



Libertarian Penn

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

Summer 2004

Michael Badnarik Selected as Libertarian Presidential Candidate George Getz, LP Communications Director, GeorgeGetz@hq.lp.org

ATLANTA – In a stunning come-from-behind victory, Texas constitutional scholar Michael Badnarik has won the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination.

Badnarik, 49, of Austin, Texas, won 423 votes – or 54 percent – from delegates at the Libertarian Party's national convention in Atlanta on Sunday. Coming in second was movie producer Aaron Russo, followed by longtime radio talk show host Gary Nolan.

Badnarik's victory was considered a shock because he had been beaten in the polls and primaries by both Nolan and Russo. According to many undecided delegates, Badnarik's superior performance in the Saturday debates propelled him ahead of the other candidates.



Constitutional Scholar, Michael Badnarik accepts the Libertarian nomination.

In an emotional acceptance speech on the convention floor, a surprised Badnarik declared, "Never in my wildest dreams!" Then he thanked delegates for their support and made it clear that his campaign will stay

focused on forcing the government to abide by the Constitution.

"The reason we can't find a relationship between the Constitution and the government is that there is none," he said. "If I can win the Libertarian nomination, there's no reason I can't win this election. We have a unique opportunity to change the world."

For the past three years Badnarik has been teaching classes on the Constitution, and his message of forcing the government to strictly abide by that document appealed to many Libertarian delegates.

According to many political analysts, the Libertarian nominee could cost President George Bush the November election by attracting votes from

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A Message from the Chair, **David R. Jahn, Chair, chair@lppa.org**

What an exciting year to be a Libertarian. We have had both a state and national convention and a presidential election ahead providing us good reasons to unite for a common cause.

Our state convention was held in Harrisburg in March and our thanks go out to Barry Dively for organizing this year's gathering at the Harrisburg Hilton. The facilities and service were great and the speakers were memorable. Aside from the entertainment and excellent speakers, we passed resolutions, one change to our bylaws,

chose candidates for elective offices and elected a new board of directors.

This year's board is composed of both old and new members and it is a good mix of personalities who are all dedicated to moving our party forward. That is important because this year presents many challenges.

As I take the helm as Chair of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania, I'm reminded of an old car I had during my college years with an engine that didn't run on all cylinders. Our party is very similar. We have vacant commit-

tees that liken us to a car that doesn't run on all cylinders. As a result, we aren't as efficient as we could be. As I write, four out of six standing committees that are vital to our success are vacant, and a small overworked group of active members are struggling to perform the roles of the Election, Fundraising, Membership, and Legislative committees. The inherent problem with this approach is that while this small group focuses on the duties of one committee, the duties of the other committees are ignored since it is impossible for a few of us to

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Badnarik Selected (Continued from Page 1)

frustrated Republicans in key swing states such as Wisconsin, Oregon and Nevada. According to a May 21 article by David Paul Kuhn, chief political writer for CBSNews.com, many conservatives are so angry over Bush's spending increases that they may abandon the GOP in November. If that happens, the Libertarian nominee "may do for Democrats in 2004 what Nader did for Republicans in 2000" and cost Bush the election, Kuhn says.

The Libertarian presidential candidate

appeared on all 50 state ballots in 1992, 1996, and 2000, and the party is working toward that goal in 2004.

In a separate vote, delegates chose

Richard Campagna as their vice presidential nominee. Campagna, 52, is an attorney in Iowa City, Iowa.

"The reason we can't find a relationship between the Constitution and the government is that there is none."

-Michael Badnarik

A Message From the Chair (Continued from Page 1)

perform the duties of these committees concurrently.

I try to imagine what it would be like to have a party with fully staffed committees, each focused on one area of concern. Our membership would be up. We would have sufficient funds for ballot access, outreach, and other noble causes. A well staffed Election committee would have produced more candidates across the state, worked to assure we achieved ballot access, and would already be focusing on our candidates for next year. Finally, an effective Legislative committee would help us focus on what is happening in the Capitol and what should be happening in the Capitol, perhaps introducing legislation of our own. Such legislative information and action would help shape the future of our state, keep us in the press and assure our candidates are well informed. As you can see, a few people on each of these committees could really make the difference to the success of our party.

Eventually, the car I had in college quit running and I had to rebuild the engine. After that, it ran on all cylinders, delivered more power and traveled further with less fuel. Likewise, we too could perform with the strength and efficiency of a well tuned engine. I know we have managed to move for-

ward with vacant committees, but we aren't as effective as we could be. Perhaps, it is time to stop and rebuild the engine.

Concern for the future is what brought me to the Libertarian Party. I care about the world I leave for my children and their children. I can look them in the eye today because I know I'm doing everything I can to preserve what is left of our freedoms and to restore what has been lost. I'm asking each of you to pause for a moment to consider if you are doing enough to preserve the promise of freedom for your children. Surely, a few of you can spare a few hours a month to serve on one of these committees. If so, please contact me at chair@lppa.org and let me know what committee would interest you.

Lastly, I want to remind everyone that we will be electing a president and several statewide candidates this election year. A number of our members are also running for offices in the General Assembly and U.S. Congress. In order to get our statewide candidates on the ballot, we are required to turn in at least 25,691 signatures. Of course, we hope to turn in over 35,000 signatures thereby assuring we can withstand a ballot access challenge. We need contributions to sup-

port our paid petition drive that, hopefully, is winding down by the time you receive this newsletter. Some of the paid petitioners proceeded in good faith, trusting that we would come through with the funds when the drive ended. Their trust should be properly rewarded.

If you have any questions regarding the ballot drive or our candidates, you can contact our election committee at elections@lppa.org. Of course, those emails will be forwarded to me until someone volunteers to serve on that committee.

Again, let me say this is an exciting year with tremendous potential. Frustration with the major parties is evident across our nation. We can really make a difference in the future of this country through the upcoming election. Public interest and support for our party are growing. We should come together and make the most of this opportunity.

info@LpPa.org
1-800-R-Rights
www.LpPa.org

Primary Day Petitioning Success

Russ Diamond, russ@raintree.com

On Primary Day, the Libertarian Party of Lebanon County was honored with the presence of Bill Redpath, National LP Ballot Access Coordinator, who traveled from Virginia to help us collect signatures. Bill was introduced to the hard-nosed Lebanon County Republican voters in an abrupt fashion and was amazed by the rudeness of some of them.

In all fairness, our locals were literally overwhelmed by the last-minute campaign efforts of the Rs in Senate and Congressional races. They were quite sick of the mailings and automated phone calls. On top of that, they had to get through the gauntlet of literature bearers at the polls. Some polling places had more than a dozen campaign workers lined up to swoop in on R voters. Democratic voters, on the other hand, didn't even bother to show up.

In spite of all this, Bill was able to collect 262 signatures, which was over 1/3 of all the voters who showed up at his assigned polling place. The rest of the team, all novices (including myself), gathered another 392 for a total of 654.

In the morning, I teamed up with Bill to learn his approach. Volunteers who were assigned elsewhere did poorly. At our midmorning break, I taught everyone Bill's approach and we did better over lunch. The petitioners who deviated from Bill's approach improved the least. During our afternoon break, I reinforced the need to use Bill's script and afterward everyone had much better luck collecting signatures.

We all learned a lot throughout the day, but what was clear was that Bill's approach worked. Personally, I am not someone who is normally comfortable approaching people, but having a script that actually works makes it TONS easier.



Libertarian Candidate, Russ Diamond (left) with LNC Ballot Access Coordinator, Bill Redpath.

Here's Bill's script:

"Excuse me, (sir/ma'am), would you sign a petition to allow the Libertarian Party on the ballot in November? It's not an endorsement or a vote, but we need over 25,000 signatures from voters in Pennsylvania just to get on the ballot and give voters a choice."

The script works! Learn it. Memorize it. Recite it. Practice it in your sleep. Use it. Every time. Don't deviate from the script because it contains all the right hot-buttons terms. Use the right inflection to highlight certain words: allow...not...25,000...choice...

On another note, because the Ds didn't bother running a candidate for State Rep, we tried to get me nominated as a D. In the afternoon and evening we teamed up at the polls and each volunteer had a specific task: One instructed Ds on their way in with instruction cards on how to write my name on the ballot while the other harvested signatures as voters left.

Although I did not receive the required

number of write-in votes to be nominated as a Democrat, it was a good case study in effective campaigning. I am waiting for final numbers to come in for mathematical analysis, but here's the preliminary picture:

We received 111 write-ins (we needed 300) after a ten day write-in campaign. Meanwhile, a prominent D in Lebanon County received only 22 write-ins after a 30 day campaign run by people on the D county committee.

I targeted my hometown (where I'm well-known) Democratic super-voters and also the most densely populated precincts of the district (where I'm not so well-known...yet). I talked with voters from at least half of the 374 doors I knocked on. And I spent a total of around 40 to 45 hours walking the streets.

The five most D-populated precincts were covered on Primary Day by volunteers handing out 'how-to' cards and pens to the Ds.

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Judicial Committee Called Into Action

Henry Haller, HEHaller@aol.com

In a rare appeal to the Judicial Committee, Eastern Vice-Chair Charles Fournier questioned two actions taken at this year's state convention. The committee, elected at the convention, consists of Elizabeth Summers, Tim Moir, Ray Masters, Henry Haller, and James Babb. Its first action was to select a chair, as specified in our Bylaws. Tim Moir was selected to fill that role.

The first issue raised by Mr. Fournier was the nomination of Jay Russell as our U.S. Senate candidate. The action that occurred at that time was definitely out of the ordinary, in that a vote had been taken in which Richard Piotrowski was declared the winner of the nomination. However, there followed a motion for reconsideration, which passed, and then a second vote after considerable debate in which Mr. Russell received a majority of the vote. There was considerable confusion about the propriety of this procedure in that Robert's Rules of Order states that "An election to an office becomes final immediately if the candidate is present and does not decline ...". In this instance, both candidates were out of the room while the vote was taken, as has been our practice, and so neither was technically present.

To resolve the question, the Judicial Committee researched Robert's Rules in greater depth, and found the answer in the section which specifies the procedure for a vote to reconsider. In particular, it says that a vote to reconsider an election is allowable until the winning candidate has been notified. Thus, there is a window of opportunity to reconsider an election starting from the time the result is announced and ending at the time the winning candidate is notified. In this case, therefore, the vote to reconsider was valid because Mr. Piotrowski had not yet been notified of the result of the first vote. It follows that Mr. Russell is our Senate candidate, and since he has been notified to that effect, no further challenge may be considered.

In order to eliminate any lingering doubt, several members of the Judicial Committee reviewed that portion of the videotape of the proceedings covering these actions. No improprieties were found in this review. There was a second part to Mr. Fournier's appeal in which he requested clarification as to the correct and optimal procedure for nominating candidates for the LPPa. The committee has been debating this, including questions as to whether the

candidates should be asked to leave the room, and whether a secret ballot would be advisable in all such elections. This process is ongoing.

The second action appealed by Mr. Fournier was the resolution naming Ray Masters as honorary chaplain of the LPPa. Of course Mr. Masters recused himself from this question. The issue is that since there is no such position specified in the Constitution or Bylaws, was this resolution in order? The Committee has determined that because the resolution process is informal in nature (not covered by either our Convention Rules or Robert's Rules), and because the position is honorary, with no official standing in the Party, that the resolution was properly introduced and passed.

A few hours a month can make a big difference

Chuck Moulton, chuck@moulton.org

If we want "liberty in our lifetime," as the Free State Project succinctly puts it, if we want a small, limited government, if we want individual liberty and personal responsibility, if we want a free-market economy of abundance and prosperity, if we want a foreign policy of non-intervention, peace, and free trade, we all need to commit ourselves to that cause. Libertarians do not have the luxury of sitting back and hoping others will fight the good fight. We all need to be proactive. The best way to defend liberty is to volunteer

with the Libertarian Party.

How can you volunteer? There are a multitude of opportunities available—and indeed we should all think of them as opportunities rather than jobs. Some of them have doubtless already been brought to your attention.

The Libertarian party needs candidates at the local, county, state, and federal level. This year particularly, the party

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2004 Libertarian Candidates

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Michael Badnarik | President |
| Richard Campagna | Vice President |
| Jay Russell | U.S. Senate |
| Tom Martin | U.S. House 5th District |
| David R. Jahn | U.S. House 7th District |
| Chuck Moulton | U.S. House 13th District |
| Richard Piotrowski | U.S. House 15th District |
| Russ Diamond | U.S. House 17th District |
| Mickey Paoletta | U.S. House 19th District |
| John Ewbank | Attorney General |
| Berlie Etzel | Auditor General |
| Michael Robertson | State Senate 5th District |
| Daryl Putman | State Rep. 20th District |
| Matt Brinker | State Rep. 25th District |
| David Posipanska | State Rep. 35th District |
| Michael Robertson | State Rep. 63rd District |
| Barry Dively | State Rep. 87th District |
| Russ Diamond | State Rep. 101st District |
| Ray Ondrusek | State Rep. 102nd District |
| Cheryl Gordon | State Rep. 105th District |
| Eric Ebeling | State Rep. 148th District |
| Matt Wusinich | State Rep. 153rd District |
| James Babb | State Rep. 157th District |
| David Jahn | State Rep. 162nd District |
| William Keslar | State Rep. 196th District |

Bucks County Libs Nearly Defeat Tax Increase

Arthur L. Farnsworth, Treasurer, treasurer@lppa.org

When West Rockhill Township supervisors decided to seek a doubling of the Earned Income Tax for open space via a primary election referendum, I decided to take action.

Bucks County Libertarians fought against the county's open space program when it was first pushed through on the primary ballot in 1996, and I nearly single-handedly defeated the township's imposition of the open space tax a few years ago.

This time around, with the opposition plastering township roadways with "Vote YES on open space" yard signs and mailing a brochure, I realized more help was needed. Lucky for me, several fellow township Libertarians were willing to help prepare a mailing

and polling place signs, donate money, and work the polls. In addition, other township activists from outside the Libertarian Party played an active role.

The effort to fight this tax increase was multi-partisan, and I found it to be a pleasure to work with Republicans and Democrats who care more about issues than party labels. This same group voted for me when I ran for county commissioner last year, and indicated it would support me should I run for township supervisor next year.

In the end, the tax increase passed by just 74 votes, which is 7.4% of the 1001 voters that came out. This was a hot issue, drawing nearly one-third of the township's registered voters - not

bad for a primary!

Lessons learned: start efforts early (we did not), look outside the Libertarian Party for like-minded political activists to assist you, issue well-written press releases, and match the efforts of your opponents to the best of your ability. I hope that this story inspires Libertarians in all Pennsylvania counties, both officially organized and not, to pick up the sword of liberty and fight on occasion for what's right.

Editors Note: Bucks County is currently seeking a new chair to replace outgoing chair, Art Farnsworth. Contact Eastern Vice Chair, Darren Wolf (design2021@hotmail.com) if interested.

Resolutions Passed at the LPPa Convention

The Libertarian Party of Pa opposes Governor Rendell's proposed \$800 million bond issue as a coercive expansion of state power saddling future generations with more debt.

The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania condemns the USA PATRIOT ACT, calls for its immediate repeal and opposes any effort to extend or enhance its provisions.

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania Party of Pennsylvania, reaffirm the right of free association. That it is not the proper role of government to define, or further define the term of "marriage". The government shall not, through the constitutional amendment process, regulate requirements for spousal unions between consenting adults inclusive, but not exclusive to, race, religion, or sexual orientation.

We, the members of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania express our sadness over the passing of Libertarian activist Ron Crickenburger. We honor his work, dedication and tireless hours spent for the advancement of liberty.

Recognizing the religious diversity that exists among individuals within the Libertarian movement, we the members of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania wish to recognize libertarian activist and ordained clergyman, Ray Masters Mastroberte as honorary chaplain of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania.

Approved Bylaws Change

Article 5, Section 5 - Transaction of business over the Internet

Any business of the Board of Directors can be conducted over the Internet in the same manner as via mail or telephone, except that multiple motions may be on the floor simultaneously provided they do not overlap or conflict with one another. If any members of the Board of Directors do not wish to transact Board business over the Internet, when a vote is required the Secretary will forward to them via mail or phone sufficient information regarding the business at hand to allow them to vote knowledgeably.

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The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania Membership Form

Membership Options

- Full member (includes state and national membership): \$25.00**
- Associate member: FREE (with valid e-mail address).**
- New membership**

NOTE: Full membership includes the LPNews and Libertarian Penn newsletters and voting privileges at our state convention.

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To publicly affirm what we believe – and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles – we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals."

X _____
 Signature (required)

**Mail this completed form with payment to:
 The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania
 3863 Union Deposit Road, #223
 Harrisburg, PA 17109**

We need your support, please donate!

Please consider an additional donation to help us grow:

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Privacy statement: The L.P.P., in accordance with the privacy policy, is allowed to provide certain membership information to affinity partners, the national party, and county committees of the L.P.P. The complete privacy policy is available upon request.

Member Contact Information:

Name: _____ County: _____
 Address: _____ E-mail address: _____
 _____ Evening phone: _____
 _____ Day phone: _____

A Few Hours a Month... (Continued from Page 4)

needs as many State Representative candidates as possible. In order to get on the ballot, statewide Libertarian candidates need to collect 30,000 signatures. Each signature counts for candidates running at all levels listed on the petition though. When each State Representative candidate and his campaign team collects 500 signatures to get himself on the ballot, those signatures benefit the Presidential candidate and Senate candidate as well. Just as importantly, running a full slate of candidates on the ballot in any given precinct reflects favorably on the party. In addition to helping with ballot access and boosting the Libertarian Party's image, running for office gives the candidate an attentive audience for his Libertarian message, an opportunity to get the word out on his pet issue. Please consider running for office. Your county contact can answer any questions you may have about the process.

Those not willing or able to run for political office can help the candidates and the party by supporting candidates. Why not man a poll on election day, handing out literature for your favorite Libertarian candidate? Perhaps your political expertise would make you an ideal campaign manager. Maybe you have a financial education and could serve as treasurer for someone's campaign.

Petitioning for ballot access is the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania's number one priority right now. If each party member would walk around his neighborhood collecting 35 signatures, getting on the ballot would be trivial. But inevitably many members will not collect their signatures and others will have to pick up their slack. Can you commit to 100 signatures? That works out to less than three signatures a day between now and mid-July (when we want to have the petitions prepared for turn-in). Setting a small daily petitioning goal for yourself would be a world of help for the L.P.P.

If you believe your work schedule prevents you from helping get your Libertarian friends on the ballot by petitioning, perhaps those long hours have earned you a few dollars you can spare to support the Libertarian cause. The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania would greatly appreciate your generous donation. Or perhaps you would prefer to make a targeted donation, earmarking the money specifically for ballot access.

Libertarian opportunities are not limited to the election season. Are you a poignant writer? An articulate speaker? Sending your local paper a letter to the editor about a current issue is a great way to spread the libertarian message. You could volunteer with a speaker's bureau, broadcasting your availability to speak on a libertarian topic. Even in ordinary conversations with your family, friends, and co-workers, there are opportunities to present a libertarian alternative to people who may not have been exposed to that viewpoint before. Keep a few voter registration forms handy to enfranchise the converted.

But it doesn't end there. One of the L.P.P.'s most pressing needs is volunteers for the party structure itself.

The L.P.P. seeks volunteers at the county level. Only 38/67 counties have county contacts (the Eastern Vice-Chair and Western Vice-Chair substitute for the rest). Only 17/67 counties are organized. Only 6/67 counties send a representative to L.P.P. board meetings. You can easily organize a county committee by getting the signatures of three members on a county committee recognition form, holding at least three meetings a year, and having someone available to answer questions via phone and email. County committees are the most important entities in our grassroots organization.

The L.P.P. has numerous standing and working committees soliciting volunteers to help grow the party, raise money, and

support candidates. The website committee seeks web developers, content writers, mailing list administrators, database experts, and programmers to help improve the website and automate party processes. The membership committee seeks organizers, writers, and envelope stuffers to assist with membership renewals and soliciting both national members and registered Libertarians to join the state party. The outreach committee seeks organizers, issue specialists, writers, envelope stuffers, and event coordinators to help reach out to gun rights advocates, gay rights advocates, peace advocates, small business advocates, taxpayer advocates, etc. through targeted mailings, booths at special interest events, and other outreach opportunities. The fundraising committee seeks organizers, writers, and envelope stuffers to assist with fundraising appeals to Libertarians and members of libertarian issue groups, as well as organizers to setup a monthly pledge program and campaign finance experts to help setup a Political Action Committee. The election committee seeks county organizers to help with ballot access and to recruit candidates. Finally, any member willing to attend L.P.P. Board Meetings to help brainstorm would be welcome at our table.

The key to achieving liberty in our lifetime is to volunteer with the Libertarian Party. With so many volunteer opportunities available, I'm confident that there is a good fit somewhere for your expertise and interests. Not everyone is right for any one volunteer opportunity, but everyone is right for some volunteer opportunity. Help defend liberty and have fun at the same time. Meet new people. Build your resume. Learn new ways of expressing the Libertarian message.

A few hours a month can make a big difference.

(Check out www.chuckmoulton.org)

www.LpPa.org
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Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania
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Primary Day Petitioning Success (Continued from Page 3)

It looked like my door-knocking generated about the same amount of votes as volunteers did standing outside the polls. I regret that I didn't have anyone to man the precincts where I had already knocked on doors, but I did get a clue as to a cumulative effect here in my hometown. My best response came from areas where I was already well-known and where I also knocked on doors.

The campaign received some good last-minute (Sunday and Monday) press from both of our newspapers, which seemed to explain a few of the write-ins cast by voters in the smaller precincts in which we couldn't cover.

Honestly, I was expecting no more than 35 or 40 total votes as an L trying to get on the D ticket in such a short period of time. We approached the county D committee for support, but they chose not to bother.

I was quite pleased. We raised some eyebrows and are now firmly on the political radar – well, except for that of my R opponent, who is already publicly looking beyond November (I hope she's doing it privately as well!). A prominent local R I bumped into during the evening shift was impressed by our effort. He even called our how-to hand-outs "sophisticated" – high praise coming from any R in this area!

I did find the L word to be a big turn-off to R voters. Got a slightly more open-minded response from Ds. My job now is to change that impression of our Party locally, since we're in a 2-1 R district.

Interesting stuff. Maybe after November I'll have time to sit down, effectively analyze our entire campaign and provide a detailed report. But then again, maybe not if my duties as State Representative require my priority instead!

(Check out www.russdiamond.org)

Ballot Access Alert: Turn in your petitions NOW!

Ship to: Ballot Access, c/o David Jahn,
403 Harrison Ave., Glenolden, PA 19036
or call 610-539-8825 for a pick up.

**All petitions must be
received by 7/25/2004.**