# Liberty for America

### Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

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### National Conference is Success

Nearly 50 panelists, speakers, and fellow Libertarians turned out for the National Conference "Future of the Libertarian Political Movement", held in Manchester, New Hampshire on June 19. Keynote speakers Mary Ruwart, Ernie Hancock, and John Buttrick spoke directly to the theme of the conference. Presidential candidates Lee Wrights, Roger Gary, and Carl Person took part in an hour-and-a-half three-man debate moderated by Conference Organizer George Phillies. Panels spoke to the antiwar movement, GLBT Outreach, the state of New Hampshire politics, outreach through young people, and more.

Many events were videotaped and are in the process of appearing on YouTube. I'll have highlights in future issues, but at the moment I am concentrating on getting the videos up in good form.

My own participation was as debate moderator. I had my questions, questions from the audience, and questions from the recent Republican debate. I did ensure that the wedge issue dividing real right libertarians from Republican conservatives was brought to the fore. You may be sure that our Presidential candidates are pro-choice, not anti-abortion like the Republicans. I did bring up the recent New Hampshire issue, right to work laws, as a trick question, the trick being the NH Governor's rigidly libertarian reason for vetoing the right-to-work law, namely it 'interfered with freedom of contract'.

## On the Federal Budget Dispute

You are seeing a collision between people who think 'improving current unemployment and getting the economy to do better' is the key issue, and people who think 'change

course yesterday or we end up like Greece, except there will be no one who can afford to bail us out'.

There is a complete disagreement on the nature of the problem, and hence on the nature of the solution.

When the disagreement is between 'that is a tornado on the front lawn, head for the basement' and 'the house is on fire, get outside', and neither side cares enough to check out the other's chief fear, like looking out the window or sniffing for smoke, there is little hope of progress.

A further complication is that the older Republican leadership made a variety of promises about fiscal prudence and shrinking government that it did not keep, and the people who supported those promises elected a new bunch of Congressmen who give the Republicans a Congressional majority but do not support the Republican leadership.

Meanwhile, for those of you who missed it, "quantitative easing" (the government buying its own debt) is functionally the same thing as printing money. (Indeed, Congressman Paul proposed relieving the debt problem by legislatively cancelling the bonds now owned by the Central Bank. You will note that we are certainly not having significant wage or price inflation, except in commodities where supply limits are colliding with two billion people entering the capitalist world. For serious price information, note the MIT Billion Price project, which shows goods inflating at 1%/year over the past three years.

### Porter Launches New Web Site

The Daily Liberty http://TheDailyLiberty.com will be a general web site focused on Libertarian news and opinion.

The focus will we gather be on serious libertarian news, discussion, and analysis. Look for extended article coverage, the sort of thing people used to see on GoldAmerica-Group.com.

We have elections forthcoming, the Republican war party is working on committing suicide, and there are great opportunities opening up for a serious Libertarian Political Movement.

### Person Announces Campaign

Let me introduce myself. My name is Carl Person and I am a candidate for the Libertarian Party nomination for President in 2012.

High school did not stimulate me, and I found ways to avoid going to class, such as by volunteering to run the school's projector, and sometimes by not showing up for school.

I already knew about work, having had one job or another since the age of 9, when I had a newspaper delivery route (by bicycle) in North Platte, Nebraska.

When I moved back east, to East Northport, Long Island, New York, I worked while in school in the local bowling alley setting up pins (before pin-setting machines were installed), delivering milk for a local dairy (and learning how to hold 7-8 quart bottles of milk in my hands at one time); and as a potato peeler, dishwasher and later a substitute short order cook in our town's all night diner.

Being experienced in making enough money to get by, I really saw little need to learn any French. And my French teacher in the 10th grade made an offer to me – "Promise not to take French again and I'll give you a passing mark." I told her to give me whatever I deserved, and she gave me an F. I didn't care because I did not plan to go any further in high school. I wanted to be free and have a good time.

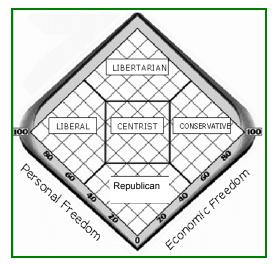
I had learned how to make money starting at age 9 and when dropping out of high school (at age 16) I knew that I could always make money. My father wasn't happy about what I did, but there was little he could do about it. He went to work each day in NYC and I did what I wanted to do while he was gone.

I landed a job with Firestone driving a pickup truck to help start cars which their owners couldn't start or to fix or change flat tires. Also, I drove a small Ford tractor for a home construction company. I made ammunition boxes for the Korean war effort as a drill press operator, and will never forget when the union shop steward came up to me and said, "Look, I know that you're new here, but you're working way too fast, and are making the rest of us look bad. You'd better slow down or else." I understood immediately, and complied, and reduced my effort about 50% and got along fine.

Instead of the good time I was seeking, I wound up doing various menial tasks to earn the few dollars I needed (while living rent free with my father).

Within one year from freedom from high school, it became clear to me that I was heading nowhere, and decided with my best friend to join the Army, for a 3-year hitch. My father wasn't happy, but went with me to a Post Office to sign the necessary forms allowing me to join, as a high school dropout – not a very promising introduction into the armed services.

My friend and I were taken by bus to Fort Dix, New Jersey for introductory processing, including the taking of various tests. My friend went to a Signal Corps school to learn how to string telephone lines on telephone poles and I was sent to become a high speed radio operator, learning how to read, send and transcribe Morse Code at 25 words per minute.



A Redesigned Nolan Chart — matching contemporary American political reality.

After my training was over, at which I learned how to type and shoot a rifle and pistol (the only useful skills I took with me from the Army), I was assigned to Okinawa, and was transported there by a huge military ship with thousands of other soldiers thrown closely together for a 17-day journey, as I now recall. Talking, sleeping, gambling and looking for moments of privacy took up most of our time.

Finally, we landed at Okinawa, and were taken by "deuce-and-a-half" or 2-1/2 ton truck to Machiminato, a base near the capital city of Naha, for orientation and assignment, and later I moved to the Headquarters Company in Sukiran, and started my stint as a ship-to-shore radio operator, working the midnight shift in an Okinawan town known as Shimabuku. My call sign was ADD2 (di dah, dah di dit, dah di dit, di di dah dah dah) and for almost two years I was listening for any ships sending out an S-O-S for any reason, to pass on the S-O-S to those who might be of help to the ship in distress.

Life in a foreign country (actually, an island 70 miles long and 7 miles wide) for a 17-19 year old with little spending money was not very exciting, and most of us could only wait until we became "short timers", meaning that we had fewer than 100 days left on "The Rock". I learned that the Army had an early release program for those who wished to attend college, and I asked my father to find a college willing to accept me.

This proved to be quite difficult, and my father found only one college, Long Island University. I obtained my early release, enabling me to start summer school at LIU. The Director of Admissions who admitted me in spite of my drop out status and lack of a GED diploma hired me as his assistant within several weeks after my admission, and 1-1/2 years later I became Presi-

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dent of the Student Body, and a leading student academically.

I remember the first day in college, when entering the elevator for the first time, I asked the elevator operator "Who is the brightest student at LIU". He and others told me it was "Hollister Brewster", who in a few weeks became one of my best friends at LIU. He came in 1st and I came in 3rd. He obtained entrance to Cornell Medical College on a full scholarship (one of a class of about 65 students) and I was admitted to all law schools to which I applied, and chose to go to Harvard Law School, from which my father had graduated 36 years earlier.

I worked harder than anyone at law school but wasn't able with all that effort to take any honors. It seemed that they went to students who for some reason didn't have to study very hard, such as Richard Posner (7th Circuit Court of Appeals) who came in first.

Nevertheless, I was appointed to become law clerk to the Chief Judge of the United States Tax Court in Washington D.C., which I declined because of the low compensation and high cost of living in Washington, and instead accepted a position with a NYC law firm to which Richard Nixon and John Mitchell were going to become partners.

I worked for several years as a Wall Street lawyer doing securities work, trusts and estates, taxation, and corporate law, and went out on my own to become an individual practitioner and

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small business owner in 1968.

Because of my self employment, I was able to commence lawsuits that would have had me fired if I had been working for a major law firm. I used my legal skills to try to limit government regulation and government spending. For example, I sued to legalize lawyer advertising; to legalize all gambling in NYS; to stop government financing of NYC ball parks; and to stop payments to major media for not moving their offices out of NYC.

I created the paralegal field, and owned and ran the Paralegal Institute for 18 years. I know first hand about the crippling effect of government regulation on education and small business, and tried to do something about it, by two lawsuits seeking to reduce the regulation of for-profit vocational schools in NYS, so that their regulation would be no more stringent than the regulation of competing vocational programs offered by NYU and other degree-granting universities.

Because of my exposure to extreme regulation of education for 18 years, I am in a position to know what needs to be done to reduce or eliminate such regulation and the benefits to be obtained. Regulation slows down if not stops the ability and willingness of schools to create and maintain a cutting-edge curriculum. For example, when I ran the Paralegal Institute, it took me several years and various compromises to be able to obtain state approval for a program I designed to create a new field of employment I called a "Personal Assistant" or "Business Assistant" to the owner of a small business. If, earlier, I had not started the Paralegal Institute before licensing was required, I would never have started the school. Regulated schools find it too difficult to create new types of programs and let their existing programs deteriorate into obsolescence and irrelevance with the predictable inability of graduates to get meaningful jobs while at the same time being stuck with massive student loans they are unable to pay off, with hundreds of billions of dollars in loan losses paid by taxpayers. Get rid of regulation of education and you'll reduce the costs of government in a variety of ways and get a better, competitive educational system, and create more jobs for Americans.

After the time the Paralegal Institute closed its doors, I became a political activist. I've learned that meaningful, permanent jobs can't be created by government programs. For job creation the government needs to end as much regulation of small business as possible, and let small business create and improve their educational offerings and let the free market select which ones are the best, and which should fail or be improved.

I am anti-war (which would save trillions of dollars in so many different ways and help to create a sound, sustainable economy through ending all unnecessary wars and bringing our troops back home); I want to end the war on drugs and legalize victimless crimes. If we end the stifling regulation of small business, healthcare issues can be solved in a free market without federal intervention. Social Security can be phased out and replaced with a more workable model. Also, we need to end the Federal Reserve, without further weakening our currency.

I have been active in the Libertarian Party of Queens County for nearly a decade and in 2010, I ran for New York State Attorney General and came in third, with the highest number of votes for that office ever received by a Libertarian Party candidate.

I intend to use my candidacy to spread the message of libertarianism to those open to the message of liberty, both on the right and left, and in so doing, strengthen the Libertarian Party at the state and national level. I intend to raise and spend a considerable sum to accomplish these goals. I ask for your support.

You may contact Carl Person (pronounced pier-son) by phone at 1-212-307-4444 or by e-mail at CarlForPresident2012@yahoo.com

## Where Your Money Went

Two narratives on the same topic. One is the FEC report of the LNC covering May 2011. The other is the LNC Treasurer's memo to the LNC on the same period. Note that the FEC and the LNC use different accounting procedures, so if you spot any discrepancies, they likely relate to such questions as how and when certain types of income and expenditure are reported, and are not a cause for alarm.

Let's start with the last three occasions, a year before a Presidential election year, and the amount of money the LNC had raised January-May in each year:

2011: 544 671 2007: 589 058 2003: 685 603

I would have quoted 1999, but the FEC web site is down. Hint: the number was over one million dollars.

And how did we spend our May money? Paying people: \$31 910. Their US Taxes \$ 7 016

Their DC Taxes \$ 679

People included \$1500 to an FEC consultant, and nearly \$4000 to an attorney, as well as more than \$2000 for tele-fundraising consulting not to mention pay to an administrative support consultant and work on ballot access. There was also \$1829 for employee health and dental, \$1582 for retirement benefits, \$668 for Virginia Taxes, \$311 for insurance, \$200 for transport, and 131 for payroll processing. Staff had \$2276 for hotel expenses; an additional \$1080 went for air fare. \$812 went to Broadway Premium Funding for D&O insurance.

\$1000 went to postage; an additional \$282 went to shipping. What was shipped? Over \$1600 went to incentives. Also \$2162 went to postage meter costs. \$3581 went to credit card processing.

The office cost \$10847. Despite being in an alleged Class A office building and shelling out the enormous rent, it was also necessary to pay \$998 to S&W controls for HVAC maintenance. Yes, there really are leases like that, though the last one

## Welcome to Liberty for Americal

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 Libertyfor America. Com web site.

I saw was for a storefront in a strip mall in a bad part of town.

Electronic things came to \$6180, including

1193.41 PAETEC - US LEC Corp.Phone and Data Services 177.02 Lexis-Nexis t/a AccurintAddress and Phone Verification Services

2187.17 Lyris Tech - SparklistEmail Marketing Services 1187.5 PMR Assc. Ltd. Computer and Server Repair and Maintenance

649 Rackspace US Inc. Website Hosting Expense
574 SoftLayer Technologies, Inc. Email Server Hosting
Expense

53.87 Telecompute CorporationPhone and Data Services

73.94 Comcast Cable and DSL

84.46 AT&T - Mobility Mobile Broadband 5G

Printing and mailing expenses came to \$16,139, not counting \$495 for a copier lease.

And out of all this came real advertising: \$505 to Facebook, Inc. for a Facebook Widget Ad

The LNC Treasurer described things differently: We quote from his report as sent to us: As of the May 2011, there is little change in the financial situation of the LNC since the end of April 2011. The LNC financial situation continues to be much better than it was four years ago.

The Cash balance increased from \$270,777 to \$282,881. Total Current Assets increased from \$332,746 to \$343,500. Accounts payable remain at zero. Total current liabilities fell from \$39,693 to \$31,615.

Revenue in May 2011, at \$105,353, was close the levels earned in February through April. Revenue in each of the past four months has been between \$102,073 and \$108,214.

The net surplus for May 2011 was positive \$18,124, and for the year to date through May has totaled \$31,674.

The only expenses that are currently tracking well ahead of budget for the year are Litigation expense and Outreach expense, which have been addressed in previous reports.

The near future for LNC finances looks stable, with no major

changes over the next several months.

With respect to goals, we are running a little further behind in hitting our goal of \$1,400,000 of revenues for 2011, although it is still achievable.

With respect to ballot access, the goal of 30 state ballot access for our presidential ticket by April 15, 2012 is on track, and may be exceeded by then. I am working with several states currently to try to bring ballot access proposals to the Executive Committee soon.

#### LNC Times 2014 NatCon

In another message forwarded to us:

Fellow LNC Members. The LP Convention Oversight Committee will soon be bringing to the August LNC meeting the finalists for the 2014 national convention. We started with 40 venues and are down to 7 now (in 5 cities). We need to reduce the list further, and bring you the best of the best for the August vote. The issue of a holiday weekend vs non-holiday will need to be determined. We are finding out that in general, the sleeping room rates are lower on holiday weekends. At present, the candidates are offering in the range of late April thru July 4th weekend.

So here is the question and optional answers. I ask that you vote for no more than two of the answers. This is only open to votes from LNC members, alternates, and LP national staff at this time.

Potential opinions:

- ·A. It doesn't matter. Get the cheapest rate, no matter what date is available to us in 2014.
- ·B. It doesn't matter. Get the cheapest rate, no matter what date is available to us, \*but\* consider local walking conditions, local events, or festivalsthat offer something else to do.
- ·C. Stay away from all holidays, realizing that it may cost us up to 20%more for sleeping rooms.
- ·D. Only on a holiday weekend, such as Memorial Day or Independence Day in 2014.
- ·E. Stay away from Memorial Day, but Independence Day is fine for 2014.
- ·F. Stay away from Independence Day, but Memorial Day is fine for 2014.

## Oregon Dispute Deadlocks

The position of the Oregon LP State Committee is that they are acting in accord with state law:

"248.010 Use of party name. Each major political party and minor political party, its nominated candidates and its members and officers shall have the exclusive right to use the whole party name or any part of it. [Amended by 1957 c.608 §49; 1965 c.407 §1; 1975 c.779 §4; 1979 c.190 §71; 1983 c.514 §5]

248.011 Enforcement of ORS 248.005 or political party rules.

Except as expressly required by law, the Secretary of State, a county clerk or any other elections official shall not enforce the provisions of ORS 248.005 or any other rule adopted by a political party. [1995 c.606 §2]

248.072 Authority of state central committee. The state central committee is the highest party authority in the state and may adopt rules or resolutions for any matter of party government which is not controlled by the laws of this state. [1979 c.190 §84]"

And a message from State Chair Wes Wagner to Mary Ruwart: Re: Mr. Wagner's counter to Mr. Carling's analysis

The LNC doesn't have the power to determine who the chair of the LPO is. That power is in the hands of the Oregon Secretary of State. All of the below arguments are moot since the bylaws were changed. The LNC still has not addressed the core issue. What are the current bylaws, and do they even have the authority to do anything?

The secondary questions of what are they hoping to accomplish should also be raised. Does the LNC wish to make the LPO a private club of half republican sympathizers that is continually at war with itself, or would the LNC prefer a 13,000+ member organization that actually serves the interests of the people the law intends it represents?

That being said, I am not dealing with this anymore. you are all going around in circles and not addressing the real issues. M keeps disputing things that have already been addressed to try to sow confusion.

I don't even know where the hell point #8 came from, but if the LNC plans to entertain crap like that, I am not even going to participate in any alleged debate.

We have grown tired of national interfering in our affairs to protect the political interests of a man who stole from our party for years and caused decades of strife for the Oregon party.

We have a very simple remedy that we can use to remove the LNCs involvement in this matter, which is to simply leave the national party. We are highly considering exercising it since you add no value and cause nothing but headaches.

Sincerely,

Wes Wagner

#### Wagner further wrote the entire LNC:

In summary, this issue is complicated, but had been put to rest on March 31st with the lion's share of the organization and its desire to move forward and no longer put up with the antics of Mr. Burke, Mr. Carling, Ms. Mattson and Mr. Karlan. Their behavior for the past several years has been so reprehensible that they have managed to accomplish something few people ever have: they managed to get a group of libertarians to agree on something.

On June 6th, 2011 the Libertarian Party of Oregon State Committee met and voted to send the above response and the following statements unanimously.

We strongly rebuke the involvement of any LNC officers or functionaries in the internal affairs of the Libertarian Party of Oregon.

Whereas we desire to have a productive relationship with the LNC as an affiliated organization, our ability to do so is greatly impaired by the presence of Ms. Mattson and Mr. Carling being involved in any official capacity.

We further demand that Wes Wagner be added back to the State Chair's list as Chairperson of the Libertarian Party of Oregon and Harry Joe Tabor be added to the list as the current Vice Chairperson of the Libertarian Party of Oregon.

I have further been directed to file a complaint with the Oregon Attorney General's office for the filings of fraudulent documents with the Oregon Secretary of State's office and/or any other offenses that may be applicable.

Sincerely, Wes Wagner Chairperson, Libertarian Party of Oregon

Wagner, in an email as supplied to us, refers to a defense of the Reeves LP Oregon leadership, The defense, alleged to be from M Carling, proposes:

- 1. The Clatsop County Party was not deficient as of the March 12th 2011 convention. Wagner's allegations of a procedural deficiency are just an attempt to disenfranchise legitimately elected members of the LPO State Committee.
- 2. The current LPO bylaws, last amended in 2009, do provide means by which any deficiency with the credentials of a county party to send members to the State Committee can be remedied. Wagner's allegations to the contrary are not supported by any plausible reading of the LPO bylaws. This is clearly explained

in the Judicial Committee ruling from which Wagner selectively quotes.

- 3. Obtaining quorum at convention is far from impossible. Wagner and the other officers in power last term (which ended May 21st) did not substantially promote any conventions or reasonably attempt to achieve quorum.
- 4. To see which faction is outwardly focused and which is inwardly focused, one need look no further than the elected Libertarians in Oregon.
- 5. Wagner's attempts to a) throw out the bylaws adopted in convention, b) reappoint himself to another term of office having lost the election, c) kick Jim Lark and other pledge-signing, dues-paying members out of the party without even an alleged cause, and d) cancel a meeting of the convention ordered by the convention all make clear that Wagner's faction are the ones breaking the bylaws.
- 6. That Reeve's faction is willing to live with the difficulties created when Wagner pushed through the bylaws amendment

resulting in a high quorum requirement and is committed to achieving quorum at the March 2012 convention shows that they take bylaws compliance seriously.

- 7. Wagner quotes out of context just one section of a multipart question answered by the LPO Judicial Committee. Please read the whole of the question.
- 8. Does anyone on the LNC take seriously Wagner's allegation that Hinkle and Lark are Republican operatives?

  M Carling

Writing to the LNC, Mary Ruwart counseled the National Committee on the Oregon matter: "Please note that the Oregon Secretary of State has refused the application submitted by the presumed new LPO officers/affiliate because it has not been signed off by Mr. Wagner.

This could create a serious ballot access problem for us should we decide to accept the presumed new LPO officers/affiliate."

She further advised the LNC: "As I indicated earlier, Mr. Wagner contacted me in my capacity as his At-Large Representative. He shared e-mail correspondence with me from the Oregon Secretary of State's office (see below).

The Oregon Secretary of State has informed Mr. Richard Burke and Ms. Carla Pealer (the applicants for LPO officer status) that they "are unable to process any changes without written approval from the current chair of record of the Libertarian Party of Oregon that they are authorized to make these changes." The current chair of record is Wes Wagner. Unless we interfere, it would appear that this matter has already been settled.

I believe that it would be appropriate for the LNC to formally request, first by e-mail and by LNC resolution if the first request is not honored, that Mr. Carling put Mr. Wagner's name back on the State Chairs' list pending a formal resolution of this matter. It was this removal which sparked the rather heated comments from Mr. Wagner which Mr. Hinkle refers to. I very much appreciate Mr. Hinkle's intention to be helpful when he directed Ms. Mattson to use her parliamentarian skills to help Mr. Carling advise the LPO this spring. However, in hindsight, this probably should not have been done. Mr. Carling has apparently aligned himself with Mr. Burke, who is on one side of the factionalism in LPO; Mr. Wagner is on the other. By blessing Ms. Mattson's involvement, our Chair inadvertently gave Mr. Wagner's group the understandable impression that the LNC was picking sides. If we do not request that Mr. Carling put Mr. Wagner back on the State Chairs' list, this impression will be re-enforced.

We don't need to pick sides here. The Oregon Secretary of State has already resolved this for us. Interference on our part and/or selection of the other faction by the LNC could easily result in another Arizona situation where the LNC chose the faction that did not have ballot access as recognized by the Secretary of State. That snafu resulted in the 2000 LP presidential ticket listing someone other than the people selected by the national delegates on the AZ ballot.

The e-mail from the Oregon Secretary of State's office (a copy is page 11 of the electronic edition) also indicates that she cannot share the bank account information that was provided with the new application. From this, I assume that the current LPO bank account is under the control of Mr. Wagner and his associated Treasurer. I mention this in response to our Chair's inquiry about who controls the LPO bank account."

#### And also from Mary Ruwart:

From what I've been told by Mr. Wagner, the LPO is not our subsidiary, but an independent entity in Oregon. It is this entity which holds ballot access. Mr. Wagner also indicated that he has a very good relationship with the SOS; this e-mail seems to confirm it.

Even if we are to eventually recognize a different affiliate, it is wise, IMO, to be as gracious to Mr. Wagner and his fellow LPO officers/ex-officers as possible. We could save ourselves a lot of headaches if he did sign off with the SOS; if he doesn't, we could face having to do a ballot drive in Oregon.

One way to be even-handed about this is to add Mr. Wagner back to the State Chairs' list until this is resolved, in his favor or not. No harm is done by this, and it would be viewed, IMO, as an olive branch. Mr. Wagner has not been able to respond to Mr. Carling's critical comments made to that list because he's been taken off it.

We are already allowing Mr. Carling to post to the LNC-discuss list, but are not permitting Mr. Wagner to counter Mr. Carling's assertions. I can only do so in a limited way, since I am only a messenger, not a participant. We are already acting in a prejudicial way; if we don't rectify this soon, this body is going to be accused, not only of interfering via Ms. Mattson, but of favoritism in resolving a conflict after hearing one side of the story.

I would like the LNC to be able to stay out of this entirely, but it no longer seems possible. We have to choose one affiliate or another, so we better hear both sides of the story and choose wisely.

We also had supplied to us an extremely long memo signed by Tim Reeves, who is the other person claiming to be the Oregon State Chair. The memo presents rationales based on Roberts' rules of Order and the perhaps former state party bylaws claiming that his election was legal, and closing: "I intend to maintain a low profile until the legal issues surrounding this matter are settled."

## 2010 LNC Wants to Choose 2016 NatCon Site

Yes, that's right, the 2010-elected LNC might choose sites for the next *two* Presidential nominating conventions. We quote a memo we received to the LNC from its Convention Commit-

tee:

"Colleagues,

On behalf of the COC, I want to inform you about a recent decision of the Convention Oversight Committee regarding the 2016 convention site selection. The COC has a lot on its plate this term. We've completed the 2012 site selection process already, and it is our task to plan the 2012 event itself as well.

The LNC adopted a motion in November that set a goal of selecting the 2014 site by August and selecting the 2016 site by the end of the term next May.

As you've recently seen an update from Kevin Knedler about the 2014 site selection process, you're aware that the COC is making good progress on that task so we can meet that portion of the goal in August.

Between August 2011 and May 2012, the COC needs to simultaneously make all the arrangements for the 2012 event as well as complete the 2016 site selection process. Both of these are time-consuming jobs, and it is a lot to ask 5 volunteers to handle on top of our other LNC duties.

So last night the COC voted to enlist outside professional assistance to take on much of the work for the 2016 site selection process. That will allow COC members to focus more on the 2012 event planning instead and still allow us to meet our goal of getting ahead of the curve for the future by selecting the 2016 site this term. The arrangement lets us remain firmly in the driver's seat about decisions, and it involves NO COST to the LNC. Yes, you read that right.

We've selected to use a firm named HelmsBriscoe (HB), which is the largest convention planning services company in the U.S. They maintain a massive database of convention facility data, and the facilities themselves work to keep their data current in the HB database.

HB will work with the COC to understand our requirements, then HB will research facilities that meet our requirements, will solicit proposals from the hotels for us, will work with us to negotiate proposal improvements, will provide us information from their own extensive knowledge of properties as well as experiences of other HB customers at those properties, will arrange our site visits, etc. The COC still gets to make the decisions about narrowing down proposal options to make recommendations to the LNC, as our Policy Manual specifies.

The LNC still votes to select the site, as our Policy Manual specifies. Once the LNC chooses a proposal, HB will use their industry expertise to negotiate the contract details with the hotel, under the direction and subject to the approval of the COC.

HB is the big dog in this industry. If all of their customers are considered as a single unit, HB is the largest purchaser of hotel rooms for any major hotel chain in the U.S. So their industry expertise is considerable.

As far as the legal arrangement goes, we never sign a contract with HB committing us to a particular future path. If we don't like any of the proposals they bring us, and we think we can do better on our own, we walk away, having incurred no cost. If the LNC chooses a proposal brought to us by HB, we still sign a contract directly with the hotel, not with HB. HB makes money only if we sign a hotel contract from one of the proposals HB brought to us. At that time, HB is not paid by the LNC. The hotel's marketing department pays HB a commission for having brought the business to the hotel. HB's incentive is to bring us proposals and contracts of which we will approve. If we don't approve, they make no money.

The only thing we sign with HB is a letter authorizing them to serve as an agent to contact hotels on our behalf, convey requirements, solicit proposals, etc. in our name. But we are always in the driver's seat. HB makes no decisions for us.

HB signs no contracts or obligations for us. They bring us proposals, and the COC and the LNC still make the final decisions just as our Policy Manual specifies. This is just a new approach to how the COC gathers the data we've previously gathered on our own to present to you. Our legal counsel will review the agency letter before Chairman Hinkle signs it.

The COC wanted to make the LNC aware of this decision, as it's not same way we approached the task for 2012 and 2014. The COC came to this unanimous decision after thoughtful consideration and a teleconference interview with our HB agent involving LNC Chairman Hinkle and former COC chairman Admiral Colley. We feel this will allow us to do two large projects at once with HB's professionals working on 2016 solicitations while COC volunteers focus on the 2012 event planning, still negotiate an excellent deal for our delegates, get ahead of the curve for future convention planning, maintain decision-making power, and incur no cost for the LNC.

COC members will be happy to discuss this as part of our committee report in August and answer whatever questions board members might have about it, but we wanted to give you a heads-up about it now.

-Alicia

## Republicans Getting Lost?

And straying into our party? We are now in possession of descriptions of three disparate actions which appear to show Republicans wandering into our Libertarian Party, from three different corners of the country.

The first comes from Florida, where the Chair of their Platform Committee launched an antilibertarian, but very far right Republican, rant on the topic of marriage equality. Far right Republican? The rant refers favorably, at length, to internet site World News Daily. We note:

A Problem with Libertarians?

Writing at http://www.libertyflorida.org/?p=710, Florida Libertarian Tom Rhodes, (Vice-Chair, Libertarian Party of Citrus County, Chairman LPF Platform Committee) spokes up against what he described as 'The Problem with Libertarians).

We quote a few phrases from a much longer editorial

"...Last week's press release by LP Chairman, Mark Hinkle, unnecessarily alienated over half the US population and hypocritically compromised libertarian principles. By saying that, "Permitting couples to marry when they are of the same gender is a step in the direction of equality before the law" he said the LP is willing to compromise its principles, and willing to alienate the majority of the population which hold the more than 5000 year old belief that marriage is between a man and a woman...The Christian principle of Equality under the Law, properly adopted by both our founding fathers and the Libertarian Party, should make the idea of providing any special privileges or punishments to anybody repugnant... The LP could have taken a far more principled stand, and opened the LP up to both the LBGT community, and the majority of Americans who tolerate but don't condone homosexuality....Libertarian ideology is rooted in the same principles that were used to form our constitution. Whether we want to admit it or not those are Judeo-Christian principles....Our party is insane to think that we can continue to embrace our Amoral Atheistic Anarchist image, and have any different acceptance by the American people...to be effective in American politics we must also shed our Amoral Atheistic Anarchist image..."

And now we move to Oregon where the State Committee of the Reeves faction has as Vice Chair a gentleman who is, it appears, a party officer in the Republican party. Other members of that State Committee are apparently associated with the substantially Republican "Tenth Amendment Center". In addition, it was so far as we can determine supporters of the Reeves faction who attempted to put a Republican candidate on the ballot on the Libertarian line.

And finally we reach New Hampshire, where Albert 'Max' Abramson presented himself to the Future of the Libertarian Political Movement Conference as a new candidate for the Libertarian Presidential nomination. In the course of his speech, he did not — unless I missed something — mention that he was a registered Republican, that he was running in the Republican Primary for State Representative (special election, Rockingham 14th), let alone that if he won he would be running in the general election against a real Libertarian candidate, Brendan Kelly, who was in the room at the time.

So is he a Republican or a Libertarian? A suggestive piece of evidence is provided by the Free State Project Forum, in which someone who appears to be Abramson writes of the Republican winner in the primary. "Wherever he's been asked to take a position, he's taken the liberal position on everything from gay marriage to you name it." Attacking someone for taking the 'liberal' position on marriage equality tends to be a clear indicator of where you actually are on the political spectrum, no matter how much you also have libertarian connections..

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ELECTIONS DIVISION

STEPHEN N. TROUT
DIRECTOR

255 CAPITOL ST NE, SUITE 501
SALEM, OREGON 97310

(503) 986-1518

FAX-(503) 373-7414

June 9, 2010

Richard P. Burke, Chair Libertarian Party of Washington County 18220 NW Cornell Road Suite 201 Beaverton Oregon 97006

Dear Mr. Burke,

On June 8, 2010, this office received a "certificate of nomination" for Republican candidate Katie Eyre Brewer from the Libertarian Party of Washington County for the office of State Representative District 29 for the November 2, 2010 general election.

On June 1, 2010, this office received a letter from Jeffrey J. Weston, Chair for the state central committee for the Libertarian Party of Oregon. In this letter, Mr. Weston has requested that the Secretary disregard any certificates of nomination sent by the Libertarian Party of Washington County or any unauthorized affiliates of the Libertarian Party of Oregon. Mr. Weston provides: "Although the Libertarian Party of Oregon governing documents do permit and encourage county parties to run nominating conventions as part of the Libertarian Party of Oregon nominating process, they are not themselves officers of the Libertarian Party of Oregon nor are they authorized to act on behalf of the Libertarian Party of Oregon." Based upon the information received from the Chair of the state central committee this office is rejecting the filing of form SEL 101 submitted by the county central committee for Katie Eyre Brewer for State Representative District 29 for the November 2010 general election.

A certificate of nomination made by a minor political party shall be signed by the officer of the minor political party and an affidavit shall be made on the certificate by the presiding officer and secretary and sworn to or affirmed by them before a judge or notary public. A state central committee is the highest party authority in the state and may adopt rules or resolutions for any matter of party government which is not controlled by the laws of this state. ORS 248.072.

Disputes within a party regarding internal affairs and processes adopted by party by-laws are up to the state and central committees to resolve and not within the realm of this office to arbitrate.

Sincerely,

Brenda Bayes

Deputy Director Elections Division

C: Jeffrey Weston, Chair, Libertarian Party of Oregon Katie Eyre Brewer Oregon Party Adopts New Bylaws The Minutes of their meeting

State Committee Meeting Minutes
March, 31 2011 7:00 PM
Elmer's Restaurant in Salem OR --- 3950 Market Street SE
Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Attendance

Wes Wagner Chair, Mark Vetanen Treasurer, Dave Shelley Clackamas County, Fred Jabin Marion County, Richard Skyba Treasurer, Jim Karlock Multnomah County, Orrin Groves Marion County observer, Angela Grover Marion County, Herb Booth Multnomah County observer, Dave Terry Yamhill County, Joe Tabor Multnomah County observer, David Long Washington County, Ron Bream Multnomah County.

Before reading of minutes, Richard Skyba cited our repeated inability to reach quorum issue and introduced a motion to replace LP Oregon bylaws and constitution as a fix. New documents are updated versions of what was presented in November 2010 special convention.

Vetnanen covered materials and what is in it. Dave Terry wanted to table til we all had an opportunity to review overnight. Vetanen brought up that Yamhill was disaffiliated unfortunately. Wagner covered prior judicial ruling per events in 2009 & early 2010. Angela Grover appealed ruling of chair that Yamhill was disaffiliated.

Committee voted to honor Yamhill County presence for state committee meeting due to importance of motion introduced.

Terry motion called to vote. 4 voted to table. 5 voted to continue to debate on Skyba motion.

Vetnanen offered arguments in favor of replacing bylaws.

Angela Grover offered a motion to replace existing motion with her motion.

After some modification to motion, motion was denied 4-5.

Point of order and parliamentary order raised by Grovers. "Can we do this and what is majority requirement".

Jabin, ors statute says we can do this since according to Oregon statute, our entire bylaw and constitution is invalid. Karlock, seconds that point. Wagner cited state law which says it is majority requirement for approval. Debate continued.

7 minute recess. Meeting commenced without Yamhill and Washington County representation.

Multiple motions and amendments to new bylaws and constitution (note, new documents to go out electronically with "track changes" feature turned on to highlight these changes to the original document). New bylaws and constitution

to be ratified by registered Oregon libertarians at next convention. Mailing to go out before then per new document guidance

Fred moved to close debate. New bylaws and constitution is approved. 5 in favor, none dissenting with 2 abstaining.

Motion to create Board of Directors. Angela Grover, Richard Skyba, Joe Tabor, Ron Bream, Mark Vetanen, Wes Wagner, Jim Karlock, Joe Shelley, Herb Booth are on Board. Approved by acclimation.

Date of next meeting is April 19th, at Village Inn restaurant at 6 pm (near Lloyd Center in Portland).

Meeting is adjourned. 9:03 pm.