



Libertarian Penn

The newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

Fall 2012

Libertarians Defeat Republican Attempt to Restrict Voter Choice

Commonwealth Court Senior Judge James G. Colins has ruled that the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania has filed nominating petitions containing more than the required 20,601 valid signatures and that the entire slate of LPPA candidates will remain on the November 6 general election ballot in PA. The ruling was a stinging defeat for Republicans who waged a grueling and expensive 9-week battle to force their Libertarian Party competition off the November ballot and keep voters from having meaningful choices.

Libertarian Party presidential candidate Governor Gary Johnson said, "It is a travesty of the democratic process that Libertarians were required to endure such a blatant attack on their right to offer voters the opportunity to vote for libertarian candidates. If the old parties are afraid of healthy competition, it would be far better for *everyone* if they would focus on nominating better candidates instead of trying to bully their competition off the ballot."

Dr. Tom Stevens, State Chair of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, commented, "The Republicans used every trick in their playbook to try to short-circuit the democratic process and defeat our dedicated group of committed libertarian freedom activists. In the end, we beat them outright. With little money and an army of dedicated volunteers, we stood up to the superior resources of the Republican Party, never once considering capitulation even though we faced the possibility of a significant assessment of costs, sanctions and attorneys fees if we lost. Now, the voters of Pennsylvania have a real choice and can vote for candidates who support the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, Civil Liberties and respect every person's individual right to life, liberty and property – without exception."

The entire slate of statewide Libertarian candidates consists of: Governor Gary Johnson, President of the U.S.; Judge James Gray, Vice President of the U.S.; Rayburn Douglas Smith, U.S. Senator; Marakay J. Rogers, Attorney General; Betsy Summers, Auditor General; and Patricia M. Fryman, Treasurer.

This year, statewide candidates, other than Democrats and Republicans, were required to file nominating petitions containing at least 20,601 signatures. In other years, the requirement has been as high as 60,000. On August 1, the LPPA filed petitions containing over 49,000 signatures, more than twice the number needed. A week later, Republicans challenged about 40,000 of these. Libertarians were required to field teams of at least 20 people each day for two weeks in Philadelphia. Each was paired with a Republican and a computer operator in order to tediously review challenged signatures. A similar operation was conducted in Harrisburg the following week. Approximately 14,000 signatures remained contested and these were then meticulously re-reviewed for more than an additional four weeks by four teams of lawyers and volunteers under court supervision.

The herculean effort was supported by about 85 very dedicated volunteers hailing from seven states. Some traveled great distances, paid to stay in motels, sacrificed vacation days and/or lost pay. "Our volunteers are truly noble. We appreciate that we even had a few Green Party volunteers since, surprisingly, the Greens were not challenged this time around," said Roy Minet who coordinated the massive, marathon volunteer effort. "Some Republicans, who said they couldn't 'stomach' what their party was trying to do, helped us as well," Minet added.

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Meet your statewide candidates



Rayburn Douglas Smith, the Libertarian candidate for United States Senate, is the curator (& developer) of Children’s Creativity Garden at the Clarion County Park, a member of the Clarion County Planning Commission, and Vice-President of the Golden Tree Academy, Inc. (a boarding school for gifted children). He is also retired from 30 years with the U.S. Postal Service. He has taught soils at NASA Earth Resources Center at Pitt. He has a BA in Earth Sciences from Clarion University, and a certificate from Pennsylvania State University. Rayburn teaches botany, plant propagation, pruning, woody plants, and many other horticultural subjects in northwestern PA for Penn State Master Gardeners and has been an instructor since its beginning in 1977. He is seeking office due to his deep concern for our children, future generations, hyper-inflation, and the impending financial crisis.



Marakay Rogers, the Libertarian candidate for Pennsylvania State Attorney General, is an attorney in private practice. She has a BA in History, has attended Wilson College, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She also attended Dickinson School of Law. She is a former director for York City Human Relations Commission, and a former department head, Paralegal Studies, Academy of Medical Arts and Business. Ms. Rogers believes that we need to end the futile, wasteful wars, both abroad and here at home with the war on drugs. She also believes that there should be an end to the death penalty as it only costs taxpayers millions of dollars each year and is a completely ineffective deterrent to crime.



Patricia M. Fryman, Libertarian candidate for Pennsylvania State Treasurer, is a retired Venango County Auditor with 30 years business and banking experience and has attended the American Institute of Banking, Penn State, and Clarion University of Pennsylvania. She is seeking the office because she has a strong sense of duty to her state and country. She is deeply concerned with the gross, negligent, wasteful, spending in government; such as with the PA Turnpike Commission. She believes that the PA turnpike has paid for itself years ago and as such, the Commission should be disbanded with the maintenance turned over to PennDOT. As State Treasurer, she will scrutinize all payments before signing any checks and work closely with the Auditor General to seek out waste in government spending.



Elizabeth “Betsy” Summers is the Libertarian candidate for Pennsylvania Auditor General. She has 29 years business experience. First as a licensed mutual fund and insurance salesperson, then as a sales representative for both a physical rehabilitation supply distributor and veterinary pharmaceutical distributors. She recently ran for State Senate, and previously ran for State Auditor General due to her deep and driving passion for liberty and justice. In 2004 she was a candidate for US Senate. Betsy’s main focus has been to listen to the people of Pennsylvania and to keep them fully informed on what is going on in our State and Local Government. Her main goal is to prevent fraud, mismanagement and waste of taxpayer dollars. More information on candidate Summers can be found at <http://www.vote4betsy.com>.



LPPA Joins Double Region & Votes To Send Jim Lark Of Virginia To The LNC As Its Voting Region 5S Representative

by: Dr. Tom Stevens

Article 8.2.c of the national Libertarian Party bylaws allows the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania to band together with other affiliates to form a "representative region" to gain voting representation on the Libertarian National Committee. That bylaws section, in relevant part, reads, "Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party sustaining membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party sustaining membership." The region formation period began 90 days before the start of the national Libertarian Party convention (which was February 3, 2012) and ended the second day of the convention (May 4, 2012).

Dr. Tom Stevens, elected LPPA Chair on April 22, 2012, led the negotiations on behalf of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, obtaining feedback from party members along the way. Eventually, after much discussion regarding what affiliates would be included and what the Regional Formation Agreement would say, Dr. Stevens signed off on an agreement placing the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania in the southern part of a double region currently referred to as Region 5.

Region 5 South (the southern part of double Region 5) consists of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia & West Virginia. The Regional Representative for Sub-Region 5S is Jim Lark of Virginia. The Regional Alternate Representative is Scott Spencer of Maryland.

Region 5 North (the northern part of double Region 5) consists of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Regional Representative for Sub-Region 5N is Rich Tomasso of New Hampshire. The Regional Alternate Representative is David Blau of Massachusetts.

The Regional Formation Agreement for all affiliates in Region 5 is the following:

Agreement Concerning the Formation of Region 5 for the 2012-2014 Term of the Libertarian National Committee

The state affiliate parties of Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia agree to form a representative region for the 2012-2014 term of the Libertarian National Committee. Since the total sustaining membership of these affiliates (as of Oct. 31, 2011) is 2,771, this representative region is entitled to select two regional representatives and two alternate regional representatives.

The administration of this region, to be known as Region 5, will operate according to the following rules:

The affiliate parties of the states of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia will form a sub-region to be known as "Region 5S" (or "Region 5 South")

The affiliate parties of the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont will form a sub-region to be known as "Region 5N" (or "Region 5 North").

The Region 5S affiliates will be responsible for the selection of one regional representative and one alternate regional representative. Similarly, the Region 5N affiliates will be responsible for the selection of one regional representative and one alternate regional representative.

The chairs of the Region 5S affiliate parties may remove the regional representative and/or the alternate regional representative selected by those affiliates.

Removal of the Region 5S representative or alternate representative requires a vote of the majority of the entire number of state chairs of the Region 5S affiliates. In addition, the total sustaining membership of the state affiliates whose chairs have voted to remove a representative or alternate representative must constitute a majority of the total sustaining membership of the Region 5S state affiliates as of Oct. 31, 2011. (continued...)

LPPA Joins Double Region & Votes To Send Jim Lark Of Virginia To The LNC As Its Voting Region 5S Representative (...continued)

A vacancy in the position of the Region 5S representative or the alternate representative may be filled by a vote of the majority of the entire number of state chairs of the Region 5S affiliates.

The chairs of the Region 5N affiliate parties may remove the regional representative and/or the alternate regional representative selected by those affiliates.

Removal of the Region 5N representative or alternate representative requires a vote of the majority of the entire number of state chairs of the Region 5N affiliates. In addition, the total sustaining membership of the state affiliates whose chairs have voted to remove a representative or alternate representative must constitute a majority of the total sustaining membership of the Region 5N state affiliates as of Oct. 31, 2011.

A vacancy in the position of the Region 5N representative or the alternate representative may be filled by a vote of the majority of the entire number of state chairs of the Region 5N affiliates.

After the nominations for the position of Region 5S regional representative and the nominations for the position of Region 5N regional representative have been opened, a state affiliate party may join or withdraw from this agreement (and thus join or withdraw from Region 5) only with the written consent of all of the chairs of the other state affiliate parties in Region 5.

Voting Against Your Best Interest

by: Timothy Havener

I have recently come across individuals from both ends of the political spectrum who, upon learning about my support of Gary Johnson, inform me that I am “throwing away” my vote. I have had people use this argument in an attempt to get me to vote for both Romney and Obama. Ironically, both arguments were laced with rhetoric about how the opposition candidate would destroy our country and that a vote for Gary Johnson is a vote for “insert major party candidate name here”.

What serves to perplex me is that congressional approval ratings have been at record lows for some time now. Many I talk to feel that both parties have failed us and that we need a change. This sentiment is what I believe drove many to vote for Obama in 2008; and for all his talk of change, the President has largely failed to deliver on many important issues.

Recent polling has shown that most Americans have come to agree on a great many issues ranging from gay marriage to ending the prohibition of marijuana. Most of us want to see the Patriot Act repealed and our troops brought home from Afghanistan and Iraq. The majority of us are tired of the partisanship and petty fighting among our politicians while a looming debt crisis hangs over our nation like a ticking bomb.

Gary Johnson personifies the opinions of most Americans on the issues that matter most to us as a nation. He is exactly what this country needs and what it says it wants, but to many of those same Americans, actually voting for the guy that makes the most sense is a wasted effort. To them it is tantamount to “throwing away” your vote.

Einstein once said that the definition of insanity was doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. Every election year, since I was old enough to vote, it has been the same rhetoric: one side tells us we have to vote for their guy because the other guy is way worse, and vice versa.

We vote for the same two parties over and over and our country is progressively worse off and deeper in debt, while the federal government’s power over our everyday lives encroaches further and further. Yet, if you ask them, more of the same is considered a sane and wise decision by most of the American electorate.

This time it will be different...right?

The only people throwing their votes away this November will be those who continue to enable the failure of the two party political system when polling shows that they should know better.

Meet your Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates



Governor Gary Johnson, who has been referred to as the ‘most fiscally conservative Governor’ in the country, was the Republican Governor of New Mexico from 1995-2003.

A successful businessman before running for office in 1994, Gov. Johnson started a door-to-door handyman business to help pay his way through college. Twenty years later, he had grown the firm into one of the largest construction companies in New Mexico with over 1,000 employees. Not surprisingly, Governor Johnson brings a distinctly business-like mentality to governing, believing that decisions should be made based on cost-benefit analysis rather than strict ideology.

Johnson is best known for his veto record, which includes over 750 vetoes during his time in office, more than all other governors combined and his use of the veto pen has since earned him the nickname “Governor Veto.” He cut taxes 14 times while never raising them. When he left office, New Mexico was one of only four states in the country with a balanced budget.

Term-limited, Johnson retired from public office in 2003. An avid skier, adventurer, and bicyclist, he has reached the highest peak on four of the seven continents, including Mt. Everest.

In 2009, after becoming increasingly concerned with the country’s out-of-control national debt and precarious financial situation, the Governor formed the OUR America Initiative, a 501c(4) non-profit that promotes fiscal responsibility, civil liberties, and rational public policy. He traveled to more than 30 states and spoke to over 150 conservative and libertarian groups during his time as Honorary Chairman.

He has two grown children- a daughter Seah and a son Erik and currently resides in a house he built himself in Taos, New Mexico.



Judge James (Jim) P. Gray is a nationally known and respected author and speaker who has long advocated reform of the nation’s drug laws. A highly regarded jurist, Judge Gray served on California’s Orange County Superior Court from 1989 to 2010. His hundreds of media appearances have included Fox News, ABC, C-SPAN and radio stations across the country. He is the author of three books.

Raised in the Los Angeles area, Jim Gray’s father, William P Gray, was a Judge on the U.S. District Court. After earning his undergraduate degree from UCLA and his law degree from USC, Judge Gray served as a staff Judge Advocate and criminal defense attorney in the U.S. Navy’s JAG Corps.

Following his Navy service, for which he was awarded Vietnam Service and Combat Action Ribbons, Gray worked as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles.

In 1983, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Gray to the Santa Ana Municipal Court, and in 1989, elevated him to the Orange County Superior Court. He retired from the Superior Court in 2010. Judge Gray has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Western State University College of Law, as well as an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Chapman University School of Law.

Jim Gray is married to Dr. Grace Walker Gray and has four children, including an adopted Vietnamese son. They reside in Newport Beach, California.



Poll Watching

by: John Karr

Candidates and Parties are entitled to have representatives at each polling place. A brief summary of Poll watching is below.

Poll watchers must obtain certificates from their county election boards. The County Chair, or if there is one Election Committee Regional Coordinator for the County, must contact the County Elections Board to obtain the application, which must be submitted to the county elections board in time to issue the certificates and for the County Chair to distribute them to the individual watchers.

Must have a certificate originally issued by the county and must be a registered voter in the county. Certificates must be filled out in their entirety and are not transferable.

If poll workers have any question about an individual's identity they can check their identification. Call the Election Office and we will verify.

Party can appoint 3 watchers per precinct, a candidate 2 per precinct. But only one watcher per candidate and one per party at a time can be present in the polling place.

Must be allowed in at the time poll workers arrive if requested and they are allowed to remain during closing procedures and processing of absentees.

They are allowed in the polling place, but not in the so-called "enclosed space" that includes the machines and poll workers' table. They must be allowed to hear the names being called, however, so they should be a reasonable distance from the person working the poll book.

Watchers can challenge voter and require proof "of his qualifications." Poll worker should verify ID.

When there are NO voters, watchers can request to inspect the voting check list and either of the Numbered List of Voters books, but they must be supervised by Judge or another poll worker and are not permitted to remove the books from the poll workers' table.

A watcher who loses certificate can petition court for a new one.

Libertarian Party Of Pennsylvania Elects Judicial Committee For 2012-2013 Term Of Office

The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania (LPPA) held its annual State Convention on Sunday, April 22, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Princess Ballroom of the Best Western Genetti Hotel & Conference Center located at 77 East Market Street in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

During the Business Session of the State Convention, the following individuals were elected to serve on the LPPA's Judicial Committee:

Wm. Martin Sloane

Roy A. Minet

Michael J. Robertson

Timothy A. Russell

Lou Jasikoff

When it was later determined pursuant to the LPPA Bylaws that Lou Jasikoff was ineligible to serve due to the fact he serves on the Board of Directors in the capacity of Immediate Past Chair, the Judicial Committee met and appointed Marakay Rogers to fill the vacancy. At that time, they also selected Wm. Martin Sloane to serve as Chair. (continued...)

***Libertarian Party Of Pennsylvania Elects Judicial Committee For 2012-2013 Term Of Office
(continued...)***

**Libertarian Party
of Pennsylvania**

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Officers:

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Chair

James Fryman,
Western Vice-Chair

Betsy Summers,
Eastern Vice-Chair

Patrick Killy,
Secretary

Patti Fryman,
Treasurer

www.LPPA.org

Roy A. Minet subsequently resigned on May 29, 2012 after being designated Media Relations Committee Chair by the Board of Directors since he expects to serve as a voting member of the Board in relation to that capacity. John DiLiberto was selected to replace Roy Minet on the Judicial Committee and notice of said election has been made to the Board of Directors as required by the LPPA's Policy Manual.

As of today, the current members of the Judicial Committee of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania are the following individuals:

Wm. Martin Sloane, Chair (Cumberland County)

Michael J. Robertson (Clarion County)

Marakay Jessica Rogers (York County)

Timothy A. Russell (Venango County)

John DiLiberto (Luzerne County)

JOIN THE DISCUSSION!

All LPPA members are welcome to observe party business at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LPPA_BB

All LPPA members interested in local activism and chapter development should join: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LPPA_CD

Join the LPPA or Renew your Membership! The Libertarian Party is the largest and best alternative for people who want to promote citizen liberty and limited government in Pennsylvania and the United States. Founded in 1971, the Libertarian Party is the third largest political party in the United States. The LP supports fiscal conservatism and positions on social issues promoting citizen liberty. More than 200,000 people across the country are registered Libertarians, and Libertarians serve in hundreds of elected offices. Please visit www.LPPA.org to join or for more information.

Join the LPPA Online NOW

[CLICK HERE](#)

Regular memberships: \$15/year

Student membership: \$5/year