentials committee software that replaced the Microsoft Access database in use since 2004. The web-based solution allows delegation chairs to independently update their own delegation lists, which vastly improved the process by removing the need for a single operator from the credentials committee to do the work for all the affiliates

Kevin Knedler earned the Samuel Adams Award for effective activism. Mr. Knedler is the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, and Libertarian representative on the Ohio Secretary of State Voting Rights Institute. During

...continued on page 14

Libertarian National Committee Seeking Applicants for 2010 Bylaws Committee

The National Committee will select the 2012 By-laws and Rules Committee at its November meeting.

Anyone interested in serving should e-mail Operations Manager Robert Kraus, Robert. Kraus@lp.org, by September 20. Demonstrable expertise, such as

membership in the National Association of Parliamentarians, is desirable but not required. Applicants should consider including a sample of Bylaw/Rule/Policy writing.

Members should expect to travel to two face-to-face meetings prior to the 2012 Convention.

How You Can Easily Keep Public Officials Accountable

by Dan Karlan

In an inexplicable, but rare, bout of integrity, the New Jersey legislature years ago passed a pair of "Open Government" laws, applicable to municipal and similar government bodies.

The Open Public Meetings Act, passed in 1975, stipulated standards for public access to meetings—when closed meetings could be held, what needed to be recorded during those deliberations, etc.

The Open Public Records Act, passed in 2002, stipulated that anyone could purchase such records at reasonable cost, and the clerk of the appropriate municipality had to comply within seven business days.

One of our members, John Paff (who also was our most recent—and first—candidate for Lieutenant Governor last year), took that opportunity, and under the umbrella of the New Jersey Libertarian Party Open Government Advocacy Project, started trying to peek into local government activities. For one of his projects, Paff examines the dockets of federal and state courts for recently settled cases



where the defendant was a government official. He then requests the settlement agreements and publishes them on his blog at http://njcivilsettlements.blogspot.com.

Another project is to seek the minutes of a government body's nonpublic (i.e. closed or executive) meetings. Often, these minutes are heavily redacted—blacked out to prevent public access to what is argued to be confidential—and that secrecy is itself revealing. For his work on this and similar issues, see his blog at http://njopengovt.blogspot.com.

There is a lot of good press to be gar-

nered from this project, and any time Mr. Paff is contacted by a reporter, he makes sure to credit this project as belonging to the New Jersey Libertarian Party.

This is not an opportunity that should be limited to New Jersey, and I encourage Libertarians everywhere else to pursue this

First, if your state does not have anything like the laws I mentioned above, apply pressure—as a Party, as Candidates, as residents of your state—to adopt such legislation.

Second, once those laws are in place, find individuals competent to write clearly and dispassionately, get a list of municipalities (with postal or e-mail addresses), and start writing. Scan local newspapers anywhere in your state as well as federal and state dockets for information about town settlements of suits, and contact the reporter when you learn the settlement details. Establish lines of communication with those reporters. They're always on the lookout for juicy stories, and here you are, ready to do some of their job — all you want is publicity (spell my name correctly, credit the state LP affiliate).

Banquet Attendees Devour an Alphabet Soup's Worth of Letters

by Wes Benedict

'm talking about an alphabet soup's worth of unwanted three-letter federal agencies like the IRS, TSA, and more.

Duke University political science chair and 2008 Libertarian candidate for North Carolina governor, Dr. Michael Munger, was the featured speaker at the 2010 Libertarian National Convention banquet. He shared his experiences about gaining ballot access in North Carolina. Then he shared a hilarious video from his website of himself wading into the Atlantic Ocean, wearing business attire, to make a point about getting media attention.

Overall, the banquet was a big success, raising an estimated \$61,750. Part of the success was due to the efforts of LNC representative Dr. Mary Ruwart, who phoned donors in advance to line up matching gift challenges.

With those pledges projected onto a screen (by an FCC regulated electronic device), banquet attendees quickly and generously donated enough to match all of the challenge gifts and then some.

With the early money collected, the next step involved coaxing people to donate more by auctioning off one-minute speaking opportunities to explain why certain three-letter agencies should be abolished (or devoured) and to share horror stories about the agencies.

It turns out Libertarians want to get rid of lots of government agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms bureau (ATF) and more.

Please bear in mind, this was a celebratory dinner towards the end of an exciting and successful, but also exhausting convention. So, if I remember a fact or two incorrectly, I was probably a fatigued employee—but please don't report that to OSHA. (Actually that's a four-letter agency. I guess they've used up all the three-letter combinations.)

It's scary how familiar many of these

...continued on page 14

Libertarians Oppose Record Federal Spending Levels

July 28 LP Press Release

he White House's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recently released its Mid-Session Review. On reviewing the report, Libertarian Party Chair Mark Hinkle called the report's spending projections "disappointing and troubling."

According to the report, federal spending was 24.7% of GDP in 2009, and is expected to be 24.6% this year, rising to 25.1% in 2011. (All years are fiscal years.)

Hinkle commented, "The federal government is commanding a larger percentage of our economy than it has at any time in American history, except a few years during World War II. Instead of free citizens making our own economic decisions, the federal government is making those decisions for us."

Hinkle added, "At the beginning of the twentieth century, the federal government spent less than five percent of GDP."

The report projects that federal spending will still be over 23% of GDP in the year 2020. "In other words," said Hinkle, "the White House is admitting that its spending



will be at record-high levels as far as the eye can see. That's great for special interests who get their money from the federal government, but it's very bad news for the rest of us.

"I'm seeing visions of low economic growth and high dependence on government. Future generations are facing economic hardship instead of prosperity.

"The current crop of politicians in Washington simply don't have what it takes

to reverse this damage. Democrats and Republicans have proven decade after decade that they are incapable of doing anything but grow government. In just the last ten years, they have worked together to give us two costly wars, a giant Medicare expansion, and the TARP bailouts, among many other massive new expenses.

"It's time for American voters to start thinking outside the box, and electing Libertarians to office."

The Libertarian National Committee **Welcomes Our Newest Members**

Editor's note: The last issue of LP News did not contain a list of new members, so this issue has an unusually long list of those who joined between February 10 and July 23, 2010.

New Members From 2/10/10 to 7/23/10

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Torch Club

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Cynthia Sacco (OH)

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John Lisman (PA)

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L. Michael Howard (OH)

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Amy Stern (IL)

Tara Tsang (IL)

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Karin L. Vermillion (IL)

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Samuel Varriano (IN)

Brady P. Werne (IN)

Dav Wilson (IN)

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Robert DeSavage (MA)

Megan Duffield (MA)

Sweet Tea Dorminy (MA)

Joshua M. Haswell (MA)

Stuart Jerman (MA) Scott Lush (MA) Alexander Massa (MA) Joanne Mattison (MA) Clive J. Mealey (MA) Roberts Pasha (MA) Jonathan Phillips (MA) Peter Rego (MA) Alicia Smith (MA) Joshua Tice (MA) Jason Vorva (MA) William L. Coghlan (MD) David A. Condo (MD) Richard Eggleston (MD) Gorm P. Emberland (MD) Kai Filipczak (MD) Andrew Freund (MD) John D. Fuller (MD) Tyler V. Gale (MD) Nicholas A. Galladora (MD) Melissa Gruner (MD) James M. Gumbel (MD) Rebecca M. Hauser (MD) Joseph A. Lacki (MD) Peggy Lee (MD) Scott R. Lewis (MD) Jason E. McClure (MD) Thomas McCullough (MD) Jerry L. McKinley (MD) Elizabeth Milligan (MD) Charles Murphy (MD) Monique Palkewicz (MD) George Peacock (MD) Charles Pribble (MD) James M. Richards (MD) Rainer Rothen (MD) Andrew C. Shaffer (MD) Leslie Stapleford (MD) Stephanie Stroud (MD) Kenneth B. Walker (MD) Tim R. Westran (MD) Stephen B. Andrews (ME) Brandon J. Berry (ME) Benjamin M. Birney (ME) Antonio R. Candelmo (ME) Gregory S. Conley (ME) Eric Grant (ME) Tyler Hoxie (ME) Mike Kreamer (ME) Jamie Main (ME) Brandon Michaud (ME) Andrea D. Morgan (ME) Fred Rogers (ME) Zachary White (ME) Stephen Wilson (ME) Matt Zando (ME) Kasey Baker (MI)

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Hinkle Elected Chair at St. Louis Convention

...continued from page 8

Alternate: Andy Wolf (Indiana).

Region 4 Representative: Norman Olsen (Colorado). Alternate: Don Wills (Wyoming).

Region 5 South Representative: Dr. James W. Lark, III (Virginia). Alternate: Marakay Rogers (Pennsylvania).

Region 5 North Representative: Daniel Karlan (New Jersey). Alternate: Carl Vassar (Connecticut).

Dianna Visek (Illinois). Alternate: Randy Eshelman (Nebras-

Delegates also approved minor modifications to the platform and bylaws.

Overall, most feedback I've received about the convention has been positive, but I have received some complaints. A common complaint was that we didn't provide a series of training sessions for candidates and activists, unlike most conventions in the past. I expect the 2012 con-Region 6 Representative: vention planning will take that

into account. Additionally, we received quite a few complaints about the inadequate breakfasts.

You can find out a lot more detail about the proceedings of the conventions by reading the 67-page draft of the convention minutes that is posted on our website, on the LNC archives page, located uner the "Our Party menu."

On behalf of the LNC, I'd like to thank everyone who committed the time and expense to travel to St. Louis for this con-

Election Results for National Chairman

| | First Ballot | Second Ballot | Third Ballot |
|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Wayne Allyn Root | 201 | 223 | 228 |
| Mark Hinkle | 114 | 208 | 281 |
| Ernest Hancock | 82 | 89 | × |
| John Jay Myers | 70 | × | × |
| George Phillies | 56 | × | × |
| NOTA | 10 | 9 | 19 |
| Total | 533 | 529 | 528 |

This chart shows the ballot results for the chairman election at the 2010 Libertarian Party National Convention. The convention was held over Memorial Day weekend in St. Louis, Missouri, Mark Hinkle was elected chairman on the third ballot. George Phillies and John Jay Myers were eliminated after the first ballot. Ernest Hancock was eliminated after the second ballot. And, Wayne Root was eliminated on

Libertarian Activists Recognized

...continued from page 8

Mr. Knedler's time as Chair of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, he has changed the party from a 'grassroots' organization into a legitimate political party in Ohio. It is in large part because of Kevin's perseverance and tenacity that third parties in Ohio have primary ballot access in 2010.

Rex Bell earned the Thomas Paine Award for outstanding communication. Mr. Bell has been an LP member since 2001 and is the county chair in Wayne County, Indiana, providing leadership as a party officer as well as a candidate. In addition to spreading the mes-

sage of liberty as a candidate, Mr. Bell has a regular column in the local newspaper, where he gives political commentary on current events. Mr. Bell also keeps Internet readers up-to-date on libertarian ideals through his blog, The Bell Curve: http://rexbell.blogspot.com.

Outgoing LNC Chair William Redpath earned the party's highest honor, the Thomas Jefferson Award for leadership, character, devotion, and dedication. Mr. Redpath has been indefatigable in pursuit of changing ballot access laws, helping LP candidates gain ballot access, and encouraging Libertarians to run for office. He has been extremely generous with his financial contributions to the LP, various state and local organizations, and LP candidates throughout the U.S.

Redpath routinely gathers thousands of petition signatures on a volunteer basis throughout the U.S. to place LP candidates on the ballot. He routinely lobbies state legislators throughout the U.S. to improve ballot access laws. He has been an LP candidate many times over, including gubernatorial and U.S. Senate races. He has served as LNC Chair for two terms, as well as having served previously as Treasurer and At-large Representa-

Mr. Redpath serves on the boards of FairVote and the Center for Voting and Democracy.

2010 Libertarian Candidates

...continued from page 7

www.brendankellylpnh.com.

In California, Gail Lightfoot is running for U.S. Senator. Lightfoot has run as a Libertarian candidate many times, both for Congress and for California Secretary of State. Her website is www.gailklightfoot.com.

Also in California, Norm Westwell is running for Huntington Beach City Council. Westwell currently holds elected office as a member of the Ocean View School District Board of Trustees. His website is www.normwestwell4hbcc.com.

In Illinois, Doug Marks is running for U.S. Representative in District 14. Marks was presented with a huge petitioning hurdle to get on the ballot: 16,743 valid signatures. Marks's petition was successfully challenged, so he will continue to campaign as a write-in candidate. His website is Doug-Marks4Congress.webs.com.

In Indiana (Marion County), Allison Maguire and Paul Ogden are running a joint campaign for Pike Township Board of Education. Their website is www.lesstaxes4pike.com. Marion County contains Indianapolis, where Libertarian Ed Coleman is a council member and one of the highestprofile elected Libertarians in America.

In Maryland, Arvin Vohra is running for the House of Delegates in District 15. He is the author of the book "The Equation for Excellence" and founder of Arvin Vohra Education, which helps students strive for academic success.

In North Carolina, Michael Beitler is running for U.S. Senator. Beitler has been included in multiple scientific polls, running around 6%, and one poll showed him tied with the Republican and Democratic Party candidates among independent voters. His website is www. beitlerforussenate.org.

In New York, Warren Redlich is running for governor. Redlich was Ron Paul's attorney in New York in 2008, helping make sure Ron Paul was on the ballot for the presidential primary. His website is wredlich.com/ny.

In Tennessee, Heather Scott is running for State Representative in District 57. Scott currently holds elected office as a county commissioner in Wilson County. Her website is www.electheatherscott.com.

In Virginia, Stuart Bain is running for U.S. Representative in District 6. Bain was included in a recent SurveyUSA poll, and received 7% support. His website is www.BainForCongress.org.

In Michigan, Patrick Clawson is running for State Senator in District 27. Clawson is a former CNN reporter who recently made headlines when he discovered that a recipient of a large state tax subsidy was a convicted embezzler. (The embezzler went back to jail.)

LP executive director Wes Benedict has commented, "Win or lose, our candidates spread our important message about the benefits of free markets and civil liberties."

Alphabet Soup Served

...continued from page 9

large and powerful agencies are. All the departments like DOD, DOJ, DOI, DOL, DOT, and DOE (there's two of them). Plus HUD, HHS, and DHS. We've heard of NIH grants, NEA grants, FEC filing, FHA loans, FBI agents, CIA agents, DEA busts, FAA rules, FCC rules, FTC rules, FDA rules, and SEC rules. I don't think that's what the Founders had in mind.

Banquet attendees assigned some homework to me as well. That was to write about two particular three-letter agencies to get rid of: the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). I've done that elsewhere in this

Thanks to everyone who donated at our convention banquet, and let's keep working to pour some of that bad alphabet soup down the drain.

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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY®
2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: (202) 333-0008
Fax: (202) 333-0072

Office hours: 9 am-6 pm ET New Member Information: Call (800) ELECT-US

Web site: www.LP.org

E-mail: info@lp.org



The Ravalli County (Montana) Libertarian party took first place for their entry in the Corvallis Memorial day parade and won the best overall entry. Pictured with the float are Montana Libertarian candidates Jim Pearson (House District 88), Dan Cox (Senate District 44), Wayne Kelly (Ravalli County Sheriff), and Tobiaz Martin (House District 44).

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- St. Louis Beacon reports on Libertarian convention
- Libertarians pleased by ruling on gun rights
- Libertarians believe America's political mood is swinging their direction
- Vice Chair Mark Rutherford on the Tom Becka Show
- Coverage of Texas Libertarian state convention
- Nolan interviewed about U.S. Senate bid
- Libertarian candidate and officeholder Heather Scott
- Obama: The Great Jobs Killer
- Eminent domain abuse continues
- Something useful any Libertarian can do
- Ridiculous pornography trial violates Constitution
- Poll says North Carolina Libertarian in 3-way tie for independent vote
- Convention Photos!
- Hagerstown, Indiana Elected Libertarian Central

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

A complete list of Libertarian events can be found online at LP.org/event. You can get more information by visiting the Web site of your state affiliate. (See a list at LP.org/states.) If there is an event you would like to see listed here or on the Web site, please send details to:

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