

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

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### New Path to Issue Strategic Plan

If you wonder what the New Path slate proposes the new LNC should do, your answer is about to arrive. On April 21 the Libertarian candidates of the New Path slate will issue a strategic and business plan for our party. The Plan outlines the intents and commitments of the New Path slate if elected.

The Plan, entitled simply *The New Path*, will come in two versions. The full plan is more than 60 pages long, and includes detailed discussions of how the New Path Slate proposes to advance. The short document, omitting the background and the discussions, is the Business Plan.

The New Path Strategic plan, while still in draft, is nearly ready for publication. Its Table of Contents includes

Part One — Our Present Situation

The Opportunity
The Lethal Danger

A Simple Summary: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

Part Two — Finding the Solution Step One: Start from Zero

Step Two: Tasks for Every Party Group

Step Three: Tasks for the National Committee

Part Three — How Do We Do It?

Step Zero: Listen to the Members

Step One: Quick Fixes Step Two: Do Real Politics

Step Three: Raise and Spend Money Well

Step Four: Mobilize the Libertarians

Step Five: Marketing, A Tale of Two Libertari-

ans

Step Six: The Practice of Scientific Membership

Acquisition

Step Seven: Healing Our LNC
Step Eight: The Distant Prospect
Part Four — The New Path Business Plan

Tables: Time Line Chart New Path Financial Projections Five-Year Financial Projections

Part Five — The New Path Leadership Team

In Closing

The short-form business plan includes the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis, the business plan of Part Four, and the financial projections.

There are some radical innovations relative to the past. Zero-base budgeting methods have been applied throughout the financial discussion. Taking advantage of the major efforts of the Pew polling group, serious analysis based on issues polling with demographic correlations has replaced random guesses as to where we can actually find libertarian recruits. You'll have to wait until April 21 to read about Mike, Sally, and where our best targets really are. Hint: They're well educated. They're young. And they're not listening to Republican hate radio, not unless they needed a cure for low blood pressure.

Expect to be able to read the plan at http://
NewPathForTheLP after April 21. Printed or CDROM diskette copies will be sent to state chairs and
other prominent activists on about the same date.

## Root Says He Will Run for President in 2012

In a video interview reported by Knappster http://knappster.blogspot.com/2010/04/tale-of-two-waynes.html Wayne Root is heard to say

I'm the Libertarian vice-presidential candidate, be the presidential candidate in 2012, and hope to be the Ross Perot of 2012.. Later in the same video ... I was the vice-presidential nominee in 2008. I plan to be the presidential nominee in 2012.

#### Good News on Barr "Transfer"

It didn't happen.

Readers may recall, some months ago, the peculiarity

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that the Barr 2008 campaign reported in an FEC filing having received a \$10,000 donation from the Libertarian National Committee, a donation the LNC had neither voted nor reported to the FEC. The situation has now been clarified. The Barr Campaign was actually disclosing \$10,000 in spending by the LNC for ballot access, a substantial act by the LNC to the benefit of the Barr 2008 campaign, but not an LNC cash donation to Barr 2008.

As is very well known, the LNC actually spent an extremely large sum for ballot access for the National Party's Presidential candidate, perhaps as much as a half-million dollars. The LNC maintained all along that it had not given money to Barr 2008, and that statement is confirmed.

The assertion reported to this journal by an LNC member, that a senior Barr campaign member had stated to the LNC member that the \$10,000 was a cash donation by electronic bank transfer, apparently arose from a chain of misunderstandings in a long chain, that are now set to rest.

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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.

## Ruwart Condemns Effects of Roberts' Rules of Order

In a letter forwarded to this magazine, LNC At-Large candidate Mary Ruwart writes: The delegates who write our bylaws aren't registered parliamentarians either. They wrote our bylaws, all 17 pages of them, with the expectation that what they wrote would be followed by the LNC. But that's not what happens. The 600+ pages of RONR are applied to the 17 pages that the delegates pass, at times thwarting our delegates' intention. RONR, as currently applied to our bylaws, is more of a hindrance than a help.

Unfortunately, Robert's is currently used to silence opposition, even in meetings, although this is less of a problem than having our bylaws morphed by selective application of Robert's. Also, the Chair can always choose to ignore the advice even of the official parliamentarians and the attendees can always vote to overrule the chair.

The big problem is that our delegates, those who vote on the bylaws, are not parliamentarians. Consequently, they generally are not aware of how Robert's impact will change the meaning of what they think they are voting for.

If we have to go to a registered parliamentarian to decide what our bylaws mean, because applying RONR changes their meaning, then we need to amend our bylaws to do away with our reliance on RONR. This term has convinced me to vigorously support any amendment to our bylaws that removes our reliance on RONR. Anyone who cares to introduce such an amendment can count on my support.

#### New Path Candidates on the Radio

New Path candidates appeared on the Idaho Libertarian Times Radio Show. First were George Phillies and Carolyn Marbry, who are running for Chair and Vice Chair, then James Oaksun, who is running for Treasurer, and finally Rob Power, who is running for Secretary. To hear them yourselves, follow the links at http://newpathforthelp.org/latest-news.html

## Rob Power for LNC Secretary

Rob Power's Platform: The LNC Secretary does more than just take notes. The Secretary also serves

as a full voting member of the LNC, so ideology matters just as much, if not more than, technical competence. You can count on me to vote NO on the LP attending 4 consecutive right-wing conferences without any similar outreach to the left, as we saw in the past few years.

In addition, the Secretary works closely with the Chair, especially in-between LNC meetings, when other LNC members must have 1/5 to call an email ballot, but the Chair may do so unilaterally, and the Secretary is responsible for keeping track of such email deliberations. In short, it's about a lot more than just typing notes. I have endorsed George Phillies for Chair, and I am certain that I would serve well as Secretary during his administration.

#### Experience

Campaigned for Harry Browne in 1996 at the age of 20 and joined Libertarian Party in January of 1997. Served as Vice-Chair of LP San Francisco 2002-2004, National Chair of Outright Libertarians, 2004-2010, Treasurer of Liberty for Massachusetts 2005-2007, Executive Committee Member of LP California 2008-2009, and Chair of LP San Francisco 2008-2010.

I have witnessed a severe swing rightward in the LP in the years following Harry Browne's first campaign for President in 1996.

At that time, I was newly "out" as a gay man at the University of Tennessee (BS Aerospace Engineering 1998, MS Industrial Engineering, MBA 2000), so I was very nervous when I attended Browne's campaign appearance in Murfreesboro, TN and asked him point-blank what his position was on allowing gays to marry, adopt children, and serve in the military. I was surprised at how supportive he was of all three ideas. His trueness as a Libertarian -- not only fiscally conservative, but also socially progressive -- was what sold me on the Libertarian Party.

Unfortunately, since even before Harry Browne's passing, I've seen the LP lurch rightward on so many issues in an effort to pander to Republicans. Our recent national nominees have an audience limited to right-wing talk radio, our Party's official talking points are limited to fiscal issues, and our Platform is

being chipped away, bit by bit, to make it less socially progressive at every convention. And how about the new LP slogan that has infected state LPs across the country and threatens to take hold at the national level? "Socially tolerant?" Really?

Would you join a political party that merely tolerates you? Or would you look for one that welcomes you?

If the LP were a ship, it would be so heavy on its starboard that it would have long since capsized. I will use my vote on the LNC to halt that lurch rightward and balance the LP to make it attractive to more than just social conservatives. It's a sad commentary on the LP's lack of progress in the past 14 years that my goal for moving the Party forward is to restore it to what it was in 1996 when I first met Harry Browne.

#### **Our Solutions**

I'm proud to be running with a group of people who have what it takes to fix what's broken about the LNC. Transparency. Accountability. Fiscal soundness. Supportive of the state and local parties instead of dismissive of them. These are the traits the next LNC needs if we are to reverse the decline of our Party. We have specific proposals to solve these problems.

First, limit Executive Sessions to only those issues where it is legally necessary (hiring/firing staff, law-suits where the LNC is named, etc.). Abuse of Executive Sessions to decide on courses of action that are known to be unpopular with Libertarians watching the meeting in-person or online has been a worsening problem in recent years. It needs to stop.

Second, if we cannot find staff who can balance outreach efforts to both Left and Right, then our only option is using separate budget line items for outreach to the Left and for outreach to the Right, to ensure that Party resources (i.e. YOUR dues and donations) are not spent disproportionately on outreach to conservatives.

Third, still on the topic of budget, slash the LNC's fixed costs. I'm tired of receiving yellow envelopes in the mail telling me that if I don't send a check, the

LP's lights will be shut off. That is a ridiculous state for the LNC's finances to be in. A yellow envelope should say "send your check, or we won't be able to get ballot access in this particularly tough state," or "send your check, or we won't be able to run this fantastic ad we've created." But begging people for emergency donations to keep the electricity from being cut off sends a strong signal that the LP is not a serious party, led by serious people. The LNC's current financial mess is inexcusable, and we will restore fiscal sanity via reducing spending to levels that actually make sense given the current economic climate.

Fourth, get back to doing real politics. Once we're off the treadmill of constant fundraising to cover expensive fixed costs to do fundraising to cover expensive fixed costs, to do fundraising, etc..., we can get back to the work that justifies the LP's existence: recruiting candidates, supporting state and local activists, advertising to the public, getting 50-state ballot access and building active parties in every state, D.C., and Puerto Rico, and finally creating libertarian affinity groups and think tanks.

These are the things you can count on me to vote for as an LNC member, and provided that all of the other folks I'm running with are elected, we'll finally have the right LNC to accomplish these basic functions of a political party.

### Phillies on Our Party's Crisis

Fellow Libertarians!

Our national party lies critically ill.

Since the year 2000, we've lost more than half our membership. Party income has fallen by nearly 3/4 in real dollars.

We cannot survive if we continue along this path.

How many state affiliates do we actually have? Certainly not 51. If you don't believe me, go to the LP.org website, go through the web pages of our state parties, and ask yourself when each was last updated.

If we continue along this course, in a very few years

our national party will cease to exist. Lady Liberty's torch will lie extinguished. We will be united in history with the Whigs and the Federalists.

Surely no Libertarian can wish this fate. Is there no better alternative? Is there no way we can set the good ship Liberty on a new course toward freedom?

Yes, there is.

And that, my fellow Libertarians, is why I'm running for National Chair of our party.

The ancient Romans had a high office, the Pontifex Maximus, the high priest. I'm not running for that. If you want a philosopher king to split hairs about Libertarian philosophy, I'm probably not your man. I'm not running for the Maximus Bombasticus either. If you want revivalist speeches with smoke, mirrors and huge promises, I'm probably not your man, either. To teach the public about our Libertarian principles, we have our fine Libertarian candidates and our party educational activities.

I have only one huge promise. I promise you there are no silver bullets, no magic tricks that will march us to first-party status. Our only path to greatness is the sweat and tears, the hours and dollars of our volunteers, activists, donors, and supporters.

The National Chair is our CEO. I'm running for National Chair because I want to do the hard work of leading and administering our party, so that you, our Libertarian activists, can get on with the important political business of the day, namely converting the United States to a Libertarian-majority nation.

I'm not running by myself. In America, one man political parties like the John Anderson party and the George Wallace party are bright shooting stars that speed across the landscape in the twinkle of an eye, only to vanish forever. Their political symbol is properly the mule, a creature with no hope of progeny.

I am running as part of the New Path, the New Path to Libertarian Revival. My good friends and I, the Libertarians of the New Path, are running for our National Committee. We're running for National Committee to send our party once again on the march to political greatness.

Who are the New Path candidates?
George Phillies -- Chair
Carolyn Marbry -- Vice Chair
James Oaksun, MBA -- Treasurer
Rob Power -- Secretary

Regional Representatives and alternates include Rachel Hawkridge Jim Remmert Jake Porter Scott Williamson Charles Wilhoit

(Please remember also our good friends, including Mary Ruwart, Lee Wrights, and Vicki Kirkland.)

So what are we offering as a new course for our party?

Above all, start doing real politics. Focus our energies outward at attacking our opponents, not inward at attacking our competing factions.

- #1) Fix our finances. Cut fixed costs. Redirect our income to real politics. Show our donors that their money will be spent wisely and well. Revive our flagging donor interest. Recruit vast numbers of new donors, and retain their interest so they keep coming back to us.
- #2) Support our volunteers, activists, and candidates. The LNC can't do their work for them, but it can make it a lot easier. Support? Downloadable trifolds with blank panels, so you can download, modify for local needs, and print, without having to write the whole thing. Downloadable web page templates, so candidates can get off the ground faster. Candidate and group support material like the Libertarian Candidate Support Disk. And, yes, the LNC can advance seed money to credible Federal candidates.
- #3) Public outreach and advertising. Web ads via facebook, adwords, etc. targeting young people. New web pages with solid archives. Put Libertarian Party sound bites where lost small-L libertarians will find us. More libertarian affinity groups like Out-

right Libertarians. More small-L libertarian think tanks like AntiWar.Com. A monthly newsletter.

- #4) An active, vibrant affiliate in every state, D.C. Puerto Rico, Guam, and everywhere else the American flag flies. Get that, and watch our ballot access costs drop in 2012.
- #5) Candidate recruitment and support. When the Democrats need extra pressure on a good potential Federal candidate, Obama makes a phone call. We don't have a President, but as National Chair I'll do my part to help. By the way, I promise you I will \*never ever\* urge a state party not to run a real libertarian candidate, in order to help the Republicans or Democrats win. We're here to beat both of them, and I'll work vigorously to ensure that defeat is their fate.
- #6) A National Committee that focuses on substance, not parliamentary hair-splitting. That's a National Committee with working groups, a few LNC members and a lot of volunteers, to do all the work the LNC needs and the LNC staff has no time to do. Perpetual pandering to parliamentary panjandrums is wrecking our national party. Parliamentary pandering must be stopped.

That's not everything we need, not by a long shot, but it's a nice start.

This NatCon, you have a choice. I'm offering you hard work. I'm offering you a plan. I'm offering you a team to carry out that plan.

The choice is yours.

## Wilhoit Declares for Regional Alternate

Charles Wilhoit of Tennessee for Regional Alternate I, Charles Wilhoit, hereby announce my candidacy for the position of Fourth Region Alternate Representative of the Libertarian National Committee (LNC).

I am a Recruiter by nature as well as by reputation. I am proud to say that I recruited Scott Williamson as a candidate for LNC Regional Representative from Region Four. I promised Scott that I would do every-

thing possible to help him achieve his goal, both in being elected in St. Louis and in doing what he promised in his candidate announcement. (click here to see announcement)

I decided to become a candidate to be a more active supporter for Scott. I choose to be in the Arena, not just the Cheering Section.

I share Scott's goal completely. I agree with everything he said in his candidacy announcement. We are independent of each other as candidates, yet we are a Team in spirit. If elected, we promise that one or both of us will attend every LNC meeting. I have no intention of being a mere "Stand By" Representative. I will be Scott Williamson's working partner.

Having been born in Alcoa, Tennessee in 1923, I bring to the Williamson/Wilhoit combination a wealth of experience which both Scott and I can draw on as the need arises. First, I had a full and unusual career in the Navy, starting with my graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1945, during which time I commanded three ships, a destroyer squadron and one shore activity. I resigned my Regular Navy Lieutenant commission in 1954 and was subsequently commissioned a Lieutenant in the Ready Reserve of the Naval Reserve. As a Citizen Sailor, I worked for Reynolds Metals Company, Convair Astronautics Division of General Dynamics and Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company. I was recalled to active duty in 1961 and remained on active duty until I retired a Captain in 1974. In 1952, while on active duty at the Naval Academy, I became the Corresponding Secretary of the Naval Academy Class of 1946 (1,046 graduates) and served in that capacity for the next 38 years. Early on I was active in the Naval Academy Alumni Association, where I served as President of the San Diego Chapter and as the youngest member of the National Board of Trustees.

I became a Life Member of the Naval Reserve Association (NRA) and over the years served as President of the San Diego Chapter, President of the Eleventh District and as Vice President, Membership, of the Association. I became well known as a membership recruiter and for organizing new NRA chapters in Districts west of the Mississippi River. While living

in Solana Beach, California I served a term as First Vice President of the San Diego Council of the Navy League.

Following my retirement from the Navy I became active in the Republican Party as President of a Republican Club in North San Diego County, CA and subsequently as a member of the San Diego County Republican Executive Committee, serving as Precinct Coordinator.

After moving back to Blount County, Tennessee in 1988 I became a member of the Libertarian Party of Tennessee (LPTN) and served a term as Chair of Blount County Libertarian Party and LPTN Chair. I currently serve as Chair of the LPTN Membership Committee. I was once a candidate for the Tennessee State Senate and for Governor of Tennessee.

I have always been a firm believer in Bottom-Up, Grassroots, Precinct level, political action and have had ample experience to back it up. I believe that The Libertarian Party exists solely to elect Libertarians to public office and any attempt to emulate Democrats and Republicans in fund-raising and advertising will meet with failure. We must be innovative and willing to introduce libertarian ideas to voters individually.

To repeat Scott Williamson's own words: "I look forward to continually hearing your ideas and working with you to bring about a libertarian society. Together we can change the country. I ask for your support and look forward to meeting you in St. Louis, if not sooner."

For the past 32 years I have been married to my wife, Tricia, an accomplished artist. Her Studio and Gallery is a short walk in the woods from the house where we live on 108 acres in the East Tennessee mountains near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

#### Problems Facing the LNC

- Dwindling Membership
- Diminishing Donations
- Lack of LNC Cooperation

#### **Solutions**

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I decided to become a candidate to be a more active supporter for Scott. I choose to be in the Arena, not just the Cheering Section.

I share Scott's goal completely. I agree with everything he said in his candidacy. We are independent of each other as candidates, yet we are a Team in spirit. If elected, we promise that one or both of us will attend every LNC meeting.

Charles and Tricia Wilhoit can be reached at: likelytn@aol.com This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it . Phone: 865-448-6493. USPS: P.O. Box 156, Townsend, TN 37882

## How to Mobilize Volunteers and Activists

The New Path objective is to turn the Libertarian Party into the American majority party. We will become the majority party through thoughtful, effective, hardworking leadership that spends your money effectively, that mobilizes volunteers all across America to do effective work, and that spends its time electing Libertarians and creating conditions that will elect more. As we move toward that objective, we will reunite vast numbers of Republican and Democratic politicians with their families in much-needed retirement, and not incidentally re-unite their political parties with their political ancestors, notably the Whigs, Federalists, and Know-Nothings.

Mobilize volunteers? Anyone can talk about mobilizing volunteers. You need to do real work to make it happen.

First consider some of the obstacles to volunteer mobilization.

- 1) Some people think they need permission to volunteer.
- 2) Some people need to be asked to volunteer.
- 3) Some people have energy, enthusiasm, and vigor, but no idea what to do.

- 4) Many people want to be sure that what they are doing matters and makes sense.
- 5) Then there are the abominable Noman and Nowoman, the folks who always without exception find a reason not to do anything.
- 6) Some people want to spend their time arguing about utopia.

Those are large obstacles. How will we overcome them?

We're not going to overcome them by ignoring them. We're not going to overcome them with smoke, mirrors and speakers who put to shame every snake oil salesman ever born. No, we're going to overcome them with common-sense practical steps that move us in the right direction. What are some of those steps? Go back and consider the obstacles:

1) Some people think they need permission to volunteer, and sit there waiting for permission. Yes, we will say loud and clear: The water's fine, come on in. If you want to see how to say that message, listen to Ernie Hancock. Telling people 'you don't need permission' is a good step, but it's not enough. What else is needed?

To the message 'you don't need permission', add 'we're here to help you'. We don't have the resources to do your work for you, but we can answer your questions.

Then we give potential volunteers real working examples. Every time a potential volunteer reads a letter from a real volunteer, someone who chose to get active and did real political work, that's one more foundation stone building potential volunteers into real volunteers. That's an important use of the monthly newsletter — morale-building reports that encourage the activity we need.

2) Some people need to be asked to volunteer. Yes, really. After all, most people decide to run for political office because someone asked them. Why should deciding to volunteer be any different?

You ask people to volunteer, one on one. LNC members by themselves can't ask every party member. We can ask a good number of people. We can build the habit that Libertarians ask their liberty-leaning friends to become active in politics.

3) Some people have energy, enthusiasm, and vigor, but no idea what they might do.

Consider a whole list of solutions.

Solution number one is to talk to people and give them choices that match their personal inclinations and skills. To do that you need to ask people what particular skills they have, and you discover people who can do things you never knew were possible.

Choice number two is support materials. Tom Knapp's article on writing letters to the editor is a masterpiece of libertarian thought. Liberty for America distributes in multiple formats several downloadable trifold templates, samples of things that people could use and modify for their own purposes. For people who need to speak in public, Michael Cloud's The Essence of Political Persuasion is now available on disk.

Choice number three, which will only get easier as we grow, is to put each volunteer into the company of more established volunteers, people who will be right there and give the new volunteer support and encouragement.

Choice number four, last but not least, is to use more volunteers in the operations of the LNC. We believe in volunteerism, and should lead by example. Is there a major project that the LNC needs to carry out? A working group of volunteers, with a few LNC members to act as stiffeners and facilitators, should be formed to do it.

When volunteers come to us, asking if we have something for them to accomplish, our answer is: Absolutely. We have projects ready to go, and people you can work with.

4) Many people would like to know that what they are doing matters and makes sense. Seeing the larger strategy and how your part fits in to the whole is a real motivator.

We're doing that right here. The New Path is giving strategic proposals, soon to be assembled into a coherent whole, together with a legitimate business plan to set the National Committee back on course. An important part of that plan is grass roots organization and activity. The Party must be built from the bottom up and the top down.

The New Path message to potential volunteers is: We have a sensible plan. We've laid it out where you can see it. We'd love to have your help, and we are happy to help you when we can.

P.S. We have a plan. Ask our opponents to tell you about theirs.

5) Some people are the abominable Noman and Nowoman, the folks who can always without exception find a reason not to do something.

Recognizing Nopeople is an important political skill. Everyone has a few possible activities they want to avoid. There are always a few people with some truly eccentric ideas on one topic. But if you have a group of volunteers, sometimes it is apparent that a few people are a substantial obstacle to getting anything done. No matter what you suggest, they oppose it. You should rejoice that those people are Libertarians, and give them a chance to work on their own projects without hindering yours.

6) Some people want to spend their time arguing about exactly how the Libertarian future will be arranged, when we are so far away from it that we have no idea what the reality will be like or what we will actually want as the Libertarian future approaches. Nor will we know in advance which evils actually lurk under the cover of innocent and reasonable changes that appear to move in proliberty directions.

Most readers will already have noticed that arguing about utopias seldom seems to get us anywhere. That's why the New Path talks about political operations, not rewriting the platform. We're here to build a Libertarian political Party, not to argue about fine points of philosophy.

We recognize the right of Libertarians to dispute philosophical fine points, but that's not what we are trying to accomplish. We encourage Libertarians to support people who actually want to get something done. We don't criticize people who want to argue philosophy, but we don't spend our time philosophizing.

That's six obstacles to effective volunteer mobilization, and how to deal with each of them.

...George Phillies

# Root Appoints Rutherford as His Running Mate

Wayne Root has announced that his running mate for Vice Chair of the LNC is Mark Rutherford of Illinois. Rutherford is an Indiana Attorney and former State Chair, who served on the LNC in the period 2000-2006. Rutherford is locally remembered for events at the 2002 National Convention, held in Indianapolis, in which Indianans assisted then-Massachusetts-Chair Eli Israel in packing the Massachusetts delegation with two dozen Indianans, every one of who voted for Israel for National Chair. (Israel was defeated overwhelmingly and soon thereafter left the party.)

### Liberty for America Liberty for America is not currently a political party.

But you can join — \$15 per year.

http://LibertyForAmerica.com

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

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