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# LP News



Award Recipients, Pages 8–9

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## Fabulously successful national convention

**O**n July 3, we concluded our 2018 Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans. It was a great success.

At press time, preliminary figures indicate this year's convention may have surpassed the 2016 presidential nominating convention in both attendance and fundraising! This is impressive for any convention in any year, but especially for one held during a non-presidential election year. This is a solid indicator of major growth!

Conventioneers included 843 credentialed delegates and alternates from 49 states and D.C., who participated in electing party officers, at-large representatives, and committee members; making changes to the party's platform, such as the taxation plank; and passing resolutions, such as urging the president to pardon Ross Ulbricht and opposing H.R. 2851, a bill that would empower the attorney general to expand drug prohibition.



Delegates reelected 2018 Phoenix mayoral candidate and small-business owner Nicholas Sarwark for an unprecedented third consecutive term as LNC chair, and new LNC representatives were elected. Financial-industry trainer and 2017 New York City comptroller candidate Alex Merced is

the new vice chair; electrical engineer Tim Hagan retained his position as treasurer, a post he has held since 2012; and LNC regional rep and Historical Preservation Committee Chair Caryn Ann Harlos, a paralegal, was elected secretary. The representatives are

*continued on page 7...*

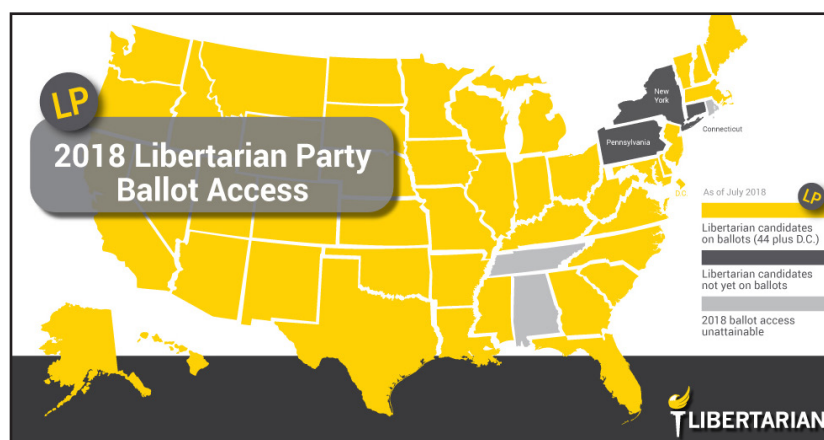
## LP state affiliates in both Illinois and Ohio secure 2018 ballot access

**I**n two exciting new ballot access victories, we have secured 2018 ballot access in *both* Illinois and Ohio! These victories required thousands of hours of volunteer and staff effort and hundreds of thousands of dollars in financial support.

Many thanks to all of you who have pitched in with your time, talents, and dollars.

With your help, we are making major progress on behalf of Libertarian candidates in these states and elsewhere. Even when the two old parties write the laws, rig the system to be unfair, and spend millions to deny the voters a Libertarian option, we rise together and overcome.

Our team is working aggressively, strategically, and methodically, year-round toward ensuring that our 2020 nominees have ballot access in all 50 states plus Washington, D.C. A critical piece of that is overcoming



the biggest barriers now so that we can focus on other critical things, like candidate support, closer to elections. We now have 2018 ballot access in 40 states plus D.C.

of this same winning team in accomplishing ballot access in Connecticut and New York and putting Libertarians on ballots there!

Now that we've completed the work in Illinois and Ohio, our next priorities are New York and Connecticut.

In order to achieve ballot access in New York and Connecticut, the national party needs to raise and spend up to \$40,000.

If you'd like to be part of this critical work, please donate to the Ballot Access Fund: [LP.org/2018ballotaccess](http://LP.org/2018ballotaccess)

By doing so, you are putting Libertarian candidates on ballots.

These victories in Illinois and Ohio required teamwork, with thousands of Libertarians from across the country pitching in. Indeed, all political progress requires teamwork. Please be part of this same winning team in accomplishing ballot access in Connecticut and New York and putting Libertarians on ballots there!





# Working toward a world set free in our lifetime

## Chair's Corner

By Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair

Our 2016 presidential nominating convention set fundraising and attendance records and led to the most successful Libertarian presidential ticket in history. In the first few days of July, however, those records were shattered at our 2018 national convention. We sold more tickets and raised more money for the Libertarian Party than we did in 2016.

There were contentious and controversial issues leading up to the 2018 convention, but once nearly 1,000 Libertarians were in the same room, differences faded away and libertarians of all different stripes came together. We



Nicholas Sarwark

took bold stances on immigration and the student loan crisis, and became the only national political party in this country to clearly stand for the rights of sex workers.

Minor arguments and differences don't matter when we are working together to stand for the rights of all peaceful people to pursue happiness in any way they choose.

With the two old political parties abandoning their historical positions every day, leaving their supporters feeling disappointed and cheated, we sent a clear message that we stand for authentic American principles like individual liberty and limiting the power of government to control our lives. This message resonates and stands out as a beacon in a political wasteland of unserious establishment parties and politicians.

As with the abolitionists who brought down slavery, justice is on the side of the Libertarian Party and our principles. We will never, ever back down from a fight for those principles — and we are winning those fights.

In Illinois and Ohio, through thousands of hours of volunteer effort and hundreds of thousands of dollars in financial support, we have secured ballot access for Lib-

ertarian candidates. Even when the two old parties write the laws, rig the system to be unfair, and spend millions to deny the voters a Libertarian option, we rise together and overcome. We will do the same in New York and Connecticut. Wherever the old parties abuse the voters, we will fight and we will win.

As I enter my third term as your chair, I am humbled and honored by the responsibility and trust you have placed in me. As I said to the delegates in New Orleans, although I have made mistakes and will make new mistakes in the future, my pledge to you is to do everything in my power to help you achieve our shared goal: a world set free in our lifetime.

You are the most important person in the Libertarian Party, and I am proud to fight with you.

Yours in liberty,

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The Libertarian Party (LP) and its state affiliates work to advance the right of individuals to be free, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal rights of others. The party runs candidates for public office, elects Libertarians, supports and opposes ballot measures, lobbies, and takes positions on public policy aimed at removing, reducing, and nullifying government laws, regulations, prohibitions, taxes, spending, debt, and foreign interventions.

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Newly elected LNC Vice Chair Alex Merced addresses delegates at the 2018 Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans.

## The bigger we get, the smaller we must feel

By Alex Merced, LNC Vice Chair

In 2013, I was an active small “I” libertarian vlogger wrapped up in intellectual exploration and contemplation, but then that all changed. A New York City mayoral candidate by the name of Michael Sanchez reached out to me, asking to fill an empty spot for public advocate on the citywide slate of candidates. I was honored for the consideration, accepted, and spent the next several months campaigning with the campaigns of Sanchez for Mayor and Hesham El-Meligy for Comptroller, an office I’d run for several years later. After the votes were counted, I experienced libertarianism from a new angle — from the relationships I made with Michael, Hesham, and many other New York City Libertarians. I came for the ideas, and I stayed for the community.

To me, fostering community and unity within the Libertarian Party is not just a nice thought or a good way to keep people focused on elections, but a proof of concept of a Libertarian world. How many within our ranks have given each other a ride, babysat each other’s children, or provided financial and emotional support during difficult times? We live libertarianism and the voluntary mutual support it brings every day in our actions, choices, and relationships. It’s one of our strongest selling points. I want the world around us to see the world we are creating within our membership, a world of mutual respect, aid, and effort. I want them to see a world they’ll want to be part of.

If we can be Libertarian together, we will not only be more welcoming to new members and improve retention of existing ones — which also helps to build our resources for national infrastructure — we will show people the value of our ideas not just in theory, but in practice. A diverse Libertarian Party where people can coexist means that we can reach more people, because every voice is unique, as is its reach. This means that to bring more people to libertarianism, we need more people being themselves along with people who appreciate them advocating for liberty. We all have a role to play.

As vice chair, I hope to be quite involved in the discussion of how to move the national party forward in building our membership, our resources, and our infrastructure. As a former Region 8 alternate LNC representative and a member of the recently formed Blockchain Committee, I look forward to deliberating on interesting proposals. I will soon be working with other LNC members to craft language and purpose for ideas such as an outreach committee, to help connect candidates and affiliates with subject experts, and a retention committee to discover ways to increase retention, gather information on why people stay or leave, and serve as a sounding board for members who feel frustrated. Regardless, my door, my ears, and my heart are always open to any members who need their morale boosted and optimism renewed.

I also hope to bring a new level of connection and relationship to the National Committee by proactively keeping you all informed via my vice chair Facebook page: [FB.com/AlexMercedforLNC](https://www.facebook.com/AlexMercedforLNC)

There you can view updates and give me feedback on party business. We are growing, and this growth is ironically signaled by the very things that frustrate many of us. The fact that more traditional politicians are seeking us out and more internal caucus factions are appearing may seem like reasons for pause, but it’s a signal of our growth that people see the value in what we’ve built and that there are enough of us to form subdivisions.

We are growing and having an impact. There is every reason for optimism, with amazing candidates like Larry Sharpe, Ken Krawchuk, Kash Jackson, Phil Anderson, Mark Tippetts, Travis Irvine, Jeff Caldwell II, and so many others running for governor. There is every reason for hope with Dale Kerns, Murray Sabrin, Craig Bowden, and more running for U.S. Senate. We have the most amazing opportunity in working to reelect Laura Ebke, Brandon Phinney, and Caleb Dyer. As we grow bigger and better, we need to foster our community to feel smaller and close knit. We need to make sure that, no matter how far we reach and what successes may come, we are always Libertarian together.

# LNC secretary promotes culture of transparency, accountability, accessibility

By Caryn Ann Harlos,  
LNC Secretary

**H**ello, my name is Caryn Ann Harlos and I am honored to have been elected to serve as the Libertarian National Committee secretary for the next two years. I would like to introduce you to some of the ideas I have for my position, and the values that I



Caryn Ann Harlos

promoted in my campaign.

The following comprised my vision statement and campaign promises:

- Promoting a culture of transparency, accountability, and accessibility
- Preserving and disseminating institutional knowledge
- Providing mentorship and organizational support

I had already gained a reputation as “the records whisperer” from my work with the party’s historical archive, and I see that role as highly complementary to that of secretary, who often is an organization’s reference librarian and institutional educator.

I have the unusual skill of being able to make dry material bearable — even funny

— how ’bout those bylaws, eh?

So how precisely do I intend to achieve these goals? First, by listening to what you want, because many minds are much more brilliant than one alone. But to start, I plan on authoring a regular secretary’s column in LP News or the LP.org blog and initiating contact with state chairs in order to help them get the help they need from national, if at all possible — to be the person who can point them in the right direction.

I will also be producing video tutorials on “How do I \_\_\_\_\_” with regard to internal party functions, such as: “How do I become a delegate?” “How do I write minutes?” “Where can I find party resources?” All of this will be done with a goal of faci-

tating a more interactive and collaborative culture between the party membership and the national party.

I have started by writing short “toolkits” for incoming LNC members, so that they don’t feel baffled and lost in a new environment. These will be archived into an easy “hand-off” packet to give to my eventual successor. All too often, a new person in an existing seat has to reinvent the same wheel over and over and over and over. A healthy board continually plans for succession and develops durable resources that outlive any particular term of office.

I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas, so feel free to contact me at (561) 523-2250 or secretary@lp.org.

## Moving public opinion with electoral and policy victories

By Elizabeth Van Horn,  
LNC Region 3 Representative

**A**s the Region 3 representative on the Libertarian National Committee, here are my priorities for the Libertarian Party.

### 1. Move public opinion with electoral/policy victories.

I started voting for Libertarian Party candidates in the early 1990s, and I was so happy to finally find a political party that I believed wanted to reduce taxes, shrink government, and give autonomy to the people. As I learned about the LP, I began to realize that much of the promise of the LP was going unfulfilled. After more than 20 years, the LP was still struggling to gain supporters and even media attention. Even so, I was convinced that the LP was the answer to the draconian public policy of reducing rights, outrageous spending, and horrible wars in which our government engaged. Fast forward to 2018, now more than 40 years later, and the LP is still seen as a third-party spoiler. Today, though, we have an unprecedented opportunity with the major two parties being rejected by many voters. Now is the time for the LP to gain a foothold and impact public policy, and we do this through winning elections. We can’t hope that others will reduce government; we must do it.

### 2. Coalition building and finding more voters that can align with the LP.

We need millions more people voting for LP candidates in order to impact public policy. If we’re going to have ballot access we have to make it work for us. The



Elizabeth Van Horn

point of having ballot access is to field candidates and win elections. It’s through this process that we reduce the scope and size of government. We know the two major parties aren’t interested in doing this, or they would. So, we must appeal to voters who want to see these goals achieved. Too often, the libertarian message is directed to libertarians, but we’re already on board. We need to bring in other groups and voters to help us achieve our goals. This means reaching out to like-minded voters and groups, and creating coalitions with broader demographics.

### 3. Messaging and winning locally first; from the ground up (“grassroots”)

I’d like to see state affiliates focus locally, as there are opportunities for LP candidates to be elected and appointed to positions in state, county, and city government. Just one LP member on a park board, town council, or school board can make a major difference in how policy is handled. These ground-level positions not only change public perception, but have a real impact on the lives of our citizens. The LP can win the hearts and minds of the voters if we show we care, and that comes from being engaged in our communities. It’s not enough to have ideas on how to change the world if voters don’t want our policies. Volunteering locally and getting out into the world of non-libertarians is vital, as the voters that we need to join with us are all around in our communities. Building bridges, and winning hearts and minds, will also win elections.

While on the LNC, I’d like to assist with moving the LP into the next stage of taking on the duopoly. This means ballot access, tools for state affiliates, and fundraising. It means focusing on messaging and outreach. Because the two major parties go round and round, like a wheel, taking turns being on top. We don’t want to just stop that wheel, we want to break the wheel.

## Ballot access, election reform remain Libertarian priorities

By William Redpath,  
LNC At-Large Representative

**I** know this will shock (or not) a lot of people, but I intend to continue to work on ballot access. The major parties are again likely to put up a couple of horrible choices for president in 2020. We need to have our ticket on the ballot in all 50 states again. Fortunately, we have much better ballot access now than at any time in the past, so the expenditures will be lower.

Obviously, we need to be concerned about more than the presidential ticket. While it has become easier to get presidential candidates on the ballot, it remains very difficult in some states to get lower-level candidates, including for the U.S. House of Representatives and state legislative offices. We not only need to lobby legislatures and sue when we think it would be efficacious, but do more to inform the public of these egregious ballot access barriers — to take it to the court of public opinion.

The most important thing for the future election of Libertarian Party candidates to public offices is electoral reform. Ranked Choice Voting in single-winner elections continues to make headway, as it is now used statewide in Maine and in more than a dozen U.S. cities. An even more important development in 2017 was the introduction of the Fair Representation Act in Congress, which would mandate the use of multimember U.S. House districts where feasible, with candidates elected through Ranked Choice Voting. If that were to come to pass, I don’t think it would be long until we would have Libertarian Party candidates elected to Congress.



William Redpath



# LP platform strengthens commitment to open borders

By Thomas Knapp, Platform Committee

In 2008, delegates to the Libertarian National Convention in Denver, Colo., adopted an amendment to the party's platform plank on Free Trade and Migration that ended the plank with the following sentence:

"However, we support control over the entry into our country of foreign nationals who pose a credible threat to security, health or property."



Thomas Knapp

I was one of those delegates. This year, I was privileged to serve on the Platform Committee which recommended deletion of that sentence — in fact, I sought appointment to the committee specifically so that I could champion its deletion — and as a delegate to the convention which accepted that recommendation.

What happened? What changed? Why now? I'd like to offer a few thoughts on how this change serves as a wonderful explanation of how and why our platform looks like it does in general.

The 2008 Platform Committee and convention delegates were no less well-intentioned, no less well-informed, and no less principled than their 2018 successors. There's always tension within the party over certain issues. Two of the big ones are the role of government generally and immigration policy specifically.

While our principles do not change, the world around us does. That, in turn, changes our understanding of how those principles can and should be *applied*. The Platform Committee's job is to help the party figure out how best to apply its principles in the world we live in now and expect to live in two years, or 20 years, from now. It's a moving target.

The Platform Committee proposes, and the national convention disposes. I must say that the 20 Libertarians (plus alternates) I worked with on this year's Platform Committee are among the most principled, dedicated, and hardworking Libertarians I've been privileged to know in the two decades since I joined the party. We spent literally hundreds of hours over several months trying to get it right. For the most part, the delegates seemed to agree that we did.

In 2008, terrorism remained a tender spot on the souls of Libertarians and of all Americans who went through 9/11. It didn't seem unreasonable to most of us to acknowledge a government role in protecting us from attack with a proactive and vigilant border regime aimed at stopping those who would harm us from ever coming among us.

By 2018, though, two things had changed which forced us to reconsider our 2008 amendment.

First, America's political center of gravity had moved. Terrorism and crime, while still very much a concern, took a back seat in the public mind to other things, including immigration as an economic and cultural phenomenon. Our party's principles speak to those issues as well, and it became time to move them front and center,

## Platform Plank 3.4

### Free Trade and Migration

Economic freedom  
demands the **unrestricted**  
**movement** of human as  
well as financial capital  
**across national borders.**



just as America was doing.

Secondly, that shift caused a sentence which had seemed innocuous when applied to terrorism and crime in 2008 to take on new meaning. I heard people — including some party members — assert, sometimes even approvingly, that the sentence placed the party in support of collective immigration bans based on nationality, ethnicity, or religion.

The party does not support collective immigration bans based on nationality, ethnicity, or religion. It never has done so, it does not do so now, and I know that my fellow Libertarians will never allow it to do so. The "threat" of cultural change from the influence of new arrivals is not a threat to security, health, or property. In fact, it's not a "threat" at all. It's what makes America great, and Libertarians are foremost among its cheerleaders.

So the sentence needed to go. But how?

The Platform Committee's majority agreed that it should simply be deleted, and that's what we recommended in our report.

One minority report suggested simply adding the word

"individual" to the sentence to clarify our opposition to collective immigration bans.

A second minority report mined the party's previous platforms for more robust pro-immigration-freedom language.

The issue was contentious. On all sides, disagreement among committee members was principled and intended to make the platform better. Because it was contentious, our proposal appeared at the end of our report, in which we ordered proposals based on the number of votes they received in committee.

Fortunately, the delegates did not quail from contention and suspended the rules to hear this proposal first instead of last. For this I am grateful. The most contentious issues are the issues the party most needs to address.

The delegates, in their wisdom, chose the committee's proposal over either minority report and passed it overwhelmingly. For this I am also grateful. Our platform will never be perfect, but we made it better, more relevant, more in line with our principles, and more in keeping with the vision of a world set free in our lifetimes.

What's next?

# Remaining united as a party, a body, and a movement

By Steven Nekhaila,  
LNC Region 2 Representative

I have been a libertarian my entire life, I just didn't know it yet. My name is Steven Nekhaila, and I have been a member of the Libertarian Party since 2012, when I got involved in campus activism and cast my first ballot for Gary Johnson in the presidential election. Since then, I have gotten involved in the Libertarian Party at the local, state, and national levels. I have most notably served as a founding member of the Libertarian Party of the Florida Keys, and as an Execu-



Steven Nekhaila

tive Committee member of the Libertarian Party of Florida, and am currently serving as the Region 2 representative on the Libertarian National Committee.

My dream and passion is to set the world free with liberty, as I truly believe that freedom is mankind's ability to mold its future, and that the only environment in which to do that is liberty.

I believe most people are libertarians, but they have been tricked into supporting statist out of convenience or fear. As the Libertarian Party, our job is to be the disillusionists of politics, to free the world from the ideological and physical bonds of authoritarianism.

I was delighted to serve my last term on the Libertarian National Committee as the Region 2 alternate under representative Ed Marsh, where I represented our members in Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. My overall impression of the LNC

is positive. The work is invaluable, so we needn't remind ourselves the importance of our duty as the third-largest political party of the most powerful nation on Earth.

The true spear tip, however, is the membership. The LNC is merely the feather that keeps the arrow afloat and on target. The membership's job is to pierce the illusions of statism. I might add that this tip is getting sharper and fiercer each and every day.

In my prior position as an LNC alternate, my interactions with the committee were more limited in some respects, but I gained valuable experience and gained a greater understanding of the direction of the body. The LNC worked well together. Of course, there were moments of contention, and sometimes deep schisms erupted, but it was all taken in stride. The mixture of person-

alities and backgrounds creates a diverse atmosphere that I believe represents the membership well.

Fast-forward two years, and I now sit at the table as the official Region 2 representative. My vision for the party is simple: support our affiliates, back up our candidates, and promote the Libertarian Party and the Libertarian message in the United States and around the globe. My job is to help the party remain the centrifugal force for liberty in society and politics.

I am hopeful and looking forward to working with my colleagues, some old faces and some new ones. We must never forget our roots, nor why we are here. No matter our differences, we fight together for the same common goal. So long as we remember that, we will always remain united — as a party, as a body, and as a movement.

## New LNC Region 6 rep hopes to continue LP's big-tent expansion

By John Phillips,  
LNC Region 6 Representative

My name is John Phillips. I am the new representative to the Libertarian National Committee from Region 6, which includes my home state of Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and now — as of this convention — South Dakota. I had asked about the position and its responsibilities, and was encouraged to pursue it by both our previous state chair and our current one, as well as several others in the party.

I am excited to have been chosen by our region, and had a great opponent in the race, Tyler Danke, who I look forward to doing great things in the national party, as he already does in his state. We ended up with an amazing alternate, Phil Andersen, who I might have had to vote for if he had run against me!

I absolutely love the officers and at-large representatives who were elected. I supported and voted for every single one of them. I have admired LNC Chair Nicholas Sarwark for a long time, even if we do not always agree. LNC Vice Chair Alex Merced and I have been friends since I formed my county chapter a few years back, and his ideas and energy are contagious, while his principles are without question. LNC Secretary Caryn



John Phillips

Ann Harlos has always impressed me with her passion and drive, and after working on the platform committee this year I was even more impressed. I did not know LNC Treasurer Tim Hagan until this convention, but people I know and respect spoke very highly of him, and in the short time I have been on the LNC he has born that out multiple times.

The leadership looks great, and I am excited to be working with all of them. The at-large reps are a great mix of experience, principle, energy, and ideas, as are the other regional reps. The potential in the group is amazing, and I look forward to the next two years learning, working, and expanding our party with them.

Going forward, I do have some ideas I would love to work on. First and foremost: continue our big-tent expansion. We have the best ideas, and when phrased in the right manner they appeal to a huge part of the population.

To accomplish this, we need to push a few different initiatives. The first is fundraising. Our volunteers do absolutely amazing work, but for some things there is no substitute for money. I have heard some great ideas from the LNC members already on this. I have a bit of fundraising background, and very knowledgeable people on the subject close to me.

Candidate support is my second chosen initiative, and another one where fundraising will be a big part of the backbone. Again, we have great volunteers, but sometimes cash is king, as we all know. In my region right now, we currently have a governor candidate, Jake Porter of Iowa, trying to get in the debates. The organizers have told him they base inclusion on fund raising,

and set him a number that must be met by the end of July. We need to be able to support these candidates. We heard it over and over last election about getting people on the down ticket ballots, and the party listened. We have great candidates running from school and county boards all the way up to governor and U.S. Senate, and we need to be able to support them — including in the battle for ballot access. This is one of the toughest battles many of our candidates face, with so many restrictive rules and the deep pockets of our opposition that enable them to hire lawyers to sue and get people thrown off ballots. This happened not only in Arizona this year, but all over the country.

How do I plan to achieve these things? One step at a time. I started with volunteering to serve on the Ballot Access Committee. I have petitioned for that access across multiple states and campaigns, and have been on both winning and losing sides, learning all along the way.

I excel at remembering what people are good at, reaching out to them for their expertise, and connecting them with the people that need those skills. I have already started doing that with members of the LNC, as well as people I know in my region and across the country. My greatest asset in reaching these goals is my ability to see multiple sides of a discussion and recognize their strengths. I love the radicals and the pragmatists, the left and right libertarians, the audacious and the unobtrusive. They all have strengths that we can build upon, they all have valid points, and I am good at finding where those strengths and points overlap and help us all keep moving toward freedom and liberty.



# New platform plank protects sex worker rights

By Tracy Ryan, LP Hawaii Chair

This article is meant to help Libertarians discuss and understand the new plank supporting sex worker rights. Candidates may wish to know what the anti-prostitution lobby has to say and how to respond to it. We may also find opportunities to involve ourselves with active sex worker rights groups.



Tracy Ryan

## Who are the opposing sides?

The anti-prostitution side is led by the radical feminists, who are allied with social conservatives and supported by the federal government. The sex worker rights side includes various sex worker-led organizations, Amnesty International, the American Civil Liberties Union, many public health organizations, and several leading gay rights groups. A cottage industry of rescue organizations, mostly faith-based, has cropped up in the last 17 years with an aim to save people from the sex trades. Millions of dollars are available to fund these efforts. The rescue industry and law enforcement both receive funding based on the notion that there are a large number of “sex slaves” to be rescued. Many exaggerated figures have been circulated to support the flow of cash.

There are, of course, real trafficking victims and agencies that offer assistance in a harm-reductionist and pragmatic way. The largest association of these groups is the South Asia-based Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women. They support sex worker rights. They are neither morality-based or beneficiaries of the U.S. government money train.

If you Google “feminism” you will find many subcategories. The sex worker rights

side may include mainstream feminists, liberal feminists, libertarian feminists, and black feminists. But the radical feminists dismiss all others and claim they are the only feminists. Their views are based on the philosophical writings of a handful of people. Some of them hold to the extreme views of Andrea Dworkin that all sexual penetration is exploitation, and women should limit their relations with men to cuddling. Another writer, Janice Raymond, insists that male-to-female transsexuals are part of a plot by men to infiltrate women’s space. To her, transsexual surgeries are a form of rape. She is a founder of the Coalition Against Trafficking Women, a large and influential U.S. group. Radical feminism is dogmatic. Evidence that contradicts their views is simply dismissed. They believe all commercial sex acts entail the exploitation of women, and no actual woman’s claim to the contrary is accepted.

Anti-prostitution advocates promote what has become the dominant narrative thanks to millions of dollars spent to spread it. In this story, a very young white girl from a good family is lured or kidnapped by an adult male and forced into prostitution. She becomes emotionally attached to and afraid of this man, who is identified as her “pimp.” However, the word “pimp” may describe anyone who manages prostitution without fitting into the dominate narrative. So the word is first used to describe a horror story and then, without notifying the listener, causally used to include a whole assortment of cases involving consenting adults.

## Spinning the numbers

Vast numbers of sex slaves are claimed. Sex trafficking victims seem to be everywhere. Actual evidence suggests otherwise, but doesn’t get much airtime. Common claims of 20 million to 40 million trafficking victims are repeated endlessly, but there is no actual evidence of such numbers. The *Washington Post* gave these claims four Pi-

nocchios. The *Guardian* of London published a story a few years ago that started when 71 immigrant women were identified as sex workers in London. No one talked to the women to determine their situations. The fact that they were immigrants selling sex was enough to label them as trafficking victims. Then the media, politicians, and rescue industry began spinning the numbers involved. Remember, the number was 71 people. After circulating it back and forth, the number swelled to an estimate of tens of thousands of sex slaves. The actual evidence of sex slavery was none. The conclusion was tens of thousands.

The laws in many states are very harmful. They are poorly written and may allow for felony conviction of sex workers who work together as they are “trafficking” each other. In some states, having condoms in one’s purse can be used as evidence of intent to engage in prostitution. In some cities, zones have been set up where one can be charged with “manifesting prostitution.” This means a woman in sexy clothes can be arrested and charged if she is on the street in these zones. I have been told that many of the zones are in black neighborhoods. This race aspect has angered many African-Americans. The Black Lives Matter people were well represented at the most recent national sex worker conference. Racial profiling of black men and women is very problematic.

Many anti-prostitution advocates favor the so called Nordic model. This started in Sweden and has spread to other countries. Their laws apply only to the buyers and managers, but not to the sellers of sex. The theory is that all sex workers are victims and all the men who hire them abusers. It is similar to statutory rape laws in that the victim’s consent is not relevant. Putting adult women into the same class as children is somehow figured to be feminism. To a rational person, though, this is clearly an attack on the sellers of sex because it attacks their source of income.

What sex workers want is “decriminalization,” which means simply repealing the criminal laws against consenting adults in this business, including managers, buyers, and sex workers. This is the most libertarian model. The alternative is “legalization,” which implies an organized and regulated brothel system that may continue to criminalize workers who choose to work independently.

The recent take down of Backpage under federal threats and the indictments against its owners is a chilling new twist in America’s war on the sex industry. Now anyone who sells advertising can be held criminally liable for ads posted that may involve sex trafficking. Where this concept ends and how it will affect all advertising platforms as Congress adds new “offenses” remains to be seen. There are serious First Amendment issues involved. The upshot of this is that many independent workers can no longer find clients, and are being re-approached by pimps in order to continue to make a living. Increases in street-based sex work are being complained about in communities as part of this negative consequence.

## Following up

You can learn more at various websites. They include lots of information and arguments that can be used to support our plank. You can find ways to work with sex worker organizations. You should also find out what your state and local laws actually say. How many ways can they be used to turn adult sex workers into felons for things like supporting each other, giving advice on safety issues, or as “co-conspirators” in their own trafficking?

You may wish to visit [bayswan.org](http://bayswan.org), [swopusa.org](http://swopusa.org), [durbar.org](http://durbar.org), [gaatw.org](http://gaatw.org), and similar sites. You may also check out *Reason* magazine’s numerous articles exposing the falsehoods of the anti-trafficking campaign, as well as the *Washington Post*’s fact checker. I can be reached at [tracyar@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:tracyar@hawaiiintel.net) if you would like additional information.

## Successful national convention

...continued from page 1

listed at: [LP.org/libertarian-national-committee](http://LP.org/libertarian-national-committee)

The convention gala, held on July 2, raised more than \$110,000, driven in large part by generous members making donations to help fellow members upgrade to Lifetime Memberships (currently set at a donor level of \$1,500 within a 12-month period). The funds raised will be instrumen-

tal in the party’s preparation for the elections this fall.

Many thanks to the members of the Convention Oversight Committee, who worked for months, even years, to plan this event: Daniel Hayes (chair), Erin Adams, Whitney Bilyeu, Sam Goldstein, Alicia Mattson, Drew Layda, and Ken Moellman.

And many thanks to the sponsors of this event, especially the Welcoming Committee: Michael Dodd, the Gaztañagas, Roads to Freedom Foundation, Nivine

K. Zakhari, Joseph Thompson, John Shuey, Gregory Hertzsch, Judge Jim Gray, Daniel Hayes, Dr. Aaron Sigler, Ending Addiction Movie, and Lloyd Princeton.

Lastly, and most importantly, thanks to the many Libertarians who came from all over the country and served as delegates, alternates, attendees, and activists, and made this event the blockbuster success that it was.

The 2020 Libertarian National Convention will be in Austin, Texas. We hope to see you there!

# 5 Libertarians inducted into LP Hall of Liberty

By Tim Hagan, LNC Treasurer

Five recipients of the Libertarian Party's Jefferson Award were inducted into our Hall of Liberty during the 2018 Libertarian Party's national convention in New Orleans.

In 2012, the Libertarian Party established the Hall of Liberty to honor a lifetime or significant achievement having a lasting effect on the Libertarian Party or libertarian movement. Previously, the Thomas Jefferson Award had served as the award for lifetime achievement, the highest honor the Libertarian Party could bestow. Also in 2012, the awards committee changed the purpose of the Jefferson Award to recognize "outstanding leadership, high character, and dedication to the principles and goals of the party."

These two changes inadvertently created a discontinuity in the awards. To resolve this, in December 2016, the Libertarian National Committee moved to induct into the Hall of Liberty all who had received the Thomas Jefferson Award for lifetime achievement prior to the 2012 changes. The motion was adopted without objection.

Four recipients of the Jefferson Award prior to 2012 already had been inducted in the Hall of Liberty: David Nolan, Ed Clark, Harry Browne, and Bill Redpath. Five pre-2012 Jefferson Award recipients had not been inducted into the Hall of Liberty. So these five Jefferson Award recipients — David Bergland, John Perry, Ron Crickenberger, Ruth Bennett, and Jim Lark — were inducted during the LP's biennial convention held this year, June 30 through July 3.

## David Bergland

David Bergland was the 1976 Libertarian vice presidential candidate. In 1978, in his run for state Senate, he was the first candidate to appear on the ballot as a Libertarian in California. He was the Libertarian presidential nominee in 1984, and later supported another presidential candidate, Harry Browne, as campaign co-chair. Bergland served as the party's national chair from 1977 to 1981, and again from 1998 to 2000.

Bergland's libertarian values and beliefs were formed long before he officially joined the party.

"I recall being a teenager and becoming involved in discussions, and — without having a name for it — always coming out on the side of personal responsibility and individual liberty," he has said. "Upon discovering that there was a political organization that was along the same lines,



Tim Hagan

there wasn't much of a decision to make."

Bergland is the author of the book *Libertarianism in One Lesson* and a former adjunct professor of law at Western State University's Colleges of Law in Fullerton and Irvine, California.

Bergland received the Jefferson Award in 1998.

## John Perry

In 2001, John Perry was an avid Libertarian Party member and a New York City police officer. On Sept. 11, Mr. Perry was at police headquarters in lower Manhattan to file his retirement papers. He was planning to leave the police force to join a small immigration law firm. When notice of the catastrophe at the World Trade Center came in over the police radio, Perry immediately left to help rescue citizens from the burning buildings. He was last seen on the mezzanine of the south tower shortly before it collapsed. When the building began to collapse, a police captain warned Perry to evacuate, but he insisted on staying as long as there were people still inside. The captain barely got out in time, and he saw Perry disappear into the dust as the building fell.

Perry was a member of the Nassau County Civil Liberties Union, was active in the Police Brutality Commission, and had volunteered for Norman Siegal's campaign for public advocate.

"As a libertarian and a police officer, John was dedicated to defending everyone's right to life, liberty, and property," said Richard Cooper, former chair of LP New York. "He was a true hero. He was a great Libertarian."

Prior to joining the NYPD, Perry had worked as an immigration lawyer. He also worked as an extra in many films, and as a recurring character in the television soap opera *Another World*.

Perry received the Jefferson Award in 2002.

## Ron Crickenberger

Ron Crickenberger was a highly visible and continuous activist in the Libertarian Party. He served as the LP's political director from 1997 to 2003. Crickenberger was a member of the Libertarian National Committee from 1989 to 1997. He also served as the chair of the Libertarian Party of Georgia and was the southeast coordinator for Ron Paul's 1988 presidential campaign. He also managed Bruce Van Buren's winning campaign for the Avondale Estates (Georgia) City Commission in 1995.



John Perry

As political director, he spearheaded multiple efforts, from getting Bob Barr defeated in his 2002 reelection bid to providing a Libertarian Party presence at multiple anti-War on Drugs events. He participated in protests and established Libertarian campus organizations.

He was also involved with various partisan and non-partisan groups and organizations, such as the Committee for Libertarian Majority and the November Coalition. In 2000, *Campaigns and Elections* magazine named Crickenberger a "rising star of politics." It cited his role in increasing by 400 percent the number of Libertarians holding public office. He was the Libertarian Party of Virginia's 8th District congressional candidate that year.

Crickenberger worked with the November Coalition and other drug law reform groups on the issues of the failed war on drugs. He was architect of the Libertarian Party's Drug War Focus Strategy. His opposition to the War on Drugs was his signature issue, an issue on which public opinion has moved heavily toward the libertarian perspective. Crickenberger passed away in 2004.

Crickenberger received the Jefferson Award in 2004.

## Ruth Bennett

Ruth Bennett is a former chair of both LP Washington and LP Colorado. She has served as regional representative, at-large representative, and secretary of the Libertarian National Committee. Bennett has served as the vice chair of Outright Libertarians. In addition, she was the lead organizer for the 1981 and 1987 Libertarian national conventions.

In 2000, Bennett ran for lieutenant governor of Washington on a platform of abolishing that very office. In 2004, she ran for governor of Washington, a race in which she was the only candidate to support the legalization of same-sex marriage.

Bennett is the executive director of the Funeral Consumer Alliance of Arizona and is a past president of the national board of the Funeral Consumers Alliance.

Bennett received the Jefferson Award in 2008.



Ruth Bennett

## Jim Lark

Jim Lark served as the Libertarian Party's national chair from 2000 to 2002, and has served several terms on the LNC; currently, he is the Region 5 representative. He is a member of the LNC's Executive Committee, and since 2014 has served as the LNC's representative to the International Alliance



Jim Lark

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# 2018 Libertarian Party award recipients

By Jim Lark, Awards Committee

The recipients of the 2018 Libertarian Party awards were announced on July 2 during a ceremony at the Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans. The announcements were made by the 2018 Awards Committee (Tim Hagan, Daniel Hayes, Jim Lark, Keith Laube, and Hap Werther).

The recipients of the awards are:

- **Samuel Adams Award:** Joe Johnson (Colorado) and Alicia Mattson (California)
- **Benjamin Franklin Award:** Jeff Hewitt (California)
- **Patrick Henry Award:** Mark Miller (Texas)
- **Thomas Jefferson Award:** Julie Fox (Illinois)
- **Thomas Paine Award:** Carla Howell (Virginia)

The **Adams Award** is presented in recognition of effective activism in building Party membership, organizing community outreach, or communicating Libertarian principles. **Joe Johnson** was recognized for his many years of activism and campaigns, including his winning campaign for town trustee of Frederick, Colo.

**Alicia Mattson** was recognized for her



Joe Johnson



Alicia Mattson



Awards Committee member Keith Laube (center) presents the Adams Award for effective activism to Joe Johnson and Alicia Mattson.

long record of activism and service in Tennessee, Nevada, and California. Her recent work on campaigns and initiatives in Oxnard, Calif., (along with Aaron Starr) was cited by her nominators.

The **Franklin Award** is presented in recognition of outstanding campaigns for public office at the local level. **Jeff Hewitt** was recognized for his campaign and election as mayor of Calimesa, California. His work as mayor was the subject of a story in the Orange County Register in January.

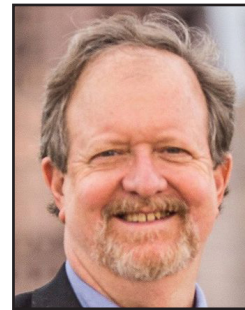
The **Henry Award** is presented in recognition of outstanding campaigns for public office at the state or federal level.



Jeff Hewitt

**Mark Miller** was recognized for his campaign for Texas Railroad Commissioner in 2016. He was endorsed by major newspapers in Texas, including the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and the *San Antonio Express-News*. He received more than 5 percent of the vote, guaranteeing ballot access for the Libertarian Party of Texas.

The **Jefferson Award** is presented in recognition of outstanding leadership, high character, and dedication to the principles and goals of the LP. **Julie Fox** was recognized for her many years of service at the local, state, and national levels, which includes



Mark Miller

(among other things) founding a local party, serving as a candidate at several levels, serving as an officer of Libertarian organizations, and serving as a member of the Libertarian National Committee.

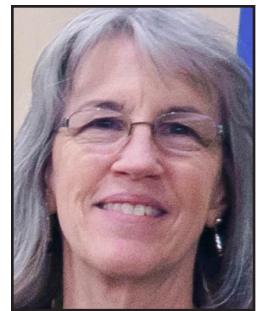
The **Paine Award** is presented in recognition of outstanding communication of Libertarian ideas, principles, and values through written, published, or spoken communication. **Carla Howell** was recognized for her many years of advocacy of Libertarian ideas during her campaigns for public office, and for her work in teaching Libertarians how to communicate more effectively.

During the national convention in New Orleans, **Ruth Bennett, David Bergland, Ron Crickenberger, Jim Lark, and John Perry** were inducted into the Libertarian Party's **Hall of Liberty**. Induction into the Hall of Liberty represents the Party's highest honor, given in recognition of lifetime or significant achievement that has made a lasting impact upon the Libertarian Party and/or libertarian movement. You can read more about the Hall of Liberty inductees appears on page 8 of this issue.

Information about previous award recipients and Hall of Liberty members is online: [LP.org/lnc-award-recipients](http://LP.org/lnc-award-recipients)



Julie Fox



Carla Howell

## Hall of Liberty inductees

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of Libertarian Parties. He has also served on the Platform Committee numerous times and on the Bylaws Committee. He was a founding member of the board of directors of the Libertarian National Congressional Committee.

Lark is heavily involved with campus outreach, both for LP Virginia and the national party. He advises college and high school libertarians throughout the country, and has conducted several campus-organizing tours on behalf of the Libertarian Party. He is a member of the board of

advisors of Students for Liberty.

He has served as chair of the Advocates for Self-Government, and currently serves as secretary of Liberty International (formerly the International Society for Individual Liberty). Lark frequently gives invited addresses at libertarian events throughout the world.

He is a member of the Foundation for Economic Education's faculty network, and received the foundation's 2017 Leonard E. Read Distinguished Alumni Award for Leadership.

Lark is a professor in the Department of Systems and Information Engineering and the Applied Mathematics

program at the University of Virginia.

Lark received the Jefferson Award in 2008. In addition, he is the recipient of the 2004 Samuel Adams Award and the 2012 Thomas Paine Award.

### Hall of Liberty members

- **2012:** Ed Clark, John Hospers, Roger MacBride, David Nolan, and Tonie Nathan
- **2014:** Harry Browne and Richard Winger
- **2016:** Ron Paul and Bill Redpath
- **2018:** Ruth Bennett, David Bergland, Ron Crickenberger, Jim Lark, and John Perry



# Ron Paul endorses Murray Sabrin for US Senator from NJ

Former congressman and three-time presidential candidate Dr. Ron Paul has endorsed Libertarian candidate Murray Sabrin for U.S. Senator from New Jersey.



Murray Sabrin

"I am pleased to endorse my good friend of 35 years Murray Sabrin for United States Senate," Paul wrote in a statement. "Murray's dedication to, and knowledge of, the principles of liberty will make him an effective advocate for freeing the people of New Jersey—and the Nation—from excessive taxes, debt, and inflation, as well as ending the ongoing violations of our right to free speech, property, and privacy. Murray will also be an outspoken Senator for peaceful relations with other nations, and work to ensure that our immigration policies adhere to common sense solutions like his proposal to have immigrants obtain sponsors, so they can assimilate and become financially independent."

Ron Paul was the Libertarian Party's 1988 presidential candidate, and was a candidate in Republican primaries for president in 2008 and 2012. Murray Sabrin, whose parents were Holocaust sur-



vivors, is a professor at the Anisfield College of Business at Ramapo College of New Jersey. He also served as Paul's New Jersey spokesman during Paul's 2008 presidential primary campaign.

"I am honored to receive Dr. Paul's endorsement," Sabrin said. "For more than four decades Dr. Paul was America's leading advocate of limited government at home and a non-interventionist foreign policy. He also was a critic of the Federal Reserve's destabilizing policies, which have been responsible for the economy's booms and busts. If elected to the Senate, I will continue to be a voice like Dr. Paul who always spoke Truth to Power in the House of Representatives and in his presidential campaigns."

To celebrate the Paul endorsement, the Sabrin campaign is emulating Dr. Paul's campaign's money bomb technique. They are asking for \$35 money bomb donations

at Sabrin's campaign website.

Also on his campaign website, Sabrin quotes honest money advocate Ralph Benko's observations about how both of the dominant political parties can be counted on only to serve their own interests. Only Libertarian candidates provide a true alternative to the status quo based on individual freedom.

"Politicians will spend," Benko wrote. "That's what politicians do. Republicans will spend on the Warfare State. Democrats will spend on the Welfare State. They'll collude. If you don't cut my boondoggle I won't cut yours. It's what they do. The power to end the charade is ours and ours alone. It's up to us and nobody else. American citizens are waking up to how vastly the world has changed, how potentially vast is citizen power, and how we can transform the world to one of prosperity and peace."

Sabrin is also campaigning to restore civil liberties to the American people, to end corporate welfare and the war on drugs, to reduce burdensome federal regulations, to sponsor comprehensive health care reform in a free-market direction, to support of the entire Bill of Rights including the Second Amendment, to protect property rights as a way of preventing damaging environmental externalities, and to protect American's right to freely trade among themselves as well as with people of other countries.

The Senate race in New Jersey, a long-time blue state, is competitive this year. The federal trial of incumbent Democratic Sen. Bob Menendez on conspiracy, bribery, and honest services corruption charges ended in a hung jury. The self-funded Republican candidate is big-pharma CEO Bob Hugin. Polls, which inexplicably exclude Sabrin, show that a huge number of voters are undecided. The most recent poll, conducted by Fairleigh Dickinson University, shows 46 percent undecided with a 4 percent margin of difference between Menendez and Hugin. That 46 percent is larger than support for either Menendez or Hugin.

This year, the Libertarian Party is running a record number of credible candidates with an incredible chance of making a difference in America's political landscape. Murray Sabrin is a dynamic member of that nationwide group.

## LP has several opportunities to achieve major progress

By Jim Lark,  
LNC Region 5 Representative

As we enter the 2018-2020 term, I believe the Libertarian Party has several important opportunities to achieve major progress. In particular, I believe we have a reasonably good chance to take two important steps forward:

- When people of libertarian disposition decide to become active in politics, they do so by becoming active with the Libertarian Party at various levels.
- The Libertarian Party is clearly recognized as the only "third party" worthy of consideration.

The general goals I have set for myself as an LNC mem-



Jim Lark

ber are as follows:

- To provide exemplary service to the state affiliates in my region, in terms of both my representation of affiliate preferences regarding LNC actions and in assisting affiliate activities.
- To improve our youth outreach program, particularly with respect to college and high school students.
- To improve the way the LP encourages, recognizes, and rewards activism.
- To help the LNC improve its ability to engage in strategic planning and to evaluate properly the performance of our activities.
- To serve the (U.S.) Libertarian Party well in my role as the LNC's representative to the International Alliance of Libertarian Parties (IALP).

Some outcomes I hope to achieve during this term are:

- Institute a process that (a) evaluates our current literature needs, (b) develops our literature, (c) evaluates the effectiveness of our literature, and (d) evaluates our fu-

ture literature needs. (We need "inreach" literature as well as "outreach" literature.)

- Increase the number of "friend of the family" organizations with which the LP works effectively.
- Increase the number of organizations to which the LP conducts regular outreach.
- Increase the number of active Libertarian student organizations and campus contacts in advance of the 2020 presidential election.

Incidentally, there are many outcomes that I hope to help bring about during this term. I have listed the ones for which I may have special competence in achieving, and which can be achieved at a relatively low cost.

Allow me to express my gratitude to my fellow LP members for their work to build a society of liberty and personal responsibility. Those members who believe I can be of assistance to their efforts are welcome to contact me at [James.Lark@lp.org](mailto:James.Lark@lp.org).



# US, UK, all countries should embrace unilateral free trade

By Bill Etheridge,  
U.K. Independence Party,  
Member of European  
Parliament

and Wes Benedict,  
Libertarian Party  
Executive Director

Besides the Declaration of Independence of the United States, another seminal event occurred in 1776. Adam Smith published *The Wealth of Nations*. As he explained, “In every country it always is and must be in the interest of the great body of the people to buy whatever they want of those who sell it cheapest.” Nothing has happened in the succeeding 242 years to refute Smith’s remarkable insight.

Much of the world seems to have forgotten that lesson today, though, as countries hike tariffs in an ongoing war of punitive retaliation. It shouldn’t be this way, though. By moving resources to more productive and valued uses, trade makes everybody better off. This remains true no matter what kinds of tariffs or sanctions other countries impose. Trade barriers hurt the countries that impose them most of all.

The most important economic principle to help us understand gains from trade is “comparative advantage.” When people specialize in the goods and services they can produce more efficiently, then trade for the rest, they create wealth and grow the economy.

For example, it is theoretically possible to grow bananas in North Dakota with an immense investment in greenhouses and electricity for grow lamps. They would be very expensive bananas, though, compared to those that can be inexpensively imported from Ecuador, where bananas grow like weeds. If a lobby for North Dakota banana producers made enough noise about protecting American banana-producing jobs, and made enough strategic campaign contributions, it could persuade Congress to raise tariffs on bananas from Ecuador. When those prices rise high enough, North Dakota bananas would become competitive at the grocery store — but consumers would pay more to purchase them, and have less money to spend on anything else they want to buy.

Tariffs and other trade restrictions effectively function as higher taxes on con-



Libertarian National Committee Executive Director Wes Benedict meets with Bill Etheridge, Member of European Parliament from the U.K. Independence Party, at Libertarian Party headquarters in Alexandria.

sumers in the country that levies the tariffs. Americans are poorer because they pay more for bananas. Ecuadorians are poorer because sell fewer bananas. The politically connected North Dakota banana growers and their lobbyists are better off, but only at the coerced expense of everybody else.

The same logic applies to steel, aluminum, and all the other goods being targeted by the Donald Trump administration’s quack economist Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. Complaints about an unequal balance of trade are meaningless. If a country sells more to us than we sell to them, the difference comes back as foreign investment in our country. We have a trade imbalance with China, but China is also the largest holder of U.S. Treasury debt and is making direct investments in American factories. The Chinese company Shangdong Tranlin Paper recently built a brand-new paper mill near Richmond, Va., creating many new American jobs. When countries freely trade with each other, the balance of payments includes both trade and investment activity, and these are always in balance.

“Countries with free trade are rich and strong,” said Wes Benedict, executive director of the U.S. Libertarian Party. “Countries with high tariffs are sick, corrupt, and weak. There are some exceptions to that rule, because trade isn’t the only factor that determines wealth, but every country with trade restrictions would be wealthier if they unilaterally eliminated their own tariffs — whether or not other countries follow suit.”

According to *Financial Management*

magazine, the top five countries with the lowest trade barriers are Singapore, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and Finland. According to Business Insider, the five countries with the highest trade barriers are Iran, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Pakistan. According to the CIA Factbook, the average per capita income of the top five free-trade countries is \$57,520. The average per capita income of the bottom five is only \$9,960.

Many people know that most economists think free trade benefits everyone, but they mistakenly think that this has to be a two-way street. Hardly anybody realizes that a country can implement free trade unilaterally and still reap the benefits of free trade regardless of what the rest of the world does. That’s the great news.

“Trade wars are completely unnecessary and completely unwise,” Benedict said. “Either side — or both sides — can win, simply by refusing to impose tariffs. While tariffs are bad, retaliatory tariffs are even worse, wholly foolish, unnecessary, and counterproductive because they exacerbate trade wars. When countries stop trading with each other, this often leads to shooting wars.”

When the United States imposes tariffs on goods from Canada or China, most of the damage happens to the United States. If Canada and China are smart, they would refuse to retaliate. If they were wise, they’d go further and reduce their own tariffs and other trade restrictions to zero, reaping the benefits of lower prices, higher purchasing power, and a growing economy.

Trade barriers also create dependency.

If the steel industry only exists in America because of tariffs that price foreign steel out of our markets, then steel lobbyists will forever beg the government to keep or raise those tariffs to protect them. Every business that uses steel will suffer from higher prices and lower quality.

When representatives from the U.K. Independence Party (UKIP) recently met with Libertarians at the U.S. Libertarian Party headquarters in Alexandria, Va., the issue of free trade stood out as a priority among all our areas of common concern. The United Kingdom has a long history of supporting free trade, as does the United States, so why are we embroiled in new trade restrictions and threats of still more salvos in the world’s growing trade skirmishes?

“I firmly believe that for a nation to be prosperous, happy, and at peace it must implement free trade,” said Member of European Parliament Bill Etheridge, of the U.K. Independence Party. “A post-Brexit U.K. has a major opportunity to adopt a new approach and lead the way with unilateral free trade. Pressing ahead with unilateral free trade would be a bold, peaceful move that would put us firmly on the map as an open free trading nation once again. For too long the U.K. has been linked to a protectionist block that has forced prices up for consumers and helped impoverish the third world. Let’s use Brexit as a positive mechanism to rectify decades of expensive isolated trade as a result of being a member of the European Union’s protectionist racket.”

The United States should follow suit, and abandon the long-discredited economic fallacies that the Trump administration has resurrected. Mountains of empirical evidence and sound economic theory both show that tariffs and trade wars only serve to impoverish American workers.

“More than anything else, economic fallacies inform this president’s trade views,” wrote Daniel J. Ikenson, director of the Cato Institute’s Center for Trade Policy Studies, about President Trump’s recent actions. “Unlike his predecessors, he sees trade not as a win-win proposition, but as a zero-sum game with distinct winners and losers. Exports are Team America’s points; imports are the foreign teams’ points; the trade account is the scoreboard.”

Trump is using the wrong measurement to keep score.



## AFFILIATE

## Updates

## Alabama

*Candidates confirmed for upcoming ballot*

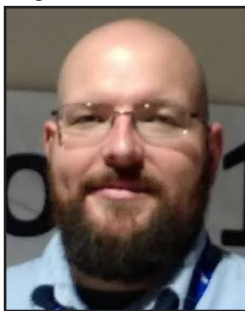
With the coming elections in November, Alabama membership is growing, albeit slowly.

Activism is picking up and new county affiliates are starting. The LP Tennessee Valley consists of Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan Counties; they've elected officers and are starting up regular meetings. Montgomery, Bibb, Mobile, and Escambia counties have chairs pro tem who are working towards becoming recognized affiliates.

We recently hosted a reception in Birmingham for everyone running for national office, as well as speakers from Alabama NORML, the Mises Institute, and several of our candidates. Swag bags and other items were auctioned. The reception was well attended, and we are looking forward to a similar event in the fall.

Alabama has four candidates on the ballot for the November elections. Originally there were six, however, one had to withdraw and one did not make it through the validation process. All of our candidates petitioned with the help of friends and family, not spending any money for signatures! We are most thankful to everyone that helped with signature gathering.

The secretary of state has confirmed that Elijah Boyd has qualified to appear on the ballot as the Libertarian Party candidate for House District 10. Initially, Elijah was denied ballot access but



Elijah Boyd

appealed the ruling and won. House District 10 covers Southwest Madison County, including portions of Madison and Huntsville, Triana, and Redstone Arsenal. Elijah and his family moved to the city of Madison in 2012. He and his wife of 17 years, Tiffany, have been foster parents for four years serving the children of Madison County, recently being blessed as adoptive parents. A U.S. Army veteran, Elijah served in Iraq and Germany. He graduated from Central Methodist University with a bachelor's degree in computer science, and also holds an MBA from Amber-

ton University. Elijah serves as the vice chair of the Libertarian Party of Madison County and is a member of BamaCarry.

Elijah was a delegate at the Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans, and introduced a resolution calling for the immediate removal from office of Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Needless to say, the resolution was well received and adopted by the body of delegates.

The Macon County judge of probate has verbally confirmed that Frank Dillman has qualified and will appear on the November 2018 ballot as the Libertarian Party candidate for



Frank Dillman

Macon county commissioner, District 4. Frank is no stranger to the local political arena and has been active since the early '90s. He has written articles for the *Tuskegee News*, testified before numerous legislative committees and has been a vocal critic of the county's suspicious business practices. He also manages and speaks on behalf of the LetBamaVote.org campaign. Frank is 69 years old and is retired from the U.S. Navy. He moved to Macon County with his wife of almost 48 years, Dorothea, in 1990 where

they raised two kids and they now have five grandchildren. Frank has also given back to the community by volunteering for the local fire department, as well as helping take care of the elderly in nursing homes. He is also a member of American Legion Post 140 and the Lee County Voters League, and has emceed the Notasulga Christmas Parade for two years. He has made it his goal to challenge corruption by bringing accountability, fiscal responsibility, and transparency to the lacking Macon County government. Dillman said that his first act as commissioner would be to "broadcast the county meetings so the information would be more accessible to the public."

The Baldwin County probate judge has confirmed that Libertarian Michael Reeves will be on the ballot for the office of Baldwin County Board of Education, District 2. This makes him the second Libertarian to be confirmed for Baldwin County. All of the controversy surrounding the Board of Education and Superintendent Eddie Tyler has shown the people of Baldwin County that they need more choices than the Republican and Democratic candidates. Michael earned a bachelor's degree at Georgia State University in Atlanta. He returned to the Gulf Coast, where he has spent more than a decade working in IT and finance for a locally owned and operated national prop-



Michael Reeves

erty adjuster. He was active in Boy Scouts, earned Eagle Scout, and spent many summers at Camp Maubila providing instruction on topics ranging from swimming and boating to environmental science and nature studies. Michael continues to offer tutoring in his spare time and is eager for the opportunity to help better prepare our children for their future.

The Alabama secretary of state has confirmed that Matt Shelby has qualified and will appear on the November 2018 ballot as the Libertarian Party candidate for House District 96. Matt is a Baldwin County native, and his family's roots in the area go back until the early 1900s. He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Auburn University and went on to the University Of Alabama School Of Law on a Dean's Merit Scholarship. After graduating with his juris doctor degree in 2008, he returned home to Baldwin County, where he served until December 2009 as an assistant district attorney before going into private practice. He currently practices law at the Citrin Law Firm in Daphne. Matt lives in Daphne with his wife, Jennifer, and their three children. He is a member of Christ the King Church. He was active in the 2008 and 2012 presidential campaigns of Republican Ron Paul, as well the 2016 presidential campaign of Libertarian Party presidential nominee Gov. Gary Johnson, and currently serves as the secretary of the Libertarian Party of Baldwin County. He has promised to fight government corruption through his support for term limits. Matt wants to address an overloaded justice and prison system through criminal justice reform. "We spend too much money arresting, prosecuting and jailing people for drug crimes," he said. "Through my time as the Baldwin County drug prosecutor, it became obvious that we need to treat nonviolent drug offenders as what they are: people with an illness. By focusing on rehabilitation over incarceration, we will lighten the load on the courts, law enforcement, and the pocketbook of the Alabama tax-payer." Matt Shelby will appear on the ballot for the Nov. 6 general election.

The Alabama Executive Committee has been busy documenting processes and procedures for the future members to ensure continuity and alleviate the huge learning curve that new Executive Committee members encounter. We're also putting in place tools to track upcoming elections, recruit and train candidates, and grow membership. Everyone is excited about the future of the Alabama LP.



Matt Shelby, LP Alabama candidate for House District 96, with his family.

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## Arizona

### Organizing a series of write-in campaigns

Arizona candidates, kicked off the ballot by political operatives, are organizing a write-in effort to qualify their candidates in the closed Libertarian primary, and if successful, these candidates will be on the general election ballot in November.

Arizona Libertarian candidates include:

- Adam Kokesh for U.S. senator
- Barry Hess for governor
- Ernest Hancock for secretary of state
- Michael Kielsky for attorney general
- Kim Ruff for state mine inspector
- Zhani Doko for U.S. Congress, C.D. 1
- Jenn Gray for U.S. Congress, C.D. 9
- Kevin McCormick for state Senate, L.D. 15

All Arizona Libertarian voters are encouraged to participate in the primary election on Aug. 28 and write in our write-in candidates.

Follow updates at the LP Arizona website: [arizonafreedomteam.com](http://arizonafreedomteam.com)

## California

### State fair team builds on 2016 experience

This summer, LP California reached out to people from all walks of life, at its booth at the state fair, which ran July 13–29.

Mark Hinkle, LP California's membership committee chair and a former LNC chair, again spearheaded the effort. In 2016, he took advantage of the LP's state affiliate development specialist Andy Burns, who had run successful state fair booths for LP Minnesota.

"Andy was tremendously helpful, both with remote pre-planning and on site,"

Hinkle said. "In 2016, we had about 10 volunteers who met hundreds of quiz-takers, and we distributed an estimated 1,000 buttons. This year, we've distributed well over 100 buttons in just the first two days. Among the most popular are 'Pro-choice on everything,' 'Think: It's not illegal yet,' and our 'No wall' button."

The 2016 team found that fair-goers — including farmers and ranchers, amusement seekers, fellow exhibitors — ran approximately 55 percent libertarian. With about a dozen volunteers lined up this year, Hinkle expects to build on the success they had two years ago.

"The fair is a uniquely relaxed and fun opportunity to talk with voters about the Libertarian principle of individual freedom, and how that benefits them directly," he said.

## Illinois

### Full slate of statewide Illinois candidates

After a three-month petition drive led by Ballot Access Director Krysta Walker, the Libertarian Party of Illinois turned in 47,690 signatures for a full slate of statewide candidates, almost doubling the minimum requirement of 25,000. Top volunteers Jason Spyres and Justin Tucker, collected more than 1,600 signatures each. Bill Redpath of Virginia travelled to Illinois and generously volunteered his time and collected nearly 1,000 signatures in only a few days. With such a high validity rate and volume of signatures, the two old parties chose not to challenge the petition, which moves the statewide candidates' campaign timelines up six to eight weeks, enables more effective fundraising, and guarantees ballot access for the general election in November.

John Eldon Mathey and Thadeus Freed



The LP Indiana delegation to the 2018 Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans.

filed petitions for state representative, Jon Harlson filed for U.S. Congress, John Phillips Jr. filed for Macon County Board, and Ian Peak filed for Jefferson County Board. Unlike the statewide candidates' petition, there were objections to the petitions for Mathey, Freed, Harlson, and Phillips. Unfortunately, all of those objections were sustained. Ian Peak was successful in collecting enough signatures and surviving the challenge period. He will be on the ballot in November for Jefferson County Board.

McLean County has nine candidates running for partisan office in November as a result of achieving established party status in that county in 2016. McLean County voters will have one of the most competitive ballots ever, with only two local races unopposed compared to 13 unopposed races in the last election cycle. In addition, the McLean County chapter is circulating a petition for a referendum on the November ballot that would allow voters to choose whether or not to eliminate one of the two duplicative election authorities in the county.

Kate Nadolski was appointed to a newly created party archivist position within the Libertarian Party of Illinois. Having a master's degree in library and information science, Nadolski is uniquely qualified to take on this role. She will coordinate the collection, retention, and accessibility of historic items and documents. She looks forward to meeting with longtime members, making new discoveries, and engaging with the LNC's Historical Preservation Committee.

## Indiana

### Hoosiers represented at LP convention

Hoosier Libertarians sent 29 delegates and one alternate to represent Indiana at the 2018 Libertarian National Convention. Six alternates also served with states that couldn't fill their delegations.

Convention delegates chose Sam Goldstein for at-large representative to the Lib-

ertarian National Committee, and Region 3 selected Elizabeth Van Horn as its representative.

As a panelist in her breakout session, Hagerstown Judge Susan Bell discussed getting elected and serving in office. Mark W. Rutherford, chairman of the Indiana Public Defender Commission and candidate for Indiana secretary of state, spoke on a panel at the Libertarian Pragmatist Caucus meeting.

Also, Hoosier Evan McMahon worked on Nicholas Sarwark's bid for re-election as national chair, and McMahon will work on Sarwark's campaign for mayor of Phoenix. Former LPIN Executive Director Chris Spangle hosted the We Are Libertarians booth, and he interviewed delegates for his popular podcast. Goldstein and Joe Hauptmann both ran for vice chairman, and both remained in the final ballot.

## Iowa

### State's first televised LP primary debates

Iowa Libertarian gubernatorial candidates Marco Battaglia and Jake Porter made history in the first televised Libertarian primary debates, held on the Iowa Public Television Iowa Press program. Additionally the candidates were featured on the CBS, NBC, and ABC local affiliate programming, including Sunday morning shows devoted entirely to our race. As well, Jake Porter was endorsed by the *Des Moines Register* in our primary race, another first for our party.

Iowa participated in the major party primary elections on June 5. Jake Porter bested Marco Battaglia in our contested gubernatorial race, and will appear on the general ballot as our nominee for governor. Lynne Gentry will be on the general election ballot as Porter's lieutenant governor nominee; in Iowa, gubernatorial candidates run as a team on the ballot.

Porter has also been invited to partici-

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Long-time LP California activist Barbara Engelhardt reaches out to folks at the California State Fair's Libertarian Party booth.





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pate in the Sioux City NBC affiliate televised debates alongside the Republican and Democrat gubernatorial nominees. Porter accepted, and if the other two candidates accept, this will be the first time a Libertarian candidate in Iowa has debated the other major party candidates on television.

We held post-primary nominating conventions on the district and state levels, placing five statewide candidates and two U.S. Congressional candidates on the general election ballot. Iowa now has all statewide and federal races with a Libertarian candidate for the first time in Iowa history. Major-party status has afforded us the ability to place these candidates via convention without petitioning requirements, saving us from gathering more than 10,000 signatures. Multiple county parties will also convene nominating conventions. Iowa now has 29 partisan candidates filed for office, a state record.

Marco Battaglia, former gubernatorial candidate, has accepted the LPIA's nomination to run as attorney general. With no Republican nominee, this will be our first two-way statewide race, against a long time Democrat incumbent, greatly increasing our opportunity to maintain major-party status.

## Louisiana

### *LP convention a tremendous success*

The most important news out of Louisiana is, of course, the tremendous success of the 2018 Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans!

The Libertarian Party of Louisiana would like to thank everyone who attended. We all greatly enjoyed hosting you, and we hope everyone had a wonderful time in the Big Easy. As has been reported by the national party already, the convention was an unprecedented success. We hope that Austin 2020 continues to build on this success, and is even better!

We would especially like to thank Daniel Hayes, chair of the Convention Oversight Committee and former LNC at-large representative, for his incredible work in putting this convention together. Daniel works as hard as humanly possible for this party, and we are proud to have him as one of our own.

## New Hampshire

### *State representatives run for reelection*

Having achieved ballot access via the governor's race in 2016, the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire now has more than two dozen candidates on the ballot for the fall 2018 elections. For the first time in its history, the party will have a contested primary for governor. In addition, 17 candidates are running for state representative, including incumbents Caleb Q. Dyer and Brandon Phinney. Other party members are running for other federal, state, and local offices.

In 2018, Rep. Phinney saw three of his sponsored bills passed into law. He and Rep. Dyer are working hard on their reelection campaigns, and other Libertarian candidates hope to join them as members of the New Hampshire Libertarian House Caucus next year.

Libertarian congressional candidate Justin O'Donnell earned media attention recording a video while traveling through a "border" checkpoint that was more than 70 air miles from the border in Woodstock, including a mention in an article in the D.C.-based publication *The Hill*. In the video, O'Donnell said, "I feel that having to be asked that question at a warrantless checkpoint seems like a violation of my Fifth Amendment rights." The entire state of New Hampshire is within the 100-mile zone that Customs and Border Patrol agents use to conduct suspicionless checkpoints. Earlier this year, a New Hampshire judge threw out evidence of drug possession found last year when CPB agents, conducting a checkpoint, illegally searched vehicles after a marijuana festival had taken place in northern New Hampshire.

In other news, the LPNH recently added a local affiliate for the Upper Valley that covers all of Sullivan County and most of Grafton County. The party continues to develop its infrastructure and local affiliates and intends to have affiliates in all areas of the state as soon as possible. If you can support us in our efforts to strengthen liberty in New Hampshire, either by volunteering or providing financial support, please visit our website at LPNH.org and click on either the "volunteer" or "donate" link.



LP North Carolina candidate for U.S. House of Representatives Jeff Matemu won a landmark case defending immigrant rights.

## North Carolina

### *Landmark immigration case victory*

The Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, North Carolina District 2, Jeff Matemu, struck a powerful blow for immigrant rights in a case decided on June 27.

The case involved an immigrant from El Salvador who was denied the right to apply to remain in the country by an immigration judge in Charlotte. The petitioner entered the United States illegally, a victimless offense. The petitioner was assessed a prayer for judgement continued (PJC) to misdemeanor possession of marijuana, a victimless offense. Thirteen years later, the Department of Homeland Security charged the petitioner with removability by interpreting a prayer for judgement as a conviction.

Matemu argued against this interpretation in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and prevailed, reversing the Board of Immigration Appeals decision and preserving the rights of immigrants to receive just and equitable treatment under the law.

Matemu filed an appeal from the immigration judge's decision to deport Jose Santos Guzman, but the Board of Immigration Appeals concluded that the previous judgement was correct. He then took the fight to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and sued Jeff Sessions, the Justice Department, and the entire Trump administration. And he won.

This has far-reaching implications for immigrants throughout the United States. A prayer for judgment continued is unique to North Carolina, but other states may

have similar remedies. All PJCs and similar devices can no longer be used by immigration judges as a basis for deportation decisions or denial of immigration benefits.

Matemu's campaign is attracting great interest in North Carolina and beyond. For more information on his campaign please visit his website: [jeffmatemu.org](http://jeffmatemu.org)

## Ohio

### *More than 100K petition signatures filed*

The Libertarian Party of Ohio filed ballot access petitions containing 102,762 signatures with the Ohio secretary of state on July 2. Signatures came from all 88 counties, and amounted to nearly twice the 54,965 valid signatures required by law. Candidates are now permitted to solicit signatures for their own petitions and begin work on their campaigns.

The filing concludes a year-and-a-half campaign that required a major financial commitment at both the national and state levels, and consumed an estimated 20,000 volunteer hours. It was made necessary by a protest made in 2014 that invalidated gubernatorial candidate Charlie Earl's petition, making it impossible to obtain the 3 percent of the gubernatorial vote required by state law to retain ballot access.

"We are stronger knowing that 102,762 voters signed their names to give Ohio more and better choices to address our economic and social issues," said LPO chair Harold Thomas. "Ohioans want solutions, and sense that the way forward might lie in less government instead of more. The establishment parties will try to fill your

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minds with misconceptions about us. We are not 'Republicans lite,' we are not a group of spoilers whose primary purpose is to throw elections in any direction except that of liberty, and we are not anarchists bent on social chaos. I invite all Ohioans to embrace the Libertarian Party and its candidates as we represent a true choice. We will not only show how to fix a broken system, but make it robust enough to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity."

The secretary of state has until Aug. 3 to notify the party of his decision on the validity of the ballot access petitions.

## South Carolina

### Four new county affiliates organized

The South Carolina Libertarian Party continues to grow, with four new counties organized in the spring before the national convention and an expected four or five more to be organized in August, taking us to an anticipated level of 30 or 31 of 46 counties organized and registered with their clerk of court, and with the ability to run partisan candidates for county races. We were at 22 counties last November, up from 10 counties in November 2015.

## Utah

### LP candidates at Utah's July 4 parades

The Libertarian Party of Utah and its nominated candidates for office were in a full sprint in June and July. With a record number of events held in communities throughout Utah, U.S. Senate candidate Craig Bowden and a group of county volunteers headed up one of the largest parades in the state for July 4. Also on July 4 were outreach booths and parades in Southern Utah and Western Utah, where candidates and volunteers with the campaigns of Denyse Cox, Jefferey Whipple, Barry Short, Justin Bake, Amber Christiansen Beltran, and Daniel Holloway were able to coordinate resources for a total of six consecutive events throughout the state on the same day.

Bowden also broke a fundraising record for third party-nominated candidates in Utah. According to FEC reports, Bowden's U.S. Senate campaign has raised more than \$35,000 from individual donors, with a to-

tal of around \$57,000 raised. While other candidates in the past have had higher contributions, all others self-funded their candidacies for the most part, setting him apart as actually having support of people willing to see the campaign succeed.

The Libertarian Party of Utah has also been at the forefront of a medical cannabis initiative, which is officially headed to the ballot in November. While the party will continue to push for full decriminalization/legalization, this is seen as a crucial step in a deeply red state toward increases in liberty, especially for patients who will benefit from the use of cannabis should this pass.

## Virginia

### Major opportunity for major-party status

The Libertarian Party of Virginia is creating history. We have a sixth statewide candidate in seven years, which has never been accomplished in Virginia's history by a minor party. The Matt Waters for U.S. Senate campaign is looking for paid and volunteer campaign staff to fill out an incredible opportunity for ballot access and a potential *major win* in Virginia. Waters is running against Tim Kaine (yes, the good guy to Hillary's evil on their 2016 presidential ticket) and Corey Stewart, a candidate who won't disavow the alt-right that primarily supports his campaign. He supported the actions that occurred in Charlottesville and the Republican Party in Virginia is siphoning off activists and elected officials by the boatload. We have a significant opportunity to garner 10 percent to achieve major party status in Virginia. We are piggybacking off very successful campaigns by Rob Sarvis in 2013 (7 percent) and 2014 (3 percent) and Cliff Hyra in 2017 (3 percent). We are looking to sue the Virginia Bar Association for inclusion in their U.S. Senate debate. To volunteer, please contact the Waters campaign at [mw@mattwaters.com](mailto:mw@mattwaters.com).

We have restructured our state organization and are looking for people to volunteer for various roles inside the party structure. We need political, communications, IS, outreach, and policy directors. These will require about two to three hours per week of your time and will vary depending on the time of year. We are also partitioning into five regions, since our congressional



LP Utah had a presence at six events statewide on July 4. Above, the Denyse Cox campaign for state House. To the right, 2nd District congressional candidate Jeffrey Whipple (center).



districts are so gerrymandered that our 3rd Congressional District was the basis for the Supreme Court lawsuit from 2016. Our five regions are based on the major media markets, and will focus on having three positions to work directly with affiliates: a media liaison, an event coordinator, and a volunteer coordinator. We appreciate all our volunteers and are grateful for their efforts in our state affiliate's strong history. We continue to look to grow our party's membership and effectiveness.

We also have three incredible candidates for U.S. House of Representatives. Joe Walton is the former chair of the Board of Supervisors for Powhatan County. In the 7th Congressional District, he is going up against Dave Brat, who knocked off House Majority Leader Eric Cantor for the first time in history, and Abigail Spanberger, who is an ex-CIA operative. The soon-to-be Dr. Walton brings incredible experience and brilliance to the stage in a hotly contested and highly notorious race. Joe will get a lot of credible attention in this race and he may be able to swing it in his favor. This is a major battleground in Virginia politics, and we have a very credible candidate to show. For more information, visit his campaign website: [joeforvirginia.com](http://joeforvirginia.com)

Stevan Porter is running in the 11th Congressional District. Northern Virginia is possibly the most political area in the country, and he will be among four candidates on the November ballot. It is where most federal employees tend to live, and statism runs rampant. His experience is in information technology and fire and rescue. His qualifications for this office are as stout as any of the other candidates, and Stevan

has an incredible opportunity to make an impact. For more information, visit his website: [porter4us.com](http://porter4us.com)

Pete Wells is an avid activist in Richmond's downtown area. He is running for the 4th Congressional District seat held by Don McEachin. Pete is an incredible ambassador for the Libertarian message. He will be a great candidate for us, assuming we can overcome an error in the processing of his petitions and we are appealing his ability to be on the ballot. This has never been done in the commonwealth's history. This sets the stage for future changes to election law with the administration of this process. Anybody that can help Pete's campaign, please visit: [FB.com/petewellsforliberty](http://FB.com/petewellsforliberty)

The LPVA is grateful to Andy Burns for his incredible work on the CRM project. This is the most important thing we can do to empower local affiliates across the country. The more of us who use the system, the more we have continuity of volunteers, stability in our institutional memory, and a lower-cost burden for all state affiliates. Please consider getting your state on board with this *crucial* project.

## Washington, D.C.

### Full slate of candidates for Nov. ballot

In March, John LaBeaume became acting chair of the D.C. Libertarian Party with the task of getting candidates onto the ballot for the June 19 primary election. Thanks to

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**Contact info for state affiliates:**  
LP.org/states

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National Committee:**  
LP.org/lnc-leadership

## Thinking of running for office? Just want to learn more?

Go to **LP.org/run** and send us your inquiry. You'll receive information from your state LP affiliate or from the national LP headquarters that you need to get started on your campaign.

# Upcoming LP conventions

August 25: Michigan

For updates, visit: [LP.org/events](http://LP.org/events)



The LP Wisconsin delegation at the 2018 Libertarian National Convention in New Orleans.

## Affiliate News

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LNC help in 2016, the DCLP has automatic ballot access as one of four recognized parties. To keep that status, at least one of our District-wide candidates must win at least 7,500 votes in each November general election. That will be about 4 percent of the vote in 2018.

We're pleased to report that while D.C. has not yet certified everything, it looks like we will have a full slate of candidates on the November ballot for each District-wide office: Martin Moulton for mayor, Bruce Majors for delegate, Chris Massari for council chair, Denise Hicks for at-large council, and Joe Henschman for attorney general. The Republicans were not so fortunate, failing to nominate or file write-in status for any District-wide office, so they are in real danger of losing their automatic ballot status for 2020 (they could petition back on as a new party, or petition individual candidates).

Additionally, Joe Bishop-Henschman was elected as the new DCLP chair by a vote of 115 to 1, taking office on July 1. He may be reached at [jdhenchman@gmail.com](mailto:jdhenchman@gmail.com).

## Wisconsin

*19 WI delegates at national convention*

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin participated in the Libertarian National Convention, held from June 30 to July 3 in New Orleans, sending 19 del-

egates. Tyler Danke, chair of the Radical Caucus; Patrick Baird, treasurer of the Pragmatic Caucus; and Robert Burke, delegation chair, were especially active and influential. In addition, LPWI Chair and gubernatorial candidate Phil Anderson was elected Region 6 alternate to the LNC, and Andy Craig sponsored a resolution from the floor commending the airlines that refused to cooperate with the Trump administration's child immigrant policy. Bravo, delegates, and thanks to the entire convention for a great experience!

LPWI is running two statewide candidates and seven state Assembly candidates in fall elections. The statewide ticket, Phil Anderson for governor and Patrick Baird for lieutenant governor, are running as a team: TeamGuv. Phil and Patrick are already scheduled to be offered in the authoritative polling held in Wisconsin, sponsored by the Marquette University Law School, beginning in late August.

During Phil's U.S. Senate campaign in 2016, he entered the polling at 9 percent among likely voters, and subsequently received almost 90,000 votes — so hopes and expectations are high this cycle. TeamGuv will begin accepting Bitcoin donations in late July, despite the Wisconsin Ethics Commission's refusal to comment on a poorly written election statute. Phil and Patrick, and the entire membership of the LPWI, aren't afraid to confront state government! Follow the campaign at: [TeamGuv.org](http://TeamGuv.org)

# Media Buzz

"With the two major parties more concerned with partisan bickering and scoring points than actually getting together and working for the good of the nation, 2020 could be the year of the Libertarian. The latest fad on social media is the #walkaway movement, where people are expressing their disillusion with the Democratic Party. So where to turn now that your own party has betrayed you? Welcome to the new normal folks, and cross over to the Libertarian Party."

*Chicago Sun-Times, 7/9/2018*

"Factionalism and bitter fights are just as prevalent in the Libertarian Party as they are in the broader lower-case-l libertarian movement, if a tad more colorfully dressed. But unlike the latter grouping, the former has a single banner under which they all manage to cooperate, with a charming and idiosyncratic affection for their occasionally vast differences. For now, the direction seems to be people coming in the tent to fight for their beliefs, rather than taking their balls and going home."

*Reason, 7/4/2018*

"On Aug. 7, voters in Michigan's 2018 primary elections will have three ballot options to choose from instead of the usual two: Republican, Democrat and Libertarian. ...

"The new distinction for Michigan Libertarians has brought some challenges. Candidates normally chosen by convention had to collect signatures to run for the offices they seek, and the party itself had to undergo a series of logistical changes to comply with the law.

But overall, Michigan Libertarian Party Chair Bill Hall said many party faithful see this election cycle as a big moment for Libertarians in the state.

"It certainly is historic, both for Michigan and for Libertarians," he said."

*MLive, 7/18/18*