

Liberty for America

Journal of the
Libertarian Political Movement

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Alternative Modes of Political Action

The Boston tea Party has rather few candidates, so it chooses an alternative approach, as described by Steve Newton at delawarelibertarian.blogspot.com

Boston Tea Party endorses Libertarian Party of Delaware candidates

The Boston Tea Party, which is advancing its case as the potential nationwide replacement for the essentially non-

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functional Libertarian National Committee as the central organizing group for individual liberty and smaller government, has turned its attention to Delaware.

The BTP has now formally endorsed LPD Congressional candidate Mark Anthony Parks and LPD/GOP 4th District House candidate Tyler Nixon.

For Tyler, this endorsement can be added to his earlier seal of approval from the Liberty Caucus.

Given that I'd suspect only a few Libertarians and not many others have heard of the BTP (running Charles Jay and Thomas Knapp as their Presidential ticket), what significance does this have for our candidates?

Primarily, it's another piece of national exposure, however modest. Libertarian candidates run not just to win (go, Tyler!), but also to make a point about the erosion of civil liberties and the continuing encroachment of government on our freedoms--both economic and social.

The BTP has a one-sentence platform:

The Boston Tea Party supports reducing the size, scope and power of government at all levels and on all issues, and opposes increasing the size, scope and power of government at any level, for any purpose.

Liberty for America

There is another point to be taken here, however: whether it's Ralph Nader's independent candidacy, the Libertarians, the Greens, the Constitution Party, the Modern Whigs, or any of a dozen other third parties across America, there is a growing dissatisfaction with the exclusionary two-party system we have allowed to be foisted upon us.

I've said this before, but it bears repeating: if we are a national that supposedly values social and cultural diversity, why do we continue to put up with a political system that offers only two choices?

Congratulations to our LPD candidates!
...Steve Newton

Freedom Ballot Access Launches Petition Drive

It's October 2008. As you read, in several states across America it is possible now to collect signatures for ballot access, including Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and West Virginia.

Freedom Ballot access has contracted Champion Libertarian Petitioners Paulie Cannoli, Andy Jacobs, Mark Pickens, Jake Witmer and their team to do ballot access petitioning in states where you can petition now for ballot access in future elections. They are handling all petitioning expenses, fundraising expenses, accounting issues for a unified cost of \$3 per signature.

Give \$10 or more to any Freedom Ballot Access ballot drive, and you will be sent absolutely free a free gift. Take your choice of one of two electronic files, one with a copy of George Phillies' novel *The Minutegirls* and the other with a copy of *The One World*. Give \$100, and get both novels for free. They need your email address to email you a copy of the novels.

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\$3 per signature sounds like a lot, but all the overhead charges you usually never see are hidden inside the per signature cost. Some petitioners charge two dollars per signature, but some do their own fundraising, and take 25, 40, or even 60 per cent off the top as their commission. Freedom Ballot Access petitioners will take only the \$3 per signature. Some petitioners insist on collecting 100% extra signatures, even when the validity rate is known to be 80%. Freedom Ballot Access petitioners will collect 50% extra signatures, cutting petitioning expenses by a further quarter.

To donate to Freedom Ballot Access by mail, please mail your check, payable "Freedom Ballot Access", directly to Freedom Ballot Access, c/o George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester, MA 01609.

To donate electronically, go to FreedomBallotAccess.org To donate via DonorTown Square, or to open a monthly giving program, click on the DonorTown Square icon. DonorTown Square is a third party donation collection service. You go to their web site, fill in the alternative choices, and money is transferred from your credit card account to DonorTownSquare. They send a notice that you have donated. Recipients never see your credit card numbers. DonorTown aggregate credit card donations. Every week, they send a check. Their only significant charge is the credit card merchandizing fee, which is usually 6%.

LNC Sent Multiple Motions on Presidential and Vice Presidential Campaigns

At the time of our last issue, Congressman Ron Paul had invited the major third party candidates to a joint presentation session. Charles Baldwin, Cynthia McKinney, and Ralph Nader appeared. Bob Barr, who fancies himself the practical political equal of Barack Obama and John McCain, declined to appear. He instead issued a letter, apparently sent to Ron Paul, urging Paul to become Barr's Vice Presidential running mate.

Ron Paul was apparently offended by Barr's actions, whose details remain a matter of controversy. Paul finally responded. September 22: Paul announced that he was

taking Bob Barr's advice that he should endorse a single presidential candidate. Paul said "I've thought about the unsolicited advice from the Libertarian Party candidate, and he has convinced me to reject my neutral stance in the November election. I'm supporting Chuck Baldwin, the Constitution Party candidate."

Some Libertarians were surprised to learn that Paul had endorsed the candidacy of a third party candidate, but not the candidate of their third party. The LNC was presented with several motions referring to Barr's actions, not to mention a petition advocating Barr's removal as the candidate, as well as a motion to remove Wayne Root as the Vice Presidential candidate.

In an effort to correct matters, LC Regional Representative Rachel Hawkrige moved that the LNC should send Paul a letter of apology. Her letter read:

The Libertarian National Committee understands that the campaign of Libertarian presidential candidate Bob Barr has offended you, the Campaign for Liberty, and your many supporters by:

- Failing to attend your press conference at the National Press Club highlighting third party candidates after committing to do so;*
- Holding a press conference of its own publicly inviting you to be Barr's Vice-President candidate (replacing Wayne Allyn Root) in spite of his personal knowledge that you have no interest in the position; and*
- Issuing statements through both official and unofficial channels that disparaged you for not endorsing Barr's candidacy.*

Although Former Congressman Bob Barr is the duly nominated presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party selected by delegates to the 2008 Libertarian National Convention, the Libertarian National Committee is deeply embarrassed by the Barr campaign's behavior and believes it does not reflect well on the Libertarian Party.

The Libertarian National Committee sincerely apologizes to you, the Campaign for Liberty, and your many supporters on behalf of the Libertarian Party and hopes that you, your organization, and your supporters will continue to work together with the Libertarian Party in our common fight for liberty in spite of the regrettable actions of Congressman Barr's campaign.

The Libertarian National Committee shares your goal of encouraging more people to vote for third party candidates and agrees with your four point statement on Foreign Policy, Privacy, The National Debt, and The Federal

Reserve. The Libertarian National Committee respects your decisions to not seek the Libertarian nomination and not endorse an individual presidential candidate. The Libertarian National Committee also salutes the broad coalition of liberty loving Americans you have built through your presidential campaign, the Ron Paul R3VO-Lution, and the Campaign for Liberty.

Please note that Mr. Barr had no authority to invite you to join the Libertarian Party ticket. Under the Libertarian Party Bylaws, vice-presidential nominee vacancies are filled by the Libertarian National Committee, rather than by the presidential candidate himself. The Libertarian National Committee was not consulted before the offer was extended to you.

In addition, the Libertarian National Committee regrets that Acting Libertarian Party Executive Director Robert Kraus disparaged you in the Libertarian Party blog on www.lp.org. The Libertarian National Committee has reprimanded Mr. Kraus for his actions and is tightening its internal controls on www.lp.org blog content. We offer our sincere apology for the blog remarks of Libertarian Party staff.

The Libertarian National Committee, on behalf of the Libertarian Party, hopes its relationships with you, the Campaign for Liberty, and your many supporters were not irreparably harmed by the actions of the Barr campaign and our staff. The Libertarian National Committee and the Libertarian Party would both like nothing more than to continue to be allies with you in the battle for civil liberties, limited government, and non-intervention.

Hawkridge reported that there was no apparent prospect of her motion passing.

Libertarian Party Members, mindful of their party by-laws, offered to the LNC a different motion, namely a motion to remove Barr as the Presidential candidate. As was not uniformly known at the time, their motion was actually the *second* removal motion, because an actual LNC member had offered a motion to remove Wayne Root as the candidate for Vice President. The removal petition read:

WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 5 of the Libertarian Party's bylaws provide for the suspension of the party's presidential candidate by the Libertarian National Committee; and

WHEREAS, said bylaws provision requires a 3/4 vote of this body;

BE IT KNOWN that Bob Barr, the Libertarian Party's 2008 presidential nominee, is hereby suspended on the basis of the following causes:

- Failure to appear, with little or no notice, at a major media event to which he had been invited and to which he had committed to appear;*
- Vicious public attacks by his campaign staff on the character and reputation of the event's host (1988 Libertarian Party presidential nominee Ron Paul) and sponsor (Campaign For Liberty);*
- The disrepute and discredit which the aforementioned misbehaviors have brought upon the Libertarian Party.*

The committee advises Barr that he has seven (7) days to appeal this action to the party's Judicial Committee. Absent a successful appeal, his nomination will be deemed null and void and he will be replaced as the party's presidential nominee.

The petition was supported by a petition <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/RemoveBobBar/> that gathered 987 signatures at this writing:

We, the supporters of freedom and liberty hereby petition you to immediately remove Bob Barr as the Libertarian Party nominee for President of the United States. Furthermore, we request that he not be replaced by the current vice presidential nominee Wayne Allen Root, but by another, less divisive candidate.

This request is not made lightly, but with much seriousness. The actions, track record, and history of Bob Barr has divided libertarians and other liberty leaning individuals across the nation.

WHEREAS the primary goal and purpose of the Libertarian Party is and has always been not conservatism but liberty,

WHEREAS Robert Barr has, not only refused to participate in the 10 September 2008 press conference of Rep. Ronald Paul of Texas and the Campaign for Liberty but has deliberately sabotaged this event with a false RSVP,

Welcome to Liberty for America!

A magazine. A web site. An organization.
Liberty for America has had several inquiries on launching **Liberty for America** Chapters across America. A draft set of state/regional By-Laws appears on the **LibertyforAmerica.Com** web site.

WHEREAS Robert Barr's campaign has simultaneously called for Rep. Ronald Paul of Texas to be its vice presidential candidate and called him a thief, demonstrating either gross incompetence or a deliberate attempt to undermine the drive for liberty,

WHEREAS refusal to participate in a promising avenue for the enlargement of the party and the advancement of the cause of liberty is not in the best interests of the Libertarian Party, and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party was not founded and does not exist for the aggrandizement of Robert Barr,

WE THE UNDERSIGNED hereby affirm that we are registered voters in the several United States of America, and do petition Robert Barr to step down from his position as candidate of the Libertarian Party for President of the United States; we do petition the Libertarian Party to renounce its support of Robert Barr's candidacy for the office of President of the United States; or both.

Not to be left out, LNC Treasurer Aaron Starr apparently submitted to the LNC a motion alternative to the Hawkrigge motion. The motion, which also made no forward progress, was reportedly to send Ron Paul the following letter

*The Honorable Ron Paul
Committee to Re-Elect Ron Paul
837 W. Plantation
Clute, TX 71531*

Dear Dr. Paul:

The Libertarian National Committee is disappointed to learn that you have recently urged those in the freedom movement to vote for the likes of Ralph Nader, Cynthia McKinney and Chuck Baldwin, none of whom truly grasp the meaning of Liberty.

More than before, we remain committed to our nominees for President and Vice President, Bob Barr and Wayne Root. We believe both of them boldly present the ideals of limited government, lower taxes, lower spending, and more freedom to the American people.

*We invite you to restore your commitment to Liberty by supporting the only candidates on the ballot this year who understand the Constitution and are prepared to restore our republic to what the Founders believed.
Toward Liberty,*

The Libertarian National Committee:

Cynics will not that Paul believes he later did as the letter would have requested, namely he endorsed a candidate as described in the letter.

To make life even more interesting, the LNC also had presented to it a motion purporting to be from LNC Regional Representative Stuart Flood, advocating the removal of Wayne Root as Vice Presidential candidate. The Flood resolution went:

WHEREAS the National Platform of the Libertarian Party states in section 3.5 that we condemn bigotry as irrational and repugnant; and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party's Vice-Presidential candidate, Wayne Allyn Root, has made public statements to the media that are of a racist and bigoted nature; and

WHEREAS these statements clearly attempt to defame the Presidential candidate of another party through the use of unsubstantiated rumor and innuendo; and

WHEREAS such actions are unprincipled and detract from the real issues of the election and hamper our party's efforts to restore liberty in our country;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Libertarian National Committee calls on Wayne Allyn Root to voluntarily withdraw as our party's Vice-Presidential nominee.

Respectfully submitted for consideration,

*Stewart Flood
Region 4 Representative*

None of these motions and recommendations to the LNC appear to have made forward progress. Our sources report

Where Your Money Went Libertarian National Committee in August

The Libertarian National Committee in August had receipts of \$134,085, for a year total of \$1,180,856. They started the month with \$37,102 cash on hand, had disbursements of \$161,517, and was left with \$9671 cash on hand and debts of \$47,619.

Receipts for the month were thus about the same as 2004 (\$131, 241) but far less than receipts in August 2000

(\$326, 830). More important, recalling that month to month receipts do fluctuate, receipts to date this year (\$1,180,856) were much less than in 2004 (\$1,530,285) and barely more than half of that in 2000 (\$2, 253,788).

And what did the LNC spend money to do?
Ballot Access Petitioning Expense \$82929

Non-Candidate Printing and mailing \$11,392
Shipping \$233

Outreach booth \$337

Employee Net Pay \$15,738
Withholding, Unemployment, Social Security \$6,446.
401K Payments \$404
Fec Filing and Amendments for 08 \$1000
Writing for Non-Candidate Mailing \$1430
Staff Travel-Air \$1782
Staff Travel-Hotel \$10,548 (Includes over \$6500 in Connecticut and New York)

Office Rent \$9903
Copier Lease and Maintenance \$636
Parking Garage Rental \$240
Office Supplies \$91
Bank and Credit Card Fees \$2526

Legal Services \$3105

Website Management-Terra Eclipse \$3000
Teledata services \$1133
Phone and Data Services \$737
Server and Computer Maintenance \$550

Where Your Money Went: The Bob Barr 2008 Campaign in August

For August 2008 the Barr campaign had \$224,350 in receipts, pushing the Barr campaign's total receipts to date to \$859,425. Income was thus very slightly less than the \$259,041 that Barr received in July, but significantly more than the \$178, 359 the Badnarik/Campagna campaign received in August 2004.

Some of the payments to individuals are quite remarkable. Doug Bandow received \$10,000 as a political consultant, as he has done for months, for an annualized rate of \$120,000 per year. James Bovard was paid \$15,000 for "authoring". One observes that Barr is releasing rather late in the game two campaign books, which somehow

managed to get written in a very short time. Having myself written eight books, I can assure you that two books in four months unless much of the material is already there is astonishing.

Actual campaigning:

Advertising -- \$2824
Direct Marketing 13316.09
Events \$2594
List Rental \$1073
Order fulfillment \$6648
Postage, printing and Promotional Items \$9896
Shipping \$2188
Signs \$989
Telemarketing \$240 to Winning Edge International, Las Vegas
T-shirts \$129

Persons being paid:

James Bovard -- authoring fee \$15,000
Doug Bandow -- Political Consultant -- \$10,000
Steve Sinton \$4000
Robert Stuber \$4000
(Note that neither Russ Verney nor Shane Cory was paid in August by the Barr campaign.)

Groups being paid:

Legal Fees \$11,850
Liberty Strategies Contract Services \$11,000
Advocacy Ink -- Media Consulting -- \$4185
Prime One -- political consulting -- \$2500
Compliance consulting \$5250

Field Consulting \$9161
including payments to Mike Ferguson, Andrew MacPherson, Ashley Petty, Jason Pye, and John Seewoester.

Ballot Access \$17123
Travel Expenses \$23,005 (airlines, hotels)
Limousine \$3194
Meeting Expense \$1028

Information technology:
\$17,184 almost all paid to Thru Tech
Software \$2490
Transaction Fees \$10,916 to Terra Eclipse
Other Transaction Fees \$3761
Cell phone \$974
Computer Monitor \$240

Real Estate Issues:

Rent \$16,429
Office Equipment and Furniture \$5628
Office Supplies \$1522
Utilities \$1246

Where Your Money Went: Libertarian National Congressional Committee

Every Political party is allowed to have not one, not two, but three national campaign committees to raise money. Libertarian National Committee, Inc. is the first of these. The Libertarian National Congressional Committee, founded only a few years ago, is the second. The LNCC actually has raised money in past years, though a fair part of it went in fixed costs to FEC filing and legal fees, namely:

Paula Y. Edwards, CPA Compliance Consulting
04/09/2008 175.00
01/07/2008 350.00
08/12/2007 175.00
02/23/2007
09/06/2006 1400.00

Walter, Norcross and Judd Legal Services
02/10/2006 4132.15
02/10/2006 197.05

It has not as of last report ever supported a Libertarian running for Congress. It did support two Vermont candidates for state legislature, namely

Contribution to Non Federal Candidates
David Atkinson
09/28/2006 \$2500.00
Hardy Machia
09/28/2006 \$2500.00

Neither of them won.

National Party Loses a Decade

I have determined, from FEC reports, moneys raised through the end of May every year for the past decade (for 1994, 2001, 2002, I had to use June data instead). I also determined the party's reported debt on those dates, and the end-of-year membership from the dehnbase site. (For this year, that data is for the end of April.). All of our advances in membership and income since 1993 have been lost.

Year	\$ to end of May in thousands	debt	Membership in thousands
2006	561	115	13621
2005	634	103	15573
2004	1043	113	20299
2003	686	194	
2002	1032	73	
2001	1082	64	22871
2000	1240	207	27731
1999	1109	64	32922
1998	995	126	33007
1997	659	148	30007
1996	617	208	23345
1995	412	0	21580
1994	448	0	13658
1993	348	0	10641
1992			9539
1991			11416
1990			9162

Party income is lower than it has been since 1995. Recalling inflation over the last decade, Party income is lower than it has been since 1993. Party Membership has fallen to levels last seen in 1994.

California Proposition 8 Needs Defeating

Proposition 8, the monstrous brainstorm of the bigoted racist mess that is American Conservatism, would seek to ban gay marriage in California. Conservatives are firmly in favor of being left alone, namely left alone to root through your bank account, telephone calls, emails, bedroom, smoking closet, and gun locker. For starters.

Libertarian Leader and Outright Libertarian Chair Rob Power calls our attention to the web site

No on Eight <http://noonprop8.com/home>

and its five paths to activism

- Give
- Volunteer
- Talk
- Write
- Register

Each process comes with directions and a link to assist people who want to do the right thing.

Liberty for America

**Liberty for America is
not currently a political party.
But you can join — \$15 per year.**

**Liberty for America does not currently
run or endorse candidates for Federal or non-Federal office.**

Liberty for America exists to build an effective pro-liberty movement in America, a movement separated from the flat-earther bigot cesspit that is modern American conservatism, a movement separated from the *Après moi, le déluge* philosophy of the Congressional duopoly party, a movement that stands against good-old-boy scratch-my-back incompetence and corruption.

**Liberty for America is preparing to offer
positive political alternatives
not available elsewhere.**

**LNC Votes: Keaton
Should Leave LNC**

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