

# Liberty for America

Journal of the  
Libertarian Political Movement

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LNC Vice Chair Candidate  
Carolyn Marbry

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## Candidate Support Template

Jake Porter has created a Drupal template for use by Libertarian candidates. You can download it at <http://jakeporter.org/candidate/>

## Carolyn Marbry Declares for National Vice Chair

December 1, Ontario, California - Libertarian activist Carolyn Marbry today announced that she is a candidate for Libertarian National Committee Vice Chair.

“This is such an exciting time to be a Libertarian,” Ms. Marbry said. “The coming decades will bring tremendous opportunities to the party as Americans grow more and more disillusioned with bank bailouts, the flagrant destruction of the right to marry for an entire group of Americans, attacks on our second amendment rights and never-ending wars, among other things. To reach out to these people and help our activists make real changes in policy, the party needs a new generation of leadership, one that welcomes and supports all Libertarians.

“We still have a lot of the same problems we’ve always had as a third party. Lack of ballot access, media “black out,” absurd representation of our ideas, mission creep... It’s time for new solutions to our old problems. Those new solutions start with leaving behind the old paradigm and focusing on new technologies and new ideas to build membership, activism and fund raising.

“We need to build strong coalitions with like-minded groups outside the party, and we need to develop and support Libertarian think tanks.

“We need to maintain open, transparent records so members can see what their leadership is doing and where their money goes, and we need to make sure our money goes toward real politics, not bureaucracy.

“We need to take a hard, business-like look at where we can reduce our fixed expenses so we can mobilize more of our money for activism and party growth.

“We need to focus less on what separates us and more on our common goals. A rising tide raises all ships, and the LNC leadership needs to be that rising tide.

“Above all, we as the LNC leadership need to remember: We’re there to take obstacles out of the way of our activists and candidates, not to put up more obstacles. We need to support our activists, who are the lifeblood of our party, and to support the candidates who give us visibility and help grow our party.

“I’ve been overwhelmed by the response of my fellow Libertarians to my campaign. It’s been wonderful to have early sup-

port from Lonnie Holcomb, Thomas Knapp, Less Antman, Angela Keaton, Mike and Lidia Seebeck, Jake Porter, Charles Wilhoit and David F. Nolan, among others. I am pleased that my early support comes from such an eclectic group of Libertarians.”

Here’s what some of her supporters have to say:

**Angela Keaton:** “Small business woman, civil libertarian, homeschooling mother and patriot; Carolyn Marbry brings a fresh face and real world experience to political arm of the liberty movement.”

**Jake Porter:** “In the summer of 2007, I started working directly with Carolyn Marbry to assist one of the contenders for the Libertarian Party’s Presidential nomination. Within the first few weeks of working with Carolyn, I discovered that not only did she have the management skills necessary to be successful in politics, but that she also possessed the leadership skills necessary to make sure we were getting the right things done. Carolyn Marbry is intelligent, hard working, motivated, and courageous enough to speak her mind even when faced with strong opposition. The Libertarian National Committee could really benefit by having Carolyn serve as a member.

“I urge all Libertarian Party delegates to join me in supporting Carolyn Marbry for LNC Vice-Chair.”

**Less Antman:** “The very type of respectful persuaders I want to see in leadership positions in the LP are people like Carolyn Marbry.”

Carolyn is an established Libertarian activist. In 2007-2008, she served as media director for the Phillies 2008 Presidential nominating campaign, rapidly ramping up to regular distribution of Phillies 2008 press releases to over 15,000 media targets. She served as platform lead on the Libertarian Party of California’s Style Committee as well as serving on the state party’s by-laws committee and an ad-hoc committee to investigate the viability of the state’s printed newsletter. She also served as treasurer for her local county party.

Carolyn’s first career was as a cellist. By the time she was 21, she was CEO of her own custom software company, creating applications for signature recognition for banks, pressure and flow calculations based on pipe fittings for a mechanical engineering firm, dyslexia diagnosis and therapy software for audiologists and custom accounting packages for unusual businesses. She was recruited to Artisoft where she was an engineering supervisor, opting after a few years to retire from that

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career to homeschool her son. During those homeschooling years, she was not idle, however, launching a career in theatre as a playwright, actor and stage director in Tucson, AZ. She starting her own Shakespeare Theatre Troupe for homeschooled teenagers. In 2003, she produced and edited an internationally distributed independent film with English director Rob Walker.

Carolyn lives in Rancho Cucamonga with her partner, Mike McMahon, and her son, Jericho Arcuri, who is attending college studying criminal justice.

## Keaton Calls for Phillies Draft

December 1, 2009  
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Rads:

How've you been? I'm doing well. Been doing some serious thinking about the events of 2008. Hard thinking. Know many of you have been. The distance has given me some perspective. And while I am thrilled with the addition of Wes Benedict as Executive Director and the emergence of Rachel Hawkridge as the conscience of the LNC, that's not enough to reverse over a decade of damage from poor financial choices, ideological drift and endless drama.

What would I do? I would go for something completely differ-

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Liberty for America will be performing political acts, like supporting voter registration, lining up volunteers, and other activities that the Federal government calls "Federal Election Activity" and hence FEC-reportable. We must therefore funnel dues to our PAC, "Liberty for America". Dues will not be used to support candidates.

Required Federal Notices: Your Donations are not tax deductible. Federal law requires us to request the occupation and employer of donors of \$200 or more in a year. Federal law requires us to state 'your money may be used to support Federal candidates', but we promise that we won't do that with your dues.

ent. As someone who is for open borders, armed kids and ending the Fed yesterday, this is why I would urge George Phillies, raging moderate, to run for Chair:

First, Libertarian Party members saw a new side to George during the various scandals of 2007-2009. Out with the timid physics professor in the taupe cardigan and in with an intellectual power house who can go head to head in debates with policy wonks on the drug war, civil liberties and that most difficult to master of subjects, foreign policy. The Chair is a spokesperson who must be fast on his feet. George has proven he keeps his knowledge current.

Second, with George, members know exactly what they will get for their money—and yes, they do expect something. George can produce a news letter and a good bumper sticker which is more than they are getting for their 25\$ in several affiliates. They know the books will be well kept. Hence, more willingness to donate. People want to give money to libertarian causes but they won't shell out endlessly for vanity ballot access campaigns and imaginary college libertarian programs. We will give to libertarians who are making honest activist efforts at any level.

Third, delegates know George is a long time party activist. His libertarian credentials go back over twenty years. "Show me your creds" is a test that some big but relatively new names fail. The LP needs more stability and consistency; fewer gimmicks and short cuts.

Fourth, many radicals (from left-libs to paleos—yes, it's true) resent the gay and race baiting that has become all too common in the LP. Supporting uninhibited free speech doesn't mean encouraging the worst aspects of human nature. The libertarian movement has and always will have a quiet but sizable gay and bisexual contingent. Sure, some of us are willing to cut Ron Paul some slack, but that's an earned privilege. For me, I am tired of being told that queer concerns have to wait until someone else's pet issue is solved.

Finally, tonight the LP could have been a player. Did you hear the God King's speech? 30,000 more troops. Would it have been great if we had a chair who understands principle of non intervention? George does. Don't we deserve someone who stands up for libertarian principles on the most important issue of the day?

George is libertarian enough for this radical and certainly better than the pretenders who came sniffing around during the last presidential election cycle. He can count, too. Ideological coherence and administrative competence? That's what I want. That's what he offers.

George, if you are reading this, run for chair. For real, this time. Not as the aforementioned cardigan wearing professor but as the leader you proved yourself to be in Denver.

Liberty,  
Keaton

## Rob Power Declares for National Secretary

**San Francisco, California**, December 4, 2009. Rob Power today announced his candidacy for Libertarian National Committee Secretary.

"The time is right for us Libertarians to adopt a new strategy," Mr. Power said. "Our Party is unique in its longstanding rejection of perpetual war, central planning, and government favoring certain classes of individuals over others. After nearly a decade of war for which most Americans now realize there was never any national security interest, and years into a recession prolonged by federal government policies, voters have caught up to the Libertarian Party's longtime understanding about the nature of big government. Even those who have long shared our skepticism of Washington DC's ability to solve society's problems have recently come to the realization that their former 'allies' – the religious right – cannot be trusted to oppose the growth of government, especially when their operatives are elected to office. If our message of individual liberty and personal responsibility is to gain any traction in these key demographics who are most open to our recruitment, the Libertarian Party must have a new generation of leadership, rejecting social conservatism and reaching out in their own terms to those voters who may have lost their faith in big government only very recently."

"We've heard that several internal problems, with our Platform, our Bylaws, or certain interest groups, have been what's holding our Party back. Thus, great internal effort has been expended to gut our platform, centralize executive power in our Bylaws, and purge certain longtime constituents from our Party. It didn't help us at all. Our true obstacles are a lack of ballot access, indifference or even hostility from the mainstream media, caricatures of Libertarians and our principles – often by those within our Party – and a focus on making our Party look more and more like the less successful of the two major parties. Nothing about the obstacles we face has changed in four decades. These are old problems, and it's long past time for new solutions. We must stop scapegoating our own Platform, Bylaws, and respected Party Founders, and instead realize that the opposition is outside, not inside, by implementing new technologies and new ideas to bypass media and ballot access roadblocks and recruit new members and activists. We also must learn that donors like to know where their money is going, and reliance on blind generosity is an unwise strategy for fundraising. Finally, we must 'walk the talk' and actively campaign to stop and reverse the trend of increasing obstacles to ballot access."

"Outside our Party, instead of burning bridges, we should be building them, with issue-based affinity groups and a brain trust of think tanks to back up our policy recommendations in the media."

"We need to advance beyond keeping an expensive infrastruc-

ture running without any liberty-increasing benefits coming from that expense, and instead create budgets and policies that include resources and time for real politics – supporting candidates and issues. Fundraising to maintain infrastructure dedicated to fundraising for infrastructure is like a snake eating its own tail, does not promote liberty, and is not a winning strategy. Similarly, internal parliamentary games and McCarthy-style witch hunts of longtime Libertarian activists have not won us a single office, overturned a single tax or regulation, or made any of us more free in this country."

"I'm an efficiency expert. One of my Master's degrees is in Industrial Engineering. I've done a root cause analysis, and I think I've discovered why these non-value-added activities are consuming all of our time that should be going to real politics. The root cause is that a technocratic mentality has taken over the Libertarian National Committee. While I do have an MBA and the technical and organizational skills required to serve as Secretary, let's not forget that the officers on the National Committee also cast votes where sound Libertarian ideology is far more important than how many Parliamentary certifications or business-related degrees one holds. Our organization is unfortunately not large enough to require a CPA as Treasurer, an MPA as Secretary, and PRPs as Chair and Vice-Chair. I think the debates in past officer elections over who has the most acronyms following their name have not served our Party well, so you will not hear me questioning any opponent's technical skill to serve as a Libertarian Party Officer. It may be hard work, but it's not rocket science. Though did I mention that my undergraduate degree was in Aerospace Engineering?"

When electing Officers in St. Louis, I hope the Convention Delegates realize that ideology matters far more than degrees and certifications. It's just as important for Officers to subscribe fully to Libertarian principles as it is for the other Representatives to the National Committee, if not more so. Wouldn't it be more efficient just to elect Officers who already are comfortable with Libertarian principles, letting them direct all of their effort at real politics instead of watering down our Party's principles and messaging to match their beliefs?"

"The most important task for those of us elected to leadership within the Libertarian Party is to facilitate grassroots action instead of building roadblocks and stifling grassroots creativity and progress. Our activists and candidates give us their time, resources, and visibility, and we need to honor their commitment with our support. The support of campaigns is the very reason why political parties exist, and I will do everything in my power to advance that goal."

"I'm proud to have the support of dedicated Libertarians, from the members of the 'Draft Rob Power for LNC Secretary' group on Facebook to the endorsers below:

**Carolyn Marbry:** "Rob Power, the national chair of Outright Libertarians and chair of the LP of San Francisco, would make a fantastic secretary for the LNC. I've never seen anyone with the kind of energy Rob has devoted to activism. He's exactly

what the LNC needs. "

**Ruth Bennett:** "As an LP member for over 30 years, I have watched our Party rise and fall. The fall we are in now, at a time in history when we should be having our greatest growth, scares me. Rob has the energy, intelligence and integrity we need to get out of this slump. I know that Rob is more of a centrist while I am more radical, but I totally trust Rob to always do what is best to get us closer to Liberty. He is not a "game-player" but a coalition builder, and we need that right now. Rob will be an excellent Secretary and a principled member of the National Committee."

Rob and his husband Kai reside in San Francisco. Rob is the Director of Engineering for a Software-as-a-Service firm in Oakland, CA and volunteers as Lead Program Chair and Executive Board Member of the Commonwealth Club of California's INFORUM division. Rob cast his first Libertarian vote at age 20 for Harry Browne in 1996 and has been a member of the Libertarian Party for over a dozen years, serving in capacities at local, state, and national levels.

## Libertarian Opportunities in 2009

...But Where were the Libertarians?

*Election Day 2009 has come and gone. Relatively speaking, this election was as insignificant as any off-year election is, as opposed to a mid-term election, but it still could have been an important year for the Libertarian Party, if we had simply bothered to show up. There were six elections / ballot initiatives which could have possibly been affected by the Libertarian Party... if we actually had a long-term strategic plan. As it is, some things happened for which it is notable that the LP had no role in. In no particular order, let's look at where we could have had real impacts this year.*

**Governor's Race - New Jersey:** New Jersey voters tossed out their incumbent Democratic Governor, Corzine, in favor of Republican Chris Christie. It may have happened because Corzine is very unpopular with the citizens of his government-corruption prone state. While Christie's election is not necessarily a bad thing, what made this election notable was that it swung on independent voters. Christie won 49% of the vote, Corzine won 44% and independent candidate Chris Dagget walked away with 5% of the vote.

**Governor's Race - Virginia:** Republican candidate, Bob McConnell, with 60% of the vote, easily won election over his Democratic opponent, Creigh Deeds. For over 35 years, Virginians have consistently voted into office Governors of the opposition party to that of a sitting President, so this win might have seemed inevitable. What made this race notable for the LP is that it was again the independent voters who made the difference. In 2008, Virginia bucked its own tradition of voting for Republican presidential candidates and, instead, voted for Democratic candidate Obama. In that case, Obama won because Virginia's independent voters were pretty evenly split between Obama and McCain. This year, however, independent voters

were 2 - 1 in favor of McConnell and we can see the results from that quite easily.

**Mayor's Race - New York:** In this race, Independent candidate Michael Bloomberg won a very narrow victory against his Democratic opponent, the essentially unknown City Comptroller. The name of the Democratic candidate is not important. What is important is that even with spending approximately \$100,000,000 (yes, 100 million) dollars of his own money, Bloomberg only won 51% of the total vote, only 5 points ahead of his Democratic opponent. This will be Bloomberg's third term, which was only possible because he supported changes to New York City's term limit law, which had limited mayors to only being able to be elected for two terms. A strong Libertarian presence could have raised the term-limit issue by speaking strongly for them.

**House of Representatives Race - New York's 23rd District:** What can be said here that hasn't already been said? In what was probably the most noteworthy race of 2009? For the first time in over 150 years, this district will not be represented by a Republican. The story is remarkable. The Republican Party chose Dede Scozzafava, an NRA-approved candidate who also was pro-choice and in favor of same-sex marriage. The Democratic Party chose an un-noteworthy sacrificial lamb, Bill Owens, because the New York state House has a one person majority and they didn't want to risk losing that majority by running their state Representative in an "unwinnable" race. So what happened? The far-right stepped in and ran their own Conservative Party candidate, Doug Hoffman, against Scozzafava. Why? Because she wasn't conservative enough to satisfy far-right extremists, like Sarah Palin and Dick Armev.

I think that this race was probably the most important this year because for what it signifies. The extreme far-right conservatives are not interested in Republican Party loyalty, they put political ideology above all else. Hoffman had no knowledge of or concern for "his" district's local issues, he didn't even live in that district. In a move reminiscent of the worst examples of the "rotten boroughs" in British politics before the 20th century, the national leaders in the far-right conservative movement found someone whose only "qualification" was the purity of his ideology. Don't worry though, if Hoffman HAD won, he promised that he would move into the District he would then be representing. Scozzafava eventually pulled out of the race and put her support behind the Democratic candidate. The extreme conservatives didn't simply put their own candidate in a roll to beat the Republican candidate; they chased a loyal Republican out of the Republican Party, itself. In the end, enough loyal Republicans still voted for her that Conservative Hoffman lost. The final tally? 49% to 45% to 6%. I told you, folks... they're eating their own.

This race, more than any other, demonstrates the collectivist desires of the extreme far-right conservatives... Local issues are not important to them; they want nothing less than to fill Congress with extreme conservative political ideologues who will put the desires of the conservative movement above every other consideration. Ideological purity is their litmus test, and having

elected officials who will do the bidding of political masters instead of serving the needs of their constituents is a model for a one-party state with a collectivist government. We have seen such systems before and, trust me; their loyalty is NOT to their constituents... it is to their party. The far-right conservative extremist movement is trying to lead America down a very dangerous road.

In addition to these for elections, there were two ballot initiatives that need to also be included in our summary. The first of these was the vote to overturn the law which passed the Maine legislature that made same-sex marriage legal in Maine. Drawing an immense amount of support from OUTSIDE the state, the conservatives managed to overturn that law by garnering 53% of the public vote to repeal it. The other ballot initiative we need to make note of was the approval in Breckenridge, Colorado of a law which decriminalizes all personal possession of one-ounce or less of marijuana. State and federal laws are still in place but for the first time, a city has stood up and said "it isn't worth the government fighting to enforce those laws". And who was responsible for this victory? If you said the Libertarian Party, you would be completely wrong. The organization that was responsible for getting 71% of the voters to approve that law was the modestly named 'Sensible Colorado'... 71 freaking percent of the voters approved this and the LP had no hand in (and, thus, get no credit for) this win. Both of these initiatives were about personal freedom, personal MORAL freedom. If we, as Libertarians, are not the ones who can stand up for the side of freedom, then who the hell needs us?

So, what lessons should the LP learn from these elections? A couple of things. One is that being an extreme far-right, conservative neo-Republican party will not win for us. Those people are not disaffected, they are simply scared. They have their own machine and we would simply get swallowed entirely by them... and good-bye to the Libertarian Party. Another lesson is that independents really do matter. They might not be enough to win an election on their own, but that can certainly swing an election. In these elections we can all see the importance of a liberal movement. If we can mobilize it, we can win. The moderates, independents and liberals who turned out in numbers sufficient to elect Obama last year are the unmotivated and disaffected pool of voters we can turn to. There is power there, strength that is simply waiting to be utilized. The Republicans are feeling elated about winning the two governor's races this year. They are patting themselves on the back by seeing importance on the wrong victories. While governors might be the Chief Executives in their state, they have no role in formulating national legislation. The two House elections this year, both of which were won by the Democratic candidates, are much more significant in the larger picture of current American politics. What this says about the 2010 election possibilities is fascinating.

Candidates in reliable Republican districts will now be facing primary challenges from the far-right if they are not seen as being ideologically pure enough. Why is that important? Remember center-left Republican Senator Lincoln Chaffee of

Rhode Island? He had to spend most of what he had in his campaign war chest to beat a far-right Republican opponent for the Party's nomination. After the primary fight, he didn't have enough money left to effectively campaign for the Senate seat, itself, and he lost to the Democratic nominee. We can look for more of this in 2010 as big money from national figures fighting for their far-right agenda will flood into the coffers of Republican candidates who aren't seen as being conservatively pure. Any primaries in which the far-right challenger loses will leave the winner with little or no money to campaign for the actual seat or office in question.

Since Obama's election a year ago, he has turned this country's very active liberal base into an unmotivated "lost generation" looking for someone to give them hope. THAT is where our future lies. WE need to be the ones who can break the American liberals out of their ennui, to rally and mobilize the untapped political power they represent. THEY are the people who can make or break elections. Those people are looking for leadership and hope. Now is the time to bring back Ed Clark's Libertarian movement. Now is when we need his "low-tax liberals" to rise up again and take the Libertarian Party back from the neo-Republicans. In every one of the elections I have mentioned here, WE could have made a difference, we could have made ourselves known again to the general public, we could have been leaders... and, to be politically viable, our future rest with being able to harness the unfocused liberalism which Obama has let wither away. The conservative extremists are destroying the Republican Party and the Democratic Party is showing itself to be incapable of leadership. There are holes being torn in American politics and, as nature abhors a vacuum, those holes WILL be filled. What we have to ask ourselves is, can we the party that fills those holes?

Since 1984, the LP has driven itself to an extreme end of the American political spectrum, an end that is mostly allied with the extreme far-right. That is not what first attracted the general public to the idea of libertarianism. It was the combination of the ideas of fiscal responsibility AND liberal social policies that first put the LP on the lips of the American people. Both the Republicans and the Democrats parties are moving farther and deeper into their own ideological extremes. I believe that any two-party system is going to naturally gravitate between polar opposites. The reason that it is important for America to also have a centrist party is because there needs to be a party that can comfortably welcome people from the right, left and middle. What makes the Libertarian party important is not conservative or liberal politics; it is our view of the role and function of government. What we oppose is authoritarianism. Personally, I am pretty far to the left while the political figure I know and admire the most is pretty far to the right; I believe that some government is necessary and she is an anarchist. Where we find commonality is our shared belief that neither the Republican nor the Democratic Party are serving the American people. THAT is why we both share a belief in libertarian philosophy, and the day that we can get both my moderate right Republican father and my independent green (liberal AND vegetarian) sister to vote for our candidates is the day that we

will know that we have arrived.

Rhys Blavier is a libertarian author writing from Tomayor, Texas. Rhys Blavier extends his profound thanks to Angela Keaton (AntiWar.Com) and Lee Wrights (LibertyForAll.net), and encourages others to support their long-time and dedicated work and their effort to support the cause of liberty and freedom and the advancement of the libertarian philosophy.  
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## LNC Refuses to Correct Wrights' Membership Records

Readers may recall that an effort was made to remove Mr. Wrights from the LNC based on his failing to respond to membership renewal notices that he appears not to have been sent. It was then claimed that Wrights had not been a member during 2008-2009, even though payment had been received by the LNC for his dues. The claim became inoperative, but Wrights' membership records apparently still do not reflect this fact. There was a motion on the LNC to order its staff to correct the membership records:

That our ED correct the donation records to reflect that Mr. Wrights was a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party from April 2008- April 2009. The motion failed because a majority of the LNC refused to vote:

The following LNC Members voted: Michael Jingozian, Michael Colley, Lee Wrights, Mary Ruwart, Tony Ryan, Mark Hinkle, Julie Fox, and Rachel Hawkridge.

LNC members who failed to vote: Bill Redpath, Bob Sullenstrup, Aaron Starr, Pat Dixon, Alicia Mattson, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Stewart Flood, Dan Karlan, and James Lark.

Accordingly, the proposal failed.

## LNC October Spending

The following numbers are based on the Libertarian National Committee FEC reports, primarily for the October reporting period. There are also the financial reports supplied the LNC by the Treasurer, which show at certain key points some very different numbers. Given the miracles of modern accounting, it does not follow that one of the sets of numbers is wrong, but readers should realize that in accounting reports truth can be multivalued. A separate article treats the large differences between the LNC internal and FEC financial reports.

The Libertarian National Committee began October with \$28512.27 cash on hand, had Total Receipts of \$92044.55 and Total Disbursements of \$95036.04, and closed October -- the November reporting period -- with \$25520.78 cash on hand. For the year to date, total income was \$914185.78, while total disbursements were \$891843.48. A projection forward to the end of the year suggests an income for the year of \$1.15 mil-

lion, give or take, which is about \$40,000 less than the 2009 draft budget.

So where did that money go?

There's a paid staff, who received \$19580 in net pay. That staff includes Wes Benedict, Susan Dickson, Dominick Dunbar, Casey Hansen, Robert Kraus, and Mark Meranta. Also on the list was Louise Calise, who according to my sources on the LNC complained to the LNC that she was let go by the new Executive Director. Associated with that net pay were unemployment, withholding, social security tax, medicare, health insurance, 401K payments, not to mention the cost of payroll services, totalling \$9443.

Then there were the other people and groups also paid for services:

- \$1000 to for Writing for Non Candidate Mailing
- \$1200 to Arthur DiBianca for Administrative Support Services.
- \$1250 to Paula Edwards for FEC Filing
- \$3000 to Gary Sinawski for Legal Services

That's \$6450.

The staff needs an office. We are paying \$10928.89 a month in office rent. Those of you who own homes can do a comparison here. Add up your mortgage, your taxes and utilities as paid separately, and some reasonable number for plumbers, roofers, et painful cetera for keeping the house in one piece. The LNC office is about two and a half thousand square feet. Are you paying \$10,928 a month for 2500 square feet of your house? If you are paying less, you are seeing that DC is expensive.

The office needs bits and pieces. Copier leasing and maintenance, postage meters and resets, and office supplies come to \$2951.44.

There are costs associated with raising money, such as \$2489.87 in credit card processing fees and \$815.99 in D&O insurance. (Director's and Officers Insurance? Yes, if you have money, someone may want to sue you to get their hands on it.) \$14,736 accounts for non-candidate printing, mailing and editing.

Bringing us into the 21st century, we have \$8720 to Terra Eclipse for Website Management, \$3000 for email marketing, \$1190 for phone and data services, \$649 to Rackspace for website hosting, \$574 for an email server, \$330 for cable service...all in all, close to \$14,000 for internet efforts for this month.

In other interesting motions the LNC rejected a motion from Dan Karlan MORE NAMES that, among other things, defined "candidate support" as not being a core activity of the LNC. It also specified "*Intimate*" is any person with whom one has or has had a relationship of a romantic or intimate nature.

Readers may wonder what this definition is doing in a motion.

That's explained by another part of the motion:

*"The office of the LNC shall not engage or contract with anyone serving on the LNC or any Bylaws-specified committee,38 or with any Relative, Intimate, or Economic Partner of such, unless approved in advance by the Employment Policy and Compensation Committee after full disclosure of the relationship. The Chair shall promptly disclose to the LNC as a confidential matter that such approval has been given. The LNC may override such approval, but the motion shall not reveal confidential details."*

Readers familiar with the Federal Fraud by Wire Statute and that interesting Circuit Court of Appeals decision in United States vs. Bush (no, not W.) will recall the curious fact that failure to disclose matters materially significant to the operations of one's organization can be a Federal Felony, and if you are an LNC member that list of intimates is now materially significant to the LNC's operation. At one end, there is always speculation as to which LNC members may not want to disclose names in a gender or time-specific way. On a second end, there was the LNC member or candidate who responded not only that she or he did not remember all of them, but she or he was quite sure that she never acquired a significant number of their names. On the third end, what counts as a 'romantic relationship'? How many LNC members can remember who they turned down for a date in seventh grade?

Mercifully, this crock was voted down by the LNC: Fails 4-8

For: Aaron Starr, Alicia Mattson, Stewart Flood, Dan Karlan

Against: Michael Jingoian, Pat Dixon, Lee Wrights, Mary Ruwart, Tony Ryan, Mark Hinkle, Julie Fox, Rachel Hawkrige

Abstain: Bill Redpath, Bob Sullentrup, Michael Colley, Rebecca Sink-Burris, James Lark

## Rob Power Announces Campaign for Platform Committee Chairship

I still contend that Robert's is very clear that its rules are meant to give all members an opportunity to be heard in an orderly and efficient manner, and that none of its rules should ever be construed as a way to silence a member entirely. I believe trying to use Robert's to exclude the participation of a member who could easily be allowed to participate is an improper use of the rules, by Robert's own definition.

So, since it seems clear that if she is elected chair of this committee, Alicia will rule a motion to allow teleconference participation out of order, and even rule my appeal of that ruling out of order, we'll just have to vote on this issue by proxy.

I therefore announce that I am running for chair of this 2010 LP platform committee. If you want to have a vote on whether to

allow our members to participate by telephone, vote for me, and we will have the vote on telephone participation. If you don't want to have that vote, then vote for Alicia (or Aaron, or anyone else who refuses to allow a vote on this issue), and they will keep such a vote from happening.

There. That was easy. :-)

## The Other LNC Financial Disclosures

In addition to the FEC reports, the National Committee has internal financials mailed to members. A copy of these financials reached this magazine, not from the LNC mailing operation.

Of course, book-keeping rules readily lead to all sorts of outcomes, so it is not surprising that the two sets of financial reports do not agree with each other, but the two reports do present two different perspectives on the same pile of cash.

For the current year, on the income side the internal report is somewhat less positive than the FEC filings are. The Quarter numbers are cumulative for the year to date. In particular

	FEC To-date	LNC to-date
Q3 2009		
Income	822 141	787 094
Outgo	796 807	762 487
Q2 2009		
Income	556 857	522 704
Outgo	524 932	505 374
Q1 2009		
Income	290 671	256 669
Outgo	266 019	241 900
2008		
Income	1 669 047	1 637 139
Outgo	1 779 028	1 803 580
2007		
Income	1 454 411	1 613 727
Outgo	1 346 854	1 337 686
2006		
Income	1 277 215	1 289 792
Outgo	1 257 274	1 246 585
2005		
Income	1 337 702	1 367 329
Outgo	1 394 063	1 497 666

There are various accounting process for describing the same situation, so there is no indication of impropriety here, but it is certainly interesting how a change in perspective can have a considerable effect on nominal income or outgo.



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Membership Records — LNC October Spending

Rob Power Announces He Is Candidate for Platform Committee Chair

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