



LNC Meeting Minutes, February 28-March 1, 2009, Charleston, SC

To: Libertarian National Committee
From: Bob Sullentrup
CC: Robert Kraus
Date: 3/2/2009

Current Status: [Approved via mail ballot, 4-5-09](#)

Version last updated March 18, 2009

These minutes due out in 30 days:	March 31, 2009
<u>Dates below may be superseded by mail ballot:</u>	
LNC comments due in 45 days:	April 15, 2009
Revision released (latest) 14 days prior:	July 4, 2009
Barring objection, minutes official 10 days prior:	July 8, 2009

* Automatic approval dates relative to July 18 St. Louis meeting

The meeting commenced at 1:15pm on February 28, 2009 at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, SC.

Moment of Reflection

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

Opportunity for Public Comment

Steve Gordon (AL) welcomed the LNC and Bylaws Committee members to Charleston on behalf of the LSLA.

Ken Moellman (KY Chair) raised a concern about LNC minutes being posted on the Internet. A recent copy contained information that Kentucky intended to remain private which was contained in a regional report. For that reason, the Bluegrass State did not submit a report to be included in Region 3's report.

Bob Sullentrup inquired whether these minutes had been labeled 'draft', which should not have been posted. It was not clear whether these were draft or approved minutes. LNC minutes are typically posted after the body has approved them.

Ruth Bennett (WA) thanked the LNC for its financial support extended in San Diego to file suit to oppose the 'top-two candidates'. The "top two" refers to the primary system that we wish to throw out in order to preserve trademark protection for the Libertarian Party name. The fear is D's and R's would use this procedure to eliminate 'spoilers'.

Audrey Capozzi (NY) reported NY Chair Eric Sundwall would not be able to attend since he is campaigning for Kirsten Gillibrand's US House seat vacated when Gillibrand moved up to take Hillary Clinton's senate seat. He is trying to help get 3500 signatures within the 12-day window. More details are available at www.sundwall4congress.org. With the economy tanking, this is a great opportunity to make inroads and make the LP name more prominent.

Stewart Flood 'apologized' for the 70-degree winter weather the Palmetto State provided during the LNC's visit. He guaranteed the following day would generate no snow since the prevailing winds were coming off of the ocean.

Paperwork Check

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

Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Rachel Hawkridge reported via an e-mail she is the owner of the LP Transparency Caucus's website, MyLp.wordpress.com and OurLP.net.

Michael Jingoian noted he is a board member of FreeAndEqual.org which seeks to gain ballot access for third parties.

Dr. Lark noted via an e-mail he:

- Serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Libertarian National Congressional Committee.
- Serves as vice chairman of the Board of Directors of the Advocates for Self-Government.
- Serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Individual Liberty.
- Serves as member of the Board of Advisors of the Students for Liberty.

Dan Karlan noted the Policy Manual requirement to report of potential conflicts of interests is satisfied by submitting such items to the Secretary in writing. Accordingly, this agenda item can be eliminated.

After the meeting, Alicia Mattson who would soon be elected to replace a vacancy on the board reported she currently serves as the Libertarian National Congressional Committee Treasurer.

Attendance and Credentials

Secretary Bob Sullentrup was not called on this time to confirm the attendance of the members and alternates in open session. Nevertheless, he surveyed the room and noted the following.

Attending the February 28-March 1, 2009 LNC meeting in Charleston were:

Officers: Chair Bill Redpath, Vice-Chair Michael Jingoian, Treasurer Aaron Starr, Secretary Bob Sullentrup.

Parliamentarian: M Carling.

At-Large Representatives¹: Admiral Michael Colley, Pat Dixon, Lee Wrights, Dr. Mary Ruwart.

Regional Representatives: Tony Ryan(1), Mark Hinkle (2), Rebecca Sink-Burris (3), Stewart Flood(4), Dr. James Lark (5-S), Dan Karlan (5-N), Julie Fox (6), Rachel Hawkridge (7).

Regional Alternates: Scott Lieberman (2), Heather Scott (4), Steve LaBianca (7).

Alternates not attending were Bob Jackson (3), Berlie Etzel (5-S), and Jake Porter (6).

Hardy Macia (5-N) has resigned as an alternate and has not been replaced.

LNC Counsel Bill Hall attended.

Staff included Acting Executive Director Robert Kraus and LP Communications Director Donny Ferguson.

Others in the gallery included Chuck Moulton (VA), Paul Frankel (AL), Steve Gordon (AL), Dan Adams (GA), Travis Nicks (CO), Emily Salvette (MI), Sean Haugh (NC), Ruth Bennett (WA), Greg Hertzsch (IN), Audrey Capozzi (FL/NY), Vicki Kirkland (FL), Heather Scott (TN), Christopher Thrasher (IL), Rob Latham (UT), Rocky Eades (GA), Wayne Allyn Root (NV), John Wayne Smith (FL), Rob McGee (GA), Alicia Mattson (TN), Susan Hogarth (NC), Barbara Howe (NC) and Kevin Takenaga (CA).

The following table lists the composition of the current LNC as accepted at the May 26, 2008 meeting. Hardy Macia resigned in November 2008 as Region 5 North alternate. George Squyres resigned as Region 1 alternate in December 2008.

Region	Affiliates	Representative	Alternate
Region 1	Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nevada,	Tony Ryan ² (AZ)	(vacant) ³

¹ Angela Keaton resigned as At Large representative in December 2008.

² Mr. Ryan also has a residence in SD. He serves on the LNC as a resident of AZ.

³ Region 1 selected Rob Latham as alternate after the meeting on March 17

Region	Affiliates	Representative	Alternate
	New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming		
Region 2	California	Mark Hinkle (CA)	Scott Lieberman (CA)
Region 3	Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana	Rebecca Sink-Burris (IN)	Bob Jackson (MI)
Region 4	Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas	Stewart Flood (SC)	Heather Scott (TN)
Region 5 - South	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia	James W. Lark, III (VA)	Berlie Etzel (PA)
Region 5 - North	Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont	Dan Karlan (NJ)	(vacant)
Region 6	Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin	Julie Fox (IL)	Jake Porter (MO)
Region 7	Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Washington	Rachel Hawkridge (WA)	Steve LaBianca (FL)
Orphans	Oklahoma, Massachusetts, Arkansas		

Approval of the Agenda

The LP entered the meeting with the following agenda:

**Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
February 28-March 1, 2009 Meeting Agenda
Charleston, SC
Proposed**

	1:15pm
(minutes)	
Call to Order	1
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
Election of LNC at Large Representative	30

Standing Reports	
Chair's Report	10
Treasurer's Report	15
Secretary's Report	5
Staff Report	
Staff	60
Counsel's Report	15
Action Items Previously Submitted in Writing (None)	
Reports Previously Submitted in Writing	
Campus Organizing Report (Lark)	5
Various Regions	5 per
Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing	
Mission Statement (Hawkridge)	30
Strategic Plan Review (Redpath)	30
LNC Counsel Selection (Redpath)	30
Authorization of LNC Lawsuits (Lark)	30
Bylaws Committee Report (Karlan)	5
LNC Volunteer Confidentiality Form (Redpath)	15
LNC Meeting Video Recording (was Keaton in San Diego)	15
LP News Content (was Keaton in San Diego)	15
Membership Recruitment and Renewal Presentation (Ruwart)	15
Web 2.0 (Hawkridge)	10
Membership recruitment and Renewal Discussion (Ruwart)	60
Convention 2010 (Colley)	10
Treasurer Responsibilities in Policy Manual (Ruwart)	30
LP Oklahoma Ballot Access Lobbying (Redpath)	10
Ballot Access Report (Redpath)	5
Set LNC Meeting Sites for July and December 2009	10
Opportunity for Public Comment	10
Adjournment	

After several extensions of time, the LNC produced an agenda.

Bill Redpath noted that an item on the agenda, the Mission Statement, must not contradict Article III of the Bylaws which gives the purpose of the LP. Accordingly, the mission statement must not contradict the Bylaws.

Rachel Hawkridge moved to substitute 'Membership Recruitment and Renewal Presentation (Ruwart)', 'Web 2.0 (Hawkridge)' and 'Membership Recruitment and Renewal Discussion (Ruwart)' for the 'Mission Statement', the 'LNC Meeting Video Recording (was Keaton in San Diego)', and 'LP News Content (was Keaton in San Diego)' and place the substituted items at the start, before 'Strategic Plan Review'.

Aaron Starr moved to divide the question. Mary Ruwart objected to the division on the grounds that a substitution could not be divided. Parliamentarian M Carling ruled that a division was possible and a vote to divide passed.

In the discussion that followed, the LNC without objection deleted the 'LNC Meeting Video Recording', and 'LP News Content' from the agenda.

Aaron Starr moved a substitute motion to remove the Mission Statement item from what remained of Rachel's motion. The substitution passed and without objection the 'Mission Statement' item was removed.

Rachel again moved to take up the three items, 'Membership recruitment and Renewal Presentation', 'Web 2.0' and 'Membership recruitment and Renewal Discussion', before the 'Strategic Plan Review'. This motion passed.

Stewart Flood moved to postpone the Confidentiality Agreement item until the next meeting. The motion passed.

Aaron Starr moved to rename the "Treasurer's Responsibilities" to "Executive Committee Responsibilities" since the budget is the responsibility of the EC. Passed.

Rebecca Sink-Burris moved to allow Michael Jingoian to present his 'LP Marketing' item before the 'Web 2.0' item for 20 minutes. Passed.

Mark Hinkle moved to change the Strategic Planning Review from 30 minutes to 10. No objection.

The Chair wanted to place the 'Selection of LNC Counsel to the end of the day since it will involve an executive session. There was no objection.

The resulting agenda read as follows:

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February 28-March 1, 2009 Meeting Agenda
Charleston, SC
Adopted**

	1:15pm
(minutes)	
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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
Election of LNC At-Large Representative	30
Standing Reports	
Chair's Report	10
Treasurer's Report	15
Secretary's Report	5
Staff Report	
Staff	60
Counsel's Report	15
Action Items Previously Submitted in Writing	
(None)	

Reports Previously Submitted in Writing

Campus Organizing Report (Lark)	5
Various Regions	5 per

Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing

Membership Recruitment and Renewal Presentation (Ruwart)	15
LP Marketing (Jingoian)	20
Web 2.0 (Hawkridge)	10
Membership Recruitment and Renewal Discussion (Ruwart)	60
Strategic Plan Review (Redpath)	10
LNC Counsel Selection (Redpath)	30
Authorization of LNC Lawsuits (Lark)	30
Bylaws Committee Report (Karlán)	5
Convention 2010 (Colley)	10
Executive Committee Responsibilities in Policy Manual (Ruwart)	30
LP Oklahoma Ballot Access Lobbying (Redpath)	10
Ballot Access Report (Redpath)	5
Set LNC Meeting Sites for July and December 2009	10
Opportunity for Public Comment	10

Adjournment

Without objection the resulting agenda given above was approved.

Election of At Large Replacement

Pat Dixon nominated Emily Salvette; Aaron Starr nominated Alicia Mattson; Mark Hinkle nominated Rob Power; Lee Wrights nominated Susan Hogarth;

Alicia, Susan and Emily addressed the group. Rob Power was not on hand to speak for himself.

The Chair announced the voting methodology would be conducted via instant runoff voting. Voters were to rank their choices top to bottom. Voters did not need to rank all four candidates.

Bob Sullentrup described the algorithm for applying the IRV methodology:

1. Create four piles of ballots based on top choices. If a majority emerges, that person is elected.
2. If no candidate is elected outright, find the pile with the smallest number of top-choice ballots. Eliminate the top choice on those ballots and introduce the second place candidates named. If two piles share the same number of smallest top-choice ballots, eliminate both candidates.
3. Reevaluate the results and repeat item 2 above until a winner is determined.

The 16 ballots, after having been separated and sorted, were as follows:

Round 1:

Alicia Mattson, 8 top-choice votes, 50%
Emily Salvette, 6 top-choice votes, 37.5%
Rob Power, 1 top-choice vote, 6.25%
Susan Hogarth, 1 top-choice vote, 6.25%

Round 2:

Alicia Mattson, 9 top-choice votes, 56.25%

Emily Salvette, 7 top-choice votes, 43.75%

Having obtained a majority of the votes during the second round, Alicia Mattson was selecting to fill the vacancy.

Officer Reports

Chair's Report

Chair Bill Redpath provided an oral report noting he had done the following since the December meeting in San Diego, CA:

- Traveled to WV for the LP convention, and returned for various lobbying trips
- Attended, along with Jim Lark, the LPWV executive committee meeting in Morgantown on December 13
- Bill discussed HB2642 in VA. *Ballot Access News* reported in its March 1 edition that on February 17, the Virginia Senate Privileges & Elections Committee had deleted a restrictive provision from this bill. The provision would have outlawed paying petition circulators on a per-signature basis. It would have even made it illegal to pay a bonus based on productivity. This provision had been passed by the House unanimously, but activists persuaded the Senate Committee to eliminate the idea from the bill.
- Radio interviews with WBT in Charlotte and KTRH in Houston
- At a DC event bill met George Will and will meet with him later to discuss the LP.
- He had dinner with a \$1k contributor
- Attended an event for 'Citizens in Charge' that celebrated charges against Paul Jacob being dropped for having brought a petitioner from out-of-state to OK
- Continued his involvement with FairVote which promotes proportional representation
- Has been involved with press releases
- He will write a closing in a book by James Bennett of George Mason University on the US stifling electoral competition. Ralph Nader is writing the forward.
- A mailing to 300 big donors persuaded a person in Greenwich, CT to increase his contributions to the maximum, \$28.5k.
- Bill Redpath met Terry McAuliffe who is running for governor of VA and asked him for his support for initiatives and referenda. His response was a 'qualified yes'.

During the presentation, Ed Coleman (IN) who is the most highly ranked elected Libertarian, addressed the group. He is a disabled veteran and recently defected from the Republicans who, he says, abandoned him first.

Treasurer's Report

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

- The material in the binder includes assets and balance sheet items back through 2004
- The binder material also contains operations since 2004,
- December was a bad month, though we expect to break even for January with proceeds from the Berrington estate

Along with the rest of the economy, LP revenues are declining. (Later in the meeting, others broached this topic and what to do about it)

Aaron asked for direction from the board. He noted the D's and R's do not show financial information online, though some information is available via FEC reports. He broached the idea of what he should disclose beyond the board. Additionally, if a breach occurs and information is leaked beyond what the body had chosen to reveal, what to do.

Dr. Lark inquired as to why the actual expenditures for ballot access exceeded projected expenditures by such a large margin. The Chair indicated the major problem was that certain state parties did not step up to the plate to deal with their ballot access problems.

Secretary's Report

Bob Sullentrup noted the mail ballots introduced since the December San Diego included:

- Sent 12/9/2008. Alicia Mattson fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Angela Keaton as LNC At Large. Co-sponsors Aaron Starr, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Stewart Flood, Admiral Colley. Fails 5-7, 4 abstentions.
 - Voting in favor: Bill Redpath, Bob Sullentrup, Aaron Starr, Michael Colley, Rebecca Sink-Burris
 - Opposed: Lee Wrights, Mary Ruwart, Tony Ryan, Mark Hinkle, James Lark, Julie Fox, Rachel Hawkridge
 - Abstaining: Michael Jingoian, Pat Dixon, Dan Karlan, Stewart Flood
- Sent 12/15/2008. Rescind the appointment of M Carling as parliamentarian. Co-sponsors: Mary Ruwart, Lee Wrights, Rachel Hawkridge, Julie Fox. Fails 4-9, 3 abstentions.
 - Voting in favor: Mary Ruwart, Lee Wrights, Rachel Hawkridge, Julie Fox
 - Opposed: Bill Redpath, Michael Jingoian, Bob Sullentrup, Aaron Starr, Pat Dixon, Mark Hinkle, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Dan Karlan, James Lark
 - Abstaining: Michael Colley, Tony Ryan, Stewart Flood

Bill Hall Counsel's Report

Without objection, the body modified the agenda to hear at this time from Bill Hall, the LNC Counsel. Bill made reference to his written report and offered to take questions.

Bill Hall will no longer be the LNC Counsel, having served in this challenging capacity for many years.

Tony Ryan, speaking for the entire LNC, recognized and saluted Bill Hall for his years of service.

Campus Organizing and Regional Reports

Without objection, the body modified the agenda to hear from Dr. Lark about campus organizing and regional representatives.

Dr. Lark told the body they would have been pleased by the prior week's Students for Liberty Conference. He said that according to what he had been told, roughly 200 students (from 11 countries) attended.

Pat Dixon reported Wes Benedict, former Executive Director of Texas, has been replaced by Robert Butler, former Executive Director of Ohio.

Dan Karlan reported his region has not replaced Hardy Macia who resigned last fall.

The Mississippi LP, recently resurrected out of its dormancy, has survived the latest election and persists.

Staff Report

Robert Kraus began his report by introducing Donny Ferguson, the LP Communications Director. Donny noted he has focused on items for press releases that 'appeal to the public'. In addition, Donny has been producing campaign materials for LP office seekers.

Rachel Hawkrige, referring to the 'Facebook issue', pointed out there was no notice given to members when the site's discussion board was disabled. She requested such notice be given in the future. The 'Facebook issue' was precipitated by '911 Truthers' and others who joined LP groups promoting their own agendas over those of the Party's.

The staff report is provided in the appendix.

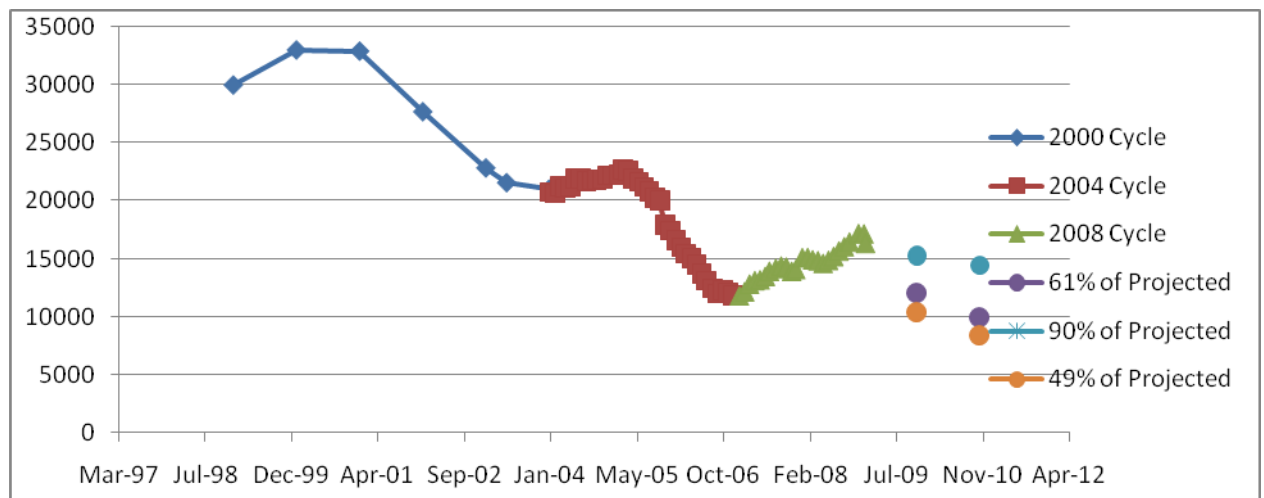
Dr. Lark asked Robert Kraus to name those on the board who had not signed the certifications of having reviewed the sexual harassment videos. This included alternates Bob Jackson, Steve LaBianca and Berlie Etzel.

Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing

Membership Recruitment and Renewal Presentation

Dr. Mary Ruwart presented the results of her analysis on membership retention and acquisition. She used membership data for roughly a decade. After adjusting for ups and downs experienced in presidential election years, the forecast for membership even aside from accounting for the downturn in the economy, is less than rosy. We have already lost more current donors since San Diego than budgeted for 2009.

Dr. Ruwart's graph, worth a thousand words, shows the following 12-year decline in membership:



In addition to this downward trend, direct mail costs are up and revenues are down.

Dr. Ruwart encouraged the LNC to consider this analysis and think about initiatives that might turn it around.

LP Marketing

Michael Jingoian presented his analysis and recommendations on how the LP might use marketing techniques to promote the Party. Key to his recommendations are using volunteers better and just 'getting our name out there'.


After having been Vice Chair for 8 months and coming on the heels of his LP Presidential run, Michael recommends the Party start by 'making the Libertarian Party more fun'. This can be accomplished by having more parties at state and national events, putting cartoons in LP News and direct mail, funny videos at conventions, and entertaining MCs at national conventions.

Beyond that he recommends:

- Let people know who we are – collect e-mail addresses, conduct initiatives to increase membership, put less focus on issues and blogs, put more focus on getting the message out and less on the message.
- Focus on popular issues including the bailout, wars, debt/unsustainability, Patriot Act, Real ID Act, ballot access laws, government corruption, and stay away from controversial issues like guns, health care, global warming and the Federal Reserve System (people don't understand it)
- Partner with other like-minded groups sharing lists, press releases
- Expand the volunteer network making it easy and fun

Web 2.0

Rachel Hawkridge presented her ideas for using the Internet to enhance activism and provide feedback.

Obama used the Internet and web applications including Facebook, Twitter, blogs, fundraising, networking and YouTube to help win the election. (H  nk if I'm paying your mortgage).

After discussing each in detail, Rachel moved:

- That the Chair direct staff to make available logo files by March 9, 2009, (given Robert's presentation this a.m., not necessary?)
- That the LNC give the appropriate permissions to use and disseminate web and print quality Libertarian Party logos and the old LP literature,
- That the Chair permit Rachel to ask Austin for up to 4 hrs/week of volunteer time, as needed and as available,
- The APRC review the open source literature produced by Michael Wilson

Jim Lark requested we defer this matter to a mail ballot after the meeting and after the board had an opportunity to look over the material in more detail.

Aaron Starr offered a substitute motion:

The LNC hereby requests that volunteers be invited to submit prospective literature and other marketing content to staff for their consideration.

Aaron's substitution motion failed.

Moving to Rachel's motion once again, the measure failed. Though no roll call was taken, it appeared to the Secretary Rachel had voted in favor and everyone else who voted opposed it.

Convention 2010

The body decided to adjust the agenda by having Admiral Colley discuss the 2010 convention at this time.

The Renaissance Grand Hotel in St. Louis, formerly owned by Kimberly Clark and managed by Marriott who has a 37-year management contract, recently defaulted on its debt payment. The bond holders bid on the property in an auction, bidding the \$92M that was owed. The Convention Center Acquisition Company, LLC now owns the property and continues to run it.

Admiral Colley requested and received a written statement that the current owners still intend to honor the arrangements for the 2010 convention. Determining what the best backup plan entails is an item on the Admiral's to-do list that he will address shortly.

Executive Session Concerning Staff

The LNC entered executive session to discuss a question Lee Wrights had concerning staff.

Prior to entering executive session, Dan Karlan noted there was no 'announcements' item on the agenda. He had an announcement to convey.

The LNC planned on reconvening at 8:30, opening with another executive session.

Sunday AM

Given the attendance in the gallery, the LNC did not go into executive session at the start.

Membership Recruitment and Renewal Discussion

The chair invited Mary Ruwart to conduct a collaborative brainstorming session on membership recruitment and renewal, as well as opportunities for LP growth.

Aaron Starr objected stating that the brainstorming was based on conclusions derived from the analysis Mary presented the previous day that may be based on false or incomplete premises. For example, did the analysis consider the effect of:

- the year in which the LNC both raised dues to \$50 and then eliminated them
- the Archimedes project eight years ago
- the effect of having Clinton as president which seemed to increase membership, as opposed to Bush?

The discussion consumed 18 minutes and the body decided to restart the clock giving the item the full 60 minutes originally requested.

The ideas included:

- Pat Dixon suggested a marketing study would be useful to determine what the public's perception of the Party is

- Dr. Lark suggested the chair should try calling recently lapsed members as a part of a trial program – Mr. Redpath noted it would be appropriate for former chairs to do so, and Dr. Lark said he'd be happy to do this
- Robert Kraus reported the current process for soliciting renewals consists of sending three letters and telemarketing
- Admiral Colley proposed a 'member get a member' plan which would include some recognition for the successful recruiter
- Mary Ruwart said the most pressing problem was renewals, and that we needed to find out exactly why
- Michael Jingoian suggested we ensure the telemarketing script includes a question regarding why the member is not renewing?
- Mark Schreiber (IN) apparently addressed this several years ago and discovered that non-renewals still voted Libertarian and considered themselves Libertarian
- Rebecca Sink-Burris noted the material presented the prior day from Michael Jingoian was quite good and covered many of the items our brainstorming session was generating
- The Chair noted the telemarketing for ballot base could be used to request renewals
- Dr. Lark noted the Party should issue more rewards including thanks to activists on our website
- Bob Sullentrup asked if we were addressing the wrong issue. The national 'tea parties' that emerged this weekend across the country might be an initiative that would generate membership as a byproduct.
- Aaron Starr noted we had not address the 'ask for money' in any of these ideas
- Admiral Colley suggested the party produce an 'education package' to introduce Libertarian ideas to the public
- Bob Sullentrup suggested we could enhance the 'education package' by choosing to lead with particular issues echoing what Michael Jingoian proposed the day before. Michael suggested we lead with the bailout, Patriot Act, Real ID act, government corruption, ballot access and stay away from the fed, health care and global warming.
- Aaron Starr advised the group to 'keep in mind ROI' in any of these initiatives.
- LP Stuff, a site where people can buy Libertarian branded products, has free downloads of PDFs. The opportunity is to publicize this in LP News
- Dan Karlan wanted to know whether we captured who sponsored or encouraged new members. Aaron Starr confirmed that is being done.
- Jim Lark called for a user's manual for incoming LNC members which would include such things as how the budget is assembled.
- Jim Lark also encouraged the LNC to "take victory laps" and showcase successes, as well as promoting 'poster children' who have been mashed by the state. The Institute for Justice does a great job of this, can we could do the same in LP News. LP organizations, not just the LNC, are not especially good at taking "victory laps".
- Aaron Starr we put candidate profiles in LP News as human interest stories members can relate to
- Mark Hinkle suggested we arrange perks, such as discounts for Reason Magazine for members (watch out for any 501-C(3) violations)
- Aaron Starr suggested we could convert candidates from other parties, following the actions of the Republicans in converting Whigs in the 1800's.

Jingoian Marketing

The board decided to take some time to allow Michael Jingoian to elaborate on his material presented the day before.

Michael will distill his work into a set of recommendations with a tactical plan for implementation.

For example, when affiliating with affinity groups, we could share e-mail lists and produce a 'liberty pack' – a mailing of several groups at once. One of his companies, Angel Vision, is making a video promoting liberty that he is offering to the LP on a revenue-sharing basis with no risk to the Party.

Strategic Plan Review (Redpath)

Bill Redpath wanted to get a sense of the body regarding how to proceed on the Strategic Plan. Aaron Starr asked the body how much they either used or referred to the Strategic Plan. The SP has not much utilization.

Pat Dixon noted the items regarding 'providing ideological balance', 'targeting opinion leaders' and 'redoing the platform' were useful for pursuit.

Dan Karlan moved to postpone discussion of this agenda item to the next meeting, letting the board become more familiar with the Strategic Plan. There was no objection to this motion.

Ed Coleman (IN)

Newly elected Indianapolis Councilman Ed Coleman addressed the LNC expressing his thanks and commitment to support and continue working with the LP.

Authorization of LNC Lawsuits (Lark)

Dr. Lark provided material in advance of the meeting on the authorization of LNC lawsuits that included the following motion:

The proposal is to amend Article I of the LNC Policy Manual to add a new section (to be numbered Section 9) that will read as follows:

Section 9: Authorization of Lawsuits

Prior to the filing of a lawsuit, or the joining of a lawsuit filed in any court, in which the LNC or the national Libertarian Party is proposed to be a named plaintiff or to provide financial support for the litigation, the Chair shall:

- (1) Advise all LNC members (including alternates) of the proposed lawsuit, its purpose, and its estimated cost;
- (2) Confirm, or seek and obtain approval for, the budgetary authority for the expenses of the lawsuit as provided for in Article V, Section 2 of this Policy Manual; and
- (3) Seek and obtain approval of the Executive Committee for participation in the lawsuit.

Dan Karlan moved to substitute the following

Prior to the filing of a lawsuit, or the joining of a lawsuit filed in any court, in which the LNC or the national Libertarian Party is proposed to be a named plaintiff, to the preparation and filing of a friend of the court brief, or to providing material (costing in excess of \$1,000) financial support for the litigation, the Chair shall:

For the paragraph

Prior to the filing of a lawsuit, or the joining of a lawsuit filed in any court, in which the LNC or the national Libertarian Party is proposed to be a named plaintiff or to provide financial support for the litigation, the Chair shall:

After Aaron Starr called pending questions (no objection to that), the substitution passed. Jim Lark abstained.

There was no objection to the revised main motion.

In a related discussion, the Chair was authorized to thank Bill Hall for his years of service.

Bylaws Committee Report (Karlan)

Dan Karlan thanked the LNC for populating the Bylaws Committee with an unusually collegial and high-performing group. Dan provided the draft of proposed changes to the Bylaws and Rules to the LNC. The Bylaws will be disseminated to members via LP News, a survey and a blog.

Dan Karlan then moved that since the Bylaws work was largely complete 15 months before the Convention,

I move that we refer the overhaul of the Policy Manual to the subcommittee of the Bylaws committee already selected for that purpose, to report with a proposal for the overhauled policy manual no later than the last LNC meeting of 2009.

The subcommittee consisted of Chuck Moulton, M Carling, Aaron Starr, Ruth Bennett and Dan Karlan.

Rachel Hawkrigde initially objected to this motion. Later she withdrew her objection. The item passed.

Executive Committee Responsibilities in Policy Manual (Ruwart)

Mary Ruwart proposed the following revision to the Policy Manual. Additions are in *italics*; deletions are in ~~strike through~~.

Article V, Section II, Part A

The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Executive Director, shall develop an annual operating budget and present it to the LNC for approval prior to the start of each fiscal year. This budget shall include a statement of anticipated revenue and expenditures in sufficient detail to adequately outline specific activities and plans, including those for raising funds, and to ~~outline~~ *detail* the major categories of expense required for implement each activity or plan.

This budget with its "sufficient detail" as described above shall be provided to the entire LNC either in writing or as an electronic file at least 30 days prior to the LNC's annual budget meeting. The Executive Committee, or a member thereof, shall host a conference call or web meeting t o explain the budget and answer questions and least 23 days prior to the LNC's budget meeting.

If either of the above deadlines are not met, the budget shall require a 2/3 vote for passage.

Jim Lark pointed out Section 4.2.(B) contained a contradiction with the above. That section indicated the ED would produce the budget. For that and other reasons, he asked for unanimous support to withdraw the motion and reconsider the matter in July. There was no objection.

Ballot Access Report (Redpath)

Bill Redpath noted the LP is not doing any petitioning at the moment for ballot access. Petitions could be underway in NM, WV, AL, ND, NE and SD.

Lee Wrights moved 'the LNC authorizes the EC to authorize any ballot access encumbrances in 2009'.

There was no objection.

Jim Lark requested such substantial motions as this be presented to the LNC at least two weeks in advance of LNC meetings.

Set LNC Meeting Sites for July and December 2009

The July 18-19 LNC meeting site will be established by the Chair and Robert Kraus. The site is likely to be St. Louis despite the warning of St. Louisan Bob Sullentrup that July could be sweltering and will follow the city's relapse after the MLB All Star Game the prior week.

The LSLA will meet in Austin in 2010 the last weekend of January or first weekend of February. The flexibility was introduced to avoid Super Bowl Sunday which, it turns out, is the first week of February.

Accordingly, the LNC considered making the prior meeting November 14. The Treasurer asked for more time to acquire more 2009 data to prepare a better budget. The December 5-6 date stuck. Again, Robert Kraus and the Chair will settle on a location for the December meeting.

The LSLA will meet in Seattle in 2011.

At this point the LNC authorized the Chair to express its appreciation to Bill Hall for his years of service.

Announcements

Dan Karlan announced at the next meeting he will introduce a policy manual revision that substantive motions be submitted to the Secretary in advance of LNC meetings.

Opportunities for Public Comment

There were no comments from the gallery.

Jim Lark expressed the LNC's appreciation to Rocky Eades, Robert McGee and others for their broadcasting the meeting to the 'Libertarian Nation'.

Stewart Flood pointed out his weather forecast held true. While it was raining in Charleston, there was no snow!

Executive Session

The LNC entered executive session for the purpose of selecting LNC counsel, for OK ballot access and for staffing matters

Budget Change

Aaron Starr moved to amend the budget by increasing lobbying expense from \$0 to \$2500 and reduce Administrative Expense from \$378.7k to \$376.2, a net change of \$0.

There was no objection.

The LNC adjourned at 1:43pm.

Next Meetings

The LNC will meet on the following dates:

July 18-19	St. Louis
December 5-6	TBD
January 30-31	Austin (LSLA joint meeting)

Addendum: Salute to Bill Hall

At several points during this meeting, individuals mentioned the year-in-year-out work of Bill Hall as LNC legal counsel and made a note to follow up and thank him after his contract would expire as the clock read March, 2009.

The Secretary's association with Bill Hall commenced May 31, 2004 when Bill Hall, as he always did at the beginning of an LNC term, discussed the LNC board members' obligations. Among other things, there would be no minutes taken in executive session. In as much as we had just had several pre-convention Executive Committee meetings, the Secretary confessed he had already violated this. "If I may", announced then-Treasurer Mark Nelson, "those were meetings of the LNC's Executive Committee, none of which was held in executive session".

That's what Bill Hall did with regularity and did well. He led the troops, some of whom did not know the difference between the Executive Committee and executive sessions, in the increasingly complex, thorny and tortured legal terrain of BCRA regulations, 51 different sets of ballot access legislation, convention management contracts and presidential candidate representation on state ballots. His answers were always complete, detailed and accurate, precisely outlining the options and pitfalls of each course of action.

His helpfulness extended beyond the LNC. He drafted the legal paperwork to launch Rock-The-Debates as well as the articles of incorporation for Missouri's Libertarian Responsibility Coalition. The latter was needed to open a checking account to accept proceeds from a (Bob) Barr-B-Que in September 2007. I told you the terrain was complicated. Americans now must incorporate before holding a political cook-out.

Through it all Bill Hall has been a hero of freedom, a widely respected and competent counsel and above all, a good friend to the members of the LNC and all he worked with.

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Statement of Net Assets

	December 2008
Cash & Equivalents	3,178
Accounts Receivable-Net	0
Other Receivables-Net	28,500
Inventories	2,000
Other Current Assets	9,394
Total Current Assets	43,072
Property and Equipment	
Gross Assets	206,909
Accumulated Depreciation	-185,300
Net Property and Equipment	21,609
Other Assets	
Long Term Other Receivables-Net	132,234
Deposits	7,020
Total Other Assets	139,254
Total Assets	203,935
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	48,894
Accrued Payroll	13,319
Capital Lease Liability	5,953
Deferred Revenue	0
Deferred Rent	12,364
Total Liabilities	80,530
Net Assets	
Beginning Net Assets	277,137
Restricted Net Assets	0
Other Adjustments	0
Current Year Surplus	153,732
Total Net Assets	123,405
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	203,935

**Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
Statement of Operations**

	2008 Annual
Support and Revenue	
Membership Dues	472,862
Donations	496,470
Recurring Gifts	297,018
Board Member Solicitations	72,729
Projects	0
Ballot Access Donations	266,141
Campus Outreach Donations	0
Conventions and Events	7,620
Publications, Materials and Other Sales	24,300
Total Support and Revenue	1,637,139
Cost of Support and Revenue	
Fundraising Costs	242,255
Membership Fundraising Costs	72,085
Convention and Event Costs	40,479
Direct Costs	0
Total Cost of Support and Revenue	354,819
Net Support and Revenue Available for Programs	1,282,321
Program Expenses	
Administrative Expense	409,445
Compensation	393,059
Affiliate Support	3,231
Ballot Access	510,257
Brand Development	14,038
Campus Outreach	0
Candidate Support	500
Litigation	0
Lobbying	0
Media Relations	251
Member Communications	85,705
Outreach	19,568
Voter Registration	0
Total Program Expenses	1,436,053

Appendix A. Aaron Starr, Treasurer's Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

Net Operating Surplus (Deficit) -153,732

Other Revenue/Expense

Interest Income 0

Interest Expense 0

Other Income 0

Total Other Revenue Expense 0

Net Surplus (Deficit) -153,732

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
Statement of Cash Flow

	2008 Annual
Operating Activities	
Net Income	-153,732
Depreciation	10,877
Loss (Gain) on Sale of Property and Equipment	0
Change in assets/liabilities	
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable	0
(Increase) Decrease in Other Receivables	8,766
(Increase) Decrease in Inventories	0
(Increase) Decrease in Other Current Assets	15,412
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	30,061
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Payroll	-14,854
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Revenue	0
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Rent	1,358
Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities	-102,112
Investing Activities	
Proceeds from Sale of Property and Equipment	0
Purchase of Property and Equipment	-13,821
Other Proceeds (Investments)	0
Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities	-13,821
Financing Activities	
Capital Lease Liability	5,953
Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities	5,953
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	-109,981
Cash at Beginning of Period	113,159
Cash at End of Period	3,178

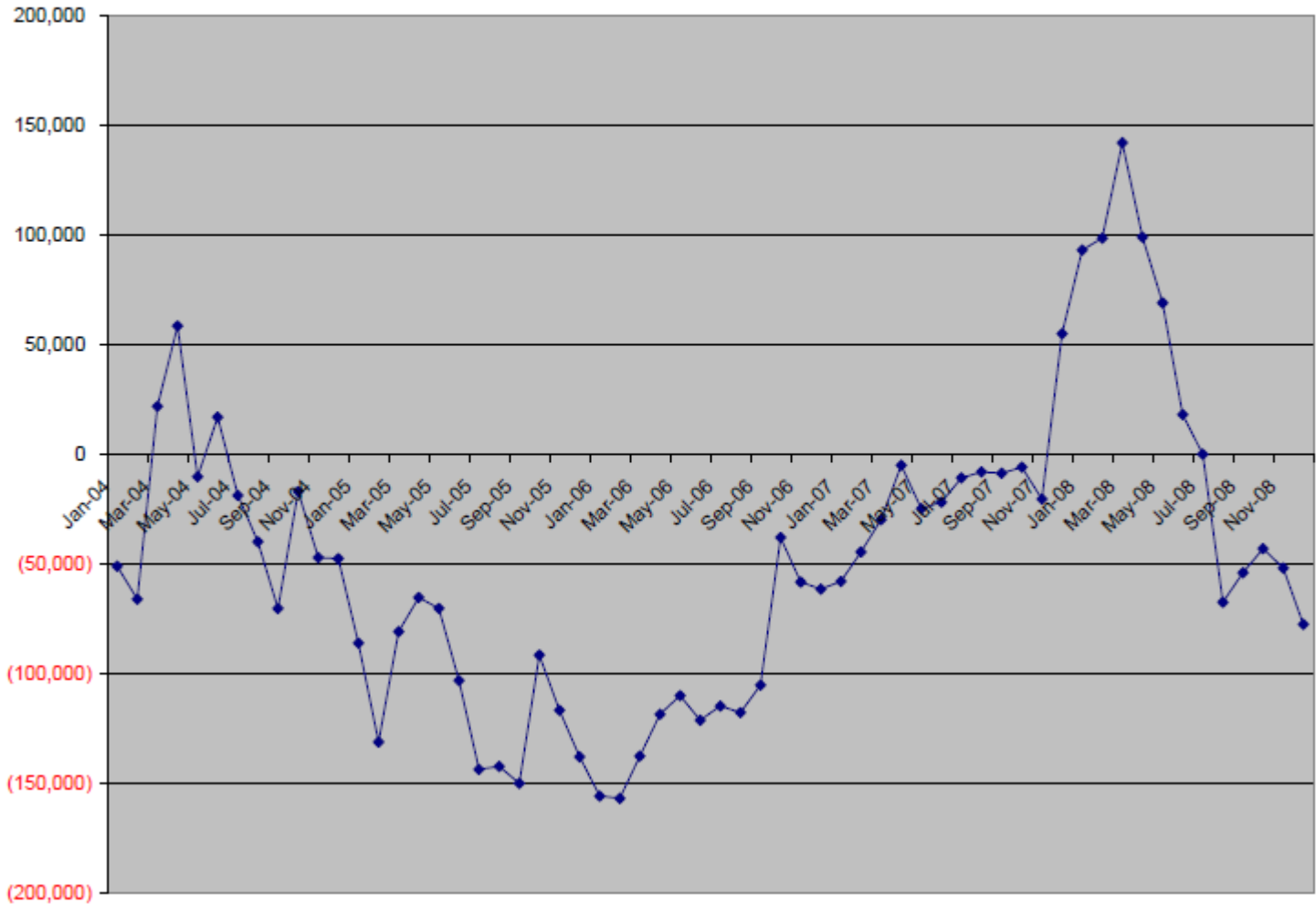
**Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
2009 Budget**

	2009 ADOPTED BUDGET	
	\$	%
Support and Revenue		
Membership Dues	394,000	27.8%
Donations	604,500	42.6%
Recurring Gifts	324,000	22.8%
Board Member Solicitations	90,000	6.3%
Projects	0	0.0%
Ballot Access Donations	0	0.0%
Campus Outreach Donations	0	0.0%
Conventions and Events	0	0.0%
Publications, Materials and Other Sales	7,000	0.5%
Total Support and Revenue	1,419,500	100.0%
Cost of Support and Revenue		
Fundraising Costs	201,300	14.2%
Membership Fundraising Costs	247,600	17.4%
Convention and Event Costs	10,000	0.7%
Direct Costs	0	0.0%
Total Cost of Support and Revenue	458,900	32.3%
Net Support and Revenue Available for Programs	960,600	67.7%
Program Expenses		
Administrative Expense	357,600	25.2%
Compensation	419,200	29.5%
Affiliate Support	4,500	0.3%
Ballot Access	0	0.0%
Brand Development	0	0.0%
Campus Outreach	0	0.0%
Candidate Support	16,200	1.1%
Litigation	15,000	1.1%
Lobbying	0	0.0%
Media Relations	4,500	0.3%
Member Communications	54,000	3.8%
Outreach	11,000	0.8%
Voter Registration	0	0.0%
Total Program Expenses	882,000	62.1%

Appendix A. Aaron Starr, Treasurer's Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	78,600	5.5%
Other Revenue/Expense		
Interest Income	0	0.0%
Interest Expense	0	0.0%
Other Income	0	0.0%
Total Other Revenue Expense	0	0.0%
Net Surplus (Deficit)	78,600	5.5%

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
Cash Less Liabilities



LPHQ Update

Operation's Director Report (Acting ED)

by Robert Kraus

"...America is going to be sick of bailouts and stimulus packages. And Libertarians have been the strongest opponents of it and have been more consistent against bailouts and deficit spending. Remember, the GOP embraced deficit spending during the Bush presidency.

Libertarians need to prepare and pounce on this opportunity. There will never be a better time for Libertarians to recruit Americans to their cause and ideology. The party needs to prepare the battle field and give voters an alternative party..." - The Kansas City Star 02/23/09

Overview

Since the last LNC meeting, LPHQ has continued its focus on what issues will resonate with our donors in 2009, and how we can help our affiliates grow.

Clearly bail-outs remain the primary source of angst from our donors, and we will continue to hammer away at these abuses in federal power and spending. Criticizing the new Obama administration and congress when appropriate while demanding transparency in how these funds are being spent.

Our donors are also telling us they want an option different from the D's and R's – and clearly the LP is it. With that in mind, Chairman Redpath and Donny have been working hard to gain form favorable ballot access laws particularly in OK and WV. Austin has also been working his interns to death rolling out Operation-Elect-Us, making sure everyone who has expressed interest in running for office is personally contact by both the LPHQ and their state, while researching what vacancies or office opportunities are available.

Times are tough financially, yet people continue to give what they can and we must show our appreciation for even the smallest gift. Customer service is the key and Louise and Casey continue to be on the front lines and receive compliments from our donors for their outstanding work. I've included one such compliment in the staff report that previously was forward to you. Meanwhile, we continue to remind our members that there is much they can do that doesn't involve a financial contribution including:

- 1) Encouraging our members to send us their Libertarian related news and commentary, or to express an opinion on something we wrote, by sending us an email addressed to: editor@lp.org
- 2) Reminding them to get active and volunteer with our party at the local and state level and to join a Meetup Group in their area
- 3) Persuading them to write the editor of their local newspaper or call talk radio and tell them about something we wrote in our press releases or blogs

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

4) Finally, letting our members know that one of the best ways to become a hero to the Libertarian cause, have their voices heard, and get our message out, is simply to run for office

As I previously shared with you, here are some recent comments from donors:

\$25.00 - Brian P. - Consider this my opposition to our current system of bailouts and political prostitutes.

\$50.00 – Jason A. - People have to know what the hell is going on. Keep telling them until they listen!

\$100.00 – Hugh G. - I donate to this party, not because I agree with everything the Libertarians stand for, but because I want more choices!

\$25.00 - Erick K. - I hope my \$25.00 helps. I wish I could give more. Long live our liberty - I hope.

\$10.00 - Jillian L. - I know it's not much, but I suppose every little bit helps. I am enraged that just as I was about to begin what I considered 'living my life' that I had been preparing for for years, they come in and change all the rules. I hope that it is not too late for sanity to prevail.

\$25.00 – Barbara S. - I used to be a Democrat and changed to a republican about 10 years ago because the more I made the more the government took for their "failed" social programs. But the republicans have not done any better and therefore I also just sent in my voter registration and switched to Libertarian (I just can't take it anymore!!!!)

\$10.00 – Christopher T. - I wish I could give more. A LOT more. I am from Illinois, and did NOT want my senator to become president because I knew that these things would start to happen. Now he's president, and my senators are the Deplorable Dick Durbin and the Blago-hand-picked Roland Burris. Yep, it's a great time to be from Illinois.

\$25.00 - Cary N. - I'm at my rope's end, time to get something started.

\$30.00 - Gary L. - It's all I can afford--but I will try to contribute regularly. Keep up the good work.

\$50.00 - Pete H. - Keep fighting. The Libertarian party is a bulwark of our freedoms. Your work is greatly appreciated. Someday we can only hope that Libertarians will have more influence on government policy.

\$100.00 – Stephen A. - There are so many organizations pleading for funds currently, not the least of which is Dr. Ron Paul's 'Campaign for Liberty,' but as with many others, our disposable income is down just as the LP's. For that I feel I can afford, I believe the LP is still the best investment I can make.

\$25.00 – Jay H. - Wish I could do more... keep up the good work!!

\$25.00 – Marsha D. - Yes, I'm pissed off too! Thank you Robert!

Additionally, Donny and I held a recent strategy session with Bill Redpath and Michael Jingoian spent several hours last week meeting with staff and volunteers here at LPHQ. As always, please feel free to address any issues not covered in the staff reports at the

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

upcoming LNC meeting and we will do our best to address your questions or answer any concerns.

Staff Update

Our staff levels remain at appropriate levels and includes a larger than usual assemble of unpaid interns thanks to Austin's hard work recruiting and keeping our interns active and busy. We do not plan on hiring any additional staff in the foreseeable future.

Below are our current staffers and summary of their current job responsibilities/overview of what they do on a weekly/daily basis:

- ❖ Robert Kraus, Acting ED / Operations Director:
 - Fiscal Management (a/p, a/r, general bookkeeping in QuickBooks)
 - Working with Bill Redpath & Aaron Starr on financial issues
 - Maintaining compliance with government policies including FEC filing
 - Management of LP Staff (human resources including payroll and benefits administration)
 - Oversight of database management & cleanup (Raiser's Edge)
 - General purchasing and procurement
 - Customer service (internal and external communications with board members, affiliates, donors, etc.)
 - Working with the Chair, Donny Ferguson and others to get out a cohesive Libertarian message across to the public
 - Facilities and equipment planning and maintenance
 - Preparation of financial and membership reports
 - Administrator of lp.org & hq.lp.org email and group list servers
 - Management of our higher donor direct solicitation endeavors (such as our telemarketing program with Bruce Cohen who recently replaced John Swallow)
 - Managing our ballot access lawsuits with Bill Redpath and getting them ready for the next phase of declaratory relief
 - Creating and overseeing various initiatives to establish a "cause célèbre" for our donors (such as Operation Elect-US to expand our political stature by increasing the number of elected Libertarians in office)

- ❖ Donny Ferguson, Communications Director:
 - Scan national media for topics for press releases, blog entries, and Email messages
 - Draft press releases, blogs, email solicitations, email messages to members
 - Answer press inquiries and book media appearances for party officials
 - Answering email questions about the Party and its positions
 - Write content for Web site, when needed Design graphics for Web site, emails, blogs, advertisements and newsletters
 - Develop content for monthly newsletter and newspaper layout and design monthly newsletter (and soon, perhaps, LP News)
 - Administrate and monitor the LP's Facebook and MySpace accounts, adding content and updating information
 - Function as the intermediary between the Party and the public
 - Working with Bill Redpath, state parties and local activists to get ballot access reform bills introduced in state legislatures, and developing lobbying strategies for them
 - Essentially, responsible for any in-house communication with the outside world

- ❖ Louise Calise, Direct Marketing Manager
 - Maintain accuracy of monthly giving program (donor calls and email changes; contact donors for updated information)

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

- Process monthly gifts for members of monthly giving program and evaluate transactions that do not go through to find out why including contacting the donor for updated information
 - Oversee Member Service Specialists in the sorting incoming mail, updating membership information and caging of donations
 - Re-checking of daily deposits and cash audits
 - Work with vendors for house and acquisition appeals (copy, art, print, mailshop)
 - Editing and proofreading of written materials such as Pledge News or LP News
 - Analyze results on all mail appeals and select segments from house file for each house mail appeal, and order lists for each acquisition appeal
 - Data pulls from donor database for house mail appeal and for omission in acquisition appeal
 - Data pulls for membership cards, acknowledgments and cultivation
 - Oversee printing and mailing of membership cards; print and mail acknowledgments; search for creative ideas to cultivate high dollar and loyal donors
 - Work with Aaron Starr on the Board Member Solicitation program
- ❖ Austin Petersen, Volunteer Coordinator
- Respond to letters and email requests from volunteers
 - Follow up with people who have expressed a desire to run for office, starting by introducing them to their state party Chair or their designee
 - Track candidates' activities and offer them one-on-one support for their campaigns
 - Research, and dissemination of what I've found, on the what offices are available and how to file for them
 - Maintain and update the list of elected Libertarians and Candidates
 - Customer service to state and local affiliates in all areas, right now concentrating on recruiting and placing candidates for 2009 and 2010
 - Produce, shoot, edit original videos for the LP. Continue creating infrastructure of permanent online web 2.0 material resources for training, education, inspiration, and recruitment
 - Work with state affiliates, and volunteers on event ideas, and creating opportunities for locals to be active
 - Edit LP.org website events and volunteer receipt lists
 - Write articles for LP NEWS, Pledge News and the bog
 - Network with other high level organizations, and politicians in DC to increase the stature and reputation of the party
 - Manage supply of work for 3-5 rotating interns
 - Research current affairs and provide creative material for advertisements to be posted
 - Provide education and training to the Libertarian community (Leadership Institute knowledge)
 - Staff booths at LP events, direct recruitment of volunteers for affiliate events
 - Study opposition party tactics, emulate successes, learn from their failures
- ❖ Susan Dixon, Member Services Specialist
- Process and cage all checks, credit cards and cash received via mail into RE
 - Photocopy checks before deposit
 - Process and cage all web transactions into RE
 - Process refunds and contribution returns
 - Update and maintain records in RE
 - Import new inquiry and volunteers from web and send prepare data for information packets
 - Prepare data for new memberships and renewals and print letters for membership cards
 - Prepare daily reports and do daily cash audits

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

- Create new records for people who ask for information packets
- Properly sort and file all source material to comply with FEC rules
- ❖ Casey Hansen, Member Services Specialist
 - Answers and directs incoming phone calls
 - Accepts, opens and sorts mail/packages/couriers and supplies
 - Greets visitors
 - Produces and mails out LP Membership Cards
 - Produces and mails out LP Information Packets
 - Sorts and tags physical monetary contributions sent to the office (checks/money orders/cash)
 - Deposits checks at PCN bank after Louise has verified deposit and cash audits
 - Updates member's address and contact information
 - Assists in general office upkeep, organization and maintaining office supplies
 - Any other extra tasks as assigned by other LNC staff such as general filing, research, and responding to member correspondence
 - Primary assistant to Louise and Robert
- ❖ We have cut down to one part time college student, Mark Meranta (a GMU student), who primarily works with Austin

Operations

Robert has been focused on preparation of post election FEC reports, reducing expenses and raising money.

Affiliates

Austin and Donny have been in frequent contact with our affiliates. Data dumps continue to go out regularly.

We continue to see some major improvements on the information flow from states to LPHQ, especially from newer state chairs that appear to be more responsive in getting us data updates, events and news items. We encourage the regional reps to please continue to help us receive information from your states. Receiving news and event updates from our affiliates is an ongoing battle. Again, news worthy items (especially when accompanied by high quality color photos) can be sent to news@lp.org while events simply can be sent to events@lp.org

Finance and Fundraising

Internet Fundraising – Web Site

Internet based fundraising continues to be a growth area for us. From Jan 1 thru Feb 24th, 2009 we have raised \$33,576 over the web, in the first two months of 2008 we raised a total of \$27,681, thus we have had a 17.5% increase alone for this year.

As mentioned last time, working closely with Donny, Austin, Louise, Susan and myself, Terra Eclipse is completely finished with the back end of our web and Donny has now taken the lead for most of our web site management needs. This has saved us some considerable programming expenses over the last few months and we expect this trend to continue. We are now able to export data such as inquiries and volunteers in batches, which is imported weekly into RE. This saves staff, and Susan especially, considerable

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

time. We are still working with Blackbaud to find a way to import the gift batch records into RE as well. TE has finished creating the back end for exporting gift batches which still must be manually entered by Susan into RE.

In order to save funds, we are currently working with volunteers instead of TE on finishing the creation of the widgets (the linkable graphics which direct people to our web site and donation page). The first MAC ready ones we have already posted to the blog, and expect to have some PC ready widgets soon.

Phone-based Fundraising

As Louise mentions in her report, we are no longer doing any outside tele-prospecting, replacing this program with the Impact Movies from Anglevision. We do have at least one renewal round of telemarketing that we plan to do by the end of April, plus a pledge drive that we plan on running by the end of June.

Finance

Accounts payable remained higher than we would like for most of the last few months. As Aaron shows on his reports, we reached a high of \$50,808 surpassing the Aug high of \$47,789. As of the end of Jan, we reduced this to \$43,537 all current. As of Feb 25th we are at \$30,579.

As I said in the last report, I do not anticipate getting back to our previous normal levels of \$10-15,000 if the economy continues to do poorly, but do expect to keep A/P under control and current.

Membership

The membership report for 01/31/09 previously submitted to the LNC is also attached.

Highlights:

Below is a chart of New and Renewed Members for Jan-09 and their source:

<u>New Members Jan 09</u>			
Source	Number	\$ Total	Ave Gift
House Mailing to Inq	4	\$ 180.00	\$ 45.00
Dir Mail Porspecting	24	\$ 850.00	\$ 35.42
Web New Members	<u>200</u>	<u>\$ 7,169.00</u>	<u>\$ 35.85</u>
Total	<u>228</u>	<u>\$ 8,199.00</u>	<u>\$ 35.96</u>

<u>Renewals Jan 09</u>			
Source	Number	\$ Total	Ave Gift
Renewals via House Mailing	67	\$ 3,545.00	\$ 52.91
Dir Mail Renewals	274	\$ 14,529.00	\$ 53.03
Tele-Renewal	2	\$ 125.00	\$ 62.50
Web Renewals	203	\$ 7,169.00	\$ 35.32
Renewals via Pledge Extention	<u>121</u>	<u>\$ 2,776.95</u>	<u>\$ 22.95</u>
Total	<u>667</u>	<u>\$ 28,144.95</u>	<u>\$ 42.20</u>

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

As you can see on the attached report, our membership levels were down slightly for Jan, showing improvement over a steeper drop in Dec. For the 12 month period, our membership is up 6.84%.

We had our first increase of New Members in two months, primarily thru the web, and as Louise mentions, we revamped our direct mail program for renewals which has had its second increase in a row.

Ballot Access Update

LOUISIANA

LNC's attorney, Mark Brown, will be pursuing an appeal, asking for a ruling Barr/Root should have been placed on the ballot, and awarding damages. Recently, we were advised that the Fifth Circuit assessed costs against the Libertarian Party, Barr and Root totaling just over \$1000.00. Brown is seeking costs in the District Court totaling over \$6000.00, so it may be that they will be offset. A hearing was attended by Mark Brown on 02/19/09 on this matter and a ruling is expected within a month.

MAINE

Gary Sinawski reports that discovery is due to be completed on 3/3/09, and motions are due on 3/24/09. Gary anticipates little if any discovery, and anticipates making a motion for summary judgment. We are seeking (1) an order that in the future, petition signatures are to be verified by the secretary of state rather than by the town clerks; (2) reimbursement of petitioning expenses incurred by the LP in trying to get Barr and Root on the 11/4/08 ballot; and (3) a declaration that Barr and Root should have been listed on the ballot. The litigation will probably be completed at the trial court level by late summer or early fall.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Gary Sinawski reports that no discovery should be necessary, as we are seeking a court order granting the LP and similarly situated entities the right of substitution. This can be accomplished via a motion for summary judgment, which is due on 10/9/09. The litigation should be resolved at the trial court level by the end of 2009.

CONNECTICUT

Gary Sinawski reports that discovery is due to be completed on 4/2/09, and motions are due on 5/2/09. There should be little if any discovery, and ordinarily Gary would make a motion for summary judgment seeking an order that in the future, petition signatures are to be verified by the secretary of state rather than by the town clerks. This would require that the CT LP finish checking the validity of the signatures filed for Barr and Root, which they were unable to complete before the last round of litigation and which is a very big job.

However, Gary understands that the CT legislature is considering a bill (HR 6436) that would require signature-verification by the secretary of state and would also reduce the signature requirement from 7500 for statewide office and 3000 for congress to 1000 for statewide and congress. Andy Rule, LPCT Treasurer, testified in support of this bill this week as well as filed a written statement. Gary is inclined to monitor the progress of this bill and, if appropriate, get the discovery and motion deadlines extended while the CT legislature considers the bill.

MASSACHUSETTS SUBSTITUTION LAWSUIT

Foley Hoag LLP reports that the Secretary's appeal had just been denied. The reason for the denial was that, since the election had passed, any party seeking appeal first needs to adjudicate to a final decision in the lower court (where the LP/Barr prevailed).

They have an appointment for what is called a "status conference" Friday the 27th with the judge who wrote us the favorable ruling that allowed Barr and Root on the MA ballot. It appears that it serves both parties' best interests to get a final decision from the judge; Foley Hoag just needs to decide the best and most efficient way to do so, which is what this conference will be about. They will let us know what happens after the conference concludes.

We also are actively lobbying to change the ballot access laws in OK and WV, which Bill Redpath will be addressing in the meeting.

Addition Issues and Concerns

Mail Delivery to the Watergate:

Back in the middle part of December, the US Postal Service in DC let go of all their contract carriers, which included our mail man. From that time through late January, we have had extensive gaps in our delivery service including one two week period where we received no mail at all. We are being serviced from a post office in Georgetown that assigns our deliveries to one of their carriers who completes their own rout early.

We have been assigned a "customer relations manager" who reports directly to the Postmaster General for the DC region. He has been a big help in resolving this issue, at least temporarily, and helping us find and get over 500 BRE's that had not been delivered back in January during those two weeks when we did not receive mail.

In addition, the USPS accounting office lost a check we sent them to renew our account and permits. Instead of cashing the replacement check, they spent several days looking for the lost check (yes it was sent Priority US Mail with Delivery Confirmation). This caused delays for a few of our affiliates trying to send mail since they placed a "hold" on our permits while looking for the check. The replacement check was sent with a "Delivery Signature Confirmation" so we were able to get our "customer relations manager" to personally visit the signer of the replacement check and hand deliver it to accounting to get it processed.

Harassment Policy & Video:

At the beginning of the current term, I was asked by Bill Hall and Bill Redpath to send out a copy of the Sexual Harassment Video along with Section 8: HARASSMENT AND OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOR PROHIBITION from our Policy Manual. Each member was asked to acknowledge they watched the video and read the policy. I was asked to report the results at a future LNC Meeting.

I can now say all but four of the current members of the LNC have reported back to me that they viewed the materials. The other four, who have been notified now multiple times, have not provided any reason for their failure to report. I defer to the Chair for further discussion on this matter.

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

Overview

In my last report I indicated that since national elections are over LPHQ needs to address different issues for our 2009 solicitations. Therefore, in January we talked about the bailout and showed the two page application one needs to fill out requesting funds, in February and March we will be doing our annual report and annual report follow up. Then in April I'm excited to be doing a solicitation with a petition for H.R. 833 – a bill to abolish the Federal Reserve Board, which is being sponsored by Ron Paul.

I feel the challenge for this year is upon us/me and I welcome it.

House Appeals

As it is too early in the year to give you results for 2009, I will speak to the strategy of how I will be breaking down the house file to analyze and identify what segments of the file we should be mailing to continually and what segments we need to mail to less frequently.

Because our annual report and its follow up usually do well, I am beginning to segment our house file here in smaller segments to allow for further analyzing, and will continue to do this during the course of 2009, as mentioned above. When breaking down the house file, the segments will be 1 month donors, 2 month donors, 3 month donors, 4-6 month donors, 7-12 month donors, etc; then depending upon the mail piece and how the segments are doing I will be able to determine which segments of the file to mail. This system will make our direct mail program more cost effective.

LP News with the wallet BRE inserted is still bringing in more funds than what it costs to print the BRE and have it inserted. Therefore, I will continue with this program.

As I indicated in my last report to the LNC I have slightly changed the renewal series. The January renewal appeal to those members whose membership had expired and were mailed our new letter along with a reply device is doing well – 3.44% return with an average gift of \$31.96. This piece was mailed on January 22 so these results are only for 3 weeks.

Prospecting

In 2008 we mailed only five prospect appeals, plus our inquiry packet. As of February 18, 2009 the percent of return (0.92%) is pretty good and the average gift (\$32.16) is not too bad for prospecting. Given the fact that we prospect for the intention of building our donor database these results are acceptable, and we should continue to do direct mail prospecting in 2009.

On January 14 we mailed a new prospect package to 18,753 people. As of February 18, 2009 we have received 67 new donors/members (0.357%) with an average gift of \$32.21; and the returns are still coming in.

One important issue that we need to recognize is that in 2008 we had 2,155 volunteers new to the LP. Out of those volunteers 20% (434) became active members, with an average gift of \$57.00. We always recognized the importance of volunteers and the work they do, and now need to additionally recognize that a good portion of them are becoming members.

Telemarketing

To date we do not have any telemarketing plans for prospecting on the table and nothing has been budgeted for this purpose. However, we are working on an impact movie for this function with Angle Vision Tech that may have better results than telemarketing. We need to test this and review the results before we can say for sure.

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

We do have at least one renewal round of telemarketing that we plan to do by the end of April, plus a pledge drive that we plan on running by the end of June.

Internet Fundraising

On Friday, February 13, an email blast was sent out by Donny Ferguson and by Sunday evening brought in over \$7,000. I understand Donny will be sending out email blasts every week and this will contribute well to our fundraising efforts and our goal of raising over \$229,000 on-line in 2009.

2009 Proposed Mail Schedule

Please see attached.

Conclusion

Because of our country's economic status and how it is affecting our members living situations it is more important now than ever to recognize our members' contributions and our volunteers.

I have asked Austin to write an article for LP News acknowledging and praising our volunteers.

I am working on ways to cultivate our members to keep them active, and possibly upgrade their giving. At the end of 2008 I had printed pocket calendars with the LP logo on the front that were given to LP members who contributed \$750+ in 2008 (we mailed approximately 200, at a total cost of \$852), at this time I am having pins made for all members becoming Life Members and will send it with their new LP Membership Card. These items are for cultivation and not solicitation so there is no ask in the letter accompanying the item. Another cultivation acknowledgment tool we use is giving information to Bill Redpath when someone makes a large donation (\$1,000+) to the LP for him to call. Although most donors might like receiving a call from our Chairman, I believe receiving a call from another board member as well/or in addition to Bill would help cultivate our donors as well.

Thank you all, Louise

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Submitted by: Donny Ferguson
LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 27-28, 2009
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

SETTLING IN

My first few weeks here have been spent taking stock of our resources and finding ways to apply them to better market the Libertarian Party to the mainstream, independent voters who turn out every year and decide elections. I have been focusing on issues these voters are focused on, which right now means job creations, tax relief and spending.

Now that I have settled into more of a routine, I plan to begin marketing Chairman Redpath, Vice-Chairman Jingoian and other relevant spokespersons to media outlets for interviews on issues such as job creation, tax relief, etc.

PRESS RELEASES

The national office has been sending out an average of a press release a week. I am not a supporter of sending out press releases just to be sending releases, because groups with a reputation for pointless releases often find theirs deleted or thrown in the trash without due consideration. I am constantly monitoring the news for opportunities for the LP to comment on issues of importance to voters and the media.

Press releases address timely issues, and from a perspective supported by either majorities of independent voters (stimulus opposition,) or a motivated, organized minority with a track record of deciding elections (gun issues.)

The following are original press releases from the Libertarian National Committee:

Libertarians stand alone with voters against Senate plan (Feb. 6)

- Restated LP opposition to “stimulus” spending, pointed out Republican votes for, and Republicans who only oppose where the spending is going. Restated polls showing independent voters want tax cuts, not spending.

Libertarian Party congratulates Judge Jim Gray on retirement (Jan. 29)

- Sent to California media, congratulating Gray and outlining his very impressive career

Libertarian Party urges 'no' vote on Holder (Jan. 28)

- Outlines LP opposition to Attorney General nominee Eric Holder, citing his long record of opposition to Second Amendment rights. Gun rights activists are very well organized, turn out to vote and contribute money, which is why support for gun rights wins many more votes than it loses.

We received several e-mails from voters thanking us for opposing Holder, including one who called me personally to say he was switching his voter registration from Republican to Libertarian.

Libertarian Party asks Congress to give everyone a “Tim Geithner tax break” (Jan. 26)

- Chided Obama administration for nominating tax scofflaw to lead Treasury, opportunity for the LP to show off its support of many different forms of tax simplification and tax relief.

I appeared on talk radio programs in Salina, Kansas and Columbus, Ohio to discuss the release calling for income tax simplification. I appeared on the air in Charlotte, North Carolina to discuss the “stimulus” package as the Senate was voting on the measure.

Chairman Redpath appeared on Houston’s KTRH in morning drive to discuss the stimulus as well. Other interviews, such as Congressman Barr’s and Wayne Root’s, were scheduled through their offices.

Releases have been covered in newspapers. We are currently looking for a better clip service, as I am not pleased with Meltwater or Google’s free service.

THE BLOG

I have been using the blog to link to mainstream media coverage of the Libertarian Party, polls showing voter support for Libertarian ideas and other news and commentary that a) expose the failure of the Democrat and Republican parties to deliver on their promises, and, B) show the average, mainstream voter the Libertarian Party is a reasonable use of their vote to bring about the practical change they want.

Reaction has been overwhelmingly positive so far.

FINAL UPDATE ON CHANGE TO FACEBOOK

After making an initial attempt to moderate the board, and realizing it would require someone to baby-sit it full-time, I disabled the board. The Libertarian Party already has enough image problems and does not need the average voter seeing a “9/11 truth” discussion on our board, or comments similar to “when I see pro-life people who support the death penalty I want to execute them,” both of which were found on the board.

Out of over 14,000 “friends” at that time, only five complained. That’s less than one percent. None were Libertarian Party members and most were very upset the Libertarian Party did not support Obama. Robert invited them to join the Party, submit articles to LP News, write letters to the editor and discuss libertarianism on their own Facebook pages. They didn’t.

The other ninety-nine-plus percent who joined the Facebook group supported the change, or simply didn’t care. After disabling the board, membership in the group began growing rapidly.

It’s the same issue we encountered with the change to the LP.org blog, but with fewer complaints. People are still allowed to freely comment on “The Wall,” so long as they don’t use profanity, make clearly inappropriate comments or spam their own Facebook groups or unrelated groups.

The purpose of the Facebook page is not to provide a forum for high school kids, “Internet activists” or others to entertain themselves all day. The Libertarian Party is not providing a playground.

Its purpose is to A) provide Libertarians with information on opportunities to make changes out in the real world, such as volunteering for candidates or taking political action, and B) show the average, mainstream voter we are people who can be trusted with their vote.

OTHER TASKS

The Communication Director has also been:

- 1) Working with the Chairman and activists planning a comprehensive lobbying effort to improve ballot access laws in Oklahoma and West Virginia
- 2) Writing copy for weekly fundraising e-mails. The weekly e-mails are bringing in an average of \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 a week. Once testing establishes which themes and devices work, I hope to improve the average.
- 3) Writing copy for direct mail fundraising and working with Louise on package designs, themes, etc. Direct mail remains the most stable and effective means of raising money for any successful political group, lobby or charity.
- 4) Writing copy for *Pledge News*
- 5) Preparing copy for *LP News*
- 6) Speaking with prospective legislative candidates in Virginia and New Jersey and directing them to Austin Petersen and their state chair.
- 7) Writing a comprehensive campaign manual for both “paper” and “active” candidates informing them on how to get on the ballot, and how to run a campaign.
- 8) Going through my regular campaign services vendors to see who wouldn’t mind providing services to Libertarians.
- 9) Fielding many, many questions from many, many people who e-mail and call the office all day asking about Libertarian positions, strategy and activities.

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Volunteer Coordinator
Report
Libertarian National Committee

**Libertarian
Party**



The 2009 Spring Internship Program

During the previous election cycle I received training at the Leadership Institute. From there I was able to learn the basics of how to be a good volunteer coordinator, by creating and assigning tasks effectively, and maximizing the potential of people who chose to work for you. Knowing that the LP National office has space and terminals available for people to work, I began the process of placing advertisements and recruiting interns for unpaid internships at the LP. Attending events and staffing booths at career bazaars, such as the one at American University has been extremely helpful in finding talented young Libertarians. Although they know they will be unpaid, I incentivize them by having them submit to me things they are interested in working on, and crafting projects for them that meet that criteria while still serving the needs of the LP.

I have contacted all of the state chairs and offered them the ability to outsource busy work that can be done remotely to these interns in order to better serve the needs of states that don't have the resources to complete tasks that we can accomplish. To date, LP interns have provided Maryland with an extensive research report on Eminent Domain and Zoning Issues, as well as the Missouri LP with tracking contact information on their candidates in each of their counties. I would encourage all state chairs to take advantage of our talented young staff that can lighten their load, especially those states without permanent offices.

The Spring Libertarian Interns are: Mark Meranta, Kim Moogalian, Eric Sim, Erik Geib, Vince Mamo, Ian Hosking, Irena Schneider, Mark Dlugash, and Melissa Dawson. I am also planning on adding several more. Ultimately I will seek to have a five person staff on a daily basis. These interns will also be helping staff the booth at CPAC, and when campaign season rolls around, their focus will be on supporting ballot access efforts. In order to continue to grow the LP volunteer lists, interns constantly write advertisements and place them on the Internet. This is done every day in a fashion that gives the interns responsibility for certain regions of the country they are assigned to. This has been very successful in a way that only the numbers can show. These interns will also be helping us at CPAC videotaping interviews, and converting conservatives to Libertarians.

New to the LP Volunteers

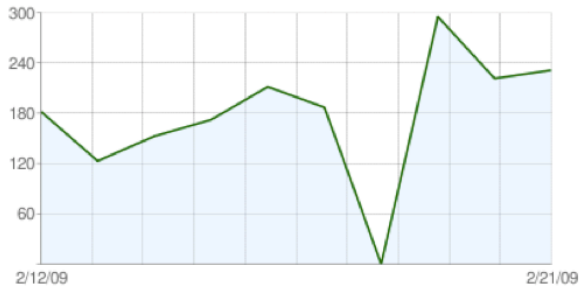
	"VOL" New to LP	Converted to Active MEM	Conv %	Total \$ Raised	Ave Gift
Total 2007	745	83	11%	\$ 3,609	\$ 43
01-08	110	26	24%	\$ 1,536	\$ 59
02-08	71	31	44%	\$ 2,419	\$ 78
03-08	61	23	38%	\$ 1,095	\$ 48
04-08	111	27	24%	\$ 1,457	\$ 54
05-08	184	47	26%	\$ 2,007	\$ 43
06-08	195	53	27%	\$ 2,771	\$ 52
07-08	251	47	19%	\$ 1,770	\$ 38
08-08	240	40	17%	\$ 1,275	\$ 32
09-08	335	75	22%	\$ 2,540	\$ 34
10-08	597	65	11%	\$ 2,580	\$ 40
11-08	401	54	13%	\$ 4,430	\$ 82
12-08	<u>169</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>14%</u>	<u>\$ 675</u>	<u>\$ 28</u>
Total 2008	2155	434	20%	\$ 24,555	\$ 57
01-09	87	30	34%	\$ 1,225	\$ 41
Thru 02/18/09	<u>170</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>\$ 126</u>	<u>\$ 25</u>
Total 2009	257	35	14%	\$ 1,351	\$ 39

addition of YouTube to peoples DVR's and satellite stations in the near future, the LP has an opportunity to be beamed directly to peoples homes that might not have the internet. As of right now we are in the process of trying to raise money for a lighting kit that is portable and professional. When I emailed the volunteers a link to our first LP TV video, someone donated \$50, which was encouraging, but it also got me thinking. Considering that there is a minimal amount of cost involved producing LP TV videos, and people seem to be willing to pay for quality content, then this area should definitely be expanded. This will require more compelling, interesting, and creative work. That means production, which also means budgeting. Hopefully soon, I will have expanded my department to justify these types of expenses. Here's a summary of the type of traffic our YouTube page generates:

As you can see, traffic spikes when new videos are posted (illust. Graph on the top left). We are working hard to bring more content to the site as often as possible because it generates more traffic. However the chart on the top right shows us a trend that is very telling. The amount of attention for the bailout advertisement is the highest. This tells us that the more videos we create surrounding current events will be the most trafficked. I will adjust the content of our videos in the future to be more focused on immediate issues so as to broaden our appeal and increase their relevancy.

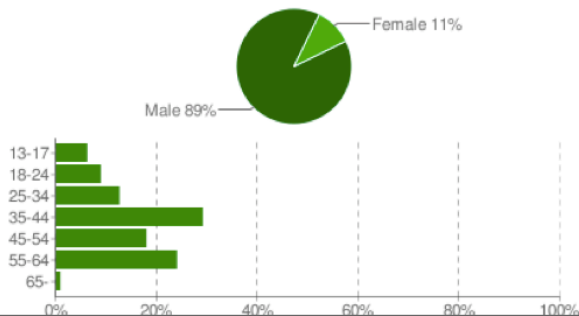
Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

How many views are my videos getting?



Demographics

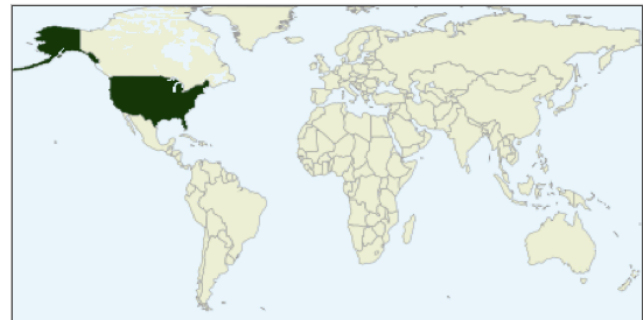
Who is watching the videos in this channel?



Video	Views (% of total)	Attention
History of the Libertarian Party	64.3	██████████
A Minority Viewpoint with Libertarian Jabriel Ball	13.4	██████████
Pete Eyre Interview	8.9	██████████
Libertarian Party Bailout Ad	6.3	██████████
Introduction to Students for Liberty	1.8	██████████
Talkback with Libertarian Austin Petersen 1	1.2	██████████
Talkback with Libertarian Austin Petersen Part 2	0.7	██████████
Libertarian Party Davos Submission "Economic	0.6	██████████
Talkback with Libertarian Austin Petersen Part 3	0.5	██████████
Using Craigslist to Get Volunteers for the Libert	0.5	██████████

Popularity

How popular are my videos relative to those of other uploaders?



As you can see from January until today the number of volunteers recruited is 257. That is more than was recruited last year at this time, and it was an election year. The volunteer program is vital in that a high proportion of these volunteers I am recruiting convert to active members, and their average gift this year has been \$39. The volunteers that come in off my interns ads are directed straight to LP.org/volunteer where they are directed to sign up. Then we evaluate their skills and contact them if we can use their skills or if we think a state chair could use them. We also are heavily targeting the 20th district of New York to support the campaign of Eric Sundwall. In addition we also advertise in the DC area, which is where most of our interns have come from.

The Launch of LP TV



This spring the Libertarian Party launched its first interview series on it's YouTube channel titled LP TV with it's own logo all shot professionally in High Definition. These interviews aim to highlight Libertarian activists, leaders, and grassroots personalities who are making a difference for the cause. If the goal of the LP is to spread the message then LP TV will provide an extremely cost effective way of reaching out to people worldwide with our message. As of right now there are only two interviews, but we have scheduled two more in the future and have plans for others as well. With the

A Day at Libertarian Party Headquarters

8:00-8:30 - Arrive at LPHQ, divide up nation regionally amongst the interns. Assign them to write advertisements in the major metropolitan areas of their region. When they are finished assign them to do tasks such as update spreadsheets, reply to volunteers so they will sign up on the LP.org website, policy research for states, phone calls for candidate research, auditing of campus organizations, construct information packets for candidates, etc.

9:30-11:30 - Work with Mark on plans for the week. Search for events in DC area and RSVP for attendance if necessary. Edit videos for LP TV, seek out new volunteers with specific talents to aid current projects (Artists, music composers, marketers, salespeople, campaign professionals). Answer

Appendix B. Robert Kraus, HQ Staff Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

phone calls from people interested in joining the LP, listen to their concerns, and convince them to sign up.

11:30-2:30 – Oversee tasks of interns, meet with prospective interns and volunteers in Executive office, lunch, strategize, edit website, write blogs and book reviews, listen to the news, make phone calls, book appointments.

2:30-4:30 – Audit interns work, discuss their assignments, analyze their progress and release them to go home. Around 4-4:30ish I will leave to go to my evening class that begins at 5:30

7:00-10:00 – Evening events such as Reason Happy Hours, off the record meetings with think tanks, strategy sessions with D.C. libertarian organizations to improve communications and responsiveness to national issues as well as goal setting.

CAMPUS ORGANIZING REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Feb 23, 2009

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

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

I wish to acknowledge the fine work of Austin Petersen, LP national volunteer coordinator. He has provided substantial assistance to me in my efforts.

- 1) I continue to respond to inquiries from people who want information about the LP campus outreach effort. I am usually able to respond within 24 hours of receiving an inquiry. We receive several inquiries each week from students who want assistance in starting a Libertarian group on their college (or high school) campus.
- 2) I continue to work with the Advocates for Self-Government to provide material (e.g., "Operation Politically Homeless" kits) to campus organizations. (I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Advocates.)
- 3) In early January I revised the campus organizing material that I distribute to those interested in campus outreach. The comments I have received from recipients of the material have been extremely positive. I am investigating options concerning publishing an expanded version in the form of a paperback book.
- 4) I continue to work with various state and local LP organizations to assist their campus outreach efforts. In particular, I occasionally travel to various schools to give speeches and work with campus activists. In addition, I shall give a speech on campus organizing during the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance conference in Charleston. I also plan to meet with campus activists at the LP Maryland convention on March 7, the LP Washington convention on March 28, and the LP Pennsylvania convention on May 2.
- 5) I participated in the second annual Students for Liberty conference, which took place on Feb. 20-22 in Washington, D.C. In particular, I conducted a campus organizing workshop and represented the LP as a panelist in the "Liberty and Politics" forum. Austin Petersen and Mark Meranta conducted a workshop "Marketing and Recruiting." In addition, they staffed an LP information table during the "Liberty Fair" part of the conference. If I understand correctly, roughly 200 students from 11 countries attended the conference.

6) The LP will conduct outreach to students during the upcoming CPAC (Conservative Political Action Conference) in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 26-28. Austin Petersen will organize the outreach effort.

7) As mentioned in previous reports, several libertarian organizations (e.g., Cato, Reason Foundation, Institute for Humane Studies, Bureaucracy, International Society for Individual Liberty) are working to coordinate their student outreach programs. I participate in meetings of representatives of these organizations when my schedule permits; Austin Petersen is also attending the meetings. The most recent meeting took place on Feb. 4 at LPHQ.

Region One Report

No report

Region Two Report

Region 2 LNC Report – 2/24/09 Mark Hinkle, Region 2 Representative

California:

The Libertarian Party of California will hold its annual convention, **April 24-26, 2009** in **Visalia**.

All new political parties in California face extinction due to SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) because of Republican Sen. Abel Maldonado. He's being termed out of office. In exchange for his vote to get the needed two-thirds required in California to pass a budget, he had the legislature agree to put SCA 4, his proposed top-two constitutional amendment on the ballot for June 2010. The LPC will work with all of the other Parties to defeat this message. Currently California's legislative districts are heavily gerrymandered to insure solid Democratic and solid Republican districts. No incumbent who was running for reelection has lost for the last 3 general elections.

The LPC is running a series of successful fund raisers, featuring the likes of Ed Clark and Judge Jim Gray, around the state in the homes of some of our members. The one for Judge Jim Gray was a retirement party.

The LPC has also issues a number of regular press releases on current topics, such as the recent budget crisis here in California.

The Pacific Research Institute, a quasi libertarian think tank based in San Francisco, has begun a series of seminar on how to run a school district in a libertarian fashion reports Scott Lieberman. On December 8th they held one in San Diego. It was offered free to current school board members.

Lastly, I've receive permission from the following organizations, one or two which have said they would reciprocate, to have links from our web page to theirs: Cato, The Independent Institute, the Heartland Institute, and the Advocates for Self Government. Other than an anemic LPedia.org link, we currently have no links to the wider libertarian movement should anyone seek it.

Yours in liberty

Mark W.A. Hinkle
LNC Region 2 (CA) Rep.

Region 3 Report for February 2009

Submitted by: Rebecca Sink-Burris

INDIANA

Chair: Todd Singer

Indiana really takes a break after presidential elections, absolutely no elections for any office at any level this year, giving us a good opportunity to take part in civic life apart from elections. As part of this effort, County Vice-Chair of Marion County (Indianapolis), Ed Angleton has put out a call for volunteers to become Township or Ward Chairpersons and Precinct Committee people, who would attend neighborhood association meetings and identify libertarians in their areas. The goal is to help build a grass-roots organization to assist candidates running for office.

Ed Coleman switches from GOP to LP.

INDIANAPOLIS, IN -- Edward A. Coleman, was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated from Warren Central High School and Ivy Tech College, is a veteran with twelve years service in the United States Navy and National Guard and has a medical industry background in patient care. Coleman, who is married with two children, has been active as a mentor in the Warren Robotics Team after school program, is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, and also has served as president of his home owners association. He was first elected in 2007 to the Indianapolis City County Council as an At-Large Representative in the 12th largest city in America, and represents over one million Hoosiers. He is now the highest elected official in the Libertarian Party within the United States.



Thanks to generous donations from national and state members both Councilman Coleman and LPIN Executive director Chris Spangler will be attending the LSLA meeting.

Chris recently put together a social networking site for Indiana Libertarians, "Free Hoosiers" <http://freehoosiers.ning.com/> It has really taken off as the place for information and discussion and I encourage you to check it out.

The Libertarian Party of Indiana has a new podcast with their former Secretary of State candidate Mike Kole hosting. The first interview is with State Chair Todd Singer.

Check it out here: <http://web.me.com/mikekole/Site/Podcast/Podcast.html>

You can also subscribe to it through iTunes here: <itpc://web.me.com/mikekole/Site/Podcast/rss.xml>

Kole is a veteran broadcaster, dating back to his days in Cleveland, having done everything from Rock 'N' Roll radio, to sports, to political talk. "I'll be using the podcast to highlight what the stars of the Libertarian Party are up to. I'll talk to candidates, party leaders, and policy analysts, and let them put their perspective on the issues of the day," said Kole. "The podcast will be another tool for outreach, and one the other parties don't have," he said. Mike Kole was the 2007 winner of the LPIN's Dr. Barbara Bourland "Light of Liberty" Award for outstanding volunteer service to the Libertarian Party, and was the 2006 candidate for Indiana Secretary of State.

Tim Maguire and Brad Klopfenstein were re-appointed to Indianapolis Board of Zoning Appeals. (Tim Maguire by a 29-0 vote.) Tim has also recently become the LP chair of Marion County (Indianapolis)

Appendix F. Region 3 Report, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

LPIN continues the highly popular Legislative Review, in which bills of interest to Libertarians are outlined and rated. Two bills of particular interest this year, one on the use of gold currency and one attempting to stop the Federal government from overstepping the bounds of the constitution. The first was proposed by our candidate for governor during the last election when he consistently called for the state of Indiana to follow its own constitution, of which a gold backed currency was a part.

Indiana and Kentucky are going to have a joint State Convention this year in May. Pun intended.

MICHIGAN

Libertarian Party of Michigan Report – February 14, 2009. By Bill Hall, State Chair

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is determined in 2009 to build on the successes of the last two years – successes in building and professionalizing state party infrastructure and nominating and providing support to numerous candidates.

On January 15, in an effort to increase communication with and among local party affiliates, I hosted a well-attended one hour teleconference of local affiliate chairs. I reported on the LPM's plans for the coming year, affiliate chairs reported on their local activities, and we discussed the LPM's upcoming plans to host regional conferences in an effort to educate and activate affiliates and volunteers. The participants uniformly supported repeating the teleconference in the future, on a quarterly basis. We used a call-in conference service that cost each participant a few dollars on their phone bill.

2009 is an off-year for elections in Michigan, with only local (e.g., City Council, School Board) nonpartisan races on the ballot. We have been pushing our local affiliates to each recruit and support "just one" serious candidate in a winnable race. Historically, these candidates have enjoyed considerable electoral success. To date, it appears that we may have a candidate for City Council in Wayne, and Mark Byrne will run for re-election to the Port Huron City Council. It remains to be seen what other candidates we may run.

Our biggest need at this point is to get volunteers to do the work of the party. Fortunately, over the past 7 months we have received a lot of volunteer inquiries via lp.org, the LPM website and other sources. We are pursuing an initiative to see if we can connect those volunteers with their local affiliates, and with particular volunteer tasks. We have scheduled and are promoting activist conferences for Grand Rapids on March 14 and Troy on April 4. Each Saturday afternoon conference will be planned to: (1) bring affiliate leaders and volunteers together; (2) introduce volunteers to the LP, their local affiliate leaders and other activists; (3) motivate affiliate leaders and volunteers to engage in political activism and party-building activities; (4) describe and promote volunteer opportunities; and (5) provide an opportunity for activists to sign up to perform particular tasks.

Our state convention is scheduled for Saturday May 23 in Jackson, the birthplace of the Republican Party. The convention organizers plan a tongue-in-cheek celebratory funeral for the Republican Party.

OHIO

Chair: Kevin Knedler

From Kevin J. Knedler – LPO Excom Chair

February 14, 2009

OHIO REPORT

Appendix F. Region 3 Report, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

Election 2009: 2009 in Ohio focuses on local and municipal races, many of which are non-partisan. The LPO has a team in place, within its Political Division, that is helping upwards of 10 candidates with petitioning and planning. By Early-March the LPO will know where we have candidates in a race, some with the LP name.

Ballot access 2009: The Ohio SOS ruled in mid-January that the LPO will retain ballot access in Ohio indefinitely because the Ohio Assembly has taken no action on ballot access laws, that were struck down in 2006 and as a result of a follow-up court case in 2008—BOTH won by the Libertarian Party of Ohio. With the Democrats in charge of the Governor house, most Executive offices at the state level, and now the Ohio Assembly, it is more likely we will get a sponsor for ballot access laws that are not as restrictive. The Ohio LPO team will be working on this in mid- 2009.

Upcoming events:

March 12 &13 the Ohio Secretary of State is sponsoring Ohio Elections Conference

Discussions will include Voter registration and ballot access for minor parties. The Chair of the LPO Executive Committee, Kevin Knedler, has agreed to be group leader during the panel discussion on ballot access.

May 1 to 3 is the Ohio LP state conference. It will be held at the Mohican Resort and Conference Center, just south of Mansfield, Ohio. Details are on the home page of the www.LPO.org

The Ohio organization: We now have all four Director positions filled within the LPO team. The four LPO Divisions are led by:

Paul Campbell Political Director
John Stewart Field Development Director
Chris Kalla Finance Director (fundraising)
Charles Dyer Communication Director (newsletter, website, press releases)

We need MORE volunteers to join committees within these divisions.

For more information on the Libertarian Party of Ohio, please go to www.LPO.org

We just launched our new web site in early February.

Ohio Secretary of State Directive keeping minor parties on the ballot until state passes new laws:

JENNIFER BRUNNER

OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE
180 EAST BROAD STREET , 16 TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215 USA
TEL : 1- 877-767-6446 FAX: 1-614-644-0649
www.SOS.STATE.OH.US
DIRECTIVE 2009-01

February 12, 2009

To: ALL COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS MEMBERS, DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY DIRECTORS

Re: Continued ballot access for minor political parties in Ohio

Since September 6, 2006, Ohio has not had a valid ballot access statute to allow its citizens to exercise their First Amendment political speech and associational rights to organize new political parties and to run candidates for office with the designation of any new political party.' As of this date, the Ohio General Assembly has not yet enacted any new ballot access law.

Appendix F. Region 3 Report, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

Moreover, in 2008, representatives of several political parties sued to obtain ballot access in Ohio for their presidential candidates and candidates for other offices, which may result in the state being liable for significant legal fees associated with the cases. The following political parties were granted ballot access in Ohio for the 2008 general election by court order or by agreement of the parties:

the Constitution Party,
the Green Party,
the Libertarian Party, and the
Socialist Party USA.

Under R.C. 3517.01 (A)(1), political parties whose presidential candidate did not receive at least five percent of the vote at the general election cease to be political parties in Ohio. In the 2008 general election, only the presidential candidates of the Democratic Party and the Republican Party received at least five percent of the vote in Ohio. However, if the four political parties that were granted ballot access in Ohio in 2008, by court order or agreement, are denied ballot access again this year, then they likely renew motions in the pending cases in federal court to gain ballot access in Ohio, which will most likely result in favorable rulings for them and, thus, the state being liable for additional legal fees.

Because the General Assembly has not enacted a new ballot access statute following the September 6, 2006 court decision, and the high likelihood of success on the merits of any new motion to obtain ballot access, Ohio boards of elections must continue to recognize these. On September 6, 2006, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit held in *Libertarian Party of Ohio v. Blackwell*, 462 F.3d 579 (2006), that Ohio's ballot access provisions in R.C. 3517.01 and the primary election requirement for political parties in Section 7, Article V of the Ohio Constitution are unconstitutional. See, e.g., *Constitution Party of Ohio v. Brunner*, S.D. Ohio Case No. 2:08-cv-666; *Libertarian Party of Ohio v. Brunner*, 567 F.Supp.2d 1006 (S.D. Ohio 2008); *Moore v. Blinner*, S.D. Ohio Case No. 2:08-cv-224. These cases are still pending before the court. See Advisory 2008-17; Directive 2008-83.

Consequently, the following shall apply for the 2009 election cycle:

A. Recognized Political Parties

1. The recognized major political parties in Ohio are the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.
2. The newly recognized minor political parties in Ohio are the Constitution Party, the Green Party, the Libertarian Party, and the Socialist Party USA.

B. Candidates Seeking Political Party Nomination at the Primary Election

1. Boards of elections must accept for filing all facially valid declarations of candidacy and petitions of candidates of the Constitution, Democratic, Green, Libertarian, Republican and Socialist Parties who file to seek party nomination at the primary election for any office for which nomination at a primary election is available. The filed declaration of candidacy and petition is subject to verification by the board of elections prior to certification, as with any candidate petition.
2. All candidates seeking political party nomination at a primary election must declare under penalty of election falsification that the candidate is a member of the political party whose nomination the candidate is seeking. This declaration is made in the declaration of candidacy, such as Secretary of State Form 2-1 for candidates seeking political party nomination for offices of cities or villages.

Appendix F. Region 3 Report, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

3. In accordance with R.C. 3517.013, any elector may seek political party nomination as a candidate of a minor political party in 2009, regardless of the elector's prior political affiliation, voting history, if the elector holds public elected office, regardless if the elector was appointed or elected to the public office as a nominee of a political party.
4. However, R.C. 3513.05 provides that a protest may only be filed against a candidate for political party nomination:
 - I. By an elector who is a member of the same political party as the candidate (such as an elector who signed the petition of a candidate of a newly formed political party under R.C. 3517.015) and who is eligible to vote at the primary election for the candidate; or
 - II. By the controlling of the political party whose nomination the candidate seeks.

C. Signature Number and Signers of Candidate Petitions

1. Under R.C. 3513.05, the minimum number of signatures for candidates of minor political parties seeking party nomination at the primary election is one-half the minimum number of signatures required for candidates of major political parties. Directive 2009-01 Continued ballot access for minor political parties
2. Any qualified elector may sign the petition of a minor political party candidate seeking nomination at the primary election regardless of the elector's prior political affiliation under R.C. 3517.015. Thus, the signature cannot be rejected under the seventh paragraph of R.C. 3513.05 based upon the elector's vote in another political party's primary in the preceding two calendar years. However, the elector becomes affiliated with the new minor political party under R.C. 3517.015 by signing the candidate's petition, which may affect the elector's ability to sign or circulate candidate petitions or vote in a different political party's primary election in future years.

D. Circulators of Candidate Petitions

- I. Circulators of any candidate's petition do not have to be Ohio residents or Ohio electors under the recent ruling of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in *Nader v. Blackwell*, 545 F.3d 459 (2008).
2. However, if the circulator of a candidate's petition is an Ohio elector:
 - I. The circulator must be a member of the same political party as the candidate (the circulator did not vote in a different political party's primary election within the preceding two calendar years under R.C. 3513.05 OR the circulator affiliated with a newly recognized political party by signing a candidate's petition as an elector under R.C. 3517.015 this year), or
 - ii, The circulator is not affiliated with any political party (the circulator did not vote in any political party's primary election in the last two calendar years under R.C. 3513.05).

E. Holding of a Primary Election

1. A board of elections must hold a primary election for a particular political party if it certifies more than one candidate to the ballot for political party nomination at the primary election by that political party for a single office or if it certifies more than the maximum number of candidates to avoid a primary election for an office nominated in a field race (such as some at large city council seats).

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2. If a board of elections is required to hold a primary election for a political party, then it must provide separate primary election ballots for each political party under R.C. 3513.13.

If you have any questions about this directive or its implementation, please contact the elections attorney in this office assigned to assist your county board of elections.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Brunner

KENTUCKY

Chair: Ken Moullman

I apologize for the delay. In protest of LNC meeting minutes being leaked into the public, LPKY respectfully declines to report to the LNC.

Region Four Report

No report

REGION 5S REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, Feb. 14, 2009

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

This report will provide information concerning activities of the Libertarian Party state affiliates in Region 5S since the LNC meeting on Dec. 6-7, 2008. I shall provide an updated report at the LNC meeting in Charleston should additional information become available.

Since the LNC meeting in San Diego, I appeared in my capacity as an LNC member on WINA radio (1070 AM in Charlottesville, Virginia) on Dec. 17 to discuss Bill of Rights Day. On Feb. 21 I shall represent the Libertarian Party in the "Liberty and Politics" forum at the second annual Students for Liberty international conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, I shall give a lecture at the conference on the subject of campus organizing.

Delaware

Jim Rash (Jim@rashteam.com), Libertarian Party of Delaware chairman, reported that the LPD will hold its state convention on May 2 at Killen's Pond State Park. He indicated that the LPD is considering a strategy of reaching out to the small business constituency by focusing upon governmental regulation of such businesses. He noted that he plans to attend the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance (LSLA) conference in Charleston.

District of Columbia

Rob Kampia (rkampia@mpp.org) is serving as the contact for the LPDC at this time. He informed me that he will not be able to participate in the LSLA conference in Charleston.

Maryland

Libertarian Party of Maryland chairman Bob Johnston (rstanley21018@yahoo.com) provided the following information (which I have edited slightly):

MDLP's membership is 56, as of 2/1/09. There are 13 renewals pending for December and January. Generally, membership has been fluctuating in the mid-60's for the last several months.

LP volunteer coordinator Austin Petersen has enlisted the help of several volunteers to produce reports for us, specifically on the subjects of eminent domain, and zoning and land use.

Our spring convention will be held on Saturday, 7 March at Squires Italian Restaurant in Dundalk, MD:

www.md.lp.org/events/convention2009.pdf

Arizona Supreme Court Justice John Buttrick will be the featured speaker.

We currently have prospective candidates to run for county council in 7 of Maryland's 23 counties in 2010. Some will be nominated for office at the convention.

We also have a candidate for the Salisbury City Council election, a non-partisan race on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Salisbury has a population around 25,000. The candidate is Muir Boda:

<http://web.mac.com/mwboda/iWeb/muirboda4salisbury/Home.html>

Since there are only 2 participants in his race, there will be no primary election, only the general, on April 7th. His candidacy is going quite well. He has raised over \$3,000; more, I believe, than any of our congressional candidates last year. Further, his opponent, the incumbent, Debbie Campbell, is becoming more unpopular by the day. I would say Muir has an excellent chance of winning this race.

If you like, feel free to email Muir at mwboda@mac.com.

Pennsylvania

Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania chairman Mik Robertson (chair@lppa.org) provided the following report:

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the LSLA conference. I hope that others in the region will have the opportunity to meet in Charleston.

I will keep the Pennsylvania report short and to the point. The LPPA is participating in a federal lawsuit brought by the Center for Competitive Democracy to change the election code in the commonwealth.

Among the issues being challenged is the provision in the code that 15% of registered voters are required in order to be recognized as a political party. The outcome of the suit could have substantial implications for future ballot access for the LP in Pennsylvania.

There is also a legislative remedy to the PA election code that will soon be introduced in both houses of the General Assembly. We have already begun efforts to encourage the support of legislators and make sure our membership is aware to keep pressure on legislators for adoption of reforms.

Our next board of directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 2009 in Harrisburg. The state convention will be May 2, 2009 in Clarion. We have dozens of people who have already expressed an interest in running for local office in 2009 and also some who have expressed an interest in running as the LP candidate for governor or US senate in 2010.

We have been working on expanding our network of county organizations and hope to have several more active by the time of the convention in May. We are also proud to have been a sponsor of the 2nd International Students for Liberty conference held in Washington DC in February.

Virginia

I offer the following report on behalf of LPVa chairman Jeff Bowles (bowles_4@hotmail.com).

The State Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Virginia held a quarterly meeting in Richmond on Jan. 24. We are seeing increased levels of activity in some important population centers, including the suburbs of Washington, D.C., and the central Shenandoah Valley (the Harrisonburg area). Unfortunately, no candidates for the 2009 elections have stepped forward.

The LPVa is facing a potentially serious threat concerning ballot access for statewide races. A bill currently under consideration would make it illegal to gather petition signatures on a "pay-per-signature" basis. Passage of this bill would make it much more difficult for the LPVa to place statewide candidates (including presidential candidates) on the ballot. LPVa members, including LNC chairman Bill Redpath, are lobbying to defeat this bill. (Thanks to Richard Winger for his assistance to the LPVa in this matter.)

West Virginia

I have not received a report from Libertarian Party of West Virginia chairman Matt Harris (mdh_lists@yahoo.com) as of yet. However, I am pleased to report that he and his colleagues are investing substantial effort to build the LPWV.

Bill Redpath and I attended the LPWV executive committee meeting in Morgantown on Dec. 13. On Jan. 14, Mr. Harris, Mr. Redpath, and LPWV secretary Tad Britch lobbied state legislators on behalf of ballot access legislation. Mr. Harris indicated that he spoke with the governor's legislative liaison and the delegate who introduced the legislation. He (Mr. Harris) noted that he was greatly surprised by the positive response he received.

Mr. Harris has informed me that it is likely there will be at least two LPWV candidates in 2010. He said that he intends to do everything in his power to ensure that anyone wishing to run as a Libertarian in West Virginia will be on the ballot in 2010 and 2012. He has also set a goal of having a good candidate for governor in 2012 so that the LPWV can gain major party status. (In order for the LPWV to obtain this status, its gubernatorial candidate would have to receive at least 1% of the vote statewide.)

Mr. Harris has also informed me that he and the LPWV vice chairman Aaron Chambers are planning to attend the LSLA conference in Charleston. (Mr. Britch may also attend.)

Region 6 Report LNC Meeting – Charleston, SC. Feb 28-Mar 1, 2009

Submitted by Julie Fox
February 16, 2009

Since December's LNC meeting I have been active with the following:

I attended the LP Illinois' quarterly State Organizing Committee meeting in Bloomington on January 18. My notes from that meeting follow LP Illinois' report. I attended the LPWI's quarterly Executive Committee meeting in the Wisconsin Dells on January 25. My notes on that meeting follow the LPWI's report.

I have been working with the LP and other local freedom-oriented groups such as the Campaign for Liberty to present educational/social meetings in the Chicago area to help promote activism in new members and inquiries, and present a more conducive environment for newcomers.

Three states in Region 6 have state conventions in April. Both Missouri's and Wisconsin's conventions will be held on Saturday, April 18. I will be attending Wisconsin's convention. Jake Porter will be attending Missouri's. Iowa's state convention will be held on Saturday, April 25. I plan on attending.

I have been invited to speak as a regional representative of the LP at the Campaign for Liberty's Midwest Conference in St. Louis March 27-29.

Missouri

April 7th 2009 Municipal Elections

So far the Missouri LP has four announced candidates for the Missouri April 7th 2009 Municipal Elections.

Two candidates, Tom Martz and Robert Stephens are running for the same City Council seat against other candidates to try and join libertarian Doug Burlison on the Springfield Missouri City Council.

Mike Ferguson is running for Grandview, MO Alderman in Ward III. Mike has already been elected and now serves as Director of the Jackson County Public Water Supply District, Chairs the Grandview, MO Transportation Committee and sits on the Grandview, MO Planning Commission. Mike has laid the groundwork to get elected Alderman in Grandview.

Robb Cunningham is the only Libertarian candidate in a partisan municipal election. Robb has filed to run as a Libertarian for Mayor of St. Louis.

An up to date list of candidates can be found at:

<http://lpmo.org/people/candidates/>

2009 Missouri LP State Convention

Appendix I. Julie Fox, Region 6 Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

The Missouri Libertarian Party 2009 State Convention will be held at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center in Jefferson City, MO Saturday April 18th. The convention sessions focus on county organizations, campus organizations and candidates. The Missouri LP State Committee will meet in the afternoon to elect officers, amend the platform and bylaws, and elect the Executive Committee.

Keynote Speaker: Mike Jingoian, candidate for the 2008 LP Presidential nomination and Libertarian National Committee Vice Chair.

Luncheon Speaker: Jan Stover, founder of Mothers for Liberty.

Session Speakers:

Gary Nolan, candidate for the 2004 LP Presidential nomination and radio talk show host on The Drive with Gary Nolan on The Eagle 93.9FM in Columbia, MO.

Mark Rutherford, Atlas Liberty PAC and former Chair of the Indiana Libertarian Party.

Additional speakers include Missouri LP State Chair Glenn Nielsen and Missouri elected libertarian Mike Ferguson.

The State Chair was asked to participate in an informal working group on the Initiative & Referendum process to ensure adverse laws are not passed this legislative session and to propose changes to the Initiative & Referendum process.

There were many notable Missouri conservatives who participated including Ed Martin who was Chief of Staff for recent Governor Matt Blunt. Paul Jaccobs of the OK 3 was also in attendance.

Libertarian State Leadership Alliance Conference

State Chair Glenn Nielsen along with Vice Chair Cisse Spragins and Executive Committee member Sean O'Toole will be attending

Submitted by MOLP State Chair Glenn Nielsen

Illinois

December & January were months filled with speculation and preparation for a potential senatorial and gubernatorial special election. With the election of Barack Obama as President and the impeachment of Governor Rod Blagojevich, the Illinois Libertarian Party prepared potential candidates for the open offices. This was a test for the new 2009-2010 LP Illinois leadership as to whether we could come through with an organized plan and activate membership quickly. LP Illinois came through with flying colors. By January 1st we were prepared to run candidates and had the ground work ready to move into campaign mode.

With all preparedness at hand we end up not running any candidate since no special election was called for, contrary to the continuous call for special elections by the LP Illinois and various other groups. We opted not to run a candidate in the 5th Congressional District to replace Emanuel Rahm, President Obama's now Chief of Staff, due to the short window the Illinois Board of Elections gave us as well as the oppressive signature requirements. The board gave us 10 days to acquire 12,500 signatures.

Through out January we have spent a considerable amount of time interviewing potential candidates for state and local offices. We also added two more county parties to our roster making a total of 18.

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Respectfully Submitted,

*David A. Brady
Chair, Libertarian Party of Illinois*

Julie's Notes from 1/18/09 SOC meeting:

The LPI will be involved in two outreach events on Sat., Feb. 21. Mike Fogelsanger, candidate for Sycamore City Council, is organizing an event at Northern IL University to promote the NIU and DeKalb County LP chapters. The event includes a speaker from LEAP, discussion of local home rule tax referendum, and an informational presentation, "What the heck is a Libertarian?"

26 people have contacted Campaign Chair Jan Stover to indicate interest in running for office in 2009 or 2010. Currently there are three candidates announced for municipal elections in April, and four candidates who have announced their intention of running for a specific office in 2010. Candidates in April elections are Mike Fogelsanger for Sycamore City Council, Chris Jenner for his third term on the Cary School Board, and Bill Stephens, running for Dundee Township Library Board.

LP Illinois is continuing to pursue a ballot access lawsuit based upon signature requirements in Congressional races. The party is working with Christina Tobin and Sean Haugh of Free and Equal Elections and with attorney Andy Spiegel.

The 2009 state convention will be held in Collinsville at the Hotel Collinsville the weekend of Oct 23-25.

LP Illinois' Membership Chair Damon Dillon was elected to serve as an at-large member of the Platform Committee for the 2010 National LP convention.

Wisconsin

The LPWI has been working to become a better political service provider for the last couple of years. As a result, we have been experiencing an ever increasing number of candidates for office. Even the smallest amount of help being offered has gone far to finalize candidates who had only been giving consideration to running prior to learning of services available. The programs the LPWI has been offering not only assist campaigns, but also enable volunteers to donate time to proven efforts in an efficient manner. This also encourages greater volunteer support as no one is being asked to do it all by themselves. This resonates well with those who are "the most sensible voice in the room", to put it in terms of the late Stu Seffern, who was a strong supporter of such efforts. The memberships and volunteers gained from such support services are that of individuals who can work outside the "philosophy club" with success.

For the 2010 election cycle, we are on course to having about a dozen partisan campaigns registered with the state by this April's LPWI State Convention. It is possible that there may be more campaigns by that date. It will be difficult, though not impossible, to NOT get more campaigns going by June of 2010, the start of the circulation period for signatures to gain access to the ballot. But there are individuals in the state, who after decade(s) of effort with dismal results, still carry a message that could undo this work should the LPWI chose to not defend its property. So these numbers really do not mean anything until after the candidates have made the ballot in July of 2010. Such estimates will only happen if the LPWI does defend its property as additional resistance from internal failures only adds to an already difficult task. Most persons with "the most sensible voice in the room" do not tolerate such behavior for long, especially when it is left unchecked by the organization they are advancing with their campaign effort.

The candidates currently registering are agreeing to one basic pledge, to NOT oppose the LPWI's platform. As the LPWI's platform is currently uncompromised, this amounts to Libertarian candidates

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that are also libertarian. This is not to say the candidates are only purists or idealistic of the principle. They have a range of issues that go from pure to neutral and are determined by the campaign as they see fit. But at no point are they opposing the LPWI's issues unless they compromise their written word.

I am sure it would have been good to include many more specifics. But as this is another volunteer task that I cannot afford, I have only submitted what I can do in 20 minutes or less.

I expect there to be 6 registered campaigns on the states records in the next 30 days. Currently there are 2 done and 4 completing the forms. There were 13 from last year likely to try again and could be registered by the April 18th convention. There are several dozen persons giving consideration or are on course to be asked by April 18. As the significant portion of the LPWI's efforts have been almost solely focused on outreach and the relations building that follows the expression of interest from outreach, it is not unreasonable for us to add to this list going forward from April 18, 2009.

But all the while, we are working to stay focused on the basics of our tasks which will ensure those that come to us will be handled and encouraged in a timely manner should they chose to not oppose our platform of liberty.

Some of our basic tasks developing to more advanced have been to develop better accounting resources that allows others to assist in the day to day tasks while not compromising the quality of the work or the organization. When these task developments mature further, reports such as this will be a bit more detailed. Until then, this level of communication will need to be adequate or ignored for being inadequate.

The other risk factor to this progress is the free market is not accepting the LPWI's brand image. Donations take much effort to earn as there is little to no confidence from Wisconsin voters due to past instances of the LPWI choosing to not defend its property from severe compromise of campaigns and those choosing to say only what they themselves want to hear rather than what their audience needs to hear. As this is the LPWI's greatest advantage, saying what the audience wants to hear without lying to them, it has been a bit disappointing such efforts have not been the norm, instead of the exception. Had such a practice been commonly implemented for more than 2 years, this progress report would have been far more substantial. If compassion is part of your message, you are likely doing very well to attract voters to the LP. The opposite holds true for those lacking compassion in their message.

If anyone would like to know how they can help the LPWI advance, please contact us at 1-800-236-9236 ext 3, chairman@lpwi.org , director@lpwi.org, or submit your contact info on the "request info" form on LPWI.org

Submitted by LPWI contractor, Todd Kopecki,,DBA Liberty Action

Julie's notes from 1/25/09 ExCom meeting:

The LPWI's Facebook account has gone from 8,000 to 12,000 members since the November elections. (As of February 19, members had increased to over 15,000.)

Membership dropped from 241 in December to 167 in January. This trend has been common since 2005 due to memberships coming up for renewal for all members except pledgers each January 1. Liberty Action's top priority at this time is membership renewals.

Wisconsin's annual convention will be held at Monk's Bar and Grill in the Wisconsin Dells on Saturday, April 18. Michael Badnarik and Richard Campagna are confirmed speakers. Candidates are invited to speak. There will also be a presentation of different types of campaign schools and what they have to offer.

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Markus Rostig's treasurer's report indicated that the LPWI is making a profit based upon the work that Liberty Action is doing for the party. There was a large loss in 2008 from the state fair booth. As in years past, there will be continued discussion of whether the benefits of having a booth at the state fair outweigh the costs involved.

The LPWI is looking at ways to help members run local parties, including any resources that the National LP can provide. (Thank you to Austin Peterson for sending all sorts of useful information for state members to use in response to my request.)

On a final and sad note, long-time LPWI Executive Committee member and Dane County LP Chair Stu Seffern died on January 1 when the plane he was flying suffered mechanical problems on take-off from the Joliet (IL) Regional Airport.

Iowa

Iowa's upcoming state convention will be held on Sat., April 25 at the Hilton Garden Inn - Des Moines/Urbandale (actually that's in Johnston, Iowa).

2009 elections in Iowa are:
School Boards -Sept 8 , filing period-July6-30
City Primary-Oct. 6 , filing period Aug 10-27
City General-Nov 3, filing period Aug 24-Sept 17

I am not aware of any "declared" LP candidates at this time for either 2009 or 2010. Both Eric Cooper and Russ Gibson, both Iowa House candidates last fall, have indicated that they intend to seek elected office in 2010 but have not stated specifically which offices.

I am not aware of any LPIA (or other LP) mentions in major Iowa media recently.

Activities by LPIA affiliates include two "rebuttal presentations" hosted by Iowa City/ Univ. of Iowa Libertarians offering free market alternatives to collectivist/interventionalist lectures by guest speakers on the U of Iowa campus (Jeff Yaeger is the leader of that group).

Kevin Litten, LPIA Secretary, tells me that there is a tax issue in Cedar Rapids that he will be reporting on during our scheduled conference call next week. Mark Nelson, Former Chair LPIA, is working on a tax issue in Davenport.

I met with a couple of home-schoolers in my neighborhood recently and had good discussions about getting a "Constitution Study group" started.

*Yours in Liberty,
Ed Wright
Chair, LPIA*

Nebraska

No report submitted. Website last updated in October 2008.

Minnesota

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No report submitted.

Recent activities noted from the LPMN website:

LPMN speaks to home-schoolers again

On Feb. 3rd, Charles Test and Bob Smith were invited back to present libertarianism to a Civics class of home-schoolers in Eden Prairie.

Mon., Feb. 16

LPMN Executive Committee Meeting

799 Raymond Avenue,

St. Paul, 7pm

Open to the public

North Dakota

No report submitted. No website.

South Dakota

No report submitted. No website.

REGION 7 REPORT

Submitted to: Libertarian National Committee, February 21, 2009.

Submitted by: Rachel W. Hawkrige, Region 7 Representative, Libertarian National Committee

This report will provide information concerning activities of the Libertarian Party state affiliates in Region 7 since I last reported on November 25, 2008.

Florida

The Libertarian Party of Florida will hold its annual meeting and convention on March 28-29, 2009 at the Hampton Inn located at 4415 Southside Blvd in Jacksonville, Florida.

If you wish to vote on party business at the convention you will need to be registered as a Libertarian with your county's supervisor of elections office 60 days prior to the convention and have signed the Libertarian Party pledge.

Offices up for elections are:

Chair (2 years term), Vice-Chair (2 year term), and all the regional representative positions (1 year term).

Florida continues to have regular, active county meetings, active campus groups, and Facebook groups.

Some new affiliates that recently started or re-started are Polk County, Brevard County, Bay County, and Pasco County.

New Affiliate Meetings: Martin County, St. Lucie County, Monroe County, Miami-Dade County.

And finally, the Libertarian Party of Florida has these people serving in public office, influencing policy, and protecting Liberty . . .

ALACHUA Environmental Protection Advisory Committee, Toby OLVERA

ALACHUA Gainesville Board of Adjustment, Steven A. REID, M.D., Chairman

BREVARD Melbourne Building and Construction Advisory Committee, Bill LOSAPIO

BREVARD Sebastian Inlet Tax District, Jim CULBERSON

BROWARD Fort Lauderdale Board of Adjustment, Michael FERBER

BROWARD Cooper City, City Commissioner, John Sims

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CHARLOTTE Soil and Water Conservation District, Robert WATERHOUSE (2006-2010)

COLLIER Soil & Water Conservation Board -

Bruce Reichert - Seat 1 (2008-2012)

J.Adam Mitchell -Seat 4 (2008-2012)

DADE West Kendall Area Municipal Advisory Committee, Jeffrey C. WANDER

DUVAL Elections Task Force, Doug KLIPPEL

HILLSBOROUGH Northdale Special Tax District Board, Joseph BOURDEAU

HILLSBOROUGH Tampa Code Enforcement Board, A. J. BRENT

LEE Ft. Myers Beach Fire District, Carol MORRIS (2006-2010)

LEE Nuisance Abatement Board, Larry BUSH

LEE Nuisance Abatement Board, Aaron O'BRIEN

LEE School Compliance Advisory, Orin OPPERMANN

LEE School Finance Advisory, Larry BUSH

LEE Soil and Water Conservation District, Tom CLARK (2006-2010)

LEE Soil and Water Conservation District, Kim HAWK (2006-2010)

LEE Soil and Water Conservation District, Jack TANNER (2008-2012)

MARTIN Board of Adjustment, Mark MATHES

NASSAU Fernandina Beach Port Authority Board, Dr. Kenneth MERTZ

PALM BEACH Loxahatchee Groves, Council Seat #1, David Autrey

PALM BEACH Soil and Water Conservation District, Brad CLINE (2004-2008)

PALM BEACH Soil and Water Conservation District, Frank LONGO (2004-2008)

PASCO Mayor of New Port Richey, Scott McPherson (2008-2012)

PINELLAS Home School Board, Julie CHORGO-GILSON

PINELLAS Home School Portfolio Board Michael GILSON-De LEMOS

POLK Workforce Development Board, Carl J. STRANG

POLK Davenport, Ann Davis

SEMINOLE Code Enforcement Board, Larry LAWVER

SEMINOLE Lake Mary Board of Adjustment, Sean FITZGERALD

SEMINOLE Agriculture Advisory Committee, Dr. Timothy MORIARTY

VOLUSIA Supervisor of Elections Advisory Board, Ed HEAPHY

Hawai'i

Since I last reported, Hawai'i has completely updated their website. Lloyd Jeff Mallan is their webmaster, and he's done a great job.

He also reports "we still have a lot of interest in the LPH". The libertarian movement seems to be pretty strong in Hawai'i, with **that** campaign being the primary focus of it.

Idaho

State Chair Rob Oates serves as Caldwell City Councilman, and LPID activist and blogger (<http://adjix.com/4u6z>) Lonnie Holcomb continues to agitate and attempt to persuade his friend and Chair to run for Congress. Lonnie has some great ideas, and is persistent. . . I suspect that Rob Oates will have no choice but to go ahead and run.

The Libertarian Philosophical Brunch monthly series is going well and they have about a dozen regular participants.

Oregon

Oregon's convention will be held at the Shilo Inn Suites Oceanfront Hotel - Newport 536 SW Elizabeth Newport, OR 97365 on March 14 and March 15. Information and room reservations here. <http://adjix.com/cs2f> More information here. <http://adjix.com/e3pe> Plan to stay at the Shilo - that's how LP Oregon will pay the expenses of the convention.

There is going to a lunch on March 14 with a featured speaker. We should know in a few days who will be speaking at lunch.

This convention has the potential to shape the direction of the Libertarian Party of Oregon for years to come because of the overhaul of the bylaws that are being proposed.

LPO has totally revamped their website, and Justin Burger @ Design For Existence.com has done a great job.

Christina Tobin of Free and Equal recently held a Meetup in Oregon, where they announced a new board member, and discussed ballot access.

The Real Washington™

In the "Top Two" primary case, Orrin Grover has been retained to represent our interests. Since Mr. Grover has agreed to do this pro-bono, the funds that the LNC re-allocated will do much towards covering the costs of the case.

Appendix J. Rachel Hawkrige, Region 7 Report, Charleston, SC, February 28-March 1, 2009

LPWA continues to put out a monthly newsletter, thanks to editor Michael Wilson in Vancouver. He is a tireless worker, and he, Ralph Edwards and John Elkin are working towards building a Vancouver area affiliate.

Christina Tobin of Free and Equal recently held a Meetup in Seattle, which was attended by various Third Party and community activists, including LPWA State Chair Scott Lindsley and Krist Novoselic of Nirvana fame. Novoselic is Democrat PCO, and also a member of the Grange. So he's positioned directly opposite us in this lawsuit. He's putting pressure on our Chair to accept "Top Two" in some variation (maybe the ability to disown a candidate), and our attorney members and I are fairly adamant that this is **not** acceptable. Mr. Grover has not weighed in publicly, but I imagine that he won't cave, either.

Larry Nicholas in the Bellingham area is building new Skagit and Island affiliates.

We have a new Austrian economics student and Microsoft employee (Erich Fejta) who has organized a discussion group. It's off to a great start.

Liberty Supper Club is growing, and we hope to see it back to its former numbers soon.

Washington State's Grassroots Convention will be March 28th at the Hilton Gardens Inn in Issaquah. Dr. Jim Lark, the aforementioned Krist Novoselic, and StandUpEconomist.com Yoram Bauman will be featured. You are all invited, and can register at LPWA.org.

Massachusetts Libertarians reported by Dr. George Phillipies

For the first time in nearly a decade we are launching a serious fundraising effort, with plans for raising Federal funds (we do most things with hard money) and state funds (to support non-Federal candidates; very heavily regulated). We emphasize that your dollars are pre-assigned to specified parts of our budget, so you can be sure your hard-earned cash will be spent doing politics, not paying for fundraising.

We're looking forward to a vigorous effort for public outreach, support for non-Federal candidates, volunteer recruitment, and building local organizations. Our revived party newsletter is appearing regularly. Electronic memberships (get your newsletter by email; \$10 off your dues) are reasonably popular, with about half of renewing and new members taking it.

Thanks to Bob Underwood's 2008 U.S. Senate campaign, "Libertarian" has become a major party in Massachusetts. We're a private association of Massachusetts libertarians, for the past decade under the name "Libertarian Party of Massachusetts". Now that "Libertarian" is a major party, our name creates a variety of pointless potential difficulties. Our state committee has preliminarily agreed to recommend to the membership that we should change our name but not change what we do. After all, through 1998 we were "Libertarian

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Association of Massachusetts". The likely recommendation is LPMass -- "Libertarian Partnership for Massachusetts".