

The Nevada Libertarian

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Nevada

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LP-NV Holds Convention

On Saturday, March 19, 1994, the Nevada Libertarian Party held its biennial state convention at the Hotel Continental in Las Vegas. The primary purpose of the convention was to elect party officers to serve during the next two years.

The election proved to be a watershed event, as many of the former office holders chose not to run, or were defeated in their bids for re-election. The new officers are:

State Chair: Jim Burns
(Las Vegas)
Vice Chair: Ernest Walker
(Sparks)
Secretary: Scott Kjar (LV)
Treasurer: Ray Derryberry (LV)
North Rep: James Dan (Reno)
Central Rep: Sandy Harmon
(Tonopah)
South Rep: Melinda Parshall (LV)
At-Large: Renee Christy (LV)

Dan was the only person re-elected to the same position he previously held. Former State Chair Sandy Harmon moved into a new post. Burns had been State Chair during the 1970's. All other elected officers are newcomers to the State Executive Committee.

At an informal lunch meeting of most of the new officers, Chair Burns indicated a desire to return the LP to its activist roots. He also vowed to expand outreach to new groups, an activity which was almost entirely abandoned by the previous administration.

LP Sponsors TAX PROTEST!

The Libertarian Party of Nevada, in one of its first acts since the recent convention, is sponsoring a tax protest on April 15 in Las Vegas. The event will consist of a demonstration at the Main Post Office, and will also include a party complete with live music and lots of great raffle items.

The event begins at the Main Post Office on Sunset Road, where an estimated 14,000 tax returns were mailed last year on tax day. There, LP activists will be handing out literature, and inviting taxpayers to attend our FREE party later in the evening.

At 9 pm, the action picks up at Steaks 'n More, at the corner of Sunset Road and Green Valley Parkway. There, **Iya Khan and the Would Be Kings** will be playing the 1040 blues (and other appropriate music) for the rest of the night. Admission is FREE, and the LPN will be raffling off great items, including a beautiful boom box, show tickets, dinners, gift certificates, and a variety of other wonderful items.

To attend the party, JUST SHOW UP! It promises to be a festive night, and all proceeds help the LPN to make its fight against big government more visible this year than ever.

We hope to see you there!

Liberty Calendar

Wed, 4/13, 6:00 pm

The Desert Libertarian Club

Monthly meeting on the Second Wednesday of each month at Denny's Restaurant (across from Sunrise Hospital on Maryland Parkway). This month's highlights:

WACO II Video

Michael Emerling, Guest Speaker

Fri, 4/15 6 pm

Anti-Tax Demonstration!

LP Nevada will sponsor an anti-tax demonstration for last-minute filers at the Las Vegas Main Post Office on Sunset Road.

Fri, 4/15, 9 pm

Tax Day Bash!

LP Nevada will sponsor a Tax Day Bash, featuring **Iya Khan and the Would Be Kings**. Raffle includes CD boom box, show tickets, gift certificates, dinners, more. The party is at Steaks 'N More, Sunset Road & Green Valley Pkwy, Las Vegas.

Fri, 4/22, 9 pm

NORML Benefit

Las Vegas "Budding" Chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws is holding a fundraiser at Tom & Jerry's, 4550 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas. Live music featuring **Current Resident** and **Sandstorm**. \$5 at the door.

Mon, 4/25, 7:30 pm

Intro to Liberty

LP Nevada hosts an Informational Session on Libertarianism. The event will last 90 minutes, and the public is invited. Denny's, 5318 Boulder Highway (across from Nevada Palace).

Sun, 5/8, 2:00 pm

LP Nevada Central Committee Meeting

All county chairs, all affiliate organization chairs, all state party officers, and all NatCom members are included. Any Libertarian may attend. Location TBA

A New Beginning...

by State Chairman James Libertarian Burns

I would like to thank all of the libertarians who voted to elect me Chairman at the Libertarian Party of Nevada's recent convention; I will do what I can to be worthy of your trust.

We must always recognize that the LP stands not on any negative philosophy, but upon a positive one. After all, as the Preamble to the National Platform reads: "As Libertarians, we seek a world of liberty; a world in which all individuals are sovereign over their own lives, and no one is forced to sacrifice his or her values for the benefit of others."

However, we all know that liberty will not simply fall from the sky. To achieve liberty, we must put forth human energy. That energy MUST BE both yours and mine — after all, there is no one else! There will be no one to take our case to other people if we don't do it ourselves. There will be no one to argue for idealism and justice if we don't argue for them first.

As such, I believe that the Libertarian Party should be a party of inclusion, limited only by the principles upon which we stand. To that end, I would like to see more libertarian leaders and spokespeople. In order to move against a government-run-amok, we need more people in more places doing more things than ever before.

The LP is not a monolithic entity.

There is a national party, a state party, several county parties, and many local clubs. Each one is working to promote liberty in its own unique fashion. Find the group that's best for you — in terms of your skills, and your needs — then go to work. If you can't find a group that fits you, start your own!

At the state level, we have two steps we will be immediately taking. The first is the publication of a regular newsletter, and the second is the return to open and public meetings.

While it is true that members of the National Libertarian Party receive *The LP News* every month, most libertarians don't join the national party. That means that many of you aren't able to keep up with what's happening with the LP across the country. What's more, even those of you who do receive it don't always know everything that's happening right here in Nevada. The newsletter will be a means to keep the lines of communication open, so that everyone stays in touch, not just a small elite group at the top of the party.

However, we must all keep in mind that the newsletter is not manna from the skies. We must work to pay for it each and every issue. If you own a business, or have influence with some one who does, please advertise. Advertising in *The Ne-*

vada Libertarian is tax-deductible, and it helps other libertarians know who you are, and what you do. At the same time, please patronize our advertisers; after all, it is their continued support of us that allows us to keep this information coming to you.

Also, as for regular meetings, we will be starting in the Clark County area, since it is the largest county in the state, and the county party has fallen into disarray over the last 14 months. The first one will be on Monday, April 25. It will be held at Denny's Restaurant on Boulder Highway, and will begin promptly at 7:30 pm. The meeting will end within 90 minutes, although you are welcome to stay to chat after the meeting.

The Clark County meeting, sponsored by the Nevada Libertarian Party and the Libertarian Leadership Council, will be on the fourth Monday of each month. At the meetings, we will be featuring various candidates and other libertarian leaders. It is my hope that we will be able to use this meeting as an outreach tool, bringing in new members and reaching out to members of other organizations, such as gun groups, tax groups, and so on.

And please, remember the words of William Allen White: "Liberty is the only thing you cannot have unless you are willing to give it away."

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Me? A Candidate?!

You know, I never really thought about it before now. Let me think about what all is involved.

I suppose that a basic understanding of the libertarian philosophy helps, but I guess I've got that. And, well, maybe I should read the paper to know what's going on in the area, but I usually do that anyway. Perhaps I should find out just what district I'm located in, and who the incumbent is here. Well, I just got that card from the Registrar of Voters, so if I can find that, I'll know. Well, doggone it, maybe I'll just look up the County Clerk in the phone book, and I'll ask them. After all, they're paid to know stuff like this.

OK, well maybe I've got the basics down. What should I do from here? Well, I guess I should probably call the LP and let them know I'm interested. Maybe they've got a Candidate Training Seminar coming up sometime to help people like me. In fact, I'm sure they've got one, because I read somewhere that Michael Emerling, a highly respected Libertarian, would be offering one sometime early this summer. If I get my name on the list of those people interested, they'll probably let me know when it will be.

What next. Hmm. Maybe I should start writing down the names of my friends and neighbors, since I know I'll need some help once I actually begin campaigning. I guess

I'll need some help passing out some flyers, and maybe a few people could make signs for me and put them in their yards, and probably we'll need to make some phone calls. Yeah, I'll just start making a list of people who I think might help me out.

I might need some help with my issues. I guess I should probably keep it simple, and stick to about 3 basic issues that I know something about. That way, I won't try to offer answers to every single problem, but I will be able to use my three issues as basic campaign themes. That way, I can always return to these issues, and not worry much about being stumped on some obscure question about colonizing Mars, or the rights of 2 year olds, or just exactly how laws concerning gays should (or should not) read. If someone really insists on an answer to some tough question, I guess I can always call someone and talk about it, and get a better understanding of the issue before I make a statement.

Hey! I could probably do this! I mean, I don't have to give up my job, and I don't have to campaign every day,

but by keeping at it, a little at a time and always pushing forward, maybe I can make a difference! Yeah. I think I'll call the LP right now at 251-7123 (Las Vegas) or 626-1776 (Reno) and let them know that this is the year for me.

I don't know why I never tried this before.

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Expect a call from the LP...

In the coming weeks, the LP of Nevada will be making an effort to call every member. We will be doing this for several reasons, and we hope we can count on your cooperation when a volunteer rings you.

First, we are trying to update everyone's addresses and phone numbers. There are many people who apparently did not receive notice of the recent State Convention, and we hope to avoid such problems in the future.


Second, we will be taking a survey of what issues are most important to you. Feel free to answer whatever is appropriate, such as 2nd Amendment/ Gun Laws, Income Taxes, Business Regulation, Free Trade, Lifestyle Choices, Health Care/FDA, Censorship, Pollution, Fully Informed Jury Amendment, Education, Drug War/Civil Asset Forfeiture, First Amendment, or other topics.

Third, we will be asking what level of commitment might be appropriate for you. Some people may wish to become members of the national party. Others may prefer to help by working at fair booths, or speaking at local high schools, or forming small affiliate chapters. Still others may prefer acting as part of a phone tree, or joining a regular letter-to-the-editor campaign. A few may want to act as campaign managers, or research issues for our candidates. Finally, perhaps you have a desire to run for office yourself.

With this information, we hope to be able to better identify people for specific activities and functions, involve more members in the operation of the party, and end the elitism which has characterized much of the recent party effort.

When you get the call, please help by answering our questions. Thank you.

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