

# Liberty for America

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

Volume 3 Number 8

January 2011

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## LPNH State Convention

Saturday, December 12. The Libertarian Party of New Hampshire has held its annual State Convention. Rich Tomasso was re-elected as Chair. Other officers include:

- \* 1st District vice chair: Brendan Kelly  
Alternate: Don Converse
- \* 2nd District vice chair: Howard Wilson  
Alternate: John Babiarz
- \* Treasurer: Rich Khan
- \* Secretary: Tom Kershaw
- \* Membership Director: Chris Maden
- \* Judicial Committee Chair: Ken Blevens

John Babiarz announced his intent to continue his Gubernatorial campaign and run again in 2012.

## LP Maine Launches Party Drive

The Libertarian Party of Maine has filed papers in preparation for petitioning to be recognized as a political party in Maine. Under current law, approximately 30,000 signatures will be needed. After several years of inactivity, the LP Maine has vigorously revived, with monthly meetings of their Executive Committee/

## Oaksun Resigns!

LNC National Treasurer James Oaksun has resigned from the LNC. He is temporarily replaced by Bill Redpath as acting Treasurer. Oaksun over the last year experienced very difficult events in his personal life, some of which made it impossible to be the treasurer that the LNC needs. We understand that he will be continuing as Chair of Outright Libertarians.

## LSLA to Meet in Seattle

The Libertarian State Leadership Alliance, formerly the Libertarian Party State Chairs Conference, will meet in Seattle from February 18 to February 20.

Speakers will include . . .

Dr. Jonathan V. Wright

Norm Stamper

Workshops on . . .

Fundraising

Growing Your Organization

“Okay, I’m elected! Now what?”

Hotel Reservations - \$79/nt

To Register at the Best Western Executive Hotel:

Call 1-800-351-9444 or 206-448-9444, and ask for the Libertarian rate.

Breakfast is not included, but is available in the hotel restaurant for \$7.65 (including tax). It is a full breakfast buffet, including meat and eggs. The hotel is located at 200 Taylor Ave North, Seattle, 98109. The promotional rate will disappear as the rooms in our block fill up or on February 5 whichever comes first.

Also, you still need to register for the 2011 LSLA Conference by eMailing 2011LSLA@gmail.com

with your choice of package, what method of payment you wish to use (check, PayPal) and the following information . . .

Name of Attendee:

eMail address:

Mailing address:

Any dietary restrictions: (Gluten free, allergies, etc.)

Other special needs:

Full Conference \$119 -

Includes materials, workshops, mealtime speakers, lunch, dinner, evening entertainment, welcome cocktail party.

Dinner Only \$45 -

Dinner and entertainment, welcome cocktail party.

Lunch Only \$30 -

Sat. lunch, welcome cocktail party

No meals \$45 -

Includes materials, workshops, welcome cocktail party. NO mealtime speakers, NO lunch, NO dinner.

Early bird - pay by 1/15/10 \$105

### Open Carry Friendly

The Real Washington is open carry friendly. Open carry is perfectly legal, not totally unknown, and the hotel has no problem with it.

There are gun safes in each of our rooms. And per state law and common sense, no one can carry in a bar.

To carry loaded in an automobile in Washington, you must have CCW, or unload and separate ammunition. Do NOT conceal the unloaded firearm.

The Real Washington's Constitution has better protections than even the federal Constitution. If you are a local, or drive to Seattle, do consider carrying your Second Amendment protection. If you fly, research first.

## LPNJ Member Appointed to School Board

NJLP life member and former NJLP chairman Michael Pierone of White Township (Warren County)

was appointed, as a Libertarian, to the Board of Education of the Warren County Vocational School District. His term began January 1, 2011 and expires on December 31, 2014.

## LP Maryland Achieves Ballot Access

Ballot access, or the ability to run candidates, is mission critical for a political party. We currently have ballot access until December 31, 2010. To maintain ballot access *permanently* LPMD needed 35,000 people (1% of the electorate as specified in the law plus a little wiggle room) registered Libertarian. While we build towards that goal, they needed to collect 10,000 valid petition signatures between 1/1/2009 and 12/31/2010 to extend ballot access through December 31, 2014. And they did!

## LP Massachusetts Regains Ballot Access

The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts has restored ballot access for Massachusetts Libertarians. Ballot access was lost in 2008 when LP U.S. Senate candidate Bob Underwood outdid himself and received 3.1% of the vote, making "Libertarian" a political (major) party, and under Massachusetts' arcane ballot access laws making it nearly impossible for Libertarian Party candidates to get on the ballot. To avoid a repeat of the 2008 event, in 2012 statewide Federal Libertarian candidates will run on the "Liberty" line.

## Massachusetts Announces Successful Fund Drive, 2012 Ballot Access Decision

The Libertarian Association of Massachusetts reports a spectacularly successful fund drive, with a five-to-one return on mailing costs. State Chair

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David Blau is calling for the 12 in 12 campaign focus, an effort to elect a dozen Libertarians to some Massachusetts office in the next two years. That state association has also committed \$1000 toward ballot access expenses in 2012 for the Presidential ticket.

Massachusetts has slightly odd ballot access arrangements. To simplify ballot access for the overwhelming majority of partisan Libertarian candidates in years following 2012, the LAMA State Committee has specified that the 2012 statewide candidates (President, U.S. Senate) will emulate the success of 2010 Massachusetts libertarian U.S. Senate candidate Joe Kennedy by using the Liberty line in their campaigns.

In 2012, Massachusetts Candidates for Congress and down, offices with districts, will run as Libertarian Party candidates; the Presidential and Senatorial candidates, only in those two races, will not run as Libertarian but as Liberty candidates.

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Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive Worcester 01609.  
Membership lets you call yourself a member.

Liberty for America will be performing political acts, 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. Paid for by Liberty for America. Your donations may be used in relation to a Federal Election.

## Julian Assange, Libertarian Hero

(From MassLiberty <http://lpmass.org> by permission of the author)

Julian Assange, Australian journalist and creator of wikileaks (still up at [wikileaks.NL](http://wikileaks.NL)), was asked which political party he as closest to in his beliefs. His answer: The American Libertarian Party.

Assange has championed openness as a way to improve governance. His wikileaks organization in close cooperation with major world newspapers has thus far published 1947 of the 251,287 American diplomatic cables that it has gained. It will be years before they are all released. Among the more surprising revelations: The American Ambassador to one European country asked the local government if a local newspaper was going to publish a certain article, a question that makes sense only if he expected the local government to be bugging all the newspapers in the country.

## LNC Votes for \$750,000 Building

That is right. The LNC, whose annual income is 1.4 million, has agreed to preliminary fundraising—they will refund—to probe if the money is there to build a one million dollar or so building in or near the District of Columbia. The Staff apparently told the LNC where to put the office. Alternative sitings in remote locations were not consider seriously.

Based on visible pages, the new HQ will be 3,000 give or take square feet, i.e., it will be twice as expensive as your editor's home, and will have much less floor area. No rational consideration was given to siting other than 'in the DC area'. Cash savings over five years are estimated at \$20,000-60,000 a year, for a space that is about the same size as the current office, at the sacrifice of all flexibility—you can't pick up and leave. One of the proposed advantages of buying is that if the LNC again runs out of money it can borrow against the building with a mortgage. Oh, estimated moving costs are \$50,000.

Our survey of small business entrepreneurs elicited the opinion that 'buy a building' was about 498th on a priority list of 500 items.

## Lee Wrights' New Year's Resolutions for 2011: A Declaration of Peace

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man." (Benjamin Franklin)

BURNET, Texas (Dec. 31) - All libertarians should take time at the beginning of the new year to read and reflect on A Libertarian's New Year's Resolutions (<http://www.libertyforall.net/?p=5337>) written by the late Harry Browne, said R. Lee Wrights, libertarian writer, activist and potential presidential candidate.

"Harry was gifted with an ability to communicate libertarian ideas and ideals in a clear, direct and concise way so that anyone could understand what libertarianism is all about," said Wrights. "His New Year's Resolutions are one of the best examples of this talent, a classic of libertarian thought."

"What Harry wrote in 1998 is even more relevant today, and especially relevant to me as I consider seeking the 2012 Libertarian presidential nomination," Wrights revealed. "So, inspired by Harry's thoughts and words, and as a tribute to him, I offer these Wrights' Resolutions as the standard by which I will conduct that effort and my life in 2011:

"First and foremost, I resolve to remain focused on the paramount issue facing the Libertarian Party and our nation - to stop all war. No matter what other issues are raised, I intend to keep returning to the central point that unless we stop all war, whether foreign or domestic, individuals can never truly be free.

"I resolve to remain committed to ensuring that whoever is the presidential nominee of the Libertarian Party in 2012, he or she is committed to proclaiming a loud, clear and unequivocal call to stop all war; and be equally dedicated to carrying a solid, uncompromised, unfiltered, unequivocal, and unapologetic libertarian message to all 50 states.

"I resolve to cleanse myself of hate, resentment, and bitterness, and focus on using the tools of peace,

## 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.

love, mercy and forgiveness against the weapons of war, hate, vengeance, and cruelty.

"I resolve to keep from being drawn into arguments or debates on inconsequential issues, and to always remember that my purpose is to increase people's appetite for liberty -- not to prove that they're wrong.

"I resolve to always acknowledge my good fortune in having been born an American, to refrain from dwelling on America's defects and past mistakes, and to focus instead on how we together can realize America's potential and promise.

"I resolve not to adopt the political campaign tactics of Republicans and Democrats, who use coercion, character assassination, evasions, fear, and intimidation in their unbridled quest for power. Rather, I resolve to remain civil in my political discourse and treat all people I encounter with the dignity and respect that is their due as human beings.

"Lastly, I resolve never to cease working to ensure that the Libertarian Party and our presidential candidate in 2012 is committed to proclaiming loudly, clearly and unequivocally - stop all war."

Wright is considering seeking the presidential nomination because he believes the Libertarian message in 2012 should be a loud, clear and unequivocal call to stop all war. He has pledged that 10 percent of all donations to his campaign will be spent for ballot access so that the stop all war message can be heard in all 50 states. The 52-year old writer and political activist was born in Winston-Salem, N.C. and now lives in Texas. He is the co-founder and editor of the free speech online magazine Liberty For All. (<http://www.libertyforall.net>)

## LP North Carolina Secedes from LP Region 1

As forwarded to this Newsletter:

To: Representatives of Region One of the Libertarian National Committee

CC: State Chairs of Region 1; members of LNC

This is to inform you that the Libertarian Party of North Carolina Executive Committee voted on Saturday, November 20, 2010 to withdraw from Region 1.

We believe it is the duty of the regional representatives to keep the region chairs informed regarding LNC meetings and any important matters that might affect our state. Region reps should proactively seek input from the members of the region. Since the 2010 convention, we have received exactly one communication from just one of our alleged representatives - a request for comments on the 2012 convention location. Further, this is a continuation of a historical pattern of virtually nonexistent communication between us and our regional representatives. We no longer feel that this is adequate representation, and thus are withdrawing from the region effective immediately.

Barbara Howe  
Chair, Libertarian Party of North Carolina

## LP District of Columbia Is Trying to Meet Again

Meetup.com reports their latest meeting: Burgers for Capitalism -- January 9 Sunday 5:30 PM at BGR: The Burger Joint in Washington, DC Dupont Circle 1514 Connecticut Ave NW Washington, DC 20036

Burgers for Capitalism is certainly a fine motif for a student group, though I may be influenced by my memories of the MIT Radicals for Capitalism back in the 1960s, a group to which I did not belong, since it seemed to me that they had some odd ideas, e.g., Aristotle disproved quantum mechanics.

## LP Virginia Offers 9 Steps to Party Support

We quote from their excellent web site:

Vote for Libertarians!  
Get Involved!  
Join the Party!  
Subscribe to Our Email Lists!  
Write a Letter to the Editor!  
Recruit a Member!  
Volunteer Your Time!  
Send Money!  
Run For Office!

## LP Florida State Convention

The 2011 Convention and Annual Business Meeting for the Libertarian Party of Florida is happening April 30-May 1, 2011 in West Palm Beach, Florida. The Convention is hosted by the Libertarian Party of Palm Beach County at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

## Green Party Receipts Fall to Zero

The FEC web pages report for the mid-October-Mid-November period the receipts of the Green Party of the United States National Committee were zero. Greens whom I have contacted appeared unaware of the situation. One could propose that there has been an electronic error in filing, but receipts for the prior two weeks were \$3116.79. There is a Green Senatorial Campaign Committee, but it has not filed since August 2009, and had no income for that period.

## LP New York Misses Ballot Access

Warren Redlich needed 50,000 votes for Governor to gain Party status for the Libertarian Party of New York. At last count, he had around 48,500 votes and fell about 1500 short. His vote total is reported to be three times better than the vote total of any prior New York Libertarian gubernatorial candidate. The LNC had invested heavily to put Redlich on the ballot, but not at all to ensure his 50,000 votes.

## LNC In Action

Our usual sources provide us with information that we believe to be correct about LNC acts this past month.

The LNC added LP Maryland State Chair Bob Johnston to their part-time as their Candidate and Affiliate Support Specialist. The LNC has finally noticed that it had inactive affiliates, that it is now trying to revive. Here in New England, Rhode Island and Maine were inactive; friends of mine revived both of them.

The LNC debated changes in the Policy manual to specify what information should be in the Treasurer's budget. Brad Ploeger was appointed to the Technology Committee. The LNC spent \$50,000 in a failed effort to get a particular legal status in New York. The ExComm vote was 4-3. Oaksun voted against, he said. The effort failed and there was then dissension on the LNC. James Oaksun prior to his resignation advised:

*"Our ballot access strategy is a fundamental failure. Where have our recent LNC efforts succeeded in putting Libertarians on the ballot? Unless we have a plan we will continue to fail. I have experienced the crucible of ballot access more so than any other member of this committee in the past year. Throwing money at ballot access issues without success will only empty our war chest. "*

Brad Ploeger apparently described the outcome as a "boondoggle" and an "egregious failure." Ploeger was supported by Norm Olsen "Brad is absolutely correct. His concerns about Region 1 constituents (33% of the LP) are shared by my concerns about Region 4 constituents (another 11% of the LP). " and blasted by Bill Redpath. Lieberman registered his strong disagreement with Redpath. Ploeger expanded on his position:

*" Thank you for your input. I too agree we must invest in ballot access. My reasoning for classifying the recent experience as a boondoggle is because the LNC put the money down with no consideration of assisting NY's efforts to ensure that Redlich would garner 50K votes. The team in NY accomplished a significant feat; I am not here to belittle the efforts of them or any other state affiliate.*

*The failure in my opinion is one of the LNC. Cutting a check to pay petitioners to obtain ballot access was part of our need. I do not however view that act alone as an investment. Being on the ballot and appearing in debates are good things. I am not going to argue otherwise. However, the egregious failure was the LNC's oversight that the effort needed to obtain 50,000 votes to obtain the stated goal of the expense. We cannot simply continue to throw money at these efforts without a detailed plan to arrive at our goal. Investing requires an analysis of strategy--gambling involves luck. My view of this affair places the expenditure in the latter category.*

Mark Hinkle announced he was going to present on our party before the American Muslim Alliance, where he had been in-

vited to speak. Dan Karlan notes at modest length that Muslims are the one group that is persecuted. Your editor is convinced he was talking about the United States. " *It does make some sense for an outlying political organization to go after (seek to make common cause with) groups of similarly-trashed people.*" he rationally argued.

Wayne Root went on at great length as to why the LCN should not be doing this. We believe an accurate quote of his message is:

*"So with atheist Libertarians harshly criticizing Christians... Do those same Anti-religious Libertarians choose to equally criticize Muslims? Do they support Mark going to Muslim religious events? Because right now we risk looking anti-Semitic as a political party. Where is our outreach to Jewish groups? Or Christian groups? Seems one-sided and biased for our party to outreach to only Muslims. And I'm sure it offends most mainstream American voters.*

*And...I wonder if the views of this Muslim organization have been vetted in detail? I would not attend any religious event for any religious group without checking on what they stand for. The problem here is that many Muslim groups do not agree to Israel's right to exist. Many of them do not denounce suicide bombers as murderers. Several seemingly innocuous Muslim groups in the USA have been indicted for raising money for terrorist groups. I would not want Mark or any representative of the LP to attend these meetings without proper vetting... Let alone accepting their payment to attend...despite the fact that the LP reaches out to no other religion.*

*It looks biased and questionable and could result in terrible media coverage... if our party ever becomes important enough for the media or our political opponents to care. I'm very concerned with this oversight.*

*If the LP sends a rep to Muslim events we MUST send reps to Jewish and Christian events too. I would like to volunteer to begin immediate outreach to Jewish and Christian organizations.*

*Atheists can outreach to whomever they want.*

*But we as a group that should not show bias or prejudice should be outreaching to every possible group of faith."*

Mark Hinkle tried to restore sense with a question:

"Wayne,

*In the United States, which religious group is more hated, more reviled, more persecuted:*

1. Jews

Or

2. Muslims

RSVP.....Mark Hinkle"

probably not expecting the responder "Answer = 1. Jews" from Scott Lieberman.

# Support Liberty For America!

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## Donate!

Your generous donation will be used to advance the Libertarian political movement.

Donate on the Internet

You can donate to our PAC "Liberty for America" at <http://LibertyForAmerica.com/>

Donations are not tax deductible and may be used to advocate for the election of particular candidates to public office.

Donors specify that they are American citizens, not a corporation or a labor movement, that they are not Federal contractors, and that they are donating their own money.

## Volunteer!

Because Volunteerism is the backbone of political action  
I Want to Volunteer to Help the  
Libertarian Political Movement

I am prepared to (circle all that apply) :

Help organize state  
or regional groups

Help organize affinity groups

Make public statements;  
internet, newspapers, talk  
radio

Provide art/graphics support

Provide web support or advice

Help with fundraising

Become a political  
activist volunteer

Provide writing/editing support

Run for office

I have special skills or suggestions, namely:

## To Send Money:

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48 Hancock Hill Drive  
Worcester MA 01609

Payment may be made by check payable "Liberty for America".

## Our Web Pages

Liberty for America <http://www.LibertyForAmerica.com>  
complete with Liberty for America back issues, policy  
statements, press releases, and draft state by-laws.

Liberty for America  
Liberty for America is  
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But you can join — \$15 per year.

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

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