

Liberty for America

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Membership Recruiting Has a Breakthrough!

Johnson 2012 June Financials

For June 2012, the Johnson campaign had \$94,104 in individual donations, and received another \$30,000 from the Federal government, raising its total income for June to \$124,104. For the matching period of June 2008, the Barr 2008 campaign received \$178,873 in donations, almost twice as much as Johnson received in June 2012.

Almost all of that money was spent, leaving it with \$5218 cash on hand.

Federal income to Johnson 2012 is now up to \$130,000. That's campaign matching funds for the pre-nomination expenses.

Debts of the Johnson campaign now stand at \$431,722, an increase from the end of May, when its debts were \$122,301. However, as we reported two months ago, in a deposition filed during the Bydlak lawsuit, the Johnson campaign manager acknowledged debts to NS0N of \$676,000. According to its FEC Form D for the period covering June 2012 Johnson owes very nearly \$53,000 to Jonathan Bydlak, \$5275 to accountant Daines Goodwin, \$66,166 to EH2 Consulting for fundraising services, \$3166 to Hackstaff Law Group for legal services, and acknowledges debts to Political Advisors of 781 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, of more than \$304,000, the last of these appearing to correspond to some part of the NS0N debt.

How did Johnson 2012 spend its money? Note \$3459 for Merchant Service Expenses, \$150 for web site hosting, \$2757 to the Libertarian Party of Nevada as a reimbursement for convention expenses, and \$113,250 to Political Advisors.

We have multiple reports from reliable witnesses including LNC members that the Johnson 2012 campaign manager has committed that Johnson's campaign debts will be discharged entirely out of Federal campaign matching funds, but that promise seems to be quantitatively challenging to keep. Johnson has received so far only \$311,785 in unitemized donations, part of which are post-nomination donations that cannot be matched, and \$130,000 of which has already been matched, and receives a few hundred dollars per itemized-donor for other matching.

National Party membership actually increased in July, from 12870 to 12960. This is remarkable progress, considering that the drift for the last six months has been down, down, down. Key to the success were 338 new members. That's 50% more or twice as many new members as we have had in any other month in the past year.

Credit for the new members, essentially all of whom joined via the web, must go to the revamped LP Libertarian Facebook page.

The July membership report also makes clear the other success of web recruitment and renewal: People who join or renew on the web give considerably more money. Web renewals bring in a quarter more income than do mail or telephone renewals.

How was this radical change accomplished? A letter from John Jay Myers to the LNC dated July 23 appears to explain the change:

"Arvin [Vohra] and I took over the page Monday of last week, since that time our graph of "total reach" and "people talking about this" looks like a hockey stick.

People talking about this is up by 1694.43% [to 38024] and total reach is up by 925.89% [to 1 053 605] (these are the two major statistics on facebook).

From last check our average membership number went from 5-7 a day to 20-28 a day on our LP.org/membership page.

We have gained about 1000 facebook fans overall, but quite a few "likes" who didn't have any idea what we were about have left "unliked". I would only be guessing to say that we probably gained about 6000 libertarian fans and lost 5000 who didn't understand us."

Candidate Support from Indiana

We quote a message from Sam Goldstein to the LNC, noting a fine source of candidate support material:

"You might want to visit the LPIN Resource page at <http://>

lpin.org/resources/ and the Libertarian Training Center at <http://lpc.lpin.org/> where we have a wealth of information on just about everything you would need to organize and manage a county or state party. We have had several candidate training sessions videotaped and they are also available on those pages.”

Project Saratoga

We are advised that the funds provided by the LNC to the LSLA for Project Saratoga have been returned to the Party, and also that Mr. Pojunis and Ms Mack have decided to develop Saratoga privately and for profit. There will be much more about this in future issues.

Oregon LP: Republican Takeover Try

The Reeves faction of Oregon Libertarians has now announced their candidates for office in Oregon. Nominations took place in, we are told, a library parking lot, with perhaps four people in attendance. The candidates are:

Tom Cox for State Treasurer
James Buchal for Attorney General.
James Foster for Congress
David Terry for Oregon House

Tom Cox is the Republican candidate.
James Buchal is the Republican candidate.

According to the Oregon Secretary of State Orestar system, the Buchal campaign on May 28 made an expenditure of \$1,250 to Reeves faction activist Richard Burke for Management Services. Foster has run for Congress before, as a Libertarian.

For readers who have forgotten, the past LNC made vigorous efforts to install the Reeves faction as the party-recognized Libertarian Party of Oregon, including spending \$4,000 for legal services of an Attorney who is closely connected with the Republican Party State Committee. The past LNC also passed a resolution attacking the Judicial Committee for identifying the Wagner-chaired Libertarian Party of Oregon as our legal state affiliate.

Note the difference: The past LNC’s Oregon faction is running for statewide office a pair of Republican nominees. The real Libertarian Party of Oregon, Wes Wagner, Chair, is running more than 40 real Libertarians for office.

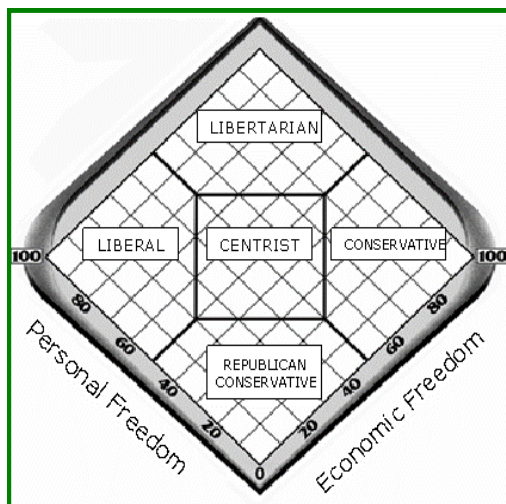
LNC Dodges Lieberman Issue

As we reported in the last issue, LNC Regional Alternate Scott Lieberman has urged the Johnson campaign to sabotage Libertarian ballot access in Oregon. The message read:

“Help! Starchild is posting most of our lnc-discuss e-mails on the Internet, so I don’t feel bad about sending this to you. I think you work for the Johnson campaign. Please make it clear to them that it is in their long-term best interests to sacrifice ballot access in Oregon if that is what it takes to politically neuter Wes Wagner and his group of misfits.

When will a ruling be issued in your lawsuit against Wagner?

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A Redesigned Nolan Chart—matching contemporary American political reality.

Scott Lieberman”

This issue finally reached the Libertarian National Committee, which refused to take action. As reported in the draft minutes under “Affiliate Support Committee”, one finds:

“The Chair of this Committee is Mr. Wrights. He reported that there are two “orphan” states, South Carolina and Oregon and Mr. Wrights represents their interests on this Committee. As such representative, Mr. Wrights asked the Chair to rule as to whether Region 4 Alternate Scott Lieberman was in violation of the Bylaws (ART 14 sec 4) when Dr. Lieberman wrote “I think you work for the Johnson campaign. Please make it clear to them that it is in their long-term best interests to sacrifice ballot access in Oregon if that is what it takes to politically neuter Wes Wagner and his group of misfits.” The Chair ruled that he does not have the authority to make such a determination.

Mr. Wrights moved to extend debate 10 minutes to take up a measure to censure Dr. Lieberman. The motion failed.”

LNC Declines to Support Oregon Ballot Access

As widely reported, the chair of our Oregon affiliate, Wes Wagner, had noted that if the LP Oregon puts Johnson/Gray on the ballot, which it has now done, and if there is litigation to knock Johnson off the ballot, for example because the Libertarian National Convention was improperly constituted due to admitting the Reeves faction Oregon delegation, then the LPO and its chair might be liable for court costs and other damages. Wagner asked for a commitment that the LNC guarantee to indemnify

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fy him and the LPO for costs and damages associated with trying to keep Johnson on the ballot. The LNC refused to do this, namely at the last LNC meeting in a discussion on Oregon:

“Mr. Pojunis moved that the LNC go into Executive Session to read the missive from Mr. Wagner of Oregon received by the Chair. Mr. Hagan seconded. The motion passed. The Chair pointed out to the Committee that should anyone not agree to keeping information revealed he should leave the room during Executive Session.

Executive Session started at 2:30P and ended at 2:25P. Mr. Sinawski said that there was no reason to keep this information confidential and the claim for indemnification by Mr. Wagner was read to the body and guests. There was no objection to extend time for an additional 10 minutes.

Aaron Starr was recognized to address the Oregon issue. Mr. Starr informed the Committee that the Johnson Campaign is having the Reeves faction submit paperwork to the Oregon Secretary of State to secure ballot access for the campaign.

Mr. Tomasso moved to extend time on the Legal Counsel Report for 5 minutes. There was an objection. The motion failed.

Mr. Vohra moved to extend the time for 10 minutes to consider a motion to reject the request by Mr. Wagner for indemnification. The motion passed. **Mr. Vohra moved that the LNC decline to indemnify Mr. Wagner for any possible lawsuits that may arise from putting the Johnson ticket on the Oregon ballot.** Mr. Cloud seconded the motion.

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Mr. Wrights called the question. The motion to close debate failed. Mr. Redpath moved to extend debate for 10 minutes. The motion passed.

There was no objection to hearing from Joseph Buchmann of the Johnson Campaign who informed the Committee that the Johnson Campaign was willing to offer indemnification to Mr. Wagner. [Ed: The Johnson campaign, readers may recall, is something like a half million dollars in debt at this point. Its ability to indemnify people is potentially a bit limited.]

The motion to decline to indemnify Mr. Wagner passed with 10 ayes and 5 nays. Voting aye: Mr. Wrights, Mr. Hagan, Ms Bennett, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Vohra, Mr. Root, Ms Mack, Mr. Weiner, Mr. Pojunis, and Dr. Lark. Voting nay: Mr. Redpath, Starchild, Mr. Olsen, Ms Visek and Mr. Myers. Abstaining: Mr. Neale, Ms Kirkland and Mr. Tomasso.”

Last LNC Almost Killed 50-State Ballot Access

There is a tangled trail here, but the short form is that they cut the budget, and if the Johnson campaign had not come through with close to a half-month of Johnson 2012 donations several states would have gone down.

We start at the LNC meeting in December 2011, in which, say the minutes “Treasurer Redpath moved to amend line 70-BallotAccess Petitioning Related Exp of the budget proposal by reducing it from \$279,000 to \$225,000. The motion was adopted without objection.... Treasurer Redpath moved to amend line 70-Ballot Access Petitioning Related Exp to increase it by \$5,000 for travel expenses. The motion was adopted...”

The 2012 draft budget for Ballot Access and Petition Related Expenses was \$294,000. This quantity was reduced by \$49,000, to a final total of \$245,000. And there is the near-fatal budget cut.

The March Meeting in Orlando minutes reported: “The 2012 LNC Budget has Ballot Access expense budgeted for \$245,000. \$40,000 has already been encumbered for the PA ballot drive. \$205,000 remains unencumbered. At this meeting, either in the LNC meeting or in an EC meeting to occur over the weekend, Bill Redpath will ask for encumbrances of \$60,000 for IL, \$14,000 for KY, \$10,000 for OK & \$20,000 for WV. That sums to \$104,000. That would leave \$101,000 unencumbered. In 2012, Redpath foresaw possible further encumbrances for ballot access of \$15,000 for Alabama, \$15,000 for DC \$10,000 for Maine, \$25,000 for Massachusetts and \$25,000 for New York. Sum=\$90,000. That would leave \$11,000 additional budgetary authority unencumbered.”

The Maine and Massachusetts encumbrances were passed at the May 2 LNC Meeting.

At the July Meeting in Las Vegas, there was a report on ballot access, as forwarded by the Starchild reflector: “Mr. Redpath informed us that there are 9 states with ballot access deadlines coming up. There is still a chance that we can make all 50

states plus DC. We were not challenged in IL so Johnson/Gray will be on the ballot there. LP volunteer efforts have been reprehensibly bad so most signatures have been paid rather than by volunteers so our expenses have been much higher than in past years. Mr. Redpath has petitioned in many states himself.”

There was an ensuing motion: “Mr. Redpath moved to increase the Ballot Access budget line item for ballot access expense from \$325,000 to \$350,000 to come from Affiliate Support line item, with all additional encumbrances to be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Ms Bennett seconded.

“The question was called and the motion passed 14 ayes and 2 abstentions. Voting aye: Neale, Hagan, Bennett, Cloud, Vohra, Redpath, Kirkland, Mack, Weiner, Pojunis, Lark, Tomasso, Visek and Myers. Abstaining: Starchild and Olsen.”

From Starchild's notes on the 8/2/2012 LNC ExComm Meeting: [members: LP chair Geoff Neale, vice chair Lee Wrights, treasurer Tim Hagan, secretary Ruth Bennett, regional rep. Dan Wiener, regional rep. James Lark, and at-large rep. Bill Redpath]: "The ExCom just voted unanimously to spend an additional \$25,000 on ballot access (\$10,500 for Pennsylvania, \$5,897 for Minnesota, \$4,103 for New Hampshire, \$2000 for West Virginia, \$2000 for Rhode Island, and \$500 for New Jersey). Subtracted from this total will apparently be \$1000 previously appropriated to Maryland which was not needed. The Gary Johnson campaign was asked to supply additional funds needed to cover ballot access efforts in Connecticut and Washington D.C. (\$43,000?), since for the LNC to appropriate this money would require a mail ballot to change the existing budget, and the August 8 petitioning deadline in Connecticut does not allow enough time for this."

The astute reader will note that the \$43,000 that the LNC could not spend because the funds were not appropriated matches the \$49,000 in reductions in the 2012 budget that the past LNC voted. That is, the past LNC's refusal to spend for ballot access almost bit the party in its own tail, because at the end there was not enough money available for ballot access.

We also quote from Starchild's notes: "Bill Redpath, who has been the LNC's point-person for ballot access, reiterated what he said at our July 15-16 LNC meeting in Las Vegas that volunteer ballot access efforts this year have been woefully inadequate, and that no state party seems able to deliver even 2,000 volunteer signatures. He expressed again, as he did in Vegas, that he is at a loss as to how to increase volunteer participation."

Wes Benedict on LNC Functioning

In a letter to Paulie and forwarded at his request to the LNC, former Executive Director Wes NBenedict comments on how the LNC functions. As forwarded to the Starchild Reflector, the letter reads:

“Feel free to forward this to the LNC.

I'd like to see two teams put together to come up with a state

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revenue-sharing plan.

Team 1: Carla Howell, Robert Kraus, and Wes Benedict

Team 2: A committee of LNC members.

Both teams present a plan to the LNC at the next LNC meeting. I bet Team 1 would blow away Team 2 because Team 1 would keep it simple and understand how to achieve efficiencies, synergies, and ease of implementation without bankrupting the LNC. Also, Team 1 would get their proposal done in about 1 week with only a few hours of actual effort. Team 2 would make it entirely too complex and take 6 months to make a proposal after lots and lots of emails and conference calls (ranging into the hundreds of man-hours). I've seen several membership plans proposed and implemented by the LNC and they are usually way too complicated.

--Wes Benedict”

State Chairs Behind-the-Scenes

We are advised by a reliable source that a gaggle of state chairs are talking quietly behind the scenes, noting that the LNC is not effective at advancing the party, and that the serious reform efforts have been rejected at the National Convention, leading toward the conclusion that a new national organization might be needed. The involved group current corresponds to about a quarter of the electoral votes in the United States, and in some respects might be viewed as otherwise strange bedfellows. Your editor has not been involved in these conversations, and has only very limited information on them.

We also hear from LNC members, who shall remain nameless, that it seems to be very difficult to push the LNC toward discussing real nuts-and-bolts politics rather than internal politics and feuds left over from last term.

Michael Johnston on Project Saratoga Issues

On re-reading, the prior version of this paragraph came a cross incorrectly. Michael Johnston, Vice Chair of the LP Ohio Central Committee, has written and this newspaper has received from several people correspondence relating to the IT project “Project Saratoga”. The top line is that there have been some changes in intellectual property issues, which are discussed in the following letter:

Chairman Neale, Vice Chairman Wrights, et al,

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I apologize for the delay in writing this email, however I have only gathered all of the information contained herein this week-end.

Background

As you are aware, the LSLA began an IT project titled Saratoga in late 2011. This project was led through the LSLA IT Committee by Jillian Mack and Brett Pojunis. Efforts were made to communicate the various benefits of Saratoga to the chairs of the various state affiliates who were in office at the time, and a presentation to the LNC was made that included support from more than 30 state affiliates. Based on the description of Saratoga and the grassroots swell of support, along with the general consensus from the state chairs that Saratoga not be managed by the LNC, the committee at that time decided to provide the LSLA with \$50,000 in funding to build and deploy Saratoga.

Since the Las Vegas Convention, Jillian and Brett have decided that rather than deal with the political realities of changing board members at the national level and state chairs at the affiliate level, their preference was to found a company called Big L Solutions and have that company build and sell Saratoga to the various state and county affiliates as well as candidates. The decision to form this company was made shortly after the Las Vegas Convention, in May 2012.

In July 2012, both Jillian and Brett submitted to the LNC reports on the various state activities from the regions they represent (3 and 4 respectively, both attached). As a member of the LPO Executive Committee, our state chair, Kevin Knedler, had emailed to us a copy of the report he provided Jillian for her to compile her report to the national committee (attached).

Issue

If you will compare the report submitted by Mr. Knedler to Ms. Mack to the report submitted by Ms. Mack to the LNC, you will note a few differences. The key unfortunate difference is that Ms. Mack chose to add in a statement that the LPO is "eagerly anticipating the arrival of Saratoga". Ms. Mack has admitted to altering Mr. Knedler's report via email: "I thought it would look pretty bad if my home state, and the 5th largest affiliate, had a bare bones report compared to the other three states in the regional report, so I put in the extra time and effort to add data which I was able to obtain from reports by other division leaders (like Jason Tyson's excellent presentation about the progress Field Development has made over the past several years), conversations with other state leaders (like Scott Pettigrew telling me that he very much wants the Saratoga platform because it will make his life a lot easier as IT Director), and local events which I personally knew about in the southwest region of Ohio." I would be happy to forward the unaltered email from Ms. Mack that this is quoted from, sent to me at 0608 30 July 2012.

As a member of the LPO Executive Committee and as Vice Chair of the LPO Central Committee reporting directly to the LP members of Ohio, I can assure you that based on the conversation around Saratoga at our Executive Committee meeting this past Saturday, the LPO is not "eagerly anticipating" Saratoga from anything other than a purely technical perspective. Our conversation centered around discussions of conflict of

interest, contracts to bind Big L Solutions to behave ethically, and how to ensure the LPO receives maximum benefit with minimal risk.

Furthermore, in addition to revealing over the weekend that herself and Mr. Pojunis now personally own and intend to sell Saratoga for profit, Jillian revealed that the pricing structure for Saratoga has been substantially altered from the one presented to the various state affiliates prior to the Las Vegas Convention. While I have no expectation that the LNC, LSLA, or LPO should in any way impose any price controls or other mechanisms on the value a private company chooses to place upon the services they offer on the open market, since this product is to be marketed exclusively to Libertarian state and county/parish affiliates and candidates, I feel that I have a responsibility (in my roles with the LPO) to ensure that clarity and understanding on the associated costs are achieved before a decision is made. Under the LSLA, state affiliates would have purchased Saratoga access for a monthly or annual fee, the exact amount of which had not been finalized but was anticipated to be in the range of \$100 per month. State affiliates would then have had the ability to spawn of access to their own county affiliates and candidates for a cost of approximately \$10 per year (to cover the addition of a domain name to the service). Obviously, this is quite a bargain for a full IT solution. Ohio currently has 12 county affiliates and 23 candidates, but our goal naturally includes an affiliate in all 88 counties and a full slate of candidates. Under the proposed LSLA pricing schedule, that access would currently cost Ohio \$1,550 for one year access. If we had a slate of 2 candidates per county and ran someone in every General Assembly and Congressional race the annual cost would rise to \$5,320. Assuming Ohio is average, this means the LSLA would have brought in slightly less than \$80,000 a year to support and upgrade Saratoga from all state affiliates, had all 50 states chose to utilize the product.

When the question of local affiliate and candidate solutions came up over the weekend, Ms. Mack admitted that those entities would now need to contact Big L Solutions directly in order to gain access to the product, and that pricing would be lower but either had not been set or was not available even though Saratoga is ready to launch within 2 weeks. To compare an approximate estimate, I made an assumption that counties would pay \$30 a month for access and that candidates would pay an average of \$25 per month. With those assumptions in place, the LPO current cost would go from \$1,550 to \$12,420. The full cost just to Ohio using the same assumption of cost and the same desired affiliate and candidate goal (88 affiliates & 324 candidates) would rise from \$5,320 to \$130,080. Again, if we assume that Ohio is average, the total cost to the LP for a single year grows from \$77,500 (\$1,550 from each state) to \$621,000 for current activity.

I bring up the issue of costs because in their reports to the LNC, 3 of the 4 states in Region 3 and 4 of the 5 states in Region 4 have some variant of a positive statement on Saratoga and the anticipation to purchase this system, however in neither report is it mentioned that the author of the report has a vested financial interest in Saratoga or that they stand to substantially gain financially from the successful and widespread adoption of Saratoga. These reports, submitted to the LNC, can then be refer-

enced and utilized to demonstrate to other state and local affiliates as well as candidates that there is broad support for Saratoga, creating pressure to purchase from Big L, and thus generating a potential financial windfall for members of the LNC. Ms. Mack has used the widespread interest in Saratoga as a selling point to the LPO, and the only evidence to support this claim would seem to be these reports submitted by the owners of Big L Solutions. I have not yet had sufficient time to check with the other 6 states in these two reports to determine if they had intended their report to include positive statements about Saratoga, but considering that Ms. Mack took it upon herself to add that comment to the report from her home state, I consider the other mentions suspect.

In short, I believe it is a serious ethical lapse and massive conflict of interest to have members of the LNC utilizing their position to falsify the report of any state affiliate in order to insert a positive statement about a product they are attempting to sell to numerous LP affiliates and candidates without at the very least also disclosing that they are falsifying LNC reports for personal gain. As a member of the Party of Principle, I would like to formally request that this matter be investigated and appropriate actions taken to ensure the ethical integrity of the LP.

Thank you,
Michael Johnston
Central Committee Vice Chair - Libertarian Party of Ohio
(www.LPO.org) Executive Committee Chair - Franklin County
Libertarian Party (<http://www.garyjohnson2012.com/>)
Michael.Johnston@LPO.org

Editor: We are in receipt of an extremely extensive set of files on Saratoga. We are attempting to unpack and organize them. The possibility arises of a special electronic issue to cover the report.

We do, however, note the language from the report as presented to the LNC on Information Technology. Here are relevant quotes from the Region 3 Regional Report to the LNC meeting of this July, as found on the Starchild reflector:

LP-Michigan
Information Technology
LPM currently uses a SharePoint platform for its website. LPM feels the appearance of their website is at about a 5/10 while the content is about a 7/10 because it is kept fairly current. The website is estimated to get about 50-100 hits per day. LPM is eagerly anticipating the first release of the Saratoga project later this summer so they can upgrade their website and contact management platforms.

LP-Ohio
Information Technology
The LPO currently uses an outdated version of Joomla for its website content management, and an outdated version of CivicRM for its contact, contribution, and event management. The LPO is eagerly anticipating the arrival of the Saratoga project later this summer so that it can replace its outdated IT platforms as well as provide modern platforms for county affiliates and candidates.

LP-Kentucky
Information Technology

The current website is running on Drupal for content management and spreadsheets are used to keep track of donors and registered members. LPKY is eagerly anticipating the release of the first version of Saratoga to upgrade their IT platforms.

We are also in receipt of the actual report of Ohio State Chair to the Regional Representative for the LNC meeting. What it says is quite different from what we quoted above, namely in this report there is no mention of Information Technology as an issue.

We have also had forwarded us Michael Johnston's letter to other state chairs in his region. That letter as forwarded to us reads:

"Region 3 Chairs,

It saddens me to say that our region rep admitted to me this morning via email to altering the Region 3 report to insert positive statements about a company she holds an ownership stake in without disclosure to the LNC. I submitted the email below and accompanying attachments to the LP, and they will begin an investigation shortly. Since I have not yet had time to communicate with any of the other states, if your state report to the LNC was similarly modified, you may want to let the LNC know.

Unfortunately, this would seem to be part of a more deliberate sequence of actions rather than simple oversight, as our region rep was hesitant to admit to the LPO ExCom that she was an owner of the company that is now building Saratoga and since Brett Pojunis, the co-owner of Big L Solutions, made the same error of omission. Both Jillian and Brett are quite intelligent and highly detail oriented, and it seems unlikely that both of them would make the same accidental ethical lapse simultaneously in the same report while trying to drum up customers for a product they are trying to build a business around. Additionally, when questioned on the pricing structure, Jillian denied the previous pricing structure that Saratoga was to have when under the umbrella of the LSLA. My estimates of the new costs of Saratoga are based on assumptions, but my experience with IT and Jillian's description of the reason for the change on Saturday, leads me to believe that these assumptions are reasonable.

I wanted the four of you to be aware of this, as the region leadership may want to take our own evaluation of the situation, and at the very least be prepared to answer to the rest of the LP nation why our region rep is altering reports to the LNC for substantial personal financial gain. Please feel free to share this with the appropriate leadership within your state party as you may see fit. It probably will not remain secret for long anyway, and you all deserve to find out directly instead of from the IPR rumor mill.

Thank you,
Michael Johnston

In fairness, we had forwarded to us by several sources several messages from Pojunis and Mack, defending their actions. One is an email from Mack to Johnston, reading

Michael,

Although it's not at all evident in the way you wrote the email below, I'll assume that this message was directed at our state chair and not at me, since it was our state chair who provided the extremely limited details for my report, and I had to do my best to fill in the gaps. Our state chair even sent his report to management@lpo.org one week prior to me creating the Region 3 report for LNC, so you had ample time to correct his errors in listing those events as LPO events rather than local events, as well as adding valuable content which he excluded.

I'm sure you understand that I do not represent each individual county affiliate, I represent the state, and the state chair represents the sub-state affiliates. As it stands, your email seems to make it look like I was remiss in my duties in accurately reporting what happened around the state, but as I'm sure you realize, I rely solely on what I can obtain from state chairs directly, and I cannot possibly be held accountable for contacting every sub-state affiliate for their individual details.

In the future, I hope the state chairs will do a better job of providing the detailed information I requested for the regional report, and I hope the sub-state affiliates will hold the state chairs accountable for providing accurate and complete information to me about what's happening around the state, as the state chairs also can't possibly know everything that's going on at all times.

Please let me know if you have any further concerns, and next time, I would greatly appreciate it if you would simply ask me to amend my report to the LNC with your details/corrections (or correct the state chair's report before I turn it into a regional report), rather than making it appear as though I was inaccurate or remiss in my LNC reporting duties.

Thank you,
Jillian

Another is a June 16 email signed by Brett Pojunis and Jillian Mack, explaining why they were withdrawing from the LSLA effort and forming their own organization. The memo was sent to the "Statechairs" list and to LNC-Discuss.

"LP Leadership;

We know that you all have a lot of responsibilities, but please do not skip over this email as it could affect some of the things you are doing in your state/region/party.

As most of you know, Brett H. Pojunis and Jillian A. Mack have been working very hard on developing a piece of technology that will enable each state affiliate to have a website (CMS) with a tied in membership platform (CRM) for their State, Counties, Cities, Candidates and more. We named this technology Saratoga. This project has been supported by over 25 affiliates and is continuing to gain support, which we thank you for!

Here is the quick background of what has happened with Saratoga:

Through the LSLA, we started this project by creating the

Online Technology Standardization Committee to identify and select the best technologies to accomplish the goal. The selected technologies were Joomla for the CMS and CiviCRM for the CRM.

The LSLA presented to the LNC at the December 2011 meeting in Las Vegas and a motion was made to budget \$50,000 towards this project with the conditions that Randy Eshelman (former LNC At-Large Member and Vice Chair of Nebraska) would be the liaison between the LNC and the LSLA. The LSLA IT Committee had to develop a technical specification document and satisfy Mr. Eshelman in order to receive funding.

The LSLA created the LSLA IT Committee consisting of LP members from Ohio, California, Nebraska, Kentucky, Texas, Colorado, Missouri, and Nevada. We were pleased to see the talent we have on this committee! We named this project Saratoga 1.0.

We worked very hard to determine the full scope of this project and put together a requirements specification to document that scope. We then spent literally 12 hours one week on conference calls with state chairs (or their appointees) to understand the needs for all of the states. We incorporated all of your ideas and drafted a Tech Spec.

We knew that if we started promptly, there was a good chance that we could complete the project in time for the National Convention.

As we were nearing the completion of our technical specifications document, both Mr. Eshelman and Brett H. Pojunis sent messages to then LNC Chairman Mark Hinkle and HQ informing them of our progress and provided the LSLA's banking information to ensure that we promptly received the down payment required to start development on schedule.

We were then attacked and criticized for many weeks by Staff and Chairman Hinkle, who was a vocal opponent of the project from the beginning. The supporters of this project on the LNC responded by adopting 4 (four) motions before the LSLA finally received the down payment 7 (seven) weeks late.

By the time payment was finally received, the project schedule had been thrown so far off track that we were unable to move the project forward at that time due to our other LP commitments (namely our state conventions and preparations for the national convention).

After the National Convention, three of us – Brett H. Pojunis (NV), Jillian A. Mack (OH) and Flavio Fiumerodo (CA) – stayed in town specifically to work on this project. Given the experience with the last administration and noting that a number of the project's supporters on the last LNC were not returned for another term of office, we made the decision to hold off development on this project until we received assurances that the remaining budgeted funds would be distributed to the LSLA upon completion of the project. We had not received such assurances from the LNC as a whole and, as you might imagine, we were unwilling to take the risk that we would personally owe the developers money if the LNC were to not honor the agreement made the prior term. As such, we had NOT started development and all of the seed money from the LNC is still in the LSLA bank account.

We firmly believe that Saratoga is desperately needed to help this party get organized and grow. However, those of us working on the project are frustrated with the continual struggles

getting this project 100% approved. And, frankly, we don't look forward to the prospect of encountering repeated pushback from the LNC each time we want to upgrade and improve upon the technology.

Therefore, about three and a half weeks ago we made the decision that we couldn't develop and support Saratoga in an environment where we lacked confidence the LNC would honor the current agreement and support future enhancements without needless drama and delays. Furthermore, most states supported Saratoga under one condition: they did not want any involvement from the LNC, period. More than ever, we have an appreciation for why state affiliates have that concern. Thus far, the tone of the conversations about Saratoga on the LNC indicates the LNC should and wants to play a major role. That approach does not work for us or the state affiliates.

The solution to this problem is to develop Saratoga as a separate private venture that will offer the program to the States, Counties, Cities and Candidates directly. We have decided to go this route and we will not be accepting funds from the LNC or the LSLA to accomplish this; we will be using our own funds.

Brett H. Pojunis is planning on funding this entire development of Saratoga himself and if it gets too expensive, we have some other people willing to help out.

We will work with Affiliates directly. Our intent is to initially roll out Saratoga to all Affiliates who want to use it. As part of the initial sign-up, it will be made available for free for the first few months, the number depending on the total costs incurred.

Based on how many States, Counties, Cities and Candidates want to use it, we will put together very reasonable monthly payment packages so we can cover the costs of monthly hosting and hopefully over time, recoup the investment to develop it, as well as accumulate funds for platform support and future upgrades.

Obviously, the more participants who use the platform, the less we will need to charge. Our intention is to keep the costs very low so state parties can save money even while they are getting more functionality than what they presently have.

Currently, there are 8 states that have either requested and/or agreed to use Saratoga offered by a separate venture not associated with the LNC or any other politically run body.

We expect a realistic launch date of Saratoga to be sometime mid to late July, followed by an aggressive roll out to the States. At this point, the three of us – Brett H. Pojunis, Jillian Mack, and Flavio Fiumerodo – are no longer involved in the LSLA or the LSLA IT Committee. Our involvement in this project will be outside the auspices of the LSLA and the LNC. Therefore, we request that the LSLA board return to the LNC the funds that have been advanced to them.

Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to keeping you updated as the project progresses this summer.

P.S. We just launched www.GoLibertarian.Com, which is the first social network for Libertarians. Use Facebook Connect to Login and start using GoLibertarian.Com!

Sincerely,
Brett H. Pojunis
&
Jillian A. Mack

Root Perhaps Urged Romney Vote He Denies This

Readers will recall our report in the April issue, available on LibertyForAmerica.Com/201204.pdf "In a widely condemned radio statement, LNC At-Large member Wayne Root said on the WLW Bill Cunningham show:

"I, I think the important thing now is to make sure Obama is not elected, and, and that means, in my mind, I mean I would, listen, I'd love if a Libertarian like Gary Johnson, the two-term governor of New Mexico, would actually get elected President, but I think we all know that's not going to happen, so therefore it's gotta be Romney, there's no choice, ..." Root went on to predict what a Romney administration would do.

We should note, slightly late, that there were extensive LNC responses: As supplied to us, a statement by Stewart Flood:

"At this time I ask that Mr Root submit his resignation as chairman of the LNCC. His actions earlier today show a bias that clearly conflicts with his duties on that committee, or as a representative of our party in any capacity.

Since we are only four weeks from the end of our term of office on the LNC, I will not ask that any action be taken to remove him from this body for violation of his fiduciary responsibility. I have reviewed the ByLaws, and I do not believe we have sufficient time to deal with this issue properly."

and a statement from Mary Ruwart:

I will join you in asking for Mr. Root's resignation from all LP positions on the LNC, LNCC, the Gary Johnson Campaign, and Nevada LP.

Last night, I attended a presidential debate in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. I had quite a bit of time to interact with Gary Johnson. He was stunned to find out that someone from his own team would tell a radio audience to vote for Romney. I told Gary Johnson that my first reaction in hearing about Wayne Root's comments was sympathy for him. No presidential candidate should have to listen to his small business adviser or whatever Wayne Root's title is, telling a national audience to vote for the opposition.

The LP cannot control what its members say. However, it should not tolerate such betrayal in its leadership.

Mr. Root, we are told, denied the accusations:

"Mary,

I never said any such thing. I was a pundit and commentator asked to weigh in on Romney vs Obama and nothing else. I purposely chose to interject Gary's name into the conversation to a host who had never heard of him...I was trying to do a good thing...no one should be condemned for doing a good thing.

So please stop with the nonsense. Analyzing a race as a pundit isn't endorsing or encouraging anyone to vote for anyone. I'm introducing Gary tomorrow at his LP fundraiser in Nevada. And I'm going on the radio this coming week on the biggest show in Ohio (Bill Cunningham) to talk about "the Gary Johnson difference." Which was always my plan...to mention his name...and start bringing it up more often in each appearance...and then to sell him as a perfect choice for President after he wins the LP nomination.

But now I've decided to moved that plan up. I'll be selling Gary to a huge conservative audience this week. I never told anyone to vote for Romney. I said if the choice is only Romney vs Obama obviously a conservative audience is going to choose Romney. That is what a commentator does. And now it's time to introduce that audience to a alternative choice. I guess you'll have a hard time convincing others that I intended otherwise after I go on Bill Cunningham's show to say that, "Last week I analyzed the Obama vs. Romney choice...now I'm going to introduce you to a third choice...the best choice...Gary Johnson...and by the way, I personally endorse Gary."

What's so funny Mary is my talent at making things happen. You can dislike what I say from time to time...but I'm the one who delivers the big audience for LP and Gary. And I've proved it once again. I'm waiting for you to be invited to biggest show in the Midwest or anywhere else to promote Gary Johnson and the LP. We'll all be waiting a long time. So you can be the pure Libertarian Mary...but you reach few people.

I can be a more moderate Libertarian...which allows me to be a popular mainstream media guest...and therefore reach millions...and slowly subtly introduce them to Gary and the LP. I deliver. In the end that's all that matters. You've completely misspoken about what I said last week. Taken it out of context.

But my appearance this week is a dream platform to promote Gary. So last week doesn't matter anymore. That's called success. By the way...to send your demeaning comments and ridiculous request on Easter Sunday, one of the holiest days of the year, is just plain disgraceful. A monumental insult to me, the LP, and Christians everywhere. Best Wishes, Wayne"

Dan Karlan, who was then on the LNC, reportedly said:

"Mr. Root apologized for making a very poor choice of words during a radio interview he did 48 hours ago. I assume you do not accept his apology.

To this day, Mr. Lee Wrights has not apologized for being the deciding vote on a petition that was brought before the Judicial Committee by a person with whom he lives. Are you holding Mr. Root to a standard that you do not hold Mr. Wrights to?

I certainly believe that our leaders need to be loyal to the Libertarian Party. However, I believe it is even more important that our leaders be ethical."

To which Stewart Flood responded:

"I believe that some people are confusing what happened. Speaking for myself, I never said that Mr Root endorsed a candidate of another party. But he did, very clearly, state that the "only choice" was the candidate expected to be the nominee of another party. That action directly conflicts with his responsibilities as a member of this body, as well as the chairman of the committee that this body created to assist our candidates. I have seen no apology, no admittance that he violated his fiduciary responsibilities, and in fact have only seen further bragging on his part about how he believes his actions help us!

This has got to stop: Mr Root does not appear to be considering resigning from the LNCC. He does not admit his actions were wrong, and unfortunately some on this board have been drinking the "Root-aid" for so long that they can do nothing other than defend a man who uses this organization for personal gain and position in the media, while at the same time publicly stating that our cause is ineffective and our candidates cannot win! Mr Root alternates in his interviews and commentary between calling himself a Reagan libertarian, a tea party conservative and various other permutations of self created labels designed to forward his ratings with listeners and readers.

"Mr Root is not a libertarian, but he does try to play one on radio and tv. Are we to sit by and encourage bad acting?"

Mr Root is still on the LNC, and his remarks still on occasion dismay real Libertarians.

Because a number of these people are still on the LNC or may be considering comebacks, we will continue coverage of this matter in future issues.

Where Your Money Went

For June, the Libertarian National Committee received \$141,530, of which \$70,000 or so could be attributed to a ballot access funding effort. It also spent \$199,654. It begin the month with \$236,599, and ended the month with \$178,475, of which around \$120,000 is the building fund and not available for general expenses. The committee has no outstanding debts.

Major expenditures included spending for Presidential ballot access in Illinois, Massachusetts, Maine, and West Virginia , \$24695 for convention expenses, \$3200 to Terra Eclipse for the web site, and \$2527 to Regional Representative Diana Visek for LPIL ballot access petitioning. Some of the printing and mailing might qualify as outreach or advertising.

Total receipts for the year are \$832,511, including one-time income streams such as the National Convention, the NatCon fundraising effort, and the bequest. After allowing for the one-time nature of these events, but noting that other one-time events are possible, total income for the year is reasonably expected to be in the 1.35-1.6 million dollar range.

Liberty for America

Liberty for America is not currently a political party.

To subscribe: <http://LibertyForAmerica.com>

Liberty for America has a Federal PAC —we actually support real Libertarians when they run for Federal office.

In this issue:

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Candidate Support from Indiana

Project Saratoga

Oregon LP: Republican Takeover Try

LNC Dodges Lieberman Issue

LNC Declines to Support Oregon Ballot Access

Last LNC Almost Killed 50-State Ballot Access

Wes Benedict on LNC Functioning

State Chairs Behind-the-Scenes

Michael Johnston on Project Saratoga Issues

Root Perhaps Urged Vote for Romney—He Denies This

Where Your Money Went

First Class Mail

Liberty for America
c/o George Phillies
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609