



Lone Star Liberty

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Texas
October 2006

Common Ground on Electoral Inclusion

By end of this letter, I hope that you, the voter, agree with us: inclusion is better than exclusion.

We are referring to the Texas election code and the upcoming November 7 elections. Exclusion is the common theme that voters encounter. In non-democratic governments, choices are restricted or don't exist. Our democratic process is intended to give the people the power to choose. In practice, political parties are taking voting power away and restricting choices.

Consider the practice of gerrymandering. Instead of the voters choosing their elected representatives, an incumbent political party chooses the voters. Instead of representing compact regions of voters, the legislatures are composed of people that represent whatever voters the party chose when they redrew the maps. You as a voter are just a pawn on the chessboard, and the incumbent party can move you around wherever they like. Who is being empowered here? Clearly, it is not the voter.

Consider Primary Screenout. Texas is alone in excluding a voter that votes in the Democratic or Republican primary from signing a petition to place another candidate or party on the ballot. The same incumbent legislators that take an oath to uphold the Constitution ignore the first amendment when they deny this right.

Consider the exclusion of candidates and parties from the ballot. We as leaders of political parties are well aware of how Texas is far more exclusive in ballot access than most states. We certainly congratulate Kinky Friedman and Grandma Strayhorn for raising the huge piles of money necessary to buy signatures and get on the ballot. However, consider that Ralph Nader collected over 80,000 signatures yet failed to qualify for the 2004 presidential ballot in Texas. Voters want choice, and the restrictions on choice give many of you nothing to vote for, and you stay home. We recognize reasonable qualifications for appearing on the ballot, but the current law is clearly excessively exclusionary.

These are a few examples of the way in which you, the voter, are being excluded from making choices. These are issues that need to be changed in the law in next year's legislative session.

Yet, there is an exclusion that you can fix before November 7.

Consider the public debate for governor of Texas. Rick Perry, Kinky Friedman, Grandma Strayhorn, and Chris Bell have been included in the debate sponsored by the BELO network of television and radio stations to be held October 6 and broadcast throughout the state. However, when you vote on November 7 there will be 5 candidates on the ballot for governor of Texas. Who is being excluded?

In 2004, over 82,000 voters in Texas signed a petition to place candidates of the Libertarian Party on the ballot. In that election, 843,911 (over 16%) of the statewide voters selected Libertarian Quannah Parker for State Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 2, clearly demonstrating the significance of that choice. However, Libertarian candidate for governor James Werner has been excluded from the public debate on October 6.

We do not expect you to pity us. We, the leaders of our political parties, understand the challenges of competing against the incumbent parties.

What about you? Do you want to walk into the voting booth after seeing four candidates debate on television and then see five on the ballot? Wouldn't you be upset about this? Aren't you being excluded from seeing all the choices before you vote?

We began by asking whether inclusion is better than exclusion. You as a voter are the one being excluded. You have the power to include yourself. You can contact the debate sponsors and demand inclusion of James Werner in the public debate. You can contact your legislator to reform the election code to be more inclusive of the concerns of voters instead of incumbent political parties.

We want you included. We hope you do as well.

Doug Reber, Co-Chair, Green Party of Texas
Bryan Malatesta, Chair, Constitution Party of Texas
Patrick Dixon, Chair, Libertarian Party of Texas



Star Liberty

Volume 16, Issue 8
September 2006
Available monthly online at
www.lptexas.org

Publisher:
Libertarian Party of Texas
P.O. Box 27932
Houston, TX 77227
www.lptexas.org
1-800-422-1776

State Chair:
Patrick Dixon
5200 Sundown
Lago Vista, TX 78645
Chair@lptexas.org
512-771-3936

Executive Director:
Wes Benedict
1403-B Kenwood Ave.
Austin, TX 78704
Director@lptexas.org
512-442-4910

Lone Star Liberty Editor:
Barbara Cunningham
bcunningham2@verizon.net
979-567-7262

Reporters
Barbara Cunningham, Melissa Gutierrez
Crawford
, Laura Coker-Garcia,

Layout
Laura Coker-Garcia

Submissions of party news, meeting minutes, photographs, biographies of candidates, suggested web sites, letters to the editor, etc. are encouraged. Please send to Laura@libertyworks.org or bcunningham2@verizon.net to submit.

Libertarian activists who are interested in volunteering as reporters, editors, columnists, etc. can join our working group at Lonestarliberty@yahoo.com.

Common Ground

Transcript of Opening Remarks, by Guy McLendon, Sept. 16th, 2006

My fellow citizens, welcome to: Common Ground, the US Constitution.

I am Guy McLendon, Chairman of the Harris County Libertarian Party; and, Vice-Chair of the Libertarian National Platform Committee.

Today, our speakers include leaders from 4 political parties: Libertarian, Constitution, Green & Reform. Then, our featured speakers include two former candidates for President – David Cobb & Michael Badnarik, as well as our candidate for Tom Delay’s seat – Bob Smither.

Now, let’s discuss our “Common Ground”.

Every person here needs a home, our nation, where we can pursue happiness, and live peacefully.

For a free nation to exist, politicians must honor our written limits on THEIR power ... that is the essence of Liberty.

Without Liberty, a politician can take your property ... even your life ... with no justification

The Supreme Court is killing Liberty simply by disregarding the original meaning of words in our Constitution

But, America was once the world’s beacon of hope.

Our symbol? ... The Statue of Liberty.

Let us resolve ... that America’s basic character as a nation ... shall not become a casualty ... in a never ending war.

Let us lead the world simply by being a good example ... of a peaceful and prosperous nation

Alas ... when we share opinions, we will have differences.

Two years ago, my Green Party friend Alfred Molison and I met over a three hour coffee. I said the problem is “Big Bad Government”. He said “Big

Bad Business”. That day, we both realized our parties refer to the same Establishment with different names, and yet we share the same foe.

The Green platform talks about decentralization. I challenge the Greens to restore and enforce limits on the power of federal officials. Progressive work should be decentralized, and performed on a state or local level.

By seeking to understand one another, we can overcome our differences.

Our platform differs from the Constitution Party’s on a very divisive issue: abortion.

Their platform is pro-life. Our platform keeps government out of the issue. Clell, Bryan & I met to find common ground.

IF or WHEN abortion is murder, then it should be subject to jurisdiction of State and NOT Federal government. If the Constitution does not specifically grant federal power, then it rests with the state, or the people.

National party delegates should defer this issue to the platforms of our state affiliates.

Common Ground

On immigration, our planks, in Texas and national, now acknowledge two facts relevant to short term policy:

(1) The Constitution does authorize federal regulation of immigration;

(2) Sections of border outside checkpoints should be protected.

Libertarians are still for LEGAL immigration, and our new planks moved us closer to Reform Party policy ...

... and now, I present to you, the Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Texas, Patrick Dixon.

Common Ground The US Constitution

September 16th, 2006

On the eve of the 219th anniversary of the signing of the US Constitution, Americans gathered to focus on our Common Ground as stakeholders and Citizens of this nation. Harris County and Texas state chairpersons of the Libertarian, Constitution, Green and Reform parties kicked off the event by each giving a short presentation.

Featured speakers, David Cobb, Michael Badnarik and Bob Smither, then addressed the crowd of nearly a hundred souls, and proclaimed the messages of Liberty and Social Justice. Presidential candidates from 2004, David Cobb and Michael Badnarik, led

the charge, followed by candidate Bob Smither. Badnarik and Smither are both current Libertarian Congressional candidates for Texas Districts 10 and 22 respectively.

Mr. Cobb called for an end to the current corporate-duopoly's strangle-hold on everything from ballot access to participation in debates, and he illustrated how ranked choice instant run-off voting will lead to a better participatory democracy. Mr. Badnarik suggested that we each regard our fellow citizens as individuals rather than as members of a group, and gave a passionate call for unity in defense of Liberty. Mr. Smither pointed out the error of our country's current path and set forth his vision for the restoration of our rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" through Constitutional Integrity.

At the conclusion of the main event, Constitution Party Texas Chairman Bryan Malatesta dropped a bombshell for Liberty, and announced his personal endorsement of LP congressional candidates Michael Badnarik (Texas CD10) and Bob Smither (Texas CD22). He further urged Constitution Party members to actively support, on a personal basis, these two Libertarian campaigns.

After the rally, the chairpersons met to discuss cooperation to further shared goals. The parties will review options for co-sponsoring a joint conference during non-convention years. Harris County Chairs David Collison [Reform] and Clell Drumheller [Constitution] met afterwards to discuss their cooperation in a block walking effort to support worthy Libertarian candidates.

Collin County LP gets the word out at the Plano Balloon Festival

Christopher J. Claytor, Candidate for US Representative, District 3

Friday, the Balloon fest was open 4 to 10 PM. Michelle and I set up before Michelle had to depart for her "real work". Brent Friedman, the Assistant Collin County LP Party Chair, arrived about 8:00 PM and stayed to closing. We did 90 World's Smallest Political Quizzes, getting 24 names.

Saturday, the Balloon fest was supposed to be open from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM, but due to weather was shut down from about 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. I was set up by 6:15 AM and Michelle arrived about 8:00 AM. We left after the event coordinators told us to leave, about 9:45 AM, but met back at 1:30 PM and were set back up by 1:45 PM. We worked non-stop until 10:00 PM when we tore down and headed out; 168 people took the quiz, and we got 48 names.

On Sunday, Michelle and I met at 6:15 AM and were set up by 6:30. About 11:00 AM Brent Friedman and Ben Westfried (Candidate for Texas State Representative, District 66) arrived to help. Matt Mosely (candidate for Texas State Representative, District 112) showed up about 1:00 PM, and John Hawley (Candidate for U.S. Represent-

tative, District 32) showed up about 2:00 PM; so for a while we had five people working the crowd to take the Quiz. By the end of the day, we had 265 people take the quiz, and got 66 new contacts.

It was a great weekend for us Libertarians! We directly spoke with 523 people who had never heard of the Libertarian Party or its candidates, and now, hopefully they will share the information with their family and friends!

Many thanks to everyone who took time out of their valuable weekend to make this a success!

Austin Tea Party

"Non-Partisan Citizens Against Unfair Property Tax & Appraisals" is hosting an Austin Tea Party to protest an unfair, biased system; Billy Joe Shaver will perform!

Texans everywhere are invited to the free "Austin Tea Party" and the free concert by [Billy Joe Shaver, 2006 Inductee Into The Texas Country Music Hall Of Fame](#) and his band, featuring songs such as "Freedom's Child" which is so fitting for the "Austin Tea Party" tax protest rally against the biased unfair property tax system and property appraisals, and the "New Texas Rangers", recalling the essence of the original Texas Rangers.

The Billy Joe Shaver concert and the "Austin Tea Party" protest rally is 1:00 PM through 3:00 PM Saturday, October 7,

2006 on the front steps and grounds of the State Capitol in Austin. Free parking is only one block east of the Capitol.

Help us take back Texas – not Tax-US !!

LP Organized at HCC-Westgate Voter Registration Event

by Michael Lee

Kirby Hobley and I set up a Libertarian information booth today (26 September) at HCC-Westgate campus and gave LP quizzes to about 100 students and faculty. The faculty member conducting the voter drive was extremely happy to see the LP so organized. The Republicans did not send anyone. The Democrats send a lady to distribute campaign literature for Michael Badnarik's opponent in Congressional District 10. That's all she had.

The faculty member heading the voter drive commended the Libertarians for our organizational skills and for the political quiz itself. She was pleased to see us educating the students.

Libertarians Win Respect, Trophy at Dallas Parade

by T. Evan Fisher

In Dallas, three Libertarian candidates won admiration from voters and a giant trophy September 17th at the 23rd annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, one of the largest gay pride parades in the nation. Despite the rainy conditions, James Werner, Richard Forsythe and T. Evan Fisher won the prize for “Best Social Commentary” in front of thousands of parade attendees.

The prize-winning Libertarian Party float, featuring large signs featuring the motto “Your Marriage, Your Bedroom, Your Business”, sponsored jointly by the Collin County LP, the Dallas County LP and Outright Libertarians, was built by Richard Forsythe. Reid Robinson, the lead singer of rock band Shanghai5, performed atop the float as DJ. Dallas County LP Chair Tim Lebsack, Mary Garcia, Brent Firedman and Bill Bunch passed out literature, Werner for Governor buttons and foam Lady Liberty crowns.

Gubernatorial candidate James Werner was the only one of the five candidates for governor to attend the parade this year. Additionally, none of Fisher’s opponents in the race for State Legislature District 108 participated in the parade even though the parade route and park were located within the district. Several non-partisan City of Dallas officials, including Mayor Laura Miller and members of City Council, did participate.

For more information:

www.werner4texas.com www.outrightusa.org
www.fisher2006.org www.shanghai5.com
www.dallastavernguild.com



Plano Balloon Fest



Common Ground



Texas Chairpersons L>R: Pat Dixon (Libertarian), Bryan Malatesta (Constitution), Beverly Kennedy (Reform), Doug Reber (Green)



Featured Speakers L>R: David Cobb, Green Party 2004 candidate for President, won the door prize for having traveled farther than any other attendee [California]. Michael Badnarik, Libertarian Party candidate for Texas CD10 and our 2004 Candidate for President. Bob Smither, Libertarian Party candidate for Texas CD22.

Dallas Hob Nob

Campaign Advice

by Matthew G. Moseley, Libertarian Candidate For State Representative, House District 112



Yesterday afternoon and evening I hit the streets of my district setting out yard signs and distributing door hangers. While we were out we encountered a situation that I thought might be very helpful to other candidates to know.

I am in a two-way race with an entrenched Republican who has support from city leaders and about half of the district. We visited a few houses that already had yard signs for Democrats. I thought I would try a new strategy with them in order to get their support.

I've heard of this technique called "appealing to their pain". In this case it's their hatred, but the effect is the same.

When they came to the door, I introduced myself, let them know what seat I am running for, and let them know they have two choices for this seat: the Republican or me.

It's amazing how quickly they will support you. This wavered with only one person after mentioning that I am a libertarian. So in all, the technique is very effective. If you are out talking with the people and are in a similar situation, use this to apply to your case changing out Republican if your only opponent is a Democrat and you're talking to a Republican.

Also, I visited the home of a gentleman who had a Carole Strayhorn sign in his yard. In this case, I used the appeal of being neither a Democrat or a Republican, and the effect was the same.

This one meeting was very beneficial in that his house faces Main Street (a major road through town, so my sign will be seen by hundreds daily), but he is also a lobbyist for the VA. He will be helping me get the veterans' votes for this election. It just goes to show that you cannot afford to pass up any opportunity to get the message out, no matter how you reach them.

I hope this experience will help the rest of your who are out there trying to win in this election!

SLEC Approves Operational Cash Reserve

At the 23 September SLEC meeting, Treasurer Geoff Neale reminded the body that organizations live and die by their cash flow. He spoke about the regular obligations the SLEC must meet and stated it is not only prudent but desirable to provide a large enough cash reserve to meet these obligations. As part of his report, he proposed an Operational Cash Reserve Policy, as follows:

The SLEC shall establish and maintain an operational cash reserve target.

The amount of the reserve shall be set by the Treasurer on an annual basis and shall represent a sum approximating the average monthly recurring expenditures, rounded up to the nearest thousand dollars.

Reserve adequacy shall only be calculated based upon month end cash balances.

Any SLEC motion that would cause the cash balance to fall below operational cash reserve levels shall require a 2/3 vote of the SLEC.

After a brief discussion, during which Neale stressed he was NOT proposing to establish another bank account, the SLEC voted to adopt the proposal, authorizing Neale to establish the reserve beginning January 2007.

Executive Director's Report

by Wes Benedict

I didn't take this job promising miracles or overnight success. I have striven to improve our performance and effectiveness and hope that more hard work and dedication by our staff, officers, candidates, donors, and volunteers will attract people to the Libertarian Party in the future. I believe our measurable results show we are on a path forward.

Candidates

We recruited a record number of candidates for November 2006 in Texas. The number of partisan Libertarian Party candidates on the ballot for November elections in Texas:

2000	90
2002	136
2004	71
2006	168

Candidate web pages and photos

I was hired as Executive Director in July 2004. Shortly after, I was bombarded by the press and organizations seeking information on our 71 candidates. Unfortunately, I lacked correct contact information for many of them and spent lots of time tracking them down. I was only able to get digital photos for 21 candidates by the November elections and spent lots of time e-mailing lists and photographs to people requesting the information.

This season, with the help of Bob Smither (also a candidate), we created individual contact pages for each candidate: <http://lptexas.org/candidates.shtml>. These pages have links to high resolution photos for 116 of our 168 candidates: www.lptexas.org/largephotos.html.

I'm getting contacted frequently by the press and other organizations and being able to direct them to our candidates list makes providing information a snap.

Press Coverage

While our candidates are mentioned frequently in the press, we list 124 news articles so far in 2006 on our website that at least have a sentence or two beyond simply mentioning their existence: <http://lptexas.org/news.shtml>. That should put to rest the common complaint that "the press won't mention Libertarian candidates." While our candidate for Governor is being excluded from a future televised debate, and not all of the stories about our candidates

have been positive, neither are most of the stories you read about Republicans or Democrats positive.

Art did a study of the number of Libertarian mentions in two major newspapers. A Factiva (news search service) search indicates that we're having improved coverage in the Austin American-Statesman and Houston Chronicle this year. Each number covers January 1 - September 21 of the corresponding year (with full-year data in parentheses). Results from a search for "libertarian" but not "civil libertarian:"

Austin American Statesman:

2002:	57 (109 for whole year)
2004:	36 (80 for whole year)
2006:	138

Houston Chronicle:

2002:	58 (182 for whole year)
2004:	41 (120 for whole year)
2006:	149

Fundraising

By August, our revenue for 2006 was higher than all of 2005:

2005 (entire year):	\$58,410
2006 (Jan-Aug only):	\$66,292

The number of donors to the LP Texas is growing while conversely the number of donors from Texas to the National LP is dropping. While Texas doesn't have a dues-paying membership program, the numbers below approximate what the number of dues-paying members to Texas would be if we labeled donations as dues.

Numbers below are the quantity of donor from the prior twelve months.

Month	National	Texas
Aug-05	1223	175
Sep-05	1178	200
Oct-05	1167	238
Nov-05	1092	222
Dec-05	1059	221
Jan-06	1020	270
Feb-06	986	293
Mar-06	956	310
Apr-06	934	416
May-06	916	461
Jun-06	895	519
Jul-06	837	558
Aug-06	810	559
Sep-06	776	577

Signs, Bumper Stickers, and Door Hangers

We shipped the last of our first order of 100,000 "Quiz Across Texas" door hangers but have 200,000 more arriving. We've made over 300 shipments through-

out Texas. Volunteer Mike Burris (also a candidate and a top LP Texas donor) has made 41 deliveries free of charge in the Austin area.

The door hangers feature the World's Smallest Political Quiz along with LP Texas contact information and a detachable return postcard. They're currently viewable on our campaign materials page at: <http://lptexas.org/campaignmat.shtml>

In 2004, I estimate only about 20,000 to 30,000 total pieces of Libertarian Party and Libertarian candidate brochures were distributed in Texas. We may do ten times more in 2006. I think we had 200 state party yard signs made in 2002, none in 2004, but we've bought 5,500 in 2006. I'd expect to have about 500 to 1,000 yard signs left over for next season. These are the poly-bag style and cost the LPT about \$1.20 each delivered. Sign, bumper sticker, and door hanger orders come from our mailings, the website, e-mails, and lots of phone calls done by our Assistant Director, Art DiBianca. One of the benefits of having these campaign materials is that it gives almost any volunteer willing to put in some time a task they can handle without requiring much management time from our staff or officers.

Art reports very enthusiastic support from his phone calls to our database of Libertarians. "So far, I have made 1,152 calls to 726 people. 296 people reached (41% of people called). 195 are successful (66% of people reached). That means either they take door hangers, or they donate over the phone, or they assert that they will donate by mail or on the internet. Total door hanger orders from calls - 35,350. Total yard sign orders - 152."

Contributions and re-orders roll in daily from our shipments of campaign materials which include re-order and donation forms along with return envelopes.

Distribution Center

While the LP Texas does not have an office (Art and I work out of our homes), we rented a 10' x 25' climate controlled self-storage unit for \$234 per month (pro-rated move-in and move-out) starting mid-August to store and package the campaign materials. We spend a few hours about twice per week there packaging and shipping campaign materials across the state. The packaging supplies for each shipment cost about \$1 and the freight (USPS Parcel Post) averages about \$5 across the state.

Website

Our website used to have lots of outdated information. Our goal for much of 2005 was to make it accurate, even if it wasn't pretty. We had a professional web designer working on a completely new site but that effort fell through. Currently, it's fairly clean, has a donation and functioning campaign material ordering system, and is serving us well even if it isn't especially fancy.

Inquiries

We receive inquiries on our state website and from the National Party website. Lately, we've been responding within a day or two by mailing inquiry packages to all new contacts. Additionally, the James Werner for Governor Campaign sends us the contact information from their website for people who request free Werner for Governor bumper stickers. That's helping to grow our database of Libertarians and the number of donors.

Texas Ethics Commission Complaints

The Libertarian Party of Texas and its current and former Treasurers were the targets of complaints filed against our Texas Ethics Commission filings. Most of those complaints were based on minor reporting details that many campaigns experience problems with.

We have responded to those complaints, satisfactorily in my opinion, but as I've reported before, I expect fines sometime in the future not above \$1500 total.

I ran for Austin City Council in 2005 and during the course of that campaign, with the help of my campaign treasurer, Art DiBianca (our current LPT Assistant Director) discovered numerous campaign finance violations by nearly every candidate in each race for Austin City Council.

While generally opposing most of the rules governing campaign finance, we unleashed the government against the hypocrisy of mainstream candidates which resulted in numerous fines.

I also filed a lawsuit against the Austin Police Association PAC. Later, someone decided to retaliate by filing complaints against the LP Texas.

Staff Pay

One of the articles reporting ethics complaints against the Libertarian Party of Texas included false insinuations about my pay. Details about staff pay are

not readily discernible from the Texas Ethics Commission reports (partly due to reporting errors but also due to the level of detail provided). However, for the record, below is the amount of staff pay since I started in 2004.

2004

Wes Benedict: \$10,831.40 (6 months)

2005

Wes Benedict: \$20,976.00 (9 months—took 3 off for city council race)

Art DiBianca: 3,753.79 (6 months half-time)

Matt Finkel: \$200.00 (brief time)

2006 (Jan - Aug)

Wes Benedict: \$22,562.09

Art DiBianca: \$9,447.57 (half-time 7 months; full-time 1)

Matt Finkel: \$6,413.97 (5.5 months)

We have no office. Our staff has worked out of home, paying our own phone bills and internet access, used our own personal computers, software and printers (but expensed print cartridges). If you're willing to work for the Libertarian Party of Texas for one third of your recent pay, please send me your resume and include an explanation of what you expect to accomplish.

Other Treasury and Database Issues

In the past, I have reported challenges dealing with our bookkeeping, treasury, and database functions. For the most part, those issues operate smoothly at the state level, and I view them as useful tools rather than constant headaches.

Of the 1508 pieces mailed in August, about 3% have been returned. I don't know the previous return rate, but 3% is a great improvement to our data.

Additionally, of the 726 people Art has called lately, about 8% could not be reached because of disconnected or wrong phone numbers, which is also a vast improvement over the past.

Conclusions

I can't predict wins by candidates on November 7, 2006, but I am expecting improved results and think we've put in place systems that lay the foundation for future growth.

Campaign Briefs

Kris Overstreet, State Representative, District 18

Despite a lack of success in fundraising, I'm making one final push to run local radio ads in October to promote my campaign against John Otto. As the only opposition to a highly unpopular incumbent, I'm optimistic in my chances, provided my message can get to the voters in time. Reaction to my campaign among those I've been able to contact has been overwhelmingly positive, especially when framed against my opponent's record of raising taxes and expanding local government. I'm currently scheduled for two public events in October, and I'm looking for every other opportunity I can find to secure more.

For more information or to donate money, visit www.voteoverstreet.org.

Charles Ellis, State Representative, District 73

The Comal County League of Women Voters will hold a candidate forum on October 23rd. Hopefully, Mr. Strohm and Mr. Thompson have received their invitations and will be able to attend. It would be nice not being the only Libertarian there this time.

The way it worked last time, audience members submitted written questions for candidates in each race, and the organizers selected 3 or 4 of those questions. The candidates are asked to give an introductory statement before the questions are presented. Candidates alternate answering each question first.

At the 2002 candidate forum, I was pleased to discover there was someone in the audience concerned about fully informed juries. Unfortunately, there were no contested judicial races in the county, so his question was submitted to the candidate for County Judge. Despite the name, County Judge is an executive rather than a judicial office. Still, it was interesting to learn that the incumbent, Judge Scheele, had no knowledge of the subject.

For more information or to donate money, visit <http://ellis2006.blogspot.com/>

Matthew Moseley, State Representative, District 112

Matthew Moseley has been running a very active campaign in Texas House District 112. In September, he helped organize the Libertarian presence at the Dallas Hob Nob and was subsequently invited to join the Public Affairs Luncheon Club. He was favorably mentioned by the *Dallas Morning News* in a September 5th editorial despite their endorsement of his opponent and has been endorsed by the minority business owners association of Richardson, Texas.

He attends Richardson City Council meetings to address issues as needed and draw attention to his campaign. He has distributed 300 yard signs for his campaign and 500 door hangers for the Libertarian Party and has promoted the party and his campaign at the Plano Balloon Festival.

Moseley appointed two people to positions within his campaign, a new Campaign Treasurer and Steering Committee Chair, interviewed a campaign manager for the 2008 elections, and has begun organizing fund-raising efforts to support his 2008 campaign.

In October, a radio advertisement for his campaign is expected to air on progressive talk station KXEB, 910 AM, and he will be organizing an Election Night Party for the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

For more information or to donate money, visit www.MatthewMoseley.org.

Mhair S. Dekmezian, State Representative, District 134

On October 12 at Rice University in McMurtry Auditorium, the Rice Young Democrats and Rice College Republicans will host Ellen Cohen, Martha Wong, and Mhair Dekmezian (who was invited at the request of the Wong campaign for a debate for House District 134 in Houston. For ninety minutes, a panel of four Rice professors will ask the candidates questions about the race for the state legislature.

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.mhair2006.com/

Christopher Claytor, U.S. Representative, District 3

I rented, with Michelle Shinghal's help as Collin County Libertarian Party Chairperson, a booth at the fair for \$335, non-profit rate.

In the past I have attended the fair and always been hounded by the Democrats that always had a booth. I thought us Libertarians needed a booth this year! Plus, I am running for Congress in my home district and this event was right in the heart of the district!

To summarize, we got a total of 523 Individuals to take the World's Smallest Political Quiz. One hundred thirty-eight (138) people filled out the form to get more info, with some form of contact information.

For more information, visit <http://www.claytorforcongress.org/>

Michael Badnarik, U. S. Representative, District 10

The Badnarik for Congress campaign is shaping up to be a particularly exciting race for a number of reasons. They have raised more than seven (7) times what the Democrat has. In addition, they have been campaigning for over 13 months and have three (3) billboards in three (3) different cities while their opponents have none. They have passed out over 30,000 brochures and 10,000 bumper stickers. These facts, coupled with Michael's name recognition in Texas from running for President in 2004 and State Representative in 2000 and 2002, just might represent the best shot a Libertarian in Texas has ever had at winning a seat in Congress. On September 20, Michael signed a legally binding employment contract with the voters of District 10, making himself ineligible for reelection in 2008 if he fails to fulfill his campaign commitments.

For more information or to donate money, visit www.badnarik.org.

Events

1 October 2006

Lubbock County Libertarian Party Meeting, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Day Break Coffee House, 4409 19th

3 October 2006

Williamson County Libertarian Party meets at Hunan Lion Chinese Restaurant, Round Rock, 7:00 PM. The location is near the Post Office at the Hwy 79/Sam Bass Rd. And IH 35 intersection.

Monthly Travis County Libertarian Party business meeting. Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center Drive, Austin. 6:45 - 8:30 PM Social hour, 8:30 PM, El Arroyo restaurant, 7032 Wood Hollow Drive. Visitors welcome at both events.

4 October 2006

The Libertarian Party of Bexar County will be at a Voter Registration Fair at the University of the Incarnate Word on October 4, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, along with the Republicans and Democrats.

Discussion of Election Legal Issues, featuring Elizabeth Hanshaw Winn, Director of the Legal Department of the Elections Division of the Secretary of State. 7:00 PM, LCRA Board Room, Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd., Austin. Free. League of Women Voters.

5 October 2006

Conroe, Texas, National Animal ID "Town Hall" Meeting, 7:00 to 9:00 PM, at the Open Range Cowboy Church, 13156 Hwy 105, Cut & Shoot, 77306. Includes a public Question and Answer forum. Candidates will be invited to state their position on NAIS. For more information about the meeting, contact Vallye Chandler at 281-592-0522 or thefeedstore@ev1.net. For more information about the Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance contact Judith McGeary at 1-866-687-6452 or www.farmandranchfreedom.org

6 October 2006

Aaron Russo's *America: Freedom to Fascism* opens Angelika Film Center, Dallas, Texas

7 October 2006

"Austin Tea Party To Protest An Unfair Biased Property Tax and Appraisals System." 1:00 - 3:00 PM, south side of Capitol, Austin. Featuring performance by Billy Joe Shaver. For more information, contact Floyd Fisher at 979-543-0384 or F4854BEC@aol.com

Film screening: *Truth be Told*. 7:00 PM, Alamo Drafthouse, 1120 S. Lamar, Austin. Donations encouraged. Documentary about Texas' toll road plans. Sponsored by Independent Texas. Reservations required: email ljcurtis@indytexans.org.

8 October 2006

Lubbock County Libertarian Party Meeting, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Day Break Coffee House, 4409 19th

12 October 2006

Rice University, McMurtry Auditorium, the Rice Young Democrats and Rice College Republicans will host Ellen Cohen, Martha Wong, and Mhair Dekmezian (who was invited at the request of the Wong campaign) for a debate for House District 134 in Houston. The debate is free and open to the public.

14 October 2006

Quiz Across Lago Vista: distribution of LP door hangers, followed by a party at Pat Dixon's. Contact Pat at TCLPPatDixon@earthlink.net to volunteer.

15 October 2006

Lubbock County Libertarian Party Meeting, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Day Break Coffee House, 4409 19th

17 October 2006

Bexar County Libertarian Party Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Unlimited Thought Bookstore, 5525 Blanco, Suite 107

19 October 2006

Collin County League of Women Voters Candidate Forum, 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM, Haggard Library, Plano

23 October 2006

Early voting begins
The Comal County League of Women Voters candidate forum.

22 October 2006

Lubbock County Libertarian Party Meeting, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Day Break Coffee House, 4409 19th

29 October 2006

Lubbock County Libertarian Party Meeting, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Day Break Coffee House, 4409 19th

7 November 2006

General Elections
Dallas Area Election Night Watch/Party, 7:00 PM to Contact Matthew Moseley (camelfarm@juno.com) or 469-879-4234 for more information.

Election Night party. Legends Sports Bar, Holiday Inn, 8901 Business Park Drive, Austin. Details TBA.

21 November 2006

Bexar County Libertarian Party Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Unlimited Thought Bookstore, 5525 Blanco, Suite 107. Maurice Sochia: What a False Tax Is

19 December 2006

Bexar County Libertarian Party Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Unlimited Thought Bookstore, 5525 Blanco, Suite 107. Ray Aleman: America's War on People: Victims of Drug Prohibition



Donate to the Libertarian Party of Texas

Help the Libertarian Party of Texas succeed! Your contribution will help reduce the size, power, expense and intrusiveness of government by building a stronger, more effective Libertarian Party.

Visit <http://www.tx.lp.org/donate.shtml> to contribute with ClickandPledge!

You can also mail your contribution to:

Libertarian Party of Texas

PO Box 41059

Austin, TX 78704