

Lubbock LP Joins Student Zoning Fight

When Texas Tech students in Lubbock decided to fight a city ordinance that regulates the number of unrelated individuals who can live in a house—they created the purple house protest.

When the school's Student Government Association decided to get serious they called in the experts—the local Libertarian Party.

"They're bringing in leaders who have experience, like Libertarian David DeLamar who headed up the repeal for the smoking ban more than a year ago," reported the Channel 11 News. David and local Libertarians led the first successful effort in the history

of Lubbock to bring a repeal of a city ordinance to a vote.

The local LP has agreed to advise and back the effort by the students to petition for the repeal of the zoning law—and that support was widely reported in the Lubbock media including the University Daily and the Lubbock-Avalanche Journal.

"The ordinance hurts college students, but it also effects the elderly and low income individuals; and it's applied selectively," David told report-



ers.

The LP is helping the students build a coalition including students at other local colleges and groups such as Citizens for Private Property Rights.

'04 Candidates File Now!

Filing for offices has begun.

You don't need to be a party member to file. You don't need to submit signatures or pay filing fees. All you need to do is choose an office and send in a notarized application form so that it arrives before the January 2, 2004 deadline. Only individuals with applications filed are eligible for the LP nomination at County Conventions or the State Convention.

LP candidates can't vote in the primary elections. Also, County Chairs can not be candidates for office unless they will not seek the Chair in 2004.

A list of statewide and local offices up for election is online at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/2004primary.shtml. The qualifications for offices are online at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/candidates/2002canguide/qualifications.html

Your County Clerk's office

will also provide this information by phone or at their website.

The application form is online at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/nomin.pdf. It requires legal size paper to print. Each county party should also have copies of this form available—you can contact the Chair to receive one by mail.

Completed forms should be sent to the County Chair for local offices and to the State Chair for statewide or district offices. The State Chair's address is on page two of this newsletter. County Chairs addresses are online at www.lptexas.org. If no county chair is listed or they can not be reached contact the State Vice Chair at vice.chair@lptexas.org.

To find out more contact Candidate Recruiter Robert Restivo at lpcandidate@netzero.net or 915-465-4422.

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The Libertarian Party of Texas would like to thank recent donors:

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Volunteer Opportunities!
LP of Texas needs a database manger, candidates, and advertising salesperson. Contact David at Chair@lptexas.org.

Submissions are welcome. Please send to the editor at Laura@Libertyworks.org. Deadline for the January issue is December 15, 2003. The next printed issue will be February, 2004.

Opportunities for Activists

Appointed Offices Open National Party Membership

Salon.com early last month reported that the Pentagon is quietly moving to fill draft board vacancies nationwide. An estimated 16 percent of 10,350 draft board seats are vacant nationwide, they report. There are another 11,070 appeals board slots.

Once appointed to a draft board members may sit on the board for up to 20 years. Peter Elloway in Houston recently finished serving this full term on his local draft board. Dallas County Chair Kevin Hagan has also served on a draft board.

Unless there is a draft the requirement is only to complete an initial 12-hour training and then a four-hour yearly training review and be available to serve if the draft is reinstated, which some argue is possible as the war in Iraq drags on. To be appointed you must be a U.S. Citizen at least 18 years old, registered with the Selective Service if you are male, not be active or retired military, not be an employee of a law enforcement agency, and finally not have been convicted of any criminal offense.

You can find out more and obtain an application package from www.sss.gov/fslocal.htm.

Database Manager Wanted

"The Texas State Party needs someone who can spend more time and energy on the database than I can currently give it. The change should be made now to give the new person an opportunity to become familiar with the work before the next election cycle," wrote State Database Manager Richard Walker on his resignation.

For years Richard has received updates to membership files and provided information to county parties and activists—he's done a great job with a crucial task. Now can you help? Contact David at Chair@lptexas.org.

Joining the Libertarian Party is now just a click away. For just \$25 a year you can become a dues paying, card carrying member of the National and State Libertarian Parties. Members receive a membership card and a year's subscription to LP News, the party's monthly newspaper.

To join online go to www.lp.org/action.join.html. You can also renew online at www.lp.org/members.

Track Their Votes

Want to know what's going on in Congress? The Liberty Committee is offering a service to track your Senators' and Representative's vote by email. When the legislature is in session you will receive weekly emails listing key votes, links to send email to Congress, and information on upcoming votes. To subscribe visit capwiz.com/liberty/megavote/.

Become a Notary

Having a volunteer notary is the easiest, cheapest way to get petitions notarized? Can't find one? The American Association of Notaries makes becoming a notary simple.

If you are at least 18 years old, are a legal resident of Texas and have no criminal convictions the association will assist you in becoming a notary.

You can order a \$79 package that includes the state required \$21 fee, gets you the required \$10,000 bond, and your notary book and stamp. If the state accepts your application you will be appointed for a four year term.

The group also offers an online training course and optional Errors and Omissions insurance that provides coverage if you are sued in relation to your notary duties.

The association is online at www.texasnotary.com.

Polk County LP Will Hold Mock Primary



Polk Co. Chair Kris Overstreet, Treasurer Tina Carter, & Michael Carter.

The County Executive Committee for the LP of Polk County has plans to hold a primary on Tuesday, March 9, 2004 in addition to their precinct conventions.

Party officers believe hosting a mock primary—voters must sign a statement that they understand this is not a binding primary election—will increase participation in the local party and give them a boost in signature collecting for the petition drive.

The group plans to have one polling place, the Custom Shop in Livingston, open during early voting and on election day. They will have about 500 ballots printed, ballot boxes, and everything else down to name tags for their poll workers.

The first step in the group's

plan is a large ad soliciting candidates that is scheduled to run in the December 4 edition of the Enterprise. A second ad is planned for the February 29 edition that will provide readers with information about the mock primary and subsequent conventions.

Individuals participating in the mock primary will be asked on the spot to affiliate with the Libertarian Party and also to return for the precinct conventions.

"In the 2002 Primary Election several people seeking to vote Libertarian were mistakenly directed to vote in the Republican Primary by election judges," Chair Kris Overstreet said. "We want to prevent that ever happening again."

Jeff County New Officers

The Libertarian Party of Jefferson County Executive Committee elected new officers on Oct. 16, 2003 Dean Tucker was elected Chair, Alan Lee will be Vice Chair, Dr. Judith Cobbett was chosen Secretary and Deas Moore continues as treasurer.

The group held a press conference the following week that was covered by the local newspaper as well as Channel 6 news, announcing our new officers. The first meeting with new officers was held Tues. Nov. 11. "We had 10 people in attendance," Dean reports. "It was very lively."

Contact Dean Tucker at 409-838-2901 or revdeantucker@aol.com. Dean can also be reached at 2570 Laurel Ave., Beaumont, TX 77702.

Jagge on Radio

College Station—Brazos County Chair Chris Jagge was a guest on the Carl Hasan radio show "On the Porch" on KEOS 98.1 FM September 6. Chris appeared in discussion on redistricting with representatives from the major parties.

Nolan Reports

The Gary Nolan for President campaign reports that Gary has made at least 30 appearances in eleven states in the past two months including speeches to a number of groups beyond the traditional Libertarian base—Arab American business owners, high school students, college students, and even striking grocery workers.

Joey Dauben of Dallas is organizing "Students 4 Gary Nolan" groups at the University of Texas in Dallas and Arlington and working with student organizers across the nation. If you would like to help organize a group on your campus contact campaign@garynolan.com or call 703-237-3533.

Brazos Hosts FIJA Chair

College Station—The Brazos County LP hosted Clay Conrad, National Chairman of the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) as their September meeting speaker. Fifteen people attended the meeting. To learn more about FIJA visit their website at www.fija.org.

Badnarik Reports

Austin—Libertarian Presidential candidate Michael Badnarik won endorsement from Alan R. Weiss, an elected officer of the NW Austin #1 MUD.

"Michael Badnarik's unvarnished, untarnished view of the Bill of Rights, and his insistence on all of those rights, without pussy-footing around and turning them into mush, is exactly what the Libertarian Party needs" Alan writes.

Doug Daniels created a Yahoo discussion group for supporters in the Dallas—Fort Worth area. To join send an email tofdw4badnarik-subscribe@yahoo.com. The campaign needs a campaign manager to help Michael keep track of all the people and places involved with his campaign.

Two fundraising dinners are scheduled for this month in the Dallas area and in San Antonio. (See calendar for details.) For a Houston event contact Sherri Hightower at 713-686-3191 or sherrihightower@myway.com. For an Austin event contact Steve Adams at 512-554-1761 or steveadams@jump.net.

February

As a supporter of the Second Amendment, Bonnie feels that the right to “bear” arms means more than wearing a sleeveless dress! She firmly believes that each citizen who chooses to arm him or herself must become educated about firearm use, awareness of laws, and above all, safety. Appearing in the Ladies of Liberty calendar representing the Second Amendment has put the fun back in “fun”draising for her!

Bonnie’s other interests, besides her three grandchildren, are in the field of hospice/respice care, death and dying issues, writing, drawing, photography and travel. Each has offered opportunities to share the Libertarian philosophy with people of all ages, but she feels that our hope for the future is in the enlightenment of our young people.



Bonnie

Bonnie Glod of Texas appears in the Ladies of Liberty 2004 Calendar for the month of February. Calendars cost \$16.50 plus two dollars for shipping for a total cost of \$18.50. Bonnie can autograph your copy for a great holiday gift! To order your calendar contact Bonnie at 903-880-5081 or smokey246@aol.com or by mail to Bonnie Glod, 224 Southlake Drive, Gun Barrel City, TX 75156.

Free State Article Highlights Libertarians

Austin—The Sunday, November 16 issue of the Austin American Statesman contained a lengthy article on the Free State Project written by staff reporter Mark Lisher.

The story not only mentioned the Libertarian Party—but also included quotes from Alan Weiss, an elected Libertarian; Michael Badnarik, who is running for the LP Presidential nomination; and Rick McGinnis, Travis County LP Vice Chair. All of the gentlemen are from Austin and all are members of the Free State Project.

“There are already people moving there,” Michael Badnarik is quoted as saying. “As we continue to improve life and liberty in New Hampshire, other people will come.”

Lisher reported that 274 of the 5,055 Free State Project Members are Texans. He explained the history

of the Project and the process used to decide on New Hampshire as the Free State. He also interviewed New Hampshire Governor Craig Benson via email. Lisher reported that the Governor felt “New Hampshire would benefit from new involvement in the political process.”

“They indicated to me that they were small-business owners who believe in limited self-governance. These are ideals we share, and I welcome them as law-abiding citizens,” Benson said.

While Lisher's article wasn't without criticism of the Libertarian Party it was in general accurate and positive coverage.

“Far from being political kooks, as their intellectual predecessors have sometimes been portrayed, organizers say the core of the movement is

middle class, educated, high-tech savvy and entrepreneurial,” he wrote.

The article devoted a paragraph to defining the Libertarian philosophy: “Libertarians derive their rights and their responsibilities from the Constitution. The individual is expected to shoulder the biggest responsibility, not to interfere with the rights of other individuals. Government’s responsibility is to protect this covenant, not to protect individuals from themselves, a libertarian would say. A libertarian supports some form of national defense, for example, but does not support government-sponsored welfare or school programs.”

“Austin is my home. I love Texas. I am a Texan. But it is changing into a big government state. It isn’t the state I moved to 12 years ago,” said Alan Weiss.

Raising Funds Major Concern For BAC

The Ballot Access Committee meeting in Austin November 1 hired Courage Communications, a direct marketing firm owned by Libertarian Erin Hollinden, to help raise funds for the ballot access drive. Erin came highly recommended from many individuals who have worked with her as a fundraiser for the National Party and for various local campaigns.

Erin has since been calling Libertarian Party of Texas members and asking for your monetary support with the petition drive. Early results have been good and committee members would like to thank all the donors who have responded to Erin's calls.

The committee also approved purchasing an 1/8 page ad in LP News. The ad, which will repeat for six

months, was published in the December issue of the newspaper. Headlined "Help Texas Now!" it is a plea for donations from out-of-state.

The ad points out that we've not needed help since our last drive in 1986. That one petition for the Party will get all Libertarian candidates on the ballot. That for the last three election cycles we've had more Congressional candidates than either the Democrats or the Republicans. And that in 2000, our six Texas statewide candidates received 4,298,871 votes. Finally, it asks "Can we count on your help now?"

Legendary guitarist Jimmie Vaughan has also agreed to help with the drive through a series of fundraising concerts. Plans include

concerts in Austin, San Antonio, Houston and Dallas. A reception to meet Jimmie in person and the possible auction of an autographed guitar are also being considered. BAC Chair Pat Dixon is organizing this and could use input on possible venues, MCs, etc. Anyone with experience or who is willing to volunteer to help out should contact him at 512-267-3941 or tblpattjdixon@earthlink.net.

Wes Benedict is still looking for volunteers either to petition or to be county or regional coordinators for the drive. Forty-nine individuals and 15 coordinators have volunteered so far. More are needed, as are notary publics, and anyone willing to host a paid petitioner in their home. Contact Wes at wesliberty@aol.com.

Check any that apply:

_____ I will file to be a **candidate** in 2004 for the office of: _____

_____ I **will petition** during March, April and May 2004.

_____ I will **host a Precinct Convention** on the evening of Tues. March 9, 2004.

_____ I am a **notary public** and will volunteer for the petition drive.

_____ I can provide **room and board** to petitioners from out-of-town.

_____ I am a **printer/copier** and will help with printing petition sheets.

_____ I am enclosing a donation to **fund the petition drive**.

_____ I am enclosing a donation to **support party activities** (outreach, newsletter, etc.)

My best donation: _____ \$35 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$150 _____ Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Precinct #: _____

County: _____

Please make checks payable to the Libertarian Party of Texas. Include this form with any donations and Mail to: PO Box 27932, Houston, TX 77227.

Donations can also be accepted online via PayPal at the State Party website: www.lptexas.org/donations.

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. The Libertarian Party of Texas also submits finance reports to the Texas Ethics Commission.

Harris Chair on PBS TV

Houston—Harris County LP Chair Anthony Garcia appeared on “The Connection” a half-hour public affairs program on the local PBS affiliate, channel 8. The episode aired November 18 and November 23.

Anthony appeared in a moderated round table with the Democratic and Green party chairs and Republican party's political director. The topic was “voter apathy.”

"I believe that there are a lot of people out there who are eligible voters who are not voting because they feel their vote doesn't count—that it doesn't matter, that politics as usual is going to go on no matter who they vote for," Anthony said. "They look at the candidates being offered by the Democratic and Republican parties and they see no difference between a big government Democrat and a big government Republican."

"The biggest problem that we have as alternative parties is first we can't even get on the ballot without having to jump some huge hurdles," Anthony said. He went on to explain the ballot access process.

Dan Weiner

Daniel Conan Weiner, 53, died October 29, 2003. Dan was a Vietnam Veteran and longtime Libertarian activist.

Dan was co-founder and president of the Houston Chapter of Pink Pistols. He was also Free State Project member, participated in the Liberty Round Table, and had recently been named editor of *The Libertarian Enterprise*. Dan was an active representative for the committee to draft science fiction novelist L. Neil Smith as the LP Presidential candidate.

Dan died from inoperable lung cancer, which was diagnosed in July. He spent his last months at home with his housemates Harlan and Marti Bennett, who became his caregivers.

November 15, Local Libertarians and friends remembered Dan with a shoot in his honor. An "Irish" wake was also held. Those wishing to make memorials in Dan's name should donate to any of the libertarian organizations he supported.

Events of Interest to Texas Libertarians

Dec. 3 (Wed.) Filing Opens for candidates seeking the Libertarian nomination for offices up for election November 2004.

Dec. 4 (Thur.) 7 p.m.-9 p.m. HCLP and CLUH Candidate Recruitment Night at the University of Houston, Aegean room, University Center. Contact Laura Coker-Garcia at Laura@Libertyworks.org or 281-997-8141 for information.

Dec. 6 (Sat.) 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m. SLEC meeting in Austin at the Cepeda Branch Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley Rd. Contact State Chair David DeLamar at think@door.net.

Dec. 6 (Sat.) 4:30 p.m. Ballot Access Committee Meeting in Austin at the Mekong River Restaurant, 215 East 6th Street, Austin. Contact Committee Chair Pat Dixon at telppatjdixon@earthlink.net for information.

Dec. 10 (Wed.) 7 p.m -10 p.m. Fundraising Dinner for LP Presidential Candidate Michael Badnarik at the Holiday Inn Select in Richardson. \$50, reservations required by Dec. 4. Contact Doug Daniels at 817-706-8436, or drd6000@yahoo.com. Pay online at www.badnarik.org by listing DFD in the occupation field. Pay at the door if arranged in advance, or you can send a check to P.O. Box 841 Buda, Texas 78610.

Dec. 13 (Sat.) 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Brazos Valley Candidate Sign up Party at the College Station Conference Center, room 102. Applications will be accepted, notary will be present, photos of candidates for media releases and the website. Contact Brazos County Chair Christopher Jagge c_jagge@msn.com or 979-695-9646 for details.

Dec. 15 (Mon.) Bill of Rights Day

Dec. 16 (Tues.) 7 p.m.-10 p.m. Fundraising Dinner for Michael Badnarik at Crumpets in San Antonio. \$50, reservations must be made by Dec. 9 to Caroline Koenig at 830-216-2634 or carolinek@the-i.net. If paying online put SAFD in occupation field.

Jan. 15 (Thur.) Semi-Annual Finance Report due to Texas Ethics Commission. CEC that have donations or expenditures of \$5,000 or more must report.

Jan 24-25 (Sat.-Sun.) Bell County OPH booth at the Real Gun Show.

Feb. 9 (Mon.) Last day to register to vote to be eligible to participate in the March precinct conventions.

Feb. 21 (Sat.) SLEC meeting to be held in Austin. Those wishing to be delegates to the National Convention should plan to attend.