



LNC Meeting Minutes, May 22, 2008, Denver, CO

To: Libertarian National Committee
From: Bob Sullentrup
CC: Robert Kraus, Corey Stern
Date: 5/22/2008

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These minutes due out in 30 days: June 21, 2008

The meeting commenced at 1:32 p.m. on May 22, 2008.

Moment of Reflection

Chair Bill Redpath called for a moment of reflection, a practice at LNC meetings.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Marc Montoni (VA) noted his convention package (\$0) did not provide convention materials including the Bylaws, Platform and reports. He argued that as a delegate, the LP should have provided such materials to him for free. His volunteerism included 'thousands of hours' which should be sufficient to have earned these materials.

Pat Dixon responded noting these materials had been available online for several months. The idea was those with such convention packages could print them as they saw fit.

Rachel Hawkridge (WA) noted the LP office's performance had been 'spotty' – not dependable – particularly with regard to follow up. After some clarification and after noting Austin Petersen was the appropriate contact, it appeared that the matter may have been fumbled on Washington's end.

Paperwork Check

The Chair Bill Redpath asked the Secretary Bob Sullentrup to confirm the binder's contents.

Attendance and Credentials

Secretary Bob Sullentrup confirmed the attendance of the members and alternates.

Attending the May 22, 2008 LNC meeting in Denver, CO were:

Officers: Chair Bill Redpath, Vice-Chair Chuck Moulton Treasurer Aaron Starr, Secretary Bob Sullentrup.

At-Large Representatives: Admiral Michael Colley, Pat Dixon, Angela Keaton and Dan Karlan. Jeremy Keil did not attend.

Regional Representatives: Tony Ryan(1), M Carling(2), Mark Hinkle(2), Emily Salvette(3), Stewart Flood(4) ,Dr. James Lark(5), and Wes Benedict(6). Bob Barr(4) has taken a leave of absence. Hardy Macia(7) was in the Platform Committee meeting.

Regional Alternates: Julie Fox(1), Scott Lieberman(2), Dan Weiner (2), Rebecca Sink-Burris(3), and Nancy Neale(6),

Alternates not attending were Steve Damerell(5) and Eric Sundwall(7).

LNC Counsel Bill Hall attended.

Staff included Acting Executive Director Robert Kraus, Communications Director Andrew Davis, Political Director Sean Haugh, Volunteer Coordinator Austin Petersen, and Direct Marketing Manager Louise Calise

Other attendees included George Whitfield (FL delegate from Seoul, Korea), Thomas Ruks (NH delegate from NY), Marc Montoni(VA) , Rich Tomasso (NH), Brendan Kelly (NH), Bruce Landeus (GA), Rachel Hawkridge (WA), Gene Hawkridge(WA), Jerry Dixon (CA), Jeff Dimit (SC), Richard Steward (SC), Zander Collier (CA), Kevin Takenaga (CA), Paul Frankel, Steve Gordon, Christiana Mayer and Geoff Neale.

The following table lists the composition of the current LNC as accepted at the July 3, 2006 meeting, amended with the replacement of Bob Barr for Mark Bodenhausen, the resignation of Richard Burke and the substitution of Mark Johnson and then Mark Hinkle in Region 2.

Region	Affiliates	Representative	Alternate
Region 1	Alaska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming,	Tony Ryan (SD)	Julie Fox (IL)

Region	Affiliates	Representative	Alternate
	(maybe) North Dakota, Nebraska		
Region 2	California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho	M Carling (CA), Mark Hinkle (CA)	Scott Lieberman (CA), Dan Weiner (CA)
Region 3	Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana	Emily Salvette (MI)	Rebecca Sink-Burris (IN)
Region 4	Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina	Bob Barr (GA, on leave of absence)	Stewart Flood (SC)
Region 5	Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, DC	James W. Lark, III (VA)	Steve Damerell (VA)
Region 6	Utah, New Mexico, Arkansas, Nevada, Louisiana, Arizona, Texas	Wes Benedict (TX)	Nancy Neale (TX)
Region 7	New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire	Hardy Macia (VT)	Eric Sundwall (NY)

Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Dr. Lark reported he is on the board of a new group, *Students for Liberty*.

Approval of the Agenda

The group amended the agenda by adding, removing and reordering items. The resulting agenda is given below with changes in italics or strikethrough.

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. May 22, 2008 Meeting Agenda Denver, Colorado

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Call to Order	1:30 pm
	Minutes
Moment of Reflection	1
Opportunity for Public Comment	10
Credentials Report and Paperwork Check (Secretary)	5
Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest	5
Approval of the Agenda	5
Standing Reports	
Chair's Report	5
Treasurer's Report	15

Secretary's Report	5
Staff Report	
Staff (Ballot Access included in Political Director's Report)	45
Counsel's Report	45
Action Items Previously Submitted in Writing	
(none)	0
Reports Previously Submitted in Writing	
Various Regions	2/region
Campus Organizing Report (Lark)	5
Pending Legal Matters Report (Hall)	15
Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing	
Methodology for Distributing Affiliate Award Certificates (Bob S)	10
Proposal for Secretary to Present Certain Awards (Sullentrup)	10
Convention Finishing Touches (counting,	10
Future National Convention Organizing	15
Executive Director Search (Colley)	15
<i>Providing printed materials for people who didn't buy</i>	10
<i>Convention packages that included them</i>	10
Opportunity for Public Comment	10
Adjournment	

The agenda was amended as follows:

- Counsel's report was removed since it was redundant with the Pending Legal Matters item
- An item to address a complaint by Marc Montoni that he did not receive the Convention materials booklet nor had sufficient notice of a need to have printed them for himself.

Tony Ryan abstained from the vote on the latter item.

Without objection the resulting agenda was approved.

Officer Reports

Chair's Report

Chair Bill Redpath noted the resignation of Shane Cory that had taken him by surprise. Bill noted Shane had done a lot of very good things. However, Bill was not briefed on the press release concerning child pornography prior to its release. Moreover, Shane's departure came at a most inopportune time just weeks before the Convention. Shane did not honor the 30-day notice specified in his contract.

Robert Kraus has been working effectively as acting Executive Director.

An article in Playboy on the LP featured Bill Redpath but named him as the Party's presidential nominee. This has led to there being a reporter at the Convention and a follow-up article.

Bill mentioned he is running for the US Senate in Virginia. Had he not done so, it was unlikely anyone else in the Party would have.

Treasurer's Report

Aaron Starr presented a treasurer's report and noted these highlights:

- The annual audit has been completed. The auditor gave a clean opinion of the LP books. There were no caveats or qualifications attached which is an improvement from the last audit that had contained as many as 10.
- The Executive Committee discussed and approved a change in the handling of deferred revenues for life memberships, recognizing them as donations. This eliminated a huge liability on the books for life memberships with offsetting entry to equity.
- Net assets now stand at \$277k, as healthy a situation as the LP has enjoyed in several years.
- The Give-or-Get program raised \$166k from the Board

Dan Karlan noted the paragraph in the auditor's report concerning revenue recognition may be affected by a Bylaws proposal under consideration in this convention.

The Treasurer's report is included in the Convention minutes.

Secretary's Report

Bob Sullentrup's items were addressed separately on the agenda.

Staff Report

Robert Kraus introduced Sean Haugh, Austin Petersen, Andrew Davis and Louise Calise.

Sean Haugh discussed ballot access which is addressed in the staff report in the appendix. He noted he is partnering with the Constitution Party to reduce petitioning costs.

Sean noted Scott Kohlhaas will probably finish up the few additional signatures needed in Nebraska. Illinois is on target with 22,300 signatures in hand with one month to go. George Phillis reported to Bill Redpath that Massachusetts is collecting 1000 signatures per week. Sean will have an update on PA on Monday when more information becomes available.

Sean noted that in PA the Democrats typically challenge ballot access. If Bob Barr is the nominee, the Keystone State Republicans may issue a challenge this time.

Virginia's deadline is August 22, not August 2, as noted in the report.

South Dakota requires \$7,500 at \$1.50 per signature for 5,000 signatures.

Looking down the road are ballot access initiatives for Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Sean continues to collect information about elected Libertarians. Those in Colorado put the nationwide total to more than 200.

Austin Petersen, the Volunteer Coordinator, stated that he came to the Party from the Ron Paul ranks. He helps getting petitioners in states and preparing teaching materials that include instructions on using Meetup.com and videos for petitioning.

Andrew Davis said he was working on content for the Pledge News as well as LP News. He has arranged for 45 media outlets to cover the Convention including MTV's 'Choose or Lose', CBS, CNN, C-SPAN, AP, Reuters, and so on.

Andrew noted the LP submitted an amicus brief on the gun rights litigation underway in DC. This was arranged with Allen Geringer working with an attorney in Arizona and submitted through Bob Barr's law firm. Follow on legal activities target the McCain-Feingold campaign contribution limitations. We 'have it in our sights', he noted.

Andrew turned the session over to *Terra Eclipse* for a beta-version demo of the LP's new website. It features easy e-mail sign-ups, targeting by zip code, a focus on donations including PayPal, and You-Tube links. The front page will be 'dynamic and active', and it is targeted to be released within two weeks.

Louise Calise noted quarter one direct mail activity provided a 2.71% return rate with \$62 average. At the moment she is not using the telemarketing firm the LP previously used since she has limited confidence in them. Targets are going back into the mix of mailings.

The entire staff report is in Appendix A.

Region Reports

Various regional reports are included in the appendix.

Stewart Flood noted that the LNC get-together is at 10pm Friday in room 3454.

Dr. Lark noted he spoke at the LP WV convention. He noted that while it was not well attended, just having a convention marks a significant step for WV from where it was months ago. In addition, Dr. Lark received a report from Bob Johnston, chair of the Libertarian Party of Maryland who stated the LPMD will run a full slate of candidates for the US House of Representatives this fall.

Campus Organizing

Dr. Lark indicated that his report had been distributed to the members, and that he would entertain questions about it. There were no questions (the report is attached as Appendix B).

Pending Legal Matters Report

Bill Hall mentioned three items:

- Shane Cory had not been particularly good about having him review contracts of over \$25k or longer than one year of duration. He invited the staff to engage him whenever such contracts emerged.
- Bill said he had prepared a CD as a legal guide for state chairs covering FEC filings, IRS tax reporting and issues of incorporation.
- In Bill's written report the last item, whether national should get involved in a case in Washington regarding primary elections, is something he is encouraging the Executive Committee to consider supporting.

Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing

Methodology for distributing Affiliate Award Certificates

Bob Sullentrup gave regional reps packets with award certificates to recognize volunteers from affiliates who work diligently for Liberty. The Affiliate Award Certificate program which Bob devised and implemented is designed to:

- 1) Strengthen volunteerism
- 2) Build the party
- 3) Make affiliates feel welcome and appreciated and
- 4) Accrue the benefits to the LNC of a more positive, cooperative, and appreciative environment.

The award certificates included individual award certificates for each affiliate officer – typically each Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, and ED, one certificate for the group of the Executive Committee / Board of Directors and one certificate for the list of Committee Chairs / Directors.

The certificates were to be distributed at the evening's Convention Opening Reception.

Proposal for the Secretary to Present Certain Awards

Bob Sullentrup moved

The LNC authorizes its Secretary to determine the recipients of, and produce the awards for, this term's 'Most Valuable Player', 'Rookie of the Year', 'Most Unsung Hero' and 'Above and Beyond Award' winners.

Bob claimed to have listened closely to the LNC during the term while taking minutes, had solid judgment of who did what and admitted to have only rarely fallen asleep during the proceedings.

The motion passed unanimously.

The awards featured Walking Liberty silver dollars and went to:

- **Bob Barr**, Rookie of the Year

This was Bob Barr's first term on the LNC. He was slated to deliver keynote address at the Convention. Instead he runs for President. This may be hard to top by the next rookie.

- **Bill Hall**, Most Unsung Hero

Bob said Bill had been the most underappreciated and most valuable person on the LNC. Bill:

- Guided the LNC through the BCRA minefield,
- Established the contract with Denver LPCon to run this Convention, and
- Helped outside of the LNC with Rock-The-Debates organization and paperwork

- **Aaron Starr**, Most Valuable Player

The LNC lost its treasurer in November, 2006, putting the Party in a lurch. Aaron stepped in and, never missing a step. Aaron

- Helped turn around Party financials that had featured long delinquent payables to a position of zero delinquents with a solid current asset position
- Produced what Bob said was the most understandable, comprehensive budget he'd seen on the LNC and
- Improved the efficiency of ballot access by devising methods to engage state affiliates, thereby spreading scarce funds to a wider range of states.

- Chair **Bill Redpath**, Above and Beyond Award

Our chair has several full-time jobs including:

- A full time job
- A party chairmanship
- Full participation in the running of and execution of ballot access initiatives in many states including Oklahoma where he spent his entire five-day vacation sandwiched by two weekends in October, 2007 doing on-the-ground petitioning
- Petitioning in Virginia to run as a candidate for the US Senate
- Running as a US Senate candidate in Virginia.

Convention Finishing Touches

Bob Sullentrup discussed token counting, timing, certificates of nomination and the keynote speakers.

Bob said he will need token counters on Saturday and Sunday.

- Presidential candidates who wish to be in the C-SPAN debate will submit their signature tokens to the Secretary after the Saturday AM business session. Bob will hand those tokens over to counters who will count them in public right then and there.
- After the Saturday PM session presidential candidates who wish to gain 16 minutes of convention time for their Sunday nominating and seconding speeches will submit their tokens to the Secretary. If they have already submitted their tokens at noon, there is no need to do so again. The Secretary can count them overnight.
- After the Saturday PM session and up until the presidential nominee is selected and announced (give or take a couple of minutes), VP candidates can submit their tokens to the Secretary. If there is a rush of tokens coming in at the last minute, we'll need counters.

Participation in the C-SPAN debate is granted to those who collect signature tokens of 10% of the number of credentialed delegates of the Saturday AM session. In 2004 there were approximately 700 delegates by Saturday AM.

Getting 16 minutes (president) or 11 minutes (vice president) of convention time for nominating and seconding speeches is granted to those who collect 30 signature tokens. There is a bylaws proposal to change that to 82 (10% of the Atlanta convention delegate total). Accordingly, it may be the case that it will take 70 tokens to participate in the C-SPAN debate and more to be nominated.

Counters include Alexa Lamoureux, Hardy Macia, Marc Goddard, M Carling and Dan Karlan.

Timing speakers will be Admiral Colley and Eugene Hawkrigde of Washington. (Mr. Hawkrigde apparently did not live up to his commitment). Michele Poague created signs indicating 5 minutes, 1 minute and 'X' (done). When the Admiral and Eugene hold up the 'X', Bill Redpath must shoo the speakers off the stage.

Bob also mentioned Certificates of Nomination to be sent by the state chair to the Secretaries of State. Certain states require special forms. We can produce copies of these to give to donors for the nominee's campaign.

Finally, Bob reported a rumor of a 'die-in' to protest Richard Viguerie as keynoter. M Carling suggested we produce chalk outlines of those who participate in the die-in.

Future Organizing Convention

M Carling, after having deliberated with Bill Hall during the morning, moved:

Libertarian Party Regular Conventions shall be organized and operated under the direct authority of committees (such as convention and host committees) expressly authorized by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, and regulations and advisory opinions issued pursuant to it. Responsibility for and the economic risk of staging Regular Conventions shall not be delegated to an independent contractor.

Bob Sullentrup moved to postpone this issue to a definite time – the first LNC meeting after May 26. The motion was ruled out of order since it deferred the issue to a new LNC term.

After some discussion, a voice vote defeated the measure.

Executive Director Search

Admiral Colley, the chair of the Employment Policy and Compensation Committee, reported he had e-mailed the LNC seeking comments with specific questions including:

- Should we have an insider or a good manager?
- Who might you recommend?

The Admiral reported in the nine responses he received, eight recommended we get a good leader, two said 'both' and 2 said Libertarian. Yes, these responses did not add up, but that is the summary.

The search for a new ED continues.

Providing Printed Materials for Delegates who did not Buy Convention Packages

Chuck Moulton moved the LNC allocate \$2,500 to reimburse Denver LP Con for the cost of paperwork, including the current Bylaws and Platform as well as convention reports, to those delegates whose convention packages did not include the purchase of those items. (The idea was those would print them off the Internet should they want them).

Jim Lark offered to contribute \$500 to defray the LNC's cost and Chuck Moulton offered \$200.

After some discussion that ranged from free market solutions to the delegates' dilemma to the LNC's obligations to its delegates, a roll call vote defeated the motion 4-9.

Voting against were:

Bob Sullentrup, Stewart Flood, Dan Karlan, Mark Hinkle, Admiral Colley, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Scott Lieberman, Aaron Starr and Pat Dixon.

Voting in favor were:

Angela Keaton, Wes Benedict, Julie Fox, Chuck Moulton.

Jim Lark who had offered \$500 abstained.

Opportunity for public comment

Marc Montoni (VA) noted website templates for candidates may be an effective means of capturing contact information at a low cost.

Marc also noted that whether we get someone inside or outside the Party to become Executive Director, we should get someone who can delegate.

Finally, Marc addressed the issue of not providing Convention materials for free to those delegates who had opted for the \$0 convention package. He suggested LNC members would be hard pressed to tell the Convention they had denied convention materials to people, including a delegate who had been a three-time candidate.

Chairman Bill Redpath expressed his appreciation to the LNC for their participation and support. He thanked his wife Melinda for her understanding and support when bill used vacation time for petitioning in Oklahoma, among many other things.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16pm

Next Meeting

The schedule for subsequent LNC meetings is as follows:

2008 New LNC meeting

May 26

Denver, CO

LPHQ Update

5/22/2008

Operation's Director Report (Acting ED)

by Robert Kraus

Overview

Since the last LNC meeting, LPHQ has focused heavily on convention planning, ballot access, the audit, candidate recruitment, and media.

Please feel free to address any issues not covered in this report at the upcoming LNC meeting and we will do my best to address or answer any concerns.

Staff Update

Our staff levels remain at appropriate levels with additions of part-time staff now on board. Below are our current staffers and contractors:

- Robert Kraus continues to serve as our controller, director of operations, acting ED, while working closely with our FEC consultant, auditors, ballot access team and handling data issues for our state affiliates.
- Louise Calise continues to serve as our direct marketing manager. Louise has made significant improvements to our direct mail program and is looking to further develop our direct solicitation efforts & find a new contractor for our phone solicitation program.
- Andrew Davis continues to serve as media coordinator and has continually increased the tempo and quality of media releases and content for LP.org. He has also been very busy with media prep for the convention – issuing out over 70 Press Passes representing 40 outlets including the A/P, CBS, CNN, C-Span, MTV News (Choose or Lose-08), NPR, Playboy, Reuters, Washington Times and more. The level of interest in our candidates, convention and party keeps growing guaranteeing Andrew will be very busy through November.
- Austin Petersen, continues as our volunteer coordinator, replacing Elizabeth Brooks who went back to school. He has also been working closely with Sean. Check out our amazing videos that Austin produced for the LP on You Tube!
- Sean Haugh continues to serve as our political director and has been productive in organizing ballot access and candidate recruitment efforts. Sean is full time but works in Raleigh, N.C.
- Susan Dickson still serves as a full-time employee and remains extremely productive and busy especially this last week after the Barr announcement and the increase in new members and inquires.
- Corey Stern remains on contract as webmaster for LP.org and will be helping with the transition to the new site under development by Terra eclipse. He also handles our related Web sites and will soon be helping with lay out of LP News and other direct mail pieces.

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- Alexa Lamoureux, a GW student, serves part-time as our receptionist and has taken the lead on our candidate recruitment project. She will be leaving us at the end of July for a semester overseas. At that time we will pursue a full time front desk receptionist who can also help Louise out with Direct Marketing.
- We have two other newer employees: Erin Taylor (a GW student) is helping us with front desk in the mornings and candidate recruitment in the afternoons. She is also doing our pledge update calling. Mark Meranta (a GMU student) is our summer intern who just started. He too will be helping with candidate recruitment and also finding locations for our petitioners.

Operations

As mentioned above, Robert has been focused on the annual audit, ballot access, convention stuff and much, much more. Additionally his time has also been consumed by petitioners and finding a way to expedite payments.

He has contracted with PNC for their PayCard Service which should expedite getting the petitioners paid in a timely manner. The way this works is as follows: We issue each petitioner a PNC reloadable Visa / ATM Card. We then can issue payments directly to their Visa card via ACH transfer through PNC's online system. The payments clear to their Visa account within 24 hours or less (1-business day). Each petitioner can use their Visa like a credit or debit card and will also be issued a pin code so they can withdraw funds at any ATM up to \$500.00 per day. ATM's with PNC are free of course, any other bank it's the standard fee charged (although there are some banks like Commerce which does not charge a fee at all). Much less expensive for the petitioners than the check cashing places most of them have been using.

The cost for this service is minimal. Because we are such good customers (in other words, because Robert's been bitching about their level of service) PNC waived their normal \$2000 set up fee. Other fees include 25 cents per ACH payment and a \$60 monthly maintenance (based on 20 cards). We will also have the ability to initiate wire transfers through this system for \$10 vs. \$36 at the teller. A valid SS # and date of birth is required for everyone issued a card (which should not be a problem because we already verify this).

Affiliates and Campaigns

Sean Haugh provides a full report on campaigns and ballot access. Austin and Andrew have also been in frequent contact with our affiliates.

Finance and Fundraising

Internet Fundraising

Internet based fundraising remains slow. Working closely with Andrew, Austin, Louise and Susan, Terra Eclipse is in the final stages of the redesign of LP.org with real time donation reporting that will allow for instant recognition of donations and even "money bombs." The cost of the redesign included only a \$2500 down payment plus the monthly service fee based on % of web income. The vendor, Terra Eclipse will be on site in Denver for a demonstration of our new site.

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Phone-based Fundraising

We are still currently looking for a new vendor for our phone solicitation program.

Finance

Accounts payable remain low with all obligations current. Our consistency in paying vendors on time throughout the past year is continuing to show benefits. We are able to work with printers of our choosing, increasing competition in the bid process.

We ended the 1st quarter with a surplus of \$56,000 mostly thanks to the Feb House (Ron Paul Petition) Letter which accounted for 47% of total house mail income and had an astounding 3.7% return rate. The Annual Report continues for the third straight year to under-perform the A/R Follow-up Letter. The A/R accounted for 23% of house income with a 1.9% return, while the A/R Follow-up produced 26% of house income with a 2.2% rate of return.

April was our first "red" month since Nov-07 with a shortage of \$31.9 thousand. The reason for this was not unexpected as we spent \$31,000 on Ballot Access Petitioning related expenses (vs. taking in a little over \$9000). In addition we had three payrolls this month adding \$15,000 to expenses.

This month however we are off to a good start with \$74,900 in revenue, a little over \$10,000 above the same time period last year. Plus we have had over 200 new members this week alone thanks to the publicity generated by the Barr announcement (\$10,700 total with ave gift of \$37), in addition we also had 250 new inquires as well. The ballot access letter is also just starting to come in generating \$4,200 in revenue this week alone.

Audit Comments

As mentioned above, Robert spent considerable time working with the auditor, Mark Frye. Mark and his team made the audit as painless as possible and took his time learning all of our procedures, sitting down with everyone in the office, and getting a clear understanding on our processes.

The auditor also spent a lot of time doing some clean up and merging of accounts from prior years to make the history consistent. In terms of balance sheet, he went back to 04 and built up from there. In terms of the P&L accounts he pretty much concentrated on 06/07 and some in 08 as well.

He also cleaned up the fixed assets, created a good and accurate depreciation schedule and deferred rent schedule, set up the end of year accruals and prepaid expenses.

We also think it would be good to have him come in during the summer for some additional clean up and to meet with our FEC advisors, Paula & Tim, to come up with some Policies and Procedures that are both FEC complaint and still allow us to comply with our bylaws.

The auditor's did mention their dislike of the filing / record keeping system we based on Paula and Tim's recommendation to make it easier to verify our FEC

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filings; so we have taken Mark's advise and will do things differently going forward. Overall, we were happy with the audit process and the results and look forward to working with Mark Frye again.

Political Director's Report 5/16/08 by Sean Haugh

Ballot Access

Petitioning season is now in full swing and is required the vast bulk of my attention. Scott Kohlhaas has been hired to help with the hiring and management of our paid petitioners. His assistance has been invaluable. Austin Petersen has also been extremely valuable in recruiting volunteer petitioners in the various states. Austin is currently working with some of our interns on a telemarketing project to secure access at stores and other locations in Illinois for our petitioners. I expect that project will go on throughout the summer.

I have been working closely with Christina Tobin, my counterpart with Ralph Nader's independent Presidential campaign, which has been an extremely beneficial relationship for both sides. Efforts to include the Green and Constitution parties nationally has been less successful, as key people in those parties do not see the urgency of cooperation for ballot access. (Their loss.) I have also been working with the organizers and petitioning companies for initiatives in various states where we are operating, in order to reduce costs and share the administrative burdens.

Costs for paid signatures is rising, in part because the per signature market rate is increasing, but more because we are having to solicit bids from petitioning companies for several states. These bids have come in at anywhere from \$1.70 to \$4.50 per signature. In our negotiations with these firms, currently I am thinking \$3 per signature is as high as we can go, and a price where we can get a reliable company on board.

This means several encumbrances approved by the Executive Committee will have to be revisited. This report will first give a state-by-state overview of our ballot access situation. The next section will list the action items by state where more LNC support will be needed.

States done or close to it:

North Carolina: The LPNC turned in over 108,000 total signatures to the NC State Board of Elections (SBOE) on May 15th. Over 72,000 of those signatures were validated, exceeding the requirement of 69,734 valid signatures.

The Libertarian and Green parties' lawsuit against the SBOE went to trial the week of May 5th. The trial seemed to go extremely well. A ruling is expected the week of the national convention.

Nebraska: About 200 more signatures are required in Nebraska after their Chair Jerry Kusch organized and recounted the signatures. They have not been able to verify any of the signatures, which have been collected over the course of two

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years. I may need to go to Nebraska myself to verify that we have enough signatures and if necessary collect the last few necessary.

Delaware: The only thing that is required for us to have ballot access in Delaware is the party secretary has to file a form with the state, which I have in my possession. Unfortunately I have not been able to contact anyone listed as an officer in the LP in Delaware. I have suggested to their regional representative Jim Lark that we may need to hold an emergency convention in that state in June to choose new officers so we can have a duly authorized signer of this form. This is another state where I am willing to travel personally to complete this task.

States currently underway:

Illinois: As of May 15th we have in hand 20,626 total signatures towards a goal of 42,000. The requirement for our statewide ticket there is 25,000, and is subject to challenge. The deadline is June 23rd, but signature collection needs to be complete by June 17th to allow a week for the bureaucracy surrounding the turn-in.

We currently have 11 professional petitioners in Illinois and are sending in more. Our strategy pre-convention has been to send all our pros to Illinois to knock it out. The volunteer effort in Illinois is coming up short now, however we expect it to pick up now that street festival season is beginning there. The weather there has been miserable all month, somewhat hampering our efforts. The Illinois LP has however done an excellent job of fundraising for their share of the drive. In an LPI conference call on May 15th, the party revised their estimate of volunteer signatures down from 10,000 to 5,000 but increased their commitment to raise more money to cover the costs of the extra paid signatures needed. We are still within the previous encumbrance approved by the Executive Committee. Depending on the increased fundraising ability from LPI, we may have to seek a revised encumbrance in the near future.

The Illinois State Board of Elections has refused to send us the database of registered voters which we need to help us verify signatures before turn in, even though they cashed our check of \$500 for payment for this list on April 15th. Several sources within Illinois believe this is deliberate, and may be connected to their knowledge that we are working as closely as we can with the Ralph Nader campaign on ballot access matters. I'll be getting a local attorney to send them a letter demanding the release of this information. Depending on the state's reply, we may wish to go public with our outrage over this spot of public corruption.

Pennsylvania: After a very slow start, Darryl Bonner has been able to put together a productive crew in the Philadelphia area. As of May 15th, we have collected 7,340 total signatures in PA towards a goal of 35,000. The number of required verified signatures is 24,666 and is subject to challenge. Sources within PA have warned us that we should expect a stiff challenge from the Republicans, depending upon our nominee, which may require us to revise our target number of signatures up to 50,000. The deadline in PA is August 1st.

Pennsylvania is one of many states which requires petition circulators to be state residents. We are currently soliciting bids from companies to supplement Darryl's efforts there. I am hopeful that we can contract with a reputable company for no

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more than \$3 per signature. I will submit a request for an encumbrance for PA once we have some agreeable bids to present.

Connecticut: Connecticut requires 7,500 valid signatures by August 6th. While there are several people in Connecticut who are actively petitioning, I have yet to receive any reliable reports yet of signatures in hand from them. Connecticut is another state which requires circulators be in-state residents, and thus is another state for which we are soliciting bids from petitioning companies. However we have a very positive lead for CT and the other New England states, which is currently working for us in Massachusetts. I will submit a request for an encumbrance for CT once we have some agreeable bids to present.

Massachusetts: After several fits and starts, petitioning is in full swing in Massachusetts. There we need 10,000 valid signatures of registered voters by July 29th. Our target there is 15,000 raw signatures. Currently we have 585 signatures in hand in MA.

We have hired Freedom Petition Management at a rate of \$1.70 per signature, which is a rock bottom price. This company is already working for the initiatives to decriminalize marijuana and end the income tax in that state, and was the company which successfully got the end the income tax initiative on the ballot last time. I have also established a good working relationship with Carla Howell, who is organizing this initiative, to help coordinate the overall petitioning efforts in MA. Unfortunately, given the poor relationship between the LPMA and Howell, we will have to cover the full costs of using this firm ourselves (see below).

The LPMA has hired four people to circulate full time, mostly from among their membership. They are working under the current LNC agreement with the LPMA, where we pay half and they pay half of the \$1.50 per signature rate to the petitioners. Carol McMahan is one of these petitioners as well as the state ballot drive coordinator. She has been extremely pleasant to work with and has cooperated with Freedom Petition Management to get them petitions and accept their turn-ins. Between these two sources of signatures I expect Massachusetts can be completed well before the July deadline.

Once Massachusetts is complete I expect to be contracting with this company to help us in Connecticut and/or Maine.

Ohio: The Ohio Secretary of State (SOS) rejected the LPO's request to place the party on the ballot in April. There currently is no ballot access law in Ohio since it was struck down in court last year. The SOS has had to make up the rules as she goes along, and had previously set a requirement of 20,200 signatures by November 2007 for full party ballot access. The LPO turned in 6,545 signatures in March.

We have contracted with ballot access attorney Gary Sinawski at a rate of \$4,000 maximum, plus fees and expenses (which should be minimal unless Sinawski has to travel to Ohio, which he does not anticipate). The lawsuit asking for the LPO to be placed on the ballot is frankly the most promising legal action I have ever seen. However since we can never count on legal action to give us timely relief, no matter how solid the case may seem, we will have to move ahead with the independent petition for President there.

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That petition requires 5,000 valid signatures by August 20th, and circulators must be Ohio residents. While we expect the volunteer effort to be relatively strong in Ohio, currently I am planning on them being able to deliver half of the 7,500 total signatures we'll need for this drive. That will mean hiring a company to supplement their efforts. I will submit a request for an encumbrance for OH once we have some agreeable bids to present.

Virginia: The state party in Virginia reports they may be done with their drive by mid-June. That state requires 10,000 valid signatures by August 2nd. This is excellent news as it will make their professionals available for other states soon. The Bill Redpath for US Senate campaign should also be able to complete its signature drive within the next month.

States which will start after the convention:

Alabama: Requires 5,000 valid signatures by September 8th. I have spoken with Paul Frankel, an Alabama resident, about having him do that drive. Between him and the volunteer effort there, that should be enough to complete this petition. However I am willing to send in more petitioners if it appears necessary.

Guam: Once we have a nominee, we simply need to send a fax to the Guam Board of Elections certifying the names of the candidates to have our Presidential ticket placed on the ballot there.

Iowa: Requires 1,500 valid signatures by August 15th. Iowa Chair Ed Wright is confident an in-state volunteer effort can handle this.

Kentucky: Requires 5,000 valid signatures by September 2nd. Milt Lukens, a Kentucky resident, is currently working in Virginia along with Virginian Bob Lynch. Once Virginia is done I expect to send them there. As with Alabama, those two along with any volunteer effort we can muster in Kentucky should be enough.

Maine: Requires 4,000 valid signatures by August 1st. I am in contact with their new state Chair Clark Phinney as well as Maine party member Ed Cohen, who has experience with getting the party on the ballot in Maine. Ed has taken initiative and is doing a great job of preparing for this drive. Maine is a state which requires petitioners be residents. For this reason, we will be looking to hire a company for to supplement the volunteer effort in Maine. I will submit a request for an encumbrance for Maine once we have some agreeable bids to present.

Minnesota: Requires 2,000 signatures by September 9th. Since these signatures do not get validated and we do not expect any challenge in Minnesota, it's pretty easy to circulate in that state. The state party should be able to handle this on their own.

New Hampshire: Requires 3,000 valid signatures by August 6th. Currently the LPNH is circulating a petition which lists George Phillies as the Presidential candidate with 2,800 signatures reported collected. NH state law does not allow for substitution. Richard Winger is currently negotiating with the New Hampshire SOS to get them to allow for substitution. Otherwise we will have to file a lawsuit in an attempt to use the current petition for our Presidential ticket, and also start

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on the independent candidate petition. A request for an encumbrance for this drive may be submitted once the legal issues are settled.

New Jersey: Requires 800 valid signatures by July 28th. With Lou Jasikoff as their very competent and active state Chair, I expect they should be able to handle this themselves.

New York: Requires 15,000 valid signatures in a six week window running from July 8th through August 19th, and is subject to challenge. Darryl Bonner, who has experience with the NY ballot drive, has already put together a team of experienced petitioners to help us complete this drive, and I expect they should be able to handle the bulk of it. Unfortunately, the LPNY is notorious for their limited ability to generate volunteer signatures, so I expect we will have to collect most of them ourselves.

Rhode Island: Requires 1,000 valid signatures by September 5th. Currently we have LPRI member Mike Rollins working on this. He should be able to complete this drive by himself although we'll continue to search for volunteers in that state to help.

South Dakota: Requires 3,356 valid signatures by August 5th. Circulators must be in-state residents. We will probably have to hire a company to do this, although several of the professional petitioners we can hire happen to be South Dakota residents. I will submit a request for an encumbrance for SD once we have some agreeable bids to present.

Tennessee: Requires 25 signatures for each Presidential elector by August 20th. They will probably just hold a party where they could get all these signatures. I'd love to attend and enjoy that special brand of Tennessee Libertarian hospitality.

Washington: Requires 1,000 valid signatures by July 26th. I have been in contact with Ruth Bennett and Scott Lindsley in that state and am confident they will be able to handle this on their own.

We also have received a proposal from Richard Shepherd in Washington, who is the attorney handling the litigation over the "top two" runoff system recently (and tenuously) upheld by the US Supreme Court. The Washington state LP has exhausted their resources in supporting this lawsuit. There is one issue unique to the LP which we would have to litigate if we choose to pick up this case, considering we are the only party that has trademarked its name and the Washington law allows candidates to select their own party designation on the ballot. The US Supreme Court opened the door to an "as applied" challenge, which means we also will have the opportunity to refile and showed how we have been harmed once they go through an election with the top two system. The estimated costs to continue the current legal are \$40,000-60,000, although most of that will be refunded if we win. I have available a document from Shepherd detailing the current status and needs of the case, which I would be happy to forward upon request.

states not currently in our plans:

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Oklahoma: Requires 43,913 valid signatures by July 15th for independent Presidential access. Oklahoma requires circulators be in-state residents and as you know is selectively rather harsh about enforcing that rule. The Oklahoma LP is active but pretty burnt out when it comes to petitioning. At \$2.50 a signature we could complete this drive for about \$165,000.

West Virginia: Requires 15,118 valid signatures by August 1st. People who voted in the WV primary are ineligible to sign, and they have several other picayune restrictions of how petitions can be circulated. I do have a lead through the Nader campaign which may be able to get us the bulk of these signatures for free. If that materializes I will be all over that offer. The LPWV is currently disorganized and can't be counted on for much support. If we had to do this drive ourselves, the estimated cost would be about \$60,000.

DC: Requires 3,900 valid signatures in a window from July 1st through August 19th. Circulators must be a resident of the district and here as well there are other wacky restrictions on circulators as well as a willingness to prosecute those who violate them. The LP is currently not organized in DC. We might could pull this off with another \$15,000.

Action Items:

Massachusetts: I would like to continue the agreement we have with LPMA to split the per signature costs for any petitioners they hire. To pay for the contract we have with Freedom Petition Management, I request an encumbrance of up to \$17,500 for up to 10,000 signatures plus petition copying costs.

Alabama: We can pay Paul Frankel \$1.50 per signature plus expenses, which should be limited since he lives there. I request an encumbrance of up to \$9,000 for Alabama, expecting that Frankel can get us up to 6,000 signatures.

Kentucky: Similarly, we can pay Milt Lukens and Bob Lynch \$1.50 per signature plus limited expenses. I request an encumbrance of up to \$9,000 for Kentucky, expecting that these two can get us up to 6,000 signatures.

New York: Since we have a pool of experienced in-state circulators, again we can get by with \$1.50 per signature and limited expenses. I request an encumbrance of \$33,750 for Darryl Bonner's people to collect all 22,500 necessary total signatures.

Washington: See the comments above about the current litigation and costs in Washington state.

*

Candidates:

Alexa Lamoureaux and our interns in the office have done an excellent job of calling members to generate leads for each state's candidate recruitment efforts. Currently I am aware of 668 Libertarians who intend to run for office or have already filed for office across the country. Filing deadlines are still open in

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approximately half the states. I am hoping when all is said and done we will have about 1,200 Libertarian candidates across the country.

While we have several excellent candidates who are featured on the Candidate Tracker at lp.org, unfortunately much of my time has been taken in addressing more controversial candidates or statements from them. The old quote on child pornography dug up from a book by Presidential candidate Mary Ruwart is the most famous yet by no means the only example of a situation where the national office has had to be proactive in putting out a more appropriate Libertarian message in the media. I can answer any questions you may have about that incident and our response to it.

My response to these is on a case-by-case basis, depending upon the attitude of the candidate himself. For example, Joe Buchman running for US House in Utah has an issue demanding the government end its secrecy about possible extraterrestrial contact. He is easy to defend because he has a good sense of humor about it and has been successful in promoting other more traditional Libertarian issues in the local media. A more difficult example is presented by Kevin Barrett, who is running for US House in Wisconsin. He is part of the "9/11 Truth" movement, which in and of itself does not pose an image problem. However it has been widely reported that he has made statements in pursuit of that agenda which could be taken to call for the execution for treason of journalists and government officials who may be complicit in any coverup, and also one particular statement which is soft on holocaust revisionism, a subject I personally find even more horrifying than child porn. I am currently working with the Barrett campaign to get to the bottom of these statements – his campaign advisor Rolf Lindgren assures me Barrett either never said these things or is being unfairly taken out of context – but until a positive resolution of these concerns can be achieved, when a reporter calls I have to be clear that the Libertarian Party neither calls for anybody's execution, nor is soft on holocaust revisionism. I did have to make such statements in response to a media inquiry from a local Wisconsin newspaper.

*

Elected Libertarians:

We now know of 193 elected Libertarians currently serving in office. We have already had several winners for local office in 2008.

In Texas, Pat Dixon was returned to Lago Vista City Council on May 10th. We also learned that Libertarian Gerhard Klienschmidt is Mayor of Annetta South.

In Massachusetts, Jim Casarjian-Perry and Art Torrey were elected as Billerica Town Meeting Representatives. Andrew Boysen was elected to the Wellesley Housing Authority.

In Missouri, sitting City Councilman Joel Stoner defeated the incumbent Jack Daniels with 68% of the vote and is now Mayor of Macks Creek.

The Wisconsin LP elected four Libertarians in April. Ed Thompson was returned a Mayor of Tomah. Ken Ebsen won a seat on the Pardeeville Village Board. Kevin

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Schuenemann was elected to the Village Board in Kewaksum. Kurt Schlicht won a seat on the Dane County Commission.

*

It continues to be an honor to serve this party and its members as your Political Director.

yours in liberty –
Sean Haugh

Direct Marketing Manager's Report **by Louise Calise**

Overview

For the first quarter of 2008 we raised a little over \$360,000; an increase of \$21,000+ over the first quarter of 2007. Although our membership numbers are on a slight decline, I am happy to report that our direct marketing program is in the black. I intend to keep our direct marketing program in the black while raising our membership numbers through a carefully planned acquisition program.

On a separate note: last month I attended the Leadership Institute's High Dollar Fundraising School. What I would like to do within the next year is to hire someone to help with the daily responsibilities of the direct mail program so I can work on acquiring and maintaining high dollar donors for the party.

House Appeals

Our renewal mailings are still holding strong with an average return of 15.91% and an average gift of \$43.44. As I mentioned in my last report I have been testing a new package for the renewal series, and because the results are still so close have decided to keep it going for another 2-3 months. In 2007 we were successful in telemarketing to members for renewals. However, at this time we are not working with a telemarketing firm so I have started to mail to the groups we would otherwise be calling – so far this has given us positive results.

In keeping with the goal of having the direct marketing program in the black I have continued to be careful of spending money on print and production. Our 2008 house mailings have all costs us less than \$1.00 to raise a dollar. Our average percent of return for the first quarter of 2008 is only 2.71%, yet the average gift is \$62.00. I understand the need to do appeals on ballot access; however, these results confirm my belief that our packages need to be on issues other than ballot access. Now that we have presidential and vice-presidential candidates we can focus differently and create packages that have donor interaction to raise our percent of return and average gift.

I will be testing gift arrays to raise donors' average gifts and from there put together a package (not a solicitation) to cultivate high dollar donors.

Previously I reported that we will be very selective in mailing to our lapsed donors, and I propose to mail them the next (June) house appeal in that it will highlight our candidates and/or the Libertarian Party platforms.

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Prospecting

This year we mailed two prospect appeals: one to test some lists with the package we previously used, and another to a list of Ron Paul supporters in Alabama. The percent return was only 0.80% and the average gift was \$24.29.

As I previously mentioned, I have coded the packages so we can identify and analyze the results to see which lists and which packages worked best. Now that I have that information and can analyze it clearly, we are preparing to mail a prospect appeal in July to reactivate lapsed members, activate registered libertarians and possibly a small quantity of a list that works well for us. We always need to increase our membership to not have the numbers fall, and now is the best time to do this.

Telemarketing

We are still in the process of looking for a vendor to work with that can do exactly as we need and to keep this program in the black.

Special Solicitations

At this time we do not have anyone who has been successful in working with board members on solicitations. As I mentioned above, I would like to move into this area; but first need help with the day to day routine procedures of direct mail.

LNC "Give or Get Program"

Sum of Gift Amount	Give/Get		Grand Total	Goal
	Get	Give		
Board Member				
Aaron Starr	10,805	3,210	14,015	5,000
Angela Keaton	10,150	199	10,349	5,000
Bob Barr	9,500	1,000	10,500	10,000
Chuck Moulton	500	2,515	3,015	2,000
Daniel M. Karlan		2,200	2,200	2,000
Daniel P. Wiener		25	25	0
Emily H. Salvette	5,040	8,940	13,980	5,000
Eric Sundwall		35	35	0
Hardy A. Machia		5,010	5,010	5,000
James W. Lark		21,000	21,000	5,000
Jeremy Keil	300	1,300	1,600	5,000
Julia Fox		1,050	1,050	1,000
M Carling	17,100	6,000	23,100	10,000
Mark Johnson		25	25	0
Mark W. Hinkle		100	100	#N/A
Michael C. Colley	250	4,149	4,399	5,000
Nancy Neale		0	0	0
Patrick J. Dixon		5,150	5,150	5,000
R. A. Ryan	1,000	1,210	2,210	5,000
Rebecca Sink-Burris		310	310	0
Robert C. Benedict	25	1,620	1,645	1,000
Robert Sullentrup		3,333	3,333	0
Scott Lieberman	1,550	100	1,650	1,000

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Steven J. Damerell		750	750	0
Stewart Flood	100	6,700	6,800	5,000
William B. Redpath	2,300	30,800	33,100	
Grand Total	58,620	106,731	165,351	

'08 Liberty Decides

As of May 6, 2008 the following funds have been raised for '08 Liberty Decides:

Alden Link	\$910
Barry Hess	\$165
Bob Barr	\$17,510
Christine Smith	\$2,460
Daniel Imperato	\$10,474
David Hollist	\$60
George Phillies	\$1,410
Jim Burns	\$145
John Finan	\$125
Mary Ruwart	\$1,085
Mike Gravel	\$945
Mike Jingoian	\$8,490
Robert Milnes	\$60
Steve Kubby	\$1,280
Wayne A. Root	\$15,764
None of the above	\$4,327
Future Candidate	\$2,146
Bob Jackson	\$0 (was \$6,985)*
Daniel Williams	\$0 (was \$25)*

* these candidates dropped out of the presidential race and directed their funds to go to Bob Barr.

Here is the 2008 mail schedule:

2008 Mail Schedule

Proposed Mail Date	Audience	Theme	Status
13-Feb	House	Ron Paul Petition	mailed
26-Feb	House	Torch Club Invitations	mailed
10-Mar	House	Annual Report	mailed
9-Apr	House	Annual Report Followup	mailed
1-May	House	Ballot Access - Map Insert	mailed
9-Jun	House	Candidate Support	in copy
7-Jul	House	State of Economy	
4-Aug	House	wallet flap	
2-Sep	House	petition	
6-Oct	House	Remember to Vote - Stickers	priced out
7-Nov	House	Election turnout - button give away	have inventory
8-Dec	House	Year End - Budget	

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15-Jul	Prospect	Party & Candidate Support	
13-Oct	Prospect	Remember to Vote - Stickers	
16-Jan	House	Renewal Series	mailed
22-Feb	House	Renewal Series	mailed
10-Mar	House	Renewal Series	mailed
18-Apr	House	Renewal Series	mailed
12-May	House	Renewal Series	mailed
9-Jun	House	Renewal Series	
7-Jul	House	Renewal Series	
4-Aug	House	Renewal Series	
2-Sep	House	Renewal Series	
6-Oct	House	Renewal Series	
3-Nov	House	Renewal Series	
1-Dec	House	Renewal Series	
28-Jan	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	mailed
28-Feb	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	mailed
27-Mar	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	mailed
21-Apr	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	mailed
12-May	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	mailed
9-Jun	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
14-Jul	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
11-Aug	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
8-Sep	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
13-Oct	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
10-Nov	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
8-Dec	Mo pledgers	Pledge News	
20-Jan	Active Members	LP News	mailed
2-Mar	Active Members	LP News	mailed
2-Apr	Active Members	LP News	mailed
2-May	Active Members	LP News	mailed
12-May	Active Members	LP News	
9-Jun	Active Members	LP News	
14-Jul	Active Members	LP News	
11-Aug	Active Members	LP News	
8-Sep	Active Members	LP News	
13-Oct	Active Members	LP News	
10-Nov	Active Members	LP News	
8-Dec	Active Members	LP News	

I look forward to comments from the LNC. Thank you.

Staff Report
by Andrew Davis

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Since the last LNC meeting in Las Vegas, there has been much development in the realm of LP media. Several high profile announcements, Supreme Court cases and preparation for the national convention created a significant amount of work in this last quarter. Also in this time, I assumed the leading role in the editing and publishing of LP News and Pledge News -- the two monthly publications for the Libertarian Party. All of made these past few months the busiest since I began working for the LP nearly one year ago.

This, of course, is nothing but good news, as the LP enjoyed both unparalleled media coverage and increased communications from the Party. Admittedly, with the increase of responsibility and the shifting of priorities in my workload, the frequency of press releases issued by the party has decreased marginally; however, I see no negative impact from this. A heavier focus on the timely publication of both LP News and Pledge News, as well as an increase in email communication with LP members through the increased use of our email capabilities, has been of tremendous benefit to the party in the lead up to the convention.

This is not to say that we are no longer issuing press releases, but just that they are coming at a slower rate. I feel that after the national convention, when I can focus back on press releases rather than on coordinating media for Denver, they will pick back up to the previous rate, or even more so.

Media coverage of the national convention this year is expected to be spectacular (and I hope this will hold true by the time you are reading this at the LNC meeting following the convention). It has even been joked that there will be more media than delegates at the convention. Currently, we have more than 30 different media outlets, from local to national prominence, covering the events. Media outlets such as C-SPAN, CNN, CNN Radio, CBS Radio, MTV Choose or Lose '08, The American Spectator, The Washington Times, The Associated Press and many, many others have all asked for credentials.

Certainly, the recent high-profile announcements of Mike Gravel and Bob Barr have added a significant element of interest in the convention; as that both Gravel's announcement of switching to the Libertarian Party and Barr's presidential announcement brought about the lion's share of media coverage this quarter. The day following Gravel's announcement in a press release issued the evening of, I did interviews with the New York Times, the Washington Post and FoxNews.com. However, even Gravel's announcement was shadowed by the coverage surrounding Barr's presidential announcement. It was said that Barr's announcement may have been one of the most heavily covered occurrences in LP history -- and I find that easy to believe.

In fact, the LP's rather rough and simplistic strategy to measure and track media (Google News) rendered me unable to fully see how widespread Barr's announcement was covered.

In February, the Libertarian Party was given the esteemed honor of participating in the *D.C. v. Heller* Supreme Court case, which will effectively decide the future of gun rights in the nation for years to come. With help from Dave Hardy, a Tucson attorney, and Bob Barr, the Libertarian Party was able to submit an amicus brief in the case. This was a great chance for the Libertarian Party to become a part of an historic case.

Goals for this next quarter are simple: help coordinate media with our nominee, and put out releases that promote the party's position on the issues *du jour*. I also plan to continue working to put out our party's publications on time and in good form.

I would also like to note that it has been a pleasure working with the Libertarian Party for nearly a full year (come the end of June). I look at my other friends, who began working in D.C. around the same time as me, and many are now at their second or third jobs; a few are already back from where they came. I think it is a quality reflection on the party and the work

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environment at headquarters that a young person, who typically bounces around from job to job after first coming to D.C., would stay put in one place.

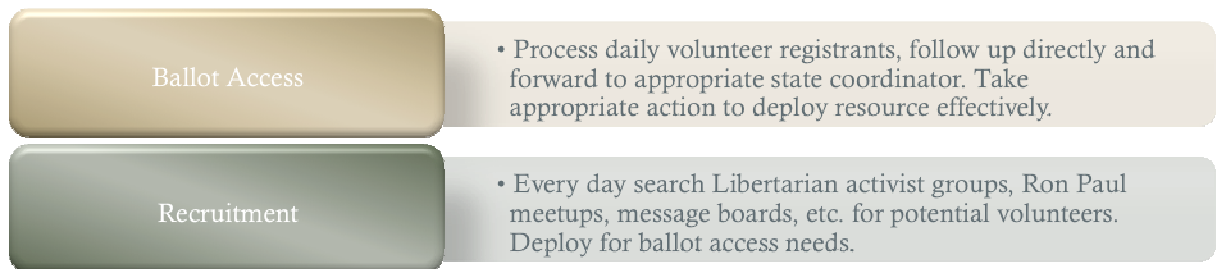
In this year span, I have seen the party evolve from relative obscurity in the media, into an organization that is more frequently sought for an alternative position on a variety of issues. I can only imagine what the future holds for this party.

A New Direction...

Alexa Lamoureux

In March of 2008 I assumed the role of Volunteer Coordinator for the Libertarian National Committee, and have been a fully time employee for about 2 months. Previously I had been a volunteer organizer for the Ron Paul NYC Meetup in Manhattan and an entertainment professional. During the Paul campaign I coordinated with the Libertarian Party for a phone banking operation to influence the New Hampshire primaries. Due to my success in recruiting over 1,000 volunteers worldwide, I was offered a position with the National Committee and readily accepted it. Using the experience I have gained in my professional life coupled with my previous successes organizing, I have developed a simple broad-based, and open source strategy to energize, and revitalize Libertarian activists. In this report I will detail some of my day-to-day activities, projects, and my ideas for the future.

Daily Routines



- Ballot access is focus and in addition to coordinating with Volunteers for petitioning, I also place advertisements regularly for paid and volunteer petitioners on Craigslist. Results have been mixed with responders spanning the spectrum of experienced professionals to transient “jobbers.”
- Field calls from outside callers requesting information, listening to their suggestions, forwarding them to appropriate contacts, and dealing with the public in general. These phone calls run the gamut from Presidential Candidates, to “9/11 Truthers”, and I deal with them appropriately and as diplomatically as possible. In conversations with people, I avoid speaking directly for the party, answer questions as honestly as possible, and do my best to portray the party and its philosophy in as accurate and positive a light as possible.
- I regularly stay in contact with Sean Haugh and Scott Kohlhaas often to stay abreast of ballot access status, and keep local chairs informed of my progress.

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Development Plan

My plan for the future is to grow the party using the tools that are easily accessible to those who are familiar with the internet. Using Meetup.com and Youtube, activists are able to coordinate, inspire, motivate, and educate one another in their own communities and around the world. To those special activists that demonstrate leadership abilities I have been training them to start their own groups and given them information of how and where to look for local volunteers in their communities. Encouraging volunteers to have fun and to keep their volunteers engaged while still keeping their eye on the prize in terms of work getting done, is critical to attracting new supporters and keeping them active. Open mindedness, inclusiveness, friendship, humor, and a philosophy of “the big tent”, are my theme. SUCCESS STORY!

- Mike Hammer, a volunteer, attended one of my Meetups in D.C. recently. I trained him in my methodology, and a few weeks later I received this message

“I have already been at work taking some of Austin’s advice, bringing new people together, reaching out to Ron Paul supporters, and building new networks. We just established a meetup group for North Central Oklahoma: <http://libertarian.meetup.com/396/>. This will give us the chance to reach out to as many as 10 new counties where the LP has not previously had an official presence. If we were to have an official state coordinator it would give me some leverage to work with the already established LP organization in the state.”

Side Projects

- Writing for the LP Pledge News
- Currently developing petitioning “How To” guide video
- I have begun a D.C. based Libertarian Meetup that has had several successful meetings, and looks to be the beginnings of a thriving local base of activists.
- I have directed a successful volunteer artist campaign where Libertarian volunteers submitted work around a central theme I created, “The Libertarians Have the Answers” (to America’s problems). Many people have responded, and this has been a great outreach tool as well as providing us with tools to reach out to people affected by political cartoons.



Special Projects and Activities

- I was a guest speaker at the Heartland Libertarian Conference.
- I created a Petitioners F.A.Q. Youtube video for Illinois
- I created a general recruitment video for activists.
- I actively petition for Bill Redpath in my spare time on weekends.

In Conclusion...

My priority at the moment lies with ballot access. When ballot access is completed, I will divert my time, energy, and resources to supporting our eventual Presidential candidate and I will use the same tools and techniques for him or her. I am very much looking forward to being a part of shaping the future of the Libertarian Party, and am committed to performing my duties responsibly with innovation and style.

CAMPUS ORGANIZING REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, May 8, 2008

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee

The following report will provide information concerning efforts to build and support Libertarian campus organizations. I shall provide an updated report at the LNC meeting in Denver should additional information become available.

1) I continue to handle the tasks of updating the LP's campus contact list and responding to inquiries from people who want information about the LP campus outreach effort. Based upon the feedback I have received, my performance in this area is evidently regarded as satisfactory.

I receive a steady stream of inquiries from students (and occasionally professors) who wish to start Libertarian campus groups; this includes a few inquiries from high school students. Unfortunately, I receive little feedback from the students as to their success in starting and building groups at their schools. This lack of feedback is a recurring problem.

2) In mid-April I submitted an article to *LP News* on the subject of "things to do during the summer" to promote the LP on college campuses. I have not been informed whether it will be published.

3) I am working with the Advocates for Self-Government to provide "Operation Politically Homeless" kits to campus organizations. (I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Advocates.)

4) The Libertarian Leadership School (LLS), which featured a course I taught on the subject of campus organizing, remains inactive at this time. At this time, I consider it unlikely the LLS will resume operations.

5) The campus website project is still moving forward, although more slowly than I had hoped. I am determined to have a high-quality website available by the end of the summer.

6) I continue to work with various state and local organizations to assist their campus outreach efforts. I also work with student activists around the country to assist their efforts. (For example, on May 4, I met with three Libertarian students at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia, to help them plan their activities for the 2008-2009 school year.) I anticipate that I shall give addresses at several colleges, universities, and high schools this year.

Appendix B. Dr. Lark, Campus Organizing Report, Denver, CO, May 22, 2008

7) In February I gave addresses on the subject of building campus organizations at the LSLA conference in Las Vegas and the inaugural Students for Liberty conference at Columbia University in New York. I shall conduct a campus organizing workshop at the LP national convention on the afternoon of May 23.

8) The International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) is investigating ways to assist Libertarian groups on college campuses. I am involved in discussions about this matter, along with former LP national chairman Dave Walter. (Mr. Walter and I are members of the ISIL Board of Directors.)

9) I have accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Advisors of Students for Liberty, the recently-formed nonprofit organization that sponsored a conference at Columbia University in February (see comment above). I believe this organization has great potential to improve Libertarian outreach on college campuses, and I look forward to serving on the SFL Board of Advisors.

10) As you may gather from my previous comments, several Libertarian organizations are working to improve Libertarian outreach among students. As far as I can tell, aside from my efforts there has been very little coordination among these organizations. It is my intention to work with these various organizations to coordinate activities; at the very least, I shall endeavor to keep each organizations informed about the ongoing activities of the other organizations.

Region One Report - May 2008

Colorado

No report.

From the website: Former Western Slope Outreach Director Debbie Schum is rallying the Delta County community to defend property rights in opposing a provision that places various restrictions on home businesses. Her efforts are bringing media attention to the issue. In April the LPCO media group began producing podcasts on pertinent issues relevant to Colorado Libertarians. The LPCO state convention concluded on Saturday, March 8. State delegates nominated candidates for office, delegates to the LP National Convention, new LPCO board members, and the Colorado Libertarian Electoral College delegation. A Presidential candidates luncheon was also held.

Candidates for public office include Martin Buchanan for US Congress District 1, Ken Wyble for State Senate District 28, Jack Woehr for State House District 25, James Frye for State House District 42, plus three candidates for County Commissioner districts in Boulder County.

Illinois

From IL Petition Drive Chair Crystal Jurczynski's most recent update plus my own additions:

May 10th marks the half-way point in the 90-day petition drive ending June 23. Contractor signatures and fundraising are on target with both at 50% of the total goal raised as of May 10. With the weather improving and local festivals starting up, volunteer signatures are expected to be on the raise in May and June. IL ballot access laws disallow those who circulated petitions for Ron Paul to also circulate for the LPI.

Also in LPI news:

Dan Druck, the LP candidate seeking Dennis Hastert's seat in the 14th Congressional District, will match any donations to his campaign up to \$10,000. Signature requirements for this Congressional district are even more onerous than for state-wide candidates. Non-established parties need 10,000 valid signatures to get on the ballot while established parties only need 800. Republican candidate Jim Oberweis is not popular amongst many conservatives in the district, allowing the LP an excellent opportunity to pick up votes here.

Nebraska

No report.

From the website: The party is back on-line as of March 27. Klaus Lindner is running for Mayor of La Vista. A new board of directors was announced on the website on April 28. The last monthly meeting was held on May 10.

South Dakota

No report.

From the website: Ballot access laws have improved for third parties. New laws allow out-of-state petition circulators.

Kansas

Appendix C. Region 1 Report, Julie Fox, Denver CO, May 22, 2008

No report.

From the website: State Chair Rob Hodgkinson is running for State Senate in District 37. Rob also played a key role in planning the Heartland Libertarian Conference which was held the first weekend in April.

Iowa

From State Chair Ed Wright: the LPIA is working on Pres/VP ballot access petitions and has a membership drive underway.

Minnesota

No report.

From the website: State Chair Bob Odden is working to stop the City of Columbia Heights from building an activity center. This would save taxpayers \$14 million. On March 4th Bob Smith and Charles Test testified before a Student Senate group of north metro homeschoolers on the issue of drug legalization. The next LPMN Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for May 19.

Wisconsin

From Secretary John Gatewood:

The LPWI annual convention was held in the state capitol, Madison, on April 12th. The business meeting included approving the LPWI Platform and electing the WI delegation to the LP national convention. The LPWI Treasurer's report was very positive indicating very strong growth in monthly pledges to LPWI compared to last year. LPWI Affiliate parties were reported as active, with two new affiliate parties added in the last few months. After the business meeting, speeches were given on various topics including an eye opening session on REAL-ID which should make anyone with libertarian leanings very concerned. The potential to take this beyond the intended standardizing driver's licenses to a tool for the federal government to keep track of its citizens is enormous if not obvious.

On a positive note, Ed Thompson, Vice-Chairman of the LPWI, was elected Mayor of Tomah in April. He has had positive newspaper coverage as well, appearing in a recent article in the Wisconsin State Journal out of Madison.

For the November elections, several LPWI members are planning campaigns for both state and national offices. Among the planned campaigns are for the 61st district WI State Assembly, the 62nd district WI State Assembly, the 1st WI district US House of Representatives, and the 3rd WI district US House of Representatives.

Missouri

Appendix C. Region 1 Report, Julie Fox, Denver CO, May 22, 2008

No report.

LPMO member Michael Ferguson was instrumental in planning the Heartland Libertarian Conference held the first weekend in April.

Montana

No report.

Alaska

No report.

Wyoming

No report.

North Dakota

No report.

Submitted by Julie Fox

Region One Alternate

May 13, 2008

Region 2 LNC Report – 5/14/08
Mark Hinkle, Region 2 Representative

California:

The LPC has 40 partisan candidates running for office, our lowest number since gaining ballot access in 1980. John Inks, Chair of the Planning Commission for Mountain View (SF Bay Area) is running for city council. He narrowly lost 2 years ago. The LP is supporting a yes vote on Prop 98 (eminent domain restrictions) and no on Prop 99 (phony eminent domain measure fronted by big business and big government front groups). Jane Henson, Riverside County, commissioned Scott Bieser to create this cartoon in support of Prop 98:

Vote Yes on Prop. 98 June 3!



***Defend our Homes, Farms
& Businesses!***

Washington:

The Libertarian Party of Washington State (LPWA) held its 2008 Convention Saturday, April 19, in Pierce County's Titlow Lodge. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on 3/18/08 that Washington states law that only allows the top 2 candidates onto the general election ballot is constitution. However, according to Ballot Access News "The U.S. Supreme Court decision also says that it is possible the Washington system does violate the Associational rights of political parties, but we can't know this yet. For example, the state still hasn't even decided how the wording on the ballot, involving political party names, will be handled. The Court said after Washington elections officials decide how party preference labels will be shown on the ballot, and after the state experiences the system in 2008, the parties are free to file new lawsuits, using the evidence that has yet to be gathered."

Oregon:

Appendix D. Mark Hinkle, Region 2 Report, Denver, CO, May 22, 2008

The Libertarian Party of Oregon held its 2008 annual business convention at the Portland World Trade Center building on the weekend of March 8 and 9. LPO's has a weekly VOLUNTEER NIGHT. The event takes place every Monday night from 6:00-9:00 PM (excluding holidays) at the LPO Office, 10211 SW Barbur Blvd. Suite 210A in southwest Portland, 97219. We are located on the 2nd floor of Building A.

Idaho:

The Idaho LP is fighting a bill in the legislature that seeks to define marriage only between a man and a woman.

REGION 3 REPORT TO THE LNC – May 8, 2008
Emily Salvette, LNC Region 3 Rep

The state parties in Region 3 are all doing well. I attended the state conventions in Indiana and Ohio, which were both very successful with good attendance and well organized presidential candidate debates. I was particularly impressed with the Ohio group's ability to make substantial and controversial changes to its bylaws without rancor or schism. Indiana is again fielding a strong slate of candidates, including a gubernatorial candidate, Andy Horning.

Region 3 alternate Rebecca Sink-Burris attended the Kentucky state convention in March. She reported that it was also an excellent event. Kentucky has a strong core of young activists who are getting the party organized and poised for growth. They also made substantial changes to their bylaws that allow the leadership greater flexibility in taking action and getting things done.

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will hold its state nominating convention on June 7. They held an extremely successful candidate recruiting and training seminar in March that was promoted to Ron Paul supporters. Of the 48 people who attended, about one-third were new to the Libertarian Party. Michigan will probably reach its goal of nominating 100 candidates for office this year.

Kevin Knedler in Ohio, Ken Moellman in Kentucky, and Todd Singer in Indiana continue on as state chairs. Bill Hall is running for re-election in Michigan at the June convention. I'm glad to see these strong leaders provide continuity in this important election year. I truly appreciate their continued dedication in support of liberty.

It's been my privilege to serve Region 3 as its LNC representative. I've enjoyed the experience and have the greatest respect for my colleagues on the committee. I wish Rebecca a successful term and thank her for her support during the past two years.

Libertarian National Committee Region 4 Report

REGION 5 REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, May 8, 2008

Submitted by: James W. Lark, III
Region 5 Representative, Libertarian National Committee

The following report will provide information concerning activities of the Libertarian Party state affiliates in Region 5 since the LNC meeting in February 2008. I shall provide an updated report at the LNC meeting in Denver should additional information become available.

On a personal note, I am pleased to report that I gave the banquet address at the 2008 Libertarian Party of Maryland convention in Dundalk on March 1. On April 2 I appeared on the "Straight Talk" radio program, hosted by Jerry Hughes of the Accent Radio Network. On April 11, I appeared on the Rob Schilling radio program on WINA radio (1070 AM) in Charlottesville. On May 3, I gave an invited speech in Atlanta at the reception in honor of Marshall Fritz, founder of the Advocates for Self-Government. (Former LP chairman and LPVa member Jim Turney also gave an invited speech at this event.)

Since this is likely to be my final report for the 2006-2008 LNC term concerning Region 5 activities, allow me to thank the several Region 5 chairs and contacts for their work for liberty, and for their support of my efforts (listed in alphabetical order of surname): Jeff Bowles, Leonard Harris, Matt Harris, Rich Heller, Bob Johnston, George Jurgensen, Shannon McMenemy, Kirsten Milligan, Chuck Moulton, Austin Petersen, Mik Robertson, Dave Sten, and Brad Thomas.

Delaware

I have not received a report recently from LP Delaware secretary Brad Thomas (bradct@delanet.com). I believe LPD county committees continue to meet on a monthly basis.

District of Columbia

Austin Petersen (austin.petersen@lp.org), the volunteer coordinator for the Libertarian Party, has established a Meetup group for the LPDC. The next meeting will take place on May 15. The LPDC delegation to the national convention will consist of Rob Kampia, John LaBeaume, and Bill Piper.

Maryland

I have not received a report recently from LPMD chairman Bob Johnston (rstanley21018@yahoo.com). The annual LPMD convention was held in Dundalk on March 1 in Dundalk.

Pennsylvania

LP Pennsylvania chairman Mik Robertson (chair@lppa.org) provided the following information, which I have edited slightly (with his permission):

Pennsylvania is currently in the midst of a ballot access signature drive. We anticipate turning in approximately 40,000 signatures on July 31, easily meeting our ballot access threshold of 24,666 valid signatures. We are about one quarter of the way to our anticipated turn in number as of May 1, which put us in a pretty good position to meet our goal.

In addition to our soon to be nominated President and Vice-President candidates, we currently have nominees for all three statewide offices in Pennsylvania up for election this year, four congressional candidates, two candidates for Senator in the General Assembly, and three candidates for Representative in the General Assembly. I believe there will be several more (probably three more) candidates appearing prior to the submittal of nomination papers.

This election in Pennsylvania is all state and federal offices, no local offices are on the ballot (except for rare special elections). So far there are two Pennsylvania counties where all available elected offices will have a Libertarian candidate on the ballot, and we are hoping to increase that number by the summer.

I would like to wish our neighbors to the south of the Mason-Dixon line well and hope to meet everyone face-to-face soon. If I may be of assistance in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Michael J. "Mik" Robertson
Chair, Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania

Virginia

The LPVa held its 2008 state convention in Richmond on March 29. The convention featured appearances by presidential candidates Wayne Allyn Root and Mary Ruwart, as well as a panel discussion of recent LPVa campaigns that included Arin Sime (2007 state senate candidate), Don Tabor (2007 state senate candidate), and Bill Wood (2006 congressional candidate). LP chairman Bill Redpath gave the luncheon address.

Mr. Redpath was nominated to serve as the LPVa candidate for the U.S. Senate this year. (At this time, it appears he will be the only LPVa candidate this year.) His campaign must submit at least 10,000 signatures of registered Virginia voters by June 10 in order to be on the ballot. Jeff Bowles of Fincastle, who served

as vice chairman during the 2006-2008 term, was elected chairman. I was elected vice chairman; secretary Marc Montoni and treasurer Kevin McKenna were reelected to their respective positions. All officers were elected without opposition or objection.

West Virginia

While the Libertarian Party of West Virginia is not a member of Region 5, I have served as the LPWV representative on the LNC (with the consent of the LPWV). The LPWV remains an active party, although at a low level. Kirsten Milligan (kirsten@lpwv.org) recently resigned as LPWV chair; she deserves great credit for her work. Her successor is Matt Harris (mdh@solitox.net). The LPWV will hold its state convention on May 11; I shall have the honor of speaking at the convention.

Region 6 Report

Most of the reports below were cut and pasted from information found on the affiliate websites and newsletters.

Arizona:

The Arizona LP has a nice new election paper:
Arizona Libertarian -- Election Cycle 2008 Edition
<http://www.azlp.org/pub/AZLP-2008-paper.pdf>.

Arkansas:

The Executive Committee of the Arkansas Libertarian Party met in Conway on the evening of Tuesday February 5th.

The resignation of Gary Golden as the second district representative was accepted. The committee voted to approve Jim Hudson as the second district representative and appoint Morris Middleton to the treasurer's position.

Gerhard Langguth remains Chair.

Louisiana:

Exciting things are happening at the LPL! We've got a new state platform, we are organizing on the parish level, have a plan for funding, and we've got a national convention coming up at the end of May in Denver.

Visit our volunteer link to see some of the things we are looking to accomplish.

In the meantime, there are still at least 3 delegate slots open to attend the LP convention and plenty of alternate slots for anyone interested. If this sounds like something for you, contact the chair, Adrien Monteleone AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Nevada:

Recent News Help Wanted! posted 27 September 2007
Help Wanted!

And not just any help. We're in need of a good webmaster.

If you care about liberty and want to see a strong LP presence in Nevada, we need activists with computer/web design skills that will help create/maintain a functional, professional-looking website.

If you have the skills and commitment, we'd love to hear from you!

Appendix H. Wes Benedict, Region 6 Report, Denver, CO, May 22, 2008

New Mexico:

From their newsletter, New Mexico Liberty:

Mike Moss got new LPNM Official Site - lpmn.us - up and running.

MORE CANDIDATES NEEDED!

Hey, folks, it's that time again - Election Season! The LPNM needs candidates for public office, as political campaigns are one of the ways that we can get the libertarian message out to the public. Specifically, I'm calling for everyone who can to run for State Representative or Senator. State Legislature races are the easiest for which to get your name listed on the ballot - at most, you would need to turn in 300 signatures for either a House or Senate candidacy, as compared to 800 for county commissioner, 2500 for U.S. Congress, and 8000 for U.S. Senate.

Oklahoma:

While Oklahoma is not officially in Region 6, I've worked with and reported on them informally.

Their website is reasonably up to date with plenty of political content.

At the last LNC meetings, it sounded likely that the LNC did not expect to gain Ballot Access in Oklahoma.

Texas:

By the January 2 deadline, 210 candidates filed to seek the Libertarian Party nomination for the November 2008 elections. The Libertarian Party of Texas now has three paid staff working 40 hours per week (or at least paid for 40 hours). The Libertarian Party of Texas has chosen the Radisson Hotel Fossil Creek in Fort Worth as the site of its 2008 state convention. The state convention will be held June 13-15, 2008.

Utah:

The LP Utah nominated a slate of 13 Libertarian Party Candidates.

Submitted by:
Wes Benedict
Region 6 LNC Representative
512-442-4910

REGION 7 REPORT

Connecticut

CT LP had their convention this month with a good turn out and pulled a few attendees from surrounding states of ME, NH, MA, and NH because of the presidential forum. About 60-70 people attended. They had a presidential forum with Gavel, Phillies, Root, and Ruwart. Someone said a few words on behalf of Kubby, and a letter to the convention from Jingoian was read. Barr was also a speaker, being undeclared wasn't part of the forum. They elected Evan Guttman as their new state chair.

Massachusetts

LPMass, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts, raised \$8000 in to-be-matched funds for ballot access, and appears to have matched enough of it to pay for petitioners. We have several paid petitioners from in-state. Our tentative arrangement from last year for an out-of-state petitioner was successful. We are in touch with other third party and independent Presidential campaigns about sharing petitioners. Our U.S. Senate candidate is Robert J. Underwood of Springfield, Massachusetts. State Chair George Phillies gave us a unique fundraising tzotzke: a free electronic file of either of two of his novels sent to each donor to LPMass.

Newly re-elected Libertarian is Mary-Anne Wolf (Billerica Town Meeting Member). She joins Libertarians Arthur Torrey and newly-elected Jim Casarjian-Perry. Bill DiScipio once again ran for office, this time Selectman in Wakefield, and finished fourth in a highly competitive five-man race.

George Phillies

State Chair - MA LP

New Hampshire

Ballot petitioning is ongoing. A gun raffle is ongoing. Several outreach booths are scheduled for upcoming fairs this summer as well as a hospitality suite at the Free State Project PorcFest.

New Jersey

No news.

New York

The LPNY held its annual convention on April 26th in Flushing, Queens. Former Alaskan Senator Mike Gravel addressed the convention in the morning and former Congressman Bob Barr spoke after lunch. Mike Jingoian, Wayne Root, John Finan, Alden Link and Daniel Williams spoke as presidential and vice-presidential candidates. Representatives for Steve Kubby, Mary Ruwart and Christine Smith also spoke. Eric Sundwall was elected Chair, Mark Axinn and Chris Edes Vice-Chairs. The new State Committee held a meeting on May 4th. Two fund raising letters were approved for before and after the National Convention. Dr. David Eisenbach was approved as a national delegate. The Committee elected past chair Jeff Russell and current At-Large-Rep M Carling as convention co-chairs. Region formation, state Electors and a committee to fill vacancies were discussed. An essay contest was approved targeted at college students regarding the importance of candidates with libertarian values. Prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 were approved.

A potential mistake at the NYS Board of Elections has introduced the possibility that signature requirements for Libertarians in NY may only have to qualify at extremely low numbers. Richard Winger and former NYS AG candidate Chris Garvey have been consulted on the matter. A significant break through in law is not expected, but the State Committee is considering electoral possibilities or attempted challenges. Stay tuned.

The new state chair is currently trying to get his wife to run for school board in Kinderhook, NY. A current vacancy has created an opportunity for a viable write-in candidacy. If elected Kathryn Sundwall would be the first local Libertarian candidate to be elected in a while. Cross your fingers.

Sincerely,

Eric Sundwall

Chair, LPNY

Vermont

No news.

Maine

Maine held it's convention in April and elected a full slate of officers including Clark Phinney at State Chair and Jay French as State Vice Chair. Clark and Jay, along with the entire leadership executive team of the Maine LP have set a bold agenda of working to rebuild the Libertarian Party in the state of Maine. Clark can be reached at clark.phinney@lpme.org

Appendix I. Hardy Macia, Region 7 Report, Denver, CO, May 22, 2008

Clark Phinney

State Chair - Maine LP (***not officially in region**)

Hardy Macia