

Special Convention
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LP News

The Party of Principle™

May 2010

The Official Newspaper of the Libertarian Party

Volume 40, Issue 2

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LP Opposes New Health Care Law

From LP Press Releases

The Libertarian Party adamantly opposes the health care bill that was signed into law by President Barack Obama late March. The Libertarian Party calls on elected officials to repeal the legislation, and instead to pass laws reducing federal involvement in health care.

Libertarian Party Chairman William Redpath commented, "We oppose this horrible federal government expansion into health care, just as we have consistently opposed all the increased government intrusion into health care proposed by Republicans and Democrats over the years. For example, we vocally opposed the huge Medicare expansion pushed through Congress by Republicans in 2003."

Redpath continued, "It is a virtual certainty that the cost estimates of this legislation are drastically understated. When Medicare Part A started in 1965, the projected cost for 1990 was \$9 billion. It turned out to be \$67 billion. Should this bill become law, when the debt of the United States government is downgraded by ratings agencies shortly thereafter, it will not be a coincidence. That will increase interest rates, and the entire economy will suffer."

The Libertarian Party Platform says the following about health care: "We favor restoring and reviving a free market health care system. We recognize the freedom of individuals to determine the level of health insurance they want, the level of health care they want, the care providers they want, the medicines and treatments they

will use and all other aspects of their medical care, including end-of-life decisions."

The words "health care" and "medicine" are not found anywhere in the Constitution. Accordingly, the Libertarian Party asserts that Congress has no authority to regulate or appropriate money for health care. (The Libertarian Party has consistently argued for decades that the "general welfare" and "interstate commerce" clauses are not generic authorizations for spending and regulation.)

Redpath concluded, "This is a top-down, Washington-mandated control of health insurance and health care in this nation. It is the antithesis of consumer-driven health care, which is what will ultimately be necessary to control health care costs and to provide the best health care for the greatest number of people."

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CHAIRMAN'S TRAVELOGUE

My Last Column as Chairman

by William Redpath



I don't know how he did it. Mickey Spillane supposedly squirreled himself away for a short period of time, and BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM—

he would write a book. He wrote "I, the Jury" in only nineteen days, according to his Wikipedia page.

Ayn Rand was a big fan of Mickey Spillane's. But, my writing speed is more like hers (slow, in case you didn't know).

So, it is with mixed feelings that I tap out this last column during my terms as Chairman of the Libertarian Party. It's time for someone else to enjoy the benefits and bear the burdens (e.g., writing this column) of this position.

I will not be going away, however. As of the time I write this, it is my intention to seek an At-Large position on the next term of the Libertarian National Committee and continue to work for ballot access for the LP. Whether or not that occurs, I will continue to be active with the LP.

As we move forward, I anticipate

that the Libertarian Party will remain the third largest political party in the United States and grow stronger in that role. I have long thought that the argument of whether we are an educational organization or a political party is a false choice. We educate by running candidates for public office and through other direct political activism, something no other organization in the entire libertarian movement in this nation does.

One thing that I would like to see is for the pursuit of electoral reform to be an always living, breathing part of the Libertarian Party. Where Libertarian parties are getting elected to higher level offices in various nations around the world, there is a system of proportional representation elections for legislatures.

The Free Democratic Party ("FDP") in Germany won zero seats in single member district elections for the national legislature in September 2009 (sound familiar?), but because half of Germany's national legislature is filled from a party list vote (voters simply choose their favorite party) from which the FDP earned about 15% of the vote, the FDP now has 93 of 622 seats.

In Costa Rica, proportional representation has allowed Movimiento Libertario ("ML") to grow from 1, to 6, to 6, to 9 seats (with 14.5% of the vote in

February 2010) out of 57 in its national legislature in the four elections since its founding in May 1994. It will be Costa Rica's third largest party in its national legislative assembly for the next four years, and I would not be surprised to see it move into second place in next election in February 2014.

ML's stature in Costa Rica allowed Otto Guevara (the LP's 2002 Convention Keynote Speaker) to finish third in the February 2010 Presidential election, with nearly 21 percent of the vote.

Is Costa Rica a hotbed of libertarianism that the United States is not? No. If we had a similar election system in the United States, I think the LP would be doing as well as, or perhaps even better than, ML.

Please note that I am not warranting that proportional representation itself will bring about a libertarian society. But, it will make political minorities, such as Libertarians (at least for now), electable and will bring much more people, money and media to our cause. And, because entrenched R&D (and I don't mean "Research & Development") legislators will not make a change in the electoral system by themselves, this is a reason (among others) to support the adoption of Initiative & Referendum ("I&R") procedures in states that don't currently have I&R.

I have often said that a politician does not have to have an original thought in order to be successful. He or she only has to choose wisely among the ideas that are already floating around out there.

That said (and I'm using the term "politician" extremely loosely with re-

spect to myself), I will close by quoting the late Harry Browne.

Someone said to him in 2000 when he was the Libertarian Party Presidential candidate for the second time, "Well, Harry, if you don't get elected, it will all have been a waste of time, won't it?"

Harry replied, "Quite the contrary. It will have been a good use of my time, because through the Libertarian Party, I have met the greatest people in the world."

That's the truth. I can't top that. I don't know who could.

Bill Redpath

William Redpath is the current Chairman of the Libertarian Party, first elected in 2006 and re-elected in 2008, as well as the Vice President of a financial consulting firm.

Mr. Redpath has been a member of the Libertarian Party since 1984, and served as Virginia Libertarian Party chairman from 1989-1991. He also served two stints as national treasurer of the Libertarian Party, first from 1991 to 1993, and then from 2003 to 2004.

He has also been a candidate for public office, running twice for the Virginia state legislature in the 1990s, for Governor of Virginia in 2001, and for U.S. Senator from Virginia in 2008. He is the 2010 Libertarian candidate for Congress in Virginia's Tenth District.

He is an alumnus of Indiana University, with an MBA from the University of Chicago.

LP News

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William Redpath
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E-mail: chair@LP.org

The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

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

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LNC Chairman Candidates: In Their Own Words

The Libertarian Party is set to play a crucial role in American politics in the next few years as citizens wake up to realize the damage created by the rule of Republicans and Democrats. In 2010, the Libertarian Party will have a new national chairman, who will be elected at the 2010 Libertarian Party National Convention.

The following are statements from the current five candidates for the Libertarian National Committee Chairman position about why they should be the next chairman of the Libertarian Party. Each candidate was limited to 500 words. Their replies have only been edited for formatting, and are presented as they were received.

Ernest Hancock



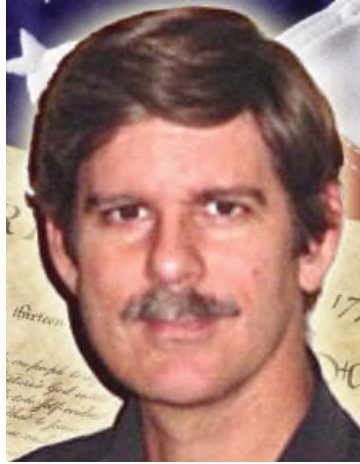
500 words require that I be very clear and to the point about my motivations for seeking the LNC Chair. This article, with supporting links, can be found on www.ErnestHancock.org.

The renaissance of libertarian philosophy has produced the hoped for revolution in the minds of America's youth, and libertarianism has reentered American politics.

In the past, the LPUS served as a 'Liberty Nexus' for those that chose to embrace the principled libertarian philosophy that advocated for individual rights, peace, freedom and tolerance. However, soon after making new alliances with others of the same mind inside the LPUS, it is often clear to many of the most passionate libertarian minds that their efforts are more productive outside the LPUS. This revolving door effect has produced more libertarians outside of the National Party than inside. This isn't necessarily a bad thing. But for the LPUS to be relevant to human freedom we must understand what is happening and be of ser-

continued on page 6

Mark Hinkle



Polls confirm that the average voter is more dissatisfied with the Democrats and Republicans than ever before. Yet, we Libertarians have failed to capture that discontent and turn it into exponential Party growth. The answer isn't a new strategy, a new platform plank, or even more publicity.

The answer is to become an effective organization by creating a small set of aggressive, but realistic, goals, create plans to achieve those goals, and finally execute the plan and accomplish the goals. Over the last two years, the LNC failed to set goals and thus our membership numbers declined.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute. It's a simple concept, but critical if we are to succeed. Fortunately, I'm no stranger to this concept or its execution. As LPC Chair, we more than tripled our dues-paying membership from below 2,000 to over 6,000. We tripled our income, hired an Executive Director and opened an office. We began a lobbying effort in Sacramento. We elected a record number of Libertarians

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John Jay Myers



It seems that Libertarians are staring up at National as if they are the Federal Government and saying, "please save us". But National is not going to save the Libertarian Party, you are, and it is with you in mind that I am running for LNC chair.

This is the only Party that can actually get people elected to restore America, and it needs to start acting like it. The chair we need will provide all of the necessary support to empower you to make a difference right in your own communities, where the rubber meets road. I plan to focus on finding leaders all over America and giving them the tools they need to succeed. We just watched the Ron Paul and Tea Party movements explode by using a similar method, and it is time for us to do the same.

The LNC and its chair must facilitate a grass roots movement by putting new infrastructure in place across the country, just as we are doing now in Texas. For example, we have already begun creating online guidance for new county chairs on what they are

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George Phillies



Our Party faces great opportunities, and even greater challenges.

Opportunities? The American people are exhausted by bailouts, crushing Federal deficits, pointless foreign wars, the absurd war on marijuana, Uncle Sam poking through your bedroom, and every other Republican and Democratic idiocy. Republicans moved to the authoritarian quadrant of the Nolan Chart, and Democrats are hot on their heels. The American people want a better choice, the choice we offer them.

Democrats and Republicans? They're the dead past. We're the Party of the Future.

Challenges? Our National Party is lies gravely ill. Since 2000, we've lost 60% of our membership. Since 2000, we've lost three-quarters of our real-dollar income. Many state parties are shells of their former selves.

We must heal our party, or it will surely perish.

I'm George Phillies, candidate for National Chair. I and my friends of the New Path LNC

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Wayne Root



Wayne Root and Mark Rutherford bring a results-oriented team to the Libertarian Party.

Wayne Root, as Chairman, brings expertise in sales, marketing, fundraising, branding and promotion. Root will focus on reaching out to the public and media.

Mark Rutherford, as Vice Chairman, has spent seven years as a state chairman, six years on the LNC and serves on the board of the Advocates for Self-Government. Rutherford will focus on running a national office that meets the needs of state and local affiliates.

We have come together to move the entire party forward. We unite Right with Left ... pair Marketing with Administration ... combine Real Life with Philosophy ... and temper Action with Discipline.

Our team has six measurable, attainable goals for the term:

- 1) Increase money and membership year over year.
- 2) Recruit 500+

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LNC Vice Chairman Michael Jingoian Reflects on Party's Progress Over the Past Two Years

by Michael Jingoian

Over the last two years, I have been proud to serve you as the Vice Chairman of the Libertarian Party. When I was elected, I was unfamiliar with the processes and the procedures of the Libertarian National Committee (LNC). As someone who is relatively new to the LP leadership, I am in a unique position to share with you some observations about our progress, our party and about where I believe we are headed.

First off, we have made tremendous progress in the last eight months. This is mostly a result of hiring our new Executive Director, Wes Benedict. Prior to having an ED, our operations at Libertarian Party headquarters began to slowly unravel. But now with a competent ED at the helm, we are cleaning up our processes, streamlining our operations, and making fundraising and membership greater priorities.

I am also pleased that we have created the Affiliate Support Committee (ASC)—an official committee in our bylaws. The LNC Vice Chairman is the Chairman of this committee. This is a wonderful program aimed at assisting our affiliates and candidates. The goal is to provide our state parties with all the resources they need for promoting, campaigning, organizing, fundraising, or whatever our members need to grow our party. Our job is to get these resources produced and develop a convenient way to make the information available for everyone to access and use.

Not long after being elected as Vice Chairman, I presented a marketing plan that was generally well received. However, the consensus was to hire an ED before implementing the plan's recommendations. But, due to the establishment of the ASC, most of these marketing programs were incorporated into its list of initiatives (this list of priorities, along with the ASC's marketing plan, were distributed at the last LNC meeting in Austin). Now, with our staff focused and productive, we can begin to develop these programs and produce these materials.

This is very good news.

Although our party today is in far better shape than it was a year ago, I am

still not completely satisfied with our progress. I feel that we could have accomplished more. In my opinion, the biggest obstacle to achieving our goals is that there is too much arguing among party leadership and members. It is unproductive and it distracts us from our priorities.

Though recent progress has been made, there's still a lot of work left.

If we wish to succeed, we cannot let our differences divide us. Instead, we need to put aside our differences and pursue our common interests, such as breaking our destructive two-party system. We

need to remember what motivated all of us to join the Libertarian Party in the first place. We need to refocus our attention on smaller and more accountable government, upholding the Constitution and protecting personal freedoms.

I have enjoyed serving as your Vice Chairman. It was a pleasure working closely with so many dedicated and talented individuals. My greatest pleasure was speaking at events and talking with all of you about your opinions and concerns.

Please encourage everyone you know to attend the convention in St. Louis

during Memorial Day weekend. It is sure to be an exciting and memorable event.

The tide has turned. The Libertarian Party is growing and doing much better. I believe we are in a great position to really move the party forward in the coming years. If you have any questions or suggestions about the Affiliate Support Committee, I can be reached at Michael@ResetAmerica.com.

Michael Jingoian is the Vice Chairman of the Libertarian National Committee.

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**George
Phillies
for LNC
Chair**



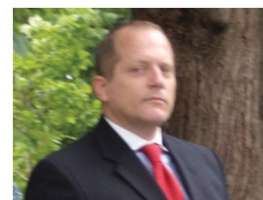
<http://bit.ly/gphillies>

**Carolyn
Marbry
for LNC
Vice Chair**



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**James
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Treasurer**



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**Rob
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for LNC
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Imagine an accomplished, media savvy chairman presenting our Libertarian message to America...an expert on sales, marketing, fund raising, branding and promotion...an energetic leader inspiring large numbers to vote Libertarian for the first time and become contributors to the national and state parties.

Imagine an accomplished vice chairman deeply steeped in our movement – six years on the LNC, seven years as a state chairman, on the board of directors of Advocates for Self Government – working with our Executive Director to ensure a well functioning national office and focusing on the needs of our state and local affiliates.

SuperCharged LP Fundraising**Serious Focus on Candidate Training****College Outreach Program****Web Presence with a Social Network****Improved Candidate Recruitment****Record Levels of Media Exposure**

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Wayne Root - LNC Chair



Mark Rutherford - LNC Vice Chair

Candidates for Chairman of the Libertarian National Committee, Continued...

Ernest Hancock

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vice to the individuals that are the change we seek.

Many tools provide immediate peer to peer communication and coordination with local LP groups. But the LPUS' inaction is often perceived as being an impediment to these communications and the accompanying networking of libertarians that results when we are politically active.

Often it is only the LPUS that has the standing to Challenge the Idolization of an all powerful all knowing Federal Government, but the perception is that the LPUS is not a challenge to the tyranny America increasingly suffers.

Fear of criticism has eliminated the LPUS from consideration as a front line ally in the quest for liberty. 20 years of Hard Core No-Compromise libertarian activism hasn't kept me incarcerated, targeted and removed from relevance in the world of politics, in fact, it has had just the opposite effect. Fearless advocacy of libertarian philosophy is exactly what is missing from the LPUS.

My goal is to make it perfectly clear

to the world that the LPUS in Convention made a very clear choice to join the peaceful revolution against the Omnipotent State. Any attempt to negotiate for a place inside this corrupt and illegitimate abuser of human rights on their terms is a clear sign of fear and weakness to those possessing the passion and talent to work for individual liberty.

Vote percentages, money raised, laws passed, media coverage, inspired activists,... are all side effects of a clear standard set and advocated for in freeing as many minds as possible with the truth.

Peace over War, Truth not Lies, Courage trumping Fear, Resolve instead of Compromise, Inspiration vs Compulsion, Self-Reliance not Dependence, Tolerance over Bigotry, and above all, the advocacy of Love.

I offer nothing less than participation in a worldwide LOVEolution. The LPUS has the opportunity to influence the greatest decentralization of power in Human History, but we must first lead by example and be of service to the individual activists advocating libertarian philosophy,... if not, then why would they need us?

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For information on the
ACHIEVE slate, go to
www.PatDixon.org/LNC.html

Mark Hinkle

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to public office via Project Breakthrough. Each month we sent out fund-raising letters, a quality newsletter, and timely and topical press releases. And lastly, we achieved a record number of registered libertarian voters under my leadership.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute.

I am the most experienced candidate for LNC Chair and the most successful candidate in terms of membership growth, money raised for the Party, and Libertarian candidates elected to non-partisan office. I've served a total of 10 years on the LNC. Over the last 36 years, I've served in a wide variety of elected Party positions from the local level to the LNC. I can relate to our activists, because I've done just about every imaginable volunteer job within the LP. I can relate to our donors because I have a track record of achieving goals. Major donors want to invest in successful organizations and I bring a track record of achieve-

ment that assures them that their money won't be wasted.

As LNC Chair, some of my goals are: 50 state ballot access, 20,000 members with memberships coming from 2 key areas: the young and the rich. I'd like to see the creation of a Liberty Sales Team to bring in new members and internal education teams to train activists in the nuts and bolts of political organizing.

Because of my experience and past successes, I've earned the endorsement of the past LP Chairs: Alicia Clark, David Bergland, Steve Dasbach, and Geoff Neale. I've also been endorsed by past LP Vice-Chairs: Sharon Ayres and Chuck Moulton, presidential candidate Ed Clark and Vice-Presidential candidate Jo Jorgensen. Also activists Steve Kubby, Julie Fox, Carla Howell, Less Antman, Vicki Kirkland and elected Libertarians Kate O'Brien and John Inks.

Set goals, create a plan, and execute.

I've done it before. With your vote and support, I'll do it again.

George Phillies

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slate are here to offer you the cure our party desperately needs.

The slate? George Phillies, candidate for Chair. Carolyn Marbry, former corporate CEO, for Vice Chair. Rob Power, MBA and Outright Libertarians Chair, for Secretary. James Oaksun, MBA, for Treasurer. Regional candidates Rachel Hawkridge, Jim Remmert, Jake Porter, Scott Williamson, and Charles Wilhoit, among others.

Who am I? I'm a long time activist. I'm a former Massachusetts State Chair, Massachusetts Party Treasurer, Editor of Liberty for America magazine, author of eight books (two on our party), and former Libertarian Congressional candidate. Many of you already know me from past National Conventions.

I'm running to do the job of the National Chair. That job is being the Party CEO and leading our National Committee. I'm not looking for a shiny badge or a bigger podium. Elect me National Chair, elect the New Path slate, and we'll be

working to get you a shiny badge—the one that reads "Elected Public Official". Elect me, elect my friends, and we'll be working to get our candidates and spokesmen the those bigger podiums.

Elect me National Chair, elect the New Path slate, and we'll turn our party around, so we are again on the march toward being America's majority party.

How will we cure our Party? You can read the details at <http://NewPathForTheLP.org/ThePlan>. We start with short-term quick fixes to channel money to real politics and restore member confidence. We launch a vigorous volunteer mobilization plan. We'll change how we raise and spend money, so we spend much more on politics and outreach rather than back office operations. We'll use data-driven membership recruitment directed at young women and men who already support our message. As Chair of LNC Meetings, I'll restore the primacy of serious substance over pointless pandering to Roberts' Rules.

That's what I offer. A plan, and a team ready to carry it out. This May, please support me, and please support my friends.

John Jay Myers

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required to do by law and what they can do to grow their group locally through outreach. We have also been working with reproducible website templates that can give any county or candidate a professional web presence immediately. We need a national website that connects county, state and national party affiliates. The LNC's job should be to develop these types of initiatives. The key to starting the fires of this new movement will be local organizations. That is where we will find and promote principled, charismatic leaders who can spread the message – leaders just like you!

The LNC chair must also serve as the face of the party, the one who speaks to our principles and inspires people to get involved. The chair cannot afford to com-

promise our principles in order to appeal only to the right. The ideas of non-aggression and non-intervention resonate with all Americans, and with an economics lesson or two, dissatisfied voters from both left and right will become our strongest supporters. Playing only one side will surely end in failure by feeding the divisive two-party system that is already ruining us.

All Libertarians share a desire for less government and more freedom, but we need a chair who can unite the "Activist wing" of our group with the "Party wing". We need to frame our message more clearly in a way that makes sense to all Americans. We want to bring our troops home now, get the government out of business, reform ballot access laws, and stress that see-sawing between the two other parties is destroying America. These are values that we all share, and it's time to give you the tools to spread them.

Wayne Root

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candidates and arm them with effective literature and websites capable of accepting donations.

3) Conduct three or more candidate training workshops. We need to teach our candidates and their campaign managers how to develop a campaign plan, target voters, raise money and interact with the media.

4) Expand the number of Libertarian campus groups at colleges and universities so we can introduce our party to the next generation.

5) Develop an improved, revamped professional website with social networking capabilities and make the technology available to state and local parties.

6) Arrange 200+ radio and television appearances with the National Chair, State Chairs and LP Candidates. We need to bring the Libertarian Party brand out to the public with earned media, whether Fox News or National Public Radio.

Wayne Root will use decades of media experience to train Libertarians to become media magnets, sharing secrets that have enabled him to attract the amazing amount of media attention we have seen him garner during the past two years.

Mark Rutherford will arrange for

professionals to train Libertarians on how to raise money, so our candidates and state parties are sufficiently funded and our message reaches the public.

Wayne Root will travel the country to speak at state party and candidate organized events, to maximize funds raised for local parties and candidates.

Mark Rutherford will task the headquarters with scheduling media appearances for a broad spectrum of media-trained Libertarians.

Wayne Root will also represent the LP in the media, and give speeches across the country to bring people to our website.

Mark Rutherford will assure we process these new recruits and successfully train them on the philosophy of self-governance.

Others may preach downsizing and reducing our presence in D.C., but we believe the key to a successful future is growing our size. With your support, we will build the Libertarian Party into a political force that restores freedom to America.

This is the time. This is the opportunity. This is the team.

If these are the results you want, we need your help. Vote Root/Rutherford during Memorial Day Weekend at the national convention in St Louis.

Q) What's the Best Way to Reach 16,000 Libertarian Party Donors and a Slew of St. Louis Convention Delegates?

ANSWER) Promote Your Campaign in LP News!



Please note, due to FEC and IRS constraints, we only allow sponsorships from the following:

- FEC filing campaigns (candidates for national office)
- FEC filing committees and PACS
- Individuals running for internal LNC office
- Individuals running under the LP label for state or local office (who have met the nominating requirements of their state LP)

To get a rate card or to place sponsorship today, please contact Operations Director Robert Kraus at operations@lp.org, or by calling (202) 333-0008 x 231.

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Hi, I'm Brendan Kelly and I have just been re-elected to another three year term as Selectman in my home town of Seabrook, NH. I am now starting my campaign to get elected to the NH House of Representatives in 2010 as a Libertarian.



Any contributions will be greatly appreciated!

**Make check payable to:
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Save the Country and Cruise the Mississippi...All in the Same Day

There is more to St. Louis this Memorial Day than politics and philosophy. St. Louis is the perfect vacation destination for you and your family.

When Libertarians come to St. Louis this Memorial Day, they will have many decisions to make.

But instead of questions like, “Who should be the next National Chairman?” they may ask, “Can I take a cruise down the Mississippi on a paddle wheeler and still make it in time for a tour of the Anheuser-Busch factory?”

Centrally located in the heart of the United States, easily accessible by plane, train or automobile, St. Louis is the perfect vacation destination to complement your trip to the 2010 Libertarian Party National Convention.

“Downtown St. Louis has a lot to offer, including riverboats, the Gateway Arch with trams to the top at 630 feet, Laclede’s Landing with music and restaurants, a premier casino,

the Old Courthouse site of important trials in American History and more,” says St. Louis resident and Libertarian National Committee Secretary Bob Sullentrup.

Of course, if you need a refreshing drink, visit the Anheuser-Busch Brewery located only a few miles from the hotel. Afterwards, visit one of the city’s many taverns for dinner and live blues music.

“St. Louis is truly a world-class vacation destination for individuals, couples, and families,” says Sullentrup.

Memorial Day is a perfect time to turn the 2010 National Convention into a vacation for the entire family. Stay a few extra days to fully enjoy all of St. Louis’ attractions.

Convention organizers have priced the

convention with you and your budget in mind. The convention has flexible packages that will allow you to perfectly customize your trip. Each package will allow you to participate in the convention while still providing ample time to explore all that St. Louis has to offer.

This will allow you to plan a great family vacation around an already exciting convention schedule.

Discounted rooms are selling fast, so hurry and make your plans now to take your next vacation this Memorial Day weekend in St. Louis.

Register now by sending in the form on the next page, or register online at:

www.GatewaytoLiberty.com

Convention Schedule*

*Convention schedule and speakers subject to change.

Friday, May 28		
1:30 pm	to 5:00 pm	Libertarian National Committee Meeting
7:00 pm	to 10:30 pm	Welcome Reception
Saturday, May 29		
7:00 am	to 8:30 am	Breakfast (with Gary Nolan)
8:45 am	to 12:00 pm	Convention Business
12:00 pm	to 1:30 pm	Award Lunch (with Michael Colley)
1:30 pm	to 2:30 pm	Keynote Speech (Bob Barr)
2:30 pm	to 5:30 pm	Convention Business
6:00 pm	to 7:00 pm	Torch Club Cocktail Party
7:00 pm	to 8:30 pm	National Chair Candidates Forum
Sunday, May 30		
7:00 am	to 8:30 am	Breakfast (with Jeff Davis)
8:45 am	to 12:00 pm	Convention Business
12:00 pm	to 1:30 pm	Lunch (with Michael Badnarik)
1:30 pm	to 5:00 pm	Convention Business
5:30 pm	to 6:30 pm	Pre-Banquet Cocktail Hour
6:30 pm	to 9:30 pm	Banquet Dinner (with Gary Nolan, Mike Munger and Mary Ruwart)
Monday, May 31		
8:45 am	to 12:00 pm	Convention Business
1:30 pm	to 5:00 pm	Libertarian National Committee Meeting

Gateway to Liberty

The Libertarian Party will hold our 2010 National Convention in downtown St. Louis at the Renaissance Grand Hotel the weekend of Memorial Day. You might want to use the trip as a summer getaway and enjoy not only the Convention, but other amenities including the Arch, riverboats, baseball, brewery tours with free samples, dining, and American history. Much of this is within walking distance of the hotel.

Be sure to sign up early to take advantage of the remaining discounts. There’s even an incentive rebate for those who stay in the Renaissance Grand Hotel, since convention meeting room space is complimentary only if attendees book enough room nights. Our special rate of \$109 per night and \$8 per day parking is only available if you sign up online at www.GatewaytoLiberty.com.

If America ever needed the Libertarian Party, it’s now. And if the Libertarian Party ever needed your participation and support, it’s now. Meet us in St. Louis and help shape the future of our historic mission to restore liberty to America.

Attendee Information: (One registration per form please)

Name

Address 1

Address 2

CityStateZip

Phone

Email

Total Amount Enclosed

☐ Check enclosed (payable to “Libertarian Party”)

☐ Visa/MC/AmEx/Disc #:

Expiration Date

Name on Card

Signature

Special Dietary Requirements

Attendee Status:

☐ This is my first LP National Convention

☐ I am an Elected Official

Delegate Status:

☐ I want to be a Voting Delegate

☐ I want to be an Observer

Visit www.GatewaytoLiberty.com to register and see full package descriptions:

- Gold Package \$389 (\$339 after rebate*)

- Includes all of the items in the Silver Package plus
 - Saturday lunch & speakers
 - Sunday lunch & speakers
- Silver Package \$309 (\$259 after rebate*)

- Includes all of the items in the Basic Package plus
 - Saturday breakfast & speakers
 - Sunday breakfast & speakers
 - Sunday evening banquet dinner
- Basic Package \$129 (\$79 after rebate*)

- Friday evening Opening Reception
 - Delegate access to floor during Business Session
 - Morning and Afternoon Refreshment breaks
 - Saturday evening Chairs Debate

*See Web site for details: <http://www.gatewaytoliberty.com/rebate>

Mail form and payment to:
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
2600 Virginia Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037

☐ I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.

☐ I plan to stay at the hotel. Please mail me rebate information.

AFFILIATE News And Events

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

Colorado Voters to See Great Slate in 2010

The Colorado State party is excited to announce that they are running 23 candidates for office in the upcoming election.

These candidates have been carefully distributed so every citizen in Colorado will see three or four Libertarian candidates on their ballot. Equally important, several of these candidates are raising thousands of dollars (and in one case, tens of thousands of dollars).

This year all Coloradans will be able to vote for serious liberty candidates.

A complete list of candidates can be found on the state party Web site at: <http://lpcolorado.org/candidates/>.

Georgia Web Helps Reach New Members

As the 2010 election heats up, the Libertarian Party of Georgia is preparing a full slate of statewide candidates for which we have ballot access, including the first Libertarian in the country to garner one million votes, John Monds, as he seeks to become our next governor.

Additionally, we are fortunate to have two special elections for the Georgia State Senate where we will be able to run candidates without the bondage of ballot access restrictions. On top of that, we have a State House candidate defying the roadblocks set up by the legislators of this state to prevent competition, as he works to collect signatures from 5 percent (about 1,600 signatures) of his district's registered voters.

Outside of the candidates, we are working to grow the number of county and region affiliates and support them as they bring more Libertarians into the fold. To aid in that growth, the utilization of the Internet and social media to attract people

to our message has been a success, as we reach more people via Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and other services than we could even imagine doing physically in such short periods of time.

To add to our success with the Internet, we've made materials available to download and print for events held across the state, saving time and monetary resources. Our fundraising, Web traffic, and media mentions have increased over last year, and we look to a strong election season with a great slate of candidates to make 2010 our best year yet.

Illinois Libertarians Hit the Airwaves

Our petition drive is in full swing. From March 23 to June 2, we will be going door to door, attending gun shows, hosting booths at fairs, roving parade routes and holding fundraisers to get our candidates on the ballot.

We need a minimum of 25,000 signatures and plan to obtain 50,000. We will present our petitions to the State Board of Elections in Springfield the morning of June 21, 2010, and will hold a news conference later that day. We are also looking for paid petitioners to assist in this effort. For more information on our campaigns and on petitioning, please log onto: lpillinois.org/campaigns

In addition to our statewide candidates who will be petitioning to get on the ballot, Doug Marks is running in the 14th U.S. Congressional district (Speaker Hastert's former seat) and needs an astounding 16,743 valid signatures. The Marks campaign was recently mentioned in Ballot Access News. The article indicated that this is the most signatures ever needed to qualify for the U.S. House of Representatives. Steve Funk is running for State Representative in Illinois' 18th district. He will need 2,561 valid signatures to be on the ballot.

Several members of the Stephenson County chapter participated in a campaign to vote down an attempt to increase the sales tax by 1 percent. Members spoke with voters, wore buttons and used signs to oppose this measure. We are pleased to report that the initiative went down to a resounding defeat. Over 4,000 votes were tallied against

the measure, while less than 1,700 voted in favor.

Metro East chapter Chairman Steve Hellin was interviewed by WBGZ radio in Alton on January 27. During a discussion which lasted an hour, Steve was able to plug the LP.org and LPillinois.org Web sites, mention candidates and their Web sites, discuss the party platform and the World's Smallest Political Quiz. To listen to the interview, go to http://mel.wikispaces.com/WBGZ_Radio.

The Champaign County Chapter hosted a screening of the film "Busted: the Citizen's Guide to Surviving Police Encounters." Media was in attendance and Chairperson Dianna Visek was interviewed about the film. The interview was aired on the local NBC affiliate.

Illinois Comptroller candidate Julie Fox and U.S. Congressional candidate Doug Marks appeared separately on the "Freedom Rings" radio show, touting their candidacies and their philosophies. To listen to these interviews, go to freedomrings.net.

Fox was also interviewed and took questions on WTNA radio in Rockford. One caller liked her idea to release all non-violent drug offenders to save money.

We now have 1,630 members, 11 active chapters and three chapters in the formative stage. We are pleased with our growth and look forward to the challenge of this fall's elections.

On April 10, the Metro East Libertarians (MEL) hosted an Operation Politically Homeless booth at a Tea Party event in Collinsville, IL near St. Louis. In addition to running the OPH quiz we received over 100 signatures for ballot access for our slate of statewide candidates. While most of the speakers and rhetoric of the day was "Conservative," the majority of quiz results were actually Libertarian. Several people were surprised to learn of this outcome after taking the quiz. In attendance from MEL were Steve Hellin, Aaron Wright, Jim Kuhn, and Clay Dillaplain.

Indiana Launch of New Web Site

The Libertarian Party of Indiana (LPIN) is proud to announce the launch of a new Web site, www.LPIN.org.

LPIN members over the last months have worked to balance explaining to Hoosiers what "libertarian" means and keeping the membership updated on party business.

It features regular updates on national, state, and local politics written by Hoosiers for Hoosiers. It also features audio and soon-to-be-produced video podcasts. Photos of party events are also prominently featured through Flickr.

The new Web site will also be used as a training resource. It's packed with various manuals and tip sheets to train the volunteer army of local libertarians.

Michigan Training New Candidates

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is busy preparing for the November 2 elections. In a state that has suffered from a lack of liberty for decades, we in Michigan have a lot to gain by getting good Libertarian candidates elected.

So far 119 people have contacted us expressing an interest in running for office on the Libertarian Party ticket, and we are looking for more volunteers to help follow up and recruit additional candidates. We conducted a Candidate Training Seminar on April 17 in Brighton. It was organized by our political director, Bill Hall, who was assisted by two outstanding volunteers, Tim Keirnan and Deneé Moon.

Speakers included Hazel Park City Councilman Andy LeCureaux, who spoke on "Targeting Your Message to Voters," Small Government Alliance PAC Director Tim O'Brien on "Working the Media," and attorney Leonard Schwartz on "Campaign Finance Compliance."

This event was offered to our potential candidates for free.

Mississippi Mississippi is Rolling

The Libertarian Party of Mississippi (LPMS) has seen a 38 percent growth in Membership in the past year! Just recently, we created seven new county affiliates!

We had a 247 percent growth in attendance at our state convention this year versus last. It would have been even greater, if very popular libertarian U.S. Representative Ron Paul had not been speaking at a public event nearby.

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AFFILIATE News And Events

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Our convention even made a significant profit, which will be used to fund future LPMS activities.

Two of our members are making 'dedicated efforts' in running for the U.S. House of Representatives. These members are Harold "Harry" Taylor of Hernando in District 1, and Kenneth "Tim" Hampton of Hattiesburg, in District 4.

Please support them in some way.

Visit our exciting, 'brand-new' Facebook site, which gained 68 members in its first four days.

If you want to be part of this dynamic and growing political party in Mississippi, contact State Party Chairman Danny Bedwell at (662) 574-4996.

Missouri

After Hours Comedy in St. Louis

The Missouri Libertarian Party would like to welcome delegates to the Show Me state for the national convention Memorial Day weekend in St. Louis.

The Missouri LP has had ballot access since 1992. As an established party our candidates file for office and voters elect our nominees for the general election in an August primary election. To retain ballot access one of our statewide candidates has to receive more than 2 percent of the vote in the general election once every four years. None of our statewide candidates received more than 2 percent in 2008. There are only two statewide offices up for election in 2010: US Senate and State Auditor. We must receive greater than 2 percent in one of these elections to retain ballot access for 2012.

This year two great Libertarian candidates are running for US Senate to replace outgoing US Senator Kit Bond, resulting in a contested primary. Missouri LP Vice Chair Dr. Cisse Spragins from Kansas City (<http://spraginsforsenate.com>) and Mr. Jonathan Dine from Riverside (<http://votedine.com/>). They will face off in a Libertarian US Senate debate to be held on May 29 after the close of the business session in the main convention hall. The debate panel will include members from major media organizations in Missouri. The Missouri LP hopes this debate raises the

profile for our party and our candidates in 2010.

There will be at least four or five candidates on the ballot in November for US Senate, which will make receiving greater than 2 percent in this statewide race challenging. Special thanks to the Libertarian National Committee for letting the Missouri LP use the main convention hall for this debate.

In the second statewide race, Charles Baum of University City is running for State Auditor. Mr. Baum ran for this office in 2006 and received 2.8 percent of the vote. His race for State Auditor is our best chance of retaining ballot access since it will be a three-way race.

On the evening of May 29, the Missouri LP will host an after-hours event featuring libertarian comedian Tim Slagle (<http://www.timslagle.com/>). This event will include snacks, a cash bar and an opportunity to relax with laughter after the first full day of the convention. There will be a modest door fee, and tickets can be purchased in advance. For more information please visit our Web site at: <http://www.lpmo.org/>.

The Missouri LP will have a booth to provide delegates with information on restaurants and other points of interest in St. Louis. Please stop by and say hello.

New Hampshire

Nominations in for 2010

To complete our general election nominations, the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire (LPNH) held a special convention on February 20 at the New Hampshire Institute of Politics. We covered the prior five months or so of activity and our efforts to improve our infrastructure, nominated candidates and highlighted events including town elections, the Liberty Forum, and Tax Day. We also welcomed some new members.

We have gotten more media attention this term. Party chairman Rich Tomasso was on New Hampshire Public Radio's The Exchange late last year, on Portsmouth community radio and on Concord TV in February. The press is asking us for input on stories (mixed results on the comments being printed). We have greatly increased our online social networking. We now have 141 fans on Facebook, 102 followers on Twitter, and

a new LinkedIn group. We are looking for a volunteer to create a Myspace presence.

For nominations in 2010, we started at the top of the ticket, with Governor. John Babiarz was nominated. He has been out of the political spotlight for a while, and has been thinking very hard about whether a run for major office was the best use of his time. Philip Hodson of Manchester stepped forward and will be our nominee for the First District congressional seat. J.R. Houle of Dunbarton has agreed to run for the State Senate (District 16) as a Libertarian. Three additional state representative candidates have also announced, Steven Couture of Tilton, Wendy French of Barnstead, and Rich Tomasso of Manchester. Please check back at www.lpnh.org for additional candidate announcements.

The biggest event recently for the LPNH was the petitioning drive, which began at March 9 town elections. The drive will have followups at elections in April and May in Franklin, Hooksett, Merrimack, Newmarket, Sanbornton and a few other locations where we can catch up the difference. For more information, please visit <http://lpnh.org/>.

New Jersey

New Weekly Radio Program

The New Jersey Libertarian Party and the South Jersey Libertarians have recently announced the launch of a weekly radio show. The show, "Common Sense," is broadcast live in AM 1360 in southern New Jersey from 6-7 PM EST.

Commercial sponsors are being sought, especially libertarian oriented businesses and organizations.

More info and an archive of the debut show can be found at <http://njlp.org/commonsense>. The show can be contacted at commonsense@njlp.org.

North Carolina

Census Resolution Passed

The Libertarian Party of North Carolina held its annual state convention April 9 through 11 in Burlington, NC. Business included updating the state party platform, electing new Executive Committee members, and selecting delegates to the National Convention.

Additionally, delegates heard a pre-

sentation from Dr. Michael Munger on the "State and Local Government Debt in North Carolina: The Next 10 Years." Dr. Munger is an economist who serves as chair of the Political Science Department at Duke University and was the LPNC's candidate for governor in 2008.

Delegates also heard from Libertarian Party Executive Director Wes Benedict. Benedict's remarks centered around "How Libertarians Make a Difference."

The convention passed one resolution encouraging recipients of the 2010 U. S. Census to refuse to answer questions two through ten of the census, stating that only question 1, how many persons are living at the address, is required to meet the constitutionally-stated purpose of the census.

Ohio

Summer Brings New Focus for LPO

The Libertarian Party of Ohio just completed a successful state convention. Held April 9 through 11 in Columbus, it was one of the best attended Ohio conventions in many years, with nearly 100 people attending. Featured speakers included author James Bovard, radio show personality Brian Wilson, Daniel Williams, Wayne Allyn Root, Mark Rutherford, and Teresa Geron of Fair Tax. The focus of the LPO convention was state politics and our candidates for public office.

Speaking of public office, the LPO will have over 50 candidates on the Ohio ballot on the May 4 primary. There are a few contested primaries with more than one LP candidate. We will also be electing our State LPO Central Committee via the primary. The power of having BALLOT ACCESS is very evident. The past few years we had no ballot access, the LPO was fielding five to ten independent candidates on even-numbered years only.

The summer focus of the LPO will be in two key areas: candidate training and support and fundraising. With our Political Division in place, Michael Johnston's team will meeting with candidates, help train candidates, and have candidate conferences. Meanwhile, our Finance Division, led by Matthew Cantrell, will be ramping up fundraising. We must have more monthly pledges and fundraising in order to support our basic functions, which include a state office,

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The 2009 Libertarian Party Annual Report

by Wes Benedict, Executive Director, Libertarian National Committee

This past year was a tough year for the American economy, and also a tough year for the Libertarian Party.

This annual report will be shorter than some previous years, but it provides more historical data. I want to give you an honest and transparent picture of where the Libertarian Party stands after 38 years of existence.

The national Libertarian Party has been struggling in recent years, but we are financially stable. Despite what some are calling the worst economic climate since the Great Depression, the Libertarian Party prepared and set a realistic budget for 2009, cut back on expenses, and achieved a surplus of \$85,367 on revenue of \$1,076,049.

With voters getting excited about the upcoming 2010 election season, and with Republicans and Democrats giving them many reasons to support a third party, the Libertarian Party is starting to show signs of renewed growth.

I hope you will make a generous contribution to help the Libertarian Party come roaring back in 2010.

America needs an effective Libertarian Party to promote freedom, free markets, civil liberties, and a non-interventionist foreign policy.

Membership

We had a drop in membership from 16,349 in December 2008 to 14,663 in December 2009. A drop in membership is typical after a presidential election year. As of March 2010, membership has rebounded to 15,086.

There’s a saying among marketers that it costs ten times more to acquire a new customer than to retain an existing customer. This seems to apply to the Libertarian Party as well. We’ve focused on getting former members to renew their financial support. Renewal letters to these former supporters have been successful.

Not-for-profit organizations sometimes grow their donor bases by using direct mail “prospecting” to acquire new donors. In 2009 we did very little new member acquisition by mail, other than some testing of a few mailing lists. Our new members came chiefly from people seeking us out online. Perhaps in 2010 we can raise money for this type of direct mail member acquisition.

Of course, direct mail fundraising is just one thing that affects who wants to join and donate to the Libertarian Party. Our principles, candidates, volunteers, and customer service are important factors that also impact our membership numbers.

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2006 - 2009 Libertarian Party Financial Report

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total Assets	67,618	335,150	207,542	232,211
Total Liabilities	66,847	58,013	96,846	36,148
Total Net Assets	771	277,137	110,696	196,064

2006 - 2009 Revenue & Expense Summary

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Support and Revenue				
Membership Dues	104,064	470,114	472,862	480,132
Donations	574,577	652,092	496,660	307,564
Recurring Gifts	326,157	317,956	297,018	268,089
Board Member Solicitations	96,125	86,738	72,539	19,763
Projects	15,224	0	0	0
Ballot Access Donations	13,308	81,098	266,141	0
Conventions and Events	101,956	0	7,620	0
Publications, Materials and Other Sales	58,380	5,730	24,300	500
Total Support and Revenue	1,289,792	1,613,727	1,637,139	1,076,049
Cost of Support and Revenue				
Fundraising Costs	128,075	208,665	244,473	145,097
Membership Fundraising Costs	39,444	184,796	72,085	73,486
Convention and Event Costs	120,203	0	40,479	0
Direct Costs	11,505	0	0	0
Total Cost of Support and Revenue	299,226	393,461	357,036	218,584
Net Support and Revenue Available for Programs	990,566	1,220,267	1,280,103	857,465
Program Expenses				
Administrative Expense	334,004	366,329	408,088	381,253
Compensation	404,076	396,920	404,906	341,352
Affiliate Support	86,936	9,396	3,231	300
Ballot Access	1,500	62,808	510,257	5,367
Brand Development	21,035	3,315	14,038	35
Campus Outreach	500	0	0	0
Candidate Support	25,260	22,293	500	0
Litigation	0	0	0	0
Lobbying	0	0	0	5,500
Media Relations	7,909	5,251	251	5,745
Member Communications	60,435	56,838	85,705	33,092
Outreach	5,703	21,075	19,568	3,016
Voter Registration	0	0	0	0
Total Program Expenses	947,359	944,225	1,446,544	775,659
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	43,207	276,042	(166,441)	81,805
Other Revenue/Expense				
Interest Income	0	0	0	3,652
Other Income	0	325	0	(90)
Total Other Revenue Expense	0	325	0	3,562
Net Surplus (Deficit)	43,207	276,366	(166,441)	85,367

Note: The unaudited financial information disclosed above is preliminary and subject to audit.

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Candidates and Elections

The biggest advantage of being a political party is that we can do something no other organization can do: where we have ballot access, we can put candidates on the ballot.

Whether they win or lose, our candidates spread our important message about the benefits of free markets and civil liberties.

When Libertarians aren't there to set the record straight, Republicans and Democrats have free rein to lie and trick voters into supporting things like banker bailouts.

Some Libertarian candidates win, particularly in smaller jurisdictions where they can cover much of the territory door-to-door. In 2009, 47 Libertarians were elected or re-elected to public office. As of December 31, there were at least 146 elected Libertarians serving in office throughout America, directly implementing libertarian policies.

Ed Coleman, a member of the Indianapolis City-County Council, switched his party affiliation to Libertarian. And Libertarian Robert Stephens was elected to the City Council of Springfield, the third-largest city in Missouri. (He joined Libertarian Doug Burlison, who

was elected to that City Council in 2007.)

Throughout 2009 and into 2010, we've been encouraging people to run for office so that we'll have a strong nationwide presence on the ballot in 2010. Early results are encouraging, and it's possible that we'll have more candidates in 2010 than in 2006 or 2008.

Going forward in 2010

Our focus for 2010 is to encourage as many people as we can to run for office as Libertarian candidates.

If there's a race a candidate can win, we encourage a run for that office. We're encouraging people who live in major cities, where winning is less feasible, to run for U.S. Congress.

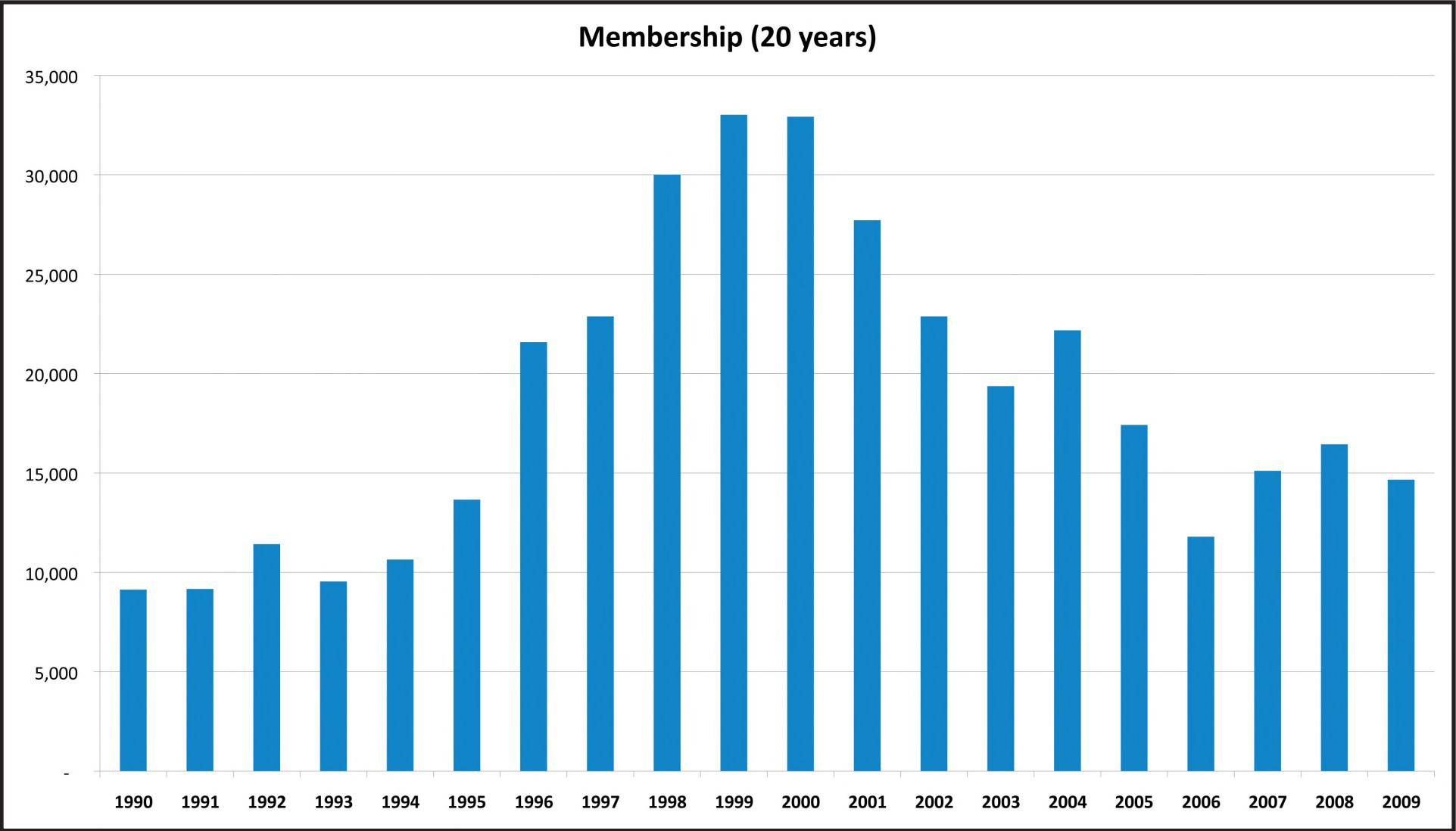
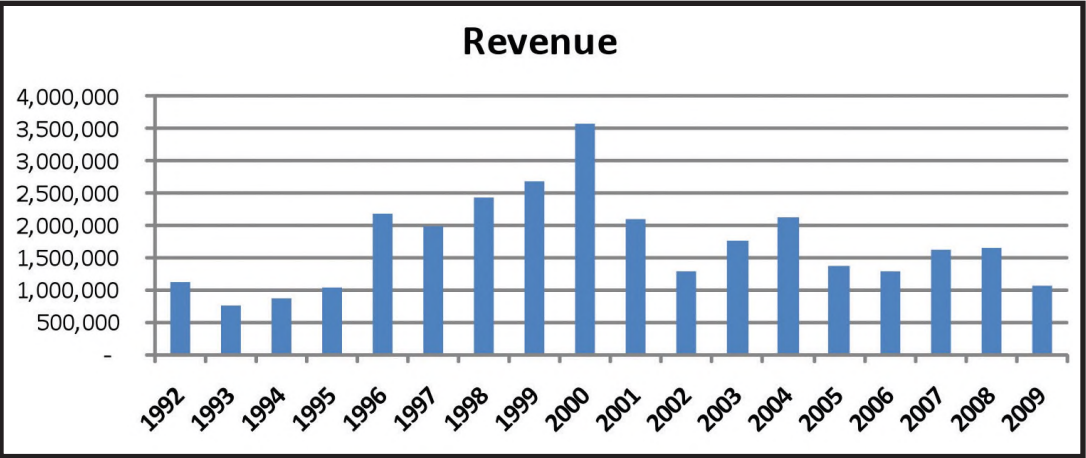
The Libertarian Party doesn't have the resources to run major national advertising campaigns, but if we put our candidates on

the ballot, they will get some publicity (often free publicity) on their own. And they will be in place in case a major backlash erupts against the Republicans and Democrats.

Republicans and Democrats sometimes use different rhetoric, but they deliver the same results: bigger government. That's why we need the Libertarian Party and our candidates out there fighting for freedom.

And that's why we need your support.

I am especially grateful to those who contributed their valuable time and money to the Libertarian Party in 2009. For many, it was a sacrifice, but I hope most of our volunteers and donors found that working to protect and restore freedom in America is rewarding as well.



AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

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insurance, web site server, and phone system. We would also like to hire a part-time assistant, because the workload has increased to a level that is stretching our 100 percent volunteer staff.

Our Web site continues to progress and improve. We invite you to go to www.LPO.org and sign up for the social networks, an Ohio LPO Region Meetup, the LPO statewide announcements, or answer the monthly survey. Thank you to the IT Division, led by Paul Conroy for a job well done.

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

Oregon Reform Brings Positive Results

Radical reform is coming to Oregon! Our March convention overwhelmingly adopted a Reform Plan resolution proposed by experienced former officers, then elected them without opposition to clean up the party's financial mess and turn the LPOR over to registered Libertarian voters.

In one month, the new State Committee has resolved bank problems, paid significant debts, and solicited renewals from over 500 lapsed members.

The Reform Plan calls for a constitutional convention to decentralize the party's structure, making all Oregon Libertarian voters members and eliminating dues. On July 5, the State Committee will approve competing proposals for new governing documents

that meet Reform Plan criteria.

In late summer, a special convention will select the best such proposal by preference ballot before considering amendments and final adoption.

Pennsylvania New Officers Elected

The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania would like to welcome the officers elected in convention on March 27, 2010: Michael J. "Mik" Robertson, Chair; Lou Jasikoff, Eastern Vice-chair; Jim Fryman, Western Vice-chair; Art Farnsworth, Secretary; Kat Valleley, Treasurer.

Texas \$150,000 Matching Challenge

The Libertarian Party of Texas state committee passed an annual budget of \$370,000 at their meeting Feb 28 in Austin.

A large component of this budget is comprised of a \$150,000 matching challenge by a donor to the party. For every dollar contributed in 2010 to the Libertarian Party of Texas, this donor will match that contribution up to \$150,000, yielding \$300,000 in revenue to the party. The party also has approximately \$85,000 in reserve from the previous year.

Under executive director Robert Butler, the party has opened an office near the University of Texas campus and hired Membership Coordinator Heather Fazio to work from the office in Austin. In addition, Butler

has hired Amie Parsons from Dallas as the North Texas regional director, Christie Cole Pearson from Houston as the Gulf Coast area regional coordinator, and Kris Russell from College Station as Campus Coordinator.

"We are getting significant investment in our party this year, and we have to deliver results in November to merit continuation of that investment," says state chair Pat Dixon. "We are hoping that our membership will support us in meeting the challenge to take advantage of \$150,000 offered to us."

The party is busy preparing for the state convention in Austin June 11-13. Registration information can be found at LPTexas.org/content/texas-state-convention. Additional information on schedule and speakers will be posted shortly. The convention will feature a five-way contested nomination to represent the Libertarian Party for governor of Texas.

"This year's convention should be the largest ever and should not be missed," says Dixon. "If we can rely on our donors to come through, participate in our conventions, and support our candidates, November 2010 could be the biggest election year in the history of our party."

Washington Working for Initiative 1068

The Libertarian Party of Washington (LPWA) is collecting signatures for Initiative 1068 and SensibleWashington.org. The Initiative would legalize the use, possession and sale of cannabis for adults.

South Puget Sound Community College recently called the LPWA and wants us to participate in a political event, which we are very pleased about. The LPWA is also very excited about getting involved with Coffee Strong, the Iraq Veterans Against the War enclave out here in the Pacific Northwest.

Wisconsin Stars Speak at Convention

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin (LPWI) held its annual convention on April 10 in Oconomowoc. Following an executive board meeting and a membership assembly in the morning, several speakers from around the state and country kicked off this year's election season by appealing to the LPWI for support for their campaigns that emphasize social tolerance and fiscal responsibility.

Ms. Vicki McKenna, a syndicated radio personality located in the Madison-Milwaukee area, spoke at the convention and offered her views on bringing dialogue between different and opposing groups back into civil discourse without anger and resentment over partisan issues. McKenna expressed the need to work together to base public policy on the common interest, not special interests.

A rising star of the LPWI, Mr. Barry Hammarback, an attorney from River Falls, gave a detailed presentation called "Fact-Based Legislation." Hammarback discussed how government spending is wasteful and ineffective when spending initiatives are not based upon facts. Hammarback pointed out that more people in the country die every year from influenza than have been killed by all acts of terrorism inside the entire U.S. since December 7, 1941; however, annual government spending on preventing terrorism far exceeds that spent preventing influenza.

Another rising star of the LPWI, board member and business committee chair, Tim Nerenz, Ph.D., delivered a rousing finish by his address to the convention. "Most of us want a few basic things from government – keep us safe, protect our rights, and then leave us alone," Nerenz said.

Convention Preview – Platform/Bylaws Committee Reports

by Alicia Mattson &
Dan Karlan

At the national convention in St. Louis, the Platform and Bylaws Committees will be presenting reports to the delegates. The reports are a series of recommendations for changes to the party platform and bylaws/rules, and the delegates will have opportunity to vote on adopting

those recommendations.

The 2010 Platform Committee met in December and adopted 24 recommendations. If you visit <http://gatewaytoliberty.com/static/LP2010PCR.pdf> you can preview their report.

The 2010 Bylaws and Rules Committee has met twice, once adopting an initial report in February 2009, and again in February 2010 after survey feedback inspired the committee to

make some improvements to their recommendations. If you visit <http://gatewaytoliberty.com/static/LP2010BRCR.pdf> you can preview the 43 recommendations in their report before you get to St. Louis.

Both committees will be meeting again in St. Louis just before the start of the national convention starts, so both reports are subject to modification at that time.



Register Today at www.GatewaytoLiberty.com

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

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

EVENTS@LP.ORG

OR CALL THE LP HEADQUARTERS AT
(202) 333-0008.

Event	Date	Location
LPAR State Convention	May 1	Little Rock, Arkansas
Philosophical Brunch	May 1	Nampa, Idaho
LPMI State Convention	May 22	Okemos, Michigan
LPCT State Convention	May 22	Bridgeport, Connecticut
LPGA Candidate Speeches	May 25	Alpharetta, Georgia
Northside Indi Meetup	May 26	Indianapolis, Indiana
2010 National Convention	May 27	St. Louis, Missouri
LPTX State Convention	June 11	Austin, Texas
LPIL State Convention	Sep. 10	Springfield, Illinois
ELECTION DAY	Nov. 2	Nationwide

PAID SPONSORSHIP



Come prepared and looking your best!

Order today so to ensure delivery before the convention.

Place a checkmark next to the items are ordering and fill out any requested information.

- ☐ (a) **Libertarian Name Tag \$9.95**
Name - exactly as you would like it to appear on tag:
Check one: ☐ Pin Back ☐ Magnet Back +\$3.50 Subtotal _____
- ☐ (b) **Embroidered Van Heusen Oxford Shirt \$49.95**
Check one: ☐ Men's ☐ Women's
Check one: ☐ Light Blue ☐ Pale Yellow ☐ White
Check one: ☐ Long Sleeve ☐ Short Sleeve
Check one: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ 2XL+\$2.00 ☐ 3XL+\$3.00 Subtotal _____
- ☐ (c) **Party Logo Polo Shirt \$29.95**
Check one: ☐ Men's ☐ Women's
Check one: ☐ Sand ☐ Navy ☐ Black
Check one: ☐ Long Sleeve ☐ Short Sleeve
Check one: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ 2XL+\$2.00 Subtotal _____
- ☐ (d) **Official Libertarian Lapel Pin \$19.95**
☐ (f) **Crystal Studded Libertarian Earrings \$34.95**
☐ (i) **Official LNC Pendant - Large \$29.95** Subtotal _____
- ☐ (e) **100% Silk LNC Necktie \$49.95**
Check one: ☐ Navy w/Red & White logos ☐ Lime Green w/Navy logo
☐ Navy w/Lime Green Logo ☐ Navy w/Navy logo ☐ Navy w/Gold logo
☐ Gold w/Gold logo ☐ Gold tie w/Navy logo ☐ Crimson w/Cream logo Subtotal _____
- ☐ (g) **Libertarian Drawstring Sport Pack \$2.45**
☐ (h) **Golf Ball Marker \$9.95** Subtotal _____



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LP Convention, Memorial Day Weekend, 2010

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Julie Fox, Libertarian National Committee member and 2010 Libertarian Candidate for IL Comptroller, collects signatures to put the Libertarian Party of Illinois on the ballot in 2010. Fox attended a Tax Day Tea Party rally in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Libertarian Party makes the ballot in North Dakota
- Libertarians in the news
- Libertarians question Republican participation in Tea Parties
- Ohio primary voters can vote Libertarian for the first time
- Nebraska LP begins ballot access petition drive
- New York LP chair offers tips on getting press coverage
- 2010 Libertarian conventions around the country
- Is Your Favorite Celebrity a Friend of Liberty?
- Wayne Root on Larry King Live discussing Tea Parties
- LP chair candidate George Phillies discusses future of Libertarian Party
- Daily Pennsylvanian comments on principled libertarianism
- Houston Chronicle covers local Libertarians
- News coverage of Libertarian position on census
- Brendan Kelly re-elected in New Hampshire