



The LibPENN

The Official Newsletter of the
Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

The Libertarian Penn

January 2010

Upcoming

Events:

LPPA Board Meeting -
January 30th, 12 pm
Ted's - Dauphin County

LP County Meetings,
Page 6

LPPA Convention -
March 27th, 2010,
Harrisburg, PA.

Inside this issue:

It's Convention Time	1
State Sovereignty to Preserving Liberty	1
Support HR 95 / SR 51	3
Libertarian Party Impressions	3
LPPA Membership Form	5
County Meetings	6

Trivia question for this issue:

Where can you find
the latest discussions
on the LPPA Forum
at www.lppa.org?

Answer on next pg.

It's (already) LPPA Convention time!!!

By Barry Dively
2010 LPPA Convention Chair - Dauphin County

The holidays are over, the New Years' Day champagne is put away and the decorations are coming down...slowly. No better time to say, It's (already) LPPA Convention Time!!!

The 2010 LPPA Convention will be held in Dauphin County, home of our state capital, Harrisburg. Starting at 7:30pm, Friday, March 26th for a small kick-off reception, there will be no better time to get together with like-minded libertarians and other LPPA Libertarian Party Members. The business meeting and "main day" is Saturday.

There will be guest speakers (tbd*), presentations, convention business meeting, election of board members, nominations for state-wide candidates and of course, networking and libertarian bantering. Very discounted room rates are available and the package prices are set so most anyone can make the most out of this year's convention. I look forward to seeing everyone in Harrisburg. Get your registration (enclosed) postmarked by March 5th for a 10% discount.

*Visit "events" on the LPPA forum at lppa.org for updates and more information.

State Sovereignty Is Key to Preserving Liberty

By David Bookstaber
LPPA member - Chester county.

In recent generations the struggle for political power and freedom has moved to the national stage as the federal government has assumed increasing authority for taxing and spending, legislating and regulating all aspects of American life. We the People seem to have forgotten that the United States as Constituted is a federation in which each State is a sovereign entity. The Tenth Amendment, the culminating clause of The Bill of Rights, maintains that "*The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.*"

There are enormous barriers to acquiring significant political influence at the national level, where entrenched special interest groups and vast political machines dominate the federal government (which for convenience I will call "the feds"). But thanks to the foresight of our Founding Fathers it is not necessary to win political power at the national level to preserve our Constitutional and Natural Rights against the encroachment of the feds.

The U.S. Constitution delegates thirty specific powers to the federal government.¹ Any act undertaken by the feds that is not pursuant to an enumerated power is not sanctioned by the

(Cont. on Pg. 2)



State Sovereignty Is Key to Preserving Liberty (Cont.)

Constitution. Of course, the feds long ago sailed from the safe harbor of the Constitution in pursuit of greater power. Recently proposed legislation known as the Enumerated Powers Act¹ would encourage the feds to reign themselves in by requiring all legislation to cite the Constitutional authority permitting it.

But the Founding Fathers did not trust the federal government to check itself. Ultimately it is up to each State to secure the rights of its citizens against unconstitutional infringement by the feds. Indeed, the first assertions of state sovereignty against the federal government occurred in the early days of the republic: Jefferson authored the Kentucky Resolutions, and Madison wrote the Virginia Resolution.¹

States have a broad spectrum of alternatives by which to check the feds. The least onerous is a formal reassertion of their rights. Such “state sovereignty resolutions” have recently been raised in the legislatures of at least half of the States, including earlier this year in the Pennsylvania.² The States can also take collective action to modify the federal government by calling a constitutional convention.

Individual States can take more aggressive actions, from interposition to nullification. For example, the Georgia First campaign has advocated interposing their state government between federal tax collectors and Georgia citizens.³ The Colorado legislature considered a “State Sovereignty Act” in 1994 that included a similar requirement for tax interposition.

Montana and Tennessee recently passed “Firearms Freedom Act” laws, which nullify federal gun control laws within their borders. Many states have “medical marijuana” laws that effectively nullify federal drug restrictions.

We Libertarians who wish to resist federal infringement of our rights should focus our attention on State governments, which retain sovereign powers under the Constitution protect us from abuse by the federal government.

**Have you
seen the new**

**LPPA
website??**

**Visit
www.lppa.org**



**Trivia Answer:
The bottom area of
the LPPA Forum
you can find new
discussions & topics.**



Hundreds gather for the 10th Amendment Rally at the State Capitol



Young Libertarians in Washington, DC for the 912dc March and National Tea Party

Support HR 95 / SR 51

By Michael Kotyk
LPPA Member, Montgomery County.

I'm writing in support of current House Resolution 95/ Senate Resolution 51 which proclaims "sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over certain powers, serving notice to the Federal Government to cease and desist certain mandates, providing that certain Federal legislation be prohibited or repealed and directing distribution."

The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution states "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." In a nutshell, government works for the states which work for the people; not vice versa. We are not dogs at the beck and call of Washington DC.

We are facing dangerous intrusions upon our lives thanks to gifts from Congress such as the Patriot Act and President Obama's proposed Health Care Plan, which will not only force you to buy health insurance but will tax your benefits as well.

There are bills currently in Congress which will infringe upon the free practice of religion (HR 1592), allow government interference in the raising of our children if it is in their best interests (SJR 16/HJR42), gives the government control over food sources including private gardens (HR 875, SR 425), and allows the government to shut down the Internet in an emergency (SR 773, SR 778). Other bills will create a National ID card, define marriage and limit your right to bear arms, if not eliminate that right completely. Yet no one says anything about them. We walk around with blinders on. I believe it's time we removed our blinders so we can see.

Pennsylvanians are fully capable of deciding what is right for them and what is not. We don't need Washington DC to decide for us. How much longer will we allow the Federal Government to control our lives?

Please support HR 95/ SR 51.

Libertarian Party Impressions

By Barry Dively
Libertarian Member— Cumberland County

Below are just a few ideas that I have come across through the years while hitting the pavement for promoting liberty. Each time someone views a product or idea, it is called an "impression." We need more impressions and here are some simple ways to do so, with little or now resources needed.

1) When giving your home address, always include a message on the second line for address they give you. An example:

Joseph Liberty LIBERTARIAN PARTY of PA 115 Eastwood Drive Harrisburg, PA 17101

Just imagine the numbers of times people will see LIBERTARIAN PARTY of PA in your lifetime as this goes on mailing lists, impacting a large number of postal employees alone.
Cost to you - \$0

2) If you have a decent sized county meeting (maybe a speaker) or yearly convention perhaps, contact your local Convention & Visitors Bureau to put your "piece of business out for bid." Again, the Libertarian name will be on numerous emails, letters and RFPs. (requests for proposals). Cost to you - \$0

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**“We (still need)
to get our
statewide
candidates on
the ballot in
2010...though
it’s the lowest
requirement
faced in years”**



Chair’s Corner, with Michael “Mik” Robertson

After what is arguably one of the best showings of a statewide independent or alternative political party candidate in recent history, with Marakay Rogers' 127,406 votes for Judge of Superior Court (over 13% of the top vote getter) and wins by over half of our candidates on the 2009 ballot, we are looking forward to strong showings in the 2010 elections. We will get an early indication of how things will go with three special elections for Representative in the General Assembly to be held on May 18, 2010. There will be special elections in the 20th District in Allegheny County, the 138th District in Northampton County, and the 147th District in Montgomery County.

Perhaps another advantage to Marakay Rogers being on the ballot in 2009 was that the number of signatures we need to get our statewide candidates on the ballot in 2010 is based on the number of votes of the highest vote getter for statewide office in the previous election. The 2009 election results mean we will need less than 20,000 valid signatures to have our statewide candidates be on the November 2010 ballot. While this is still ten times the number that D's or R's need to be on the ballot for their publicly funded nomination process, it is the lowest requirement we have faced in many years.

I hope we will be able to get our statewide candidates on the ballot with an all-volunteer effort, which means we will need everyone's help. First, the statewide candidates need to be nominated. I hope everyone will be able to attend our convention in Harrisburg on March 27, when those candidates will be nominated. We also have some new county and regional organizations to help with the nomination of district candidates this year. I look forward to a very interesting election cycle and I think we are going to see some real progress in our Party as we move forward!

Michael J. "Mik" Robertson
Chair, Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

Libertarian Party Impressions (Cont.)

3) When paying a toll, give the attendant funds for the car behind you and say, "I would like to pay for the car behind me (give him/her the toll for car behind you) and please give them this brochure" (use a LP brochure, Candidate Brochure, etc...). Great exposure and just a good thing to do to spread liberty. Cost to you - \$.50 - \$3 dollars each time.

4) An easy one. Always keep LP information on hand / in your car. When the person serving you fills up your car, puts beer in your car, drop "read this and tell me what you think next time." Again, great exposure. Cost to you - \$0. OK, maybe a little more in tipping money.

5) Same as #4, but if you see a politically active car with a bumper sticker, put a LP brochure on their car door and write, "liked your XXX, you might be a Lib... Call me at XXX-XXXX." I have had good success with this. Cost to you \$0.

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LPPA Platform Committee Recommended Changes at State Convention

The Platform Committee of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, Vernon Etzel, Chair, Bruce Sarte, Marakay Rogers, and Vance Mays, recommends the following two changes for consideration at the 2010 Annual LPPA Convention:

- (1) That the existing Statement of Principles be deleted and replaced with the following:

Statement of Principles

We, members of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, believe that:

- (1) all human beings have individual Rights to life, liberty and the products of their labor; that
- (2) these rights are the basis of Justice and thus serve as the only legitimate purpose for laws among People; and that
- (3) any and all systems of Government, therefore, should be strictly limited to acts which secure and preserve these Rights.

- (2) That the existing Platform be deleted and replaced with the following:

Free Markets

1. Governments should protect the free exchange of goods and services against coercion and fraud.
2. All citizens should enjoy equal benefit deriving from any government properties, protections and services.
3. Systems of currency, regulation and public finance should be fair, simple and equitable to all citizens.

Free and Open Government

4. All individual citizens should have free and equal access to the electoral process.
5. The legislative process, and the administration of government, should be open and transparent.
6. The limits of government authority should be clear and concise, and never exceeded..

Free Society

7. All individuals should enjoy free and equal protection under the law.
8. All individuals have a responsibility to respect the equal rights of others.
9. A government should not infringe on rights, but should maximize individual liberty and minimize aggression.

The Party of Principle

10. Libertarian Party candidates are free to interpret and develop their own policies with respect to this Platform.

Libertarian Party Impressions (Cont.)

6) Buy magnets with adhesive tape on one side (very cheap at walmart) and get several bumper stickers. Place sticker on cardboard and magnet on back. Put them all over your car for long trips (vacations, etc.) They get noticed and thousands of impressions. Cost to you - \$10.00

7) Contact Journalist – write them and put, “you sound like you might be a Libertarian”, somewhere in the body of the message

Please share your ideas as well, as I posted this article at www.lppa.com/forum, keyword search “Impressions.” Post on the forum when finished/save at work, start a new folder called, LipPENN articles.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF PENNSYLVANIA – 2010 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

March 27, 2010
 Hilton Harrisburg, PA

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____

COUNTY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

2010 LPPA CONVENTION – AVAILABLE MEAL PACKAGES

LPPA 2010 Convention	Price	Total
Full Convention Package Price	\$79*	
Friday, 3/26/10 – 7:30 pm - Reception in Market Sq. Cafe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light Hors d'oeuvres and One Drink Ticket • Seriously reduced draft & house wine prices 	\$12	
Saturday, 3/27/10 – 7:00am - Breakfast Buffet	\$18	
Saturday, 3/27/10 – 12pm - Lunch Buffet	\$22	
Saturday, 3/27/10 – 7pm – Dinner with Sen. Mike Folmer Dinner Choices: Vegetarian _____ Chicken Cordon Bleu _____ Seared Tenderloin Tips, Grilled Portabella and Shallots	\$33	
	Subtotal	
*Take 10% off if postmarked before March 5 th		
TOTAL ENCLOSED - Please use one form per person.	Total	\$ _____

*Full convention package includes All Meals, Speakers, Workshops, Gratuities and those Evil Taxes

Please indicate choices and send check payable to: “LPPA”

**Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania
 3915 Union Deposit Road #223
 Harrisburg, PA 17109**

OR

Register online using Paypal: lppa@paypal.com (add info. above needed in notes)

Special LPPA Room Rate of \$89.00 available Friday and Saturday.

**Hilton Harrisburg
 One North 2nd Street
 Harrisburg, PA 17101
 (717) 233-6000 or 1-800-HILTONS
harrisburg.hilton.com (code: Lib)**

Want to Contribute to the LibPENN?

Do you have something to say? Who am I kidding, we're Libertarians. So why not join the LibPENN, the LPPA Official Newsletter committee. There is minimal commitment and you can work from home on your own schedule. You basically write Libertarian articles that you feel other Libertarians in PA would enjoy reading, send them in and you're done. If you would like to help out, but not write an article, maybe serve as a proofreader or send in article suggestions to the committee.

What kind of articles are we looking for? Current events are always popular and even better if they are Pennsylvania-specific. To get you started, all I need is a title of your masterpiece and a due date. Interested? Contact weneedjohnfalt9@yahoo.com for more information.

Thank you for supporting the LPPA!!

The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania Membership Form

Membership Options

- ◇ Full Membership / Renewal- \$15.00
- ◇ Associate Member - FREE (with valid e-mail)
- ◇ New Membership - \$15.00 (\$5.00 Full-Time Students)
- ◇ 1788 Society - \$12 / month or \$120 / year or more (includes full membership)

NOTE: Full membership includes LibPENN Newsletter and voting privileges at the state convention.

The Libertarian Party is the party of principal. To publically affirm what we believe - and to ensure that our party never strays from our principal - we ask our members to proudly sign this statement.

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

X _____
Signature (required)

Please consider an additional donation to help us grow.

General Fund: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other: _____

Ballot Access: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other: _____

\$_____ Total Enclosed (Checks payable to "Libertarian Party of PA")

Member Contact Information:

Name: _____ County: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____
Phone: _____

Mail form to: The LPPA 3915 Union Deposit Road, #223 Harrisburg, PA 17109

Visit www.lppa.org to join, renew or donate online



Local Libertarian Meetings Near You — *Get involved today*

ALLEGHENY CO.— 3rd Wednesday of Month, 7pm — Ritters Diner

LANCASTER CO.— 3rd Tuesday of Month, 6pm — Symposium

DAUPHIN CO.— March 2nd, 6pm — Doc Holidays, New Cumberland

YORK CO.— 4th Monday of Month, 7pm — First Capital Dispensing Company

CLARION CO.— February 8th, 6pm — BJ's Eatery, High Point Road

MONTGOMERY CO.— 1st Wed. of Month, 7:30pm — Phila. Inquire Building

CUMBERLAND CO. — 2nd Monday of Month, 7pm — Market Cross Pub

BUCKS CO. — 2nd Wednesday of Month, 8pm — Apple's Rt. 611 Doylestown

For More Libertarian County Meetings, Visit the forum at www.lppa.org

Recycle the LibPENN, share with a friend or neighbor



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