

Liberty for America

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

Volume 5 Number 4

September 2012

Root Flees LNC!

Editorial

Vote Republican? You Must Be Joking

The Republicans launched an unprovoked war of aggression against Iraq. To justify their crimes against peace, they staged an unprecedented series of bald faced lies. When their occupation of Iraq was met with the staunch resistance of Iraqi patriots, they arranged for the city of Fallujah to be substantially razed to the ground, a crime against civilization whose obvious historical analog was the destruction of the city of Lidice. They then violated the Geneva conventions by imprisoning and torturing thousands of foreigners in secret prisons in Poland and elsewhere. On the home front, Republicans caused the National Security Agency to create massive wiretapping systems that intercepted most phone calls. That's electronic warfare, warfare against the American people, warfare supported by almost every Republican in Congress. When Americans wage war on America, that's the crime in the Constitution. Republicans deserve fair trials, not votes.

Johnson 2012 July Financials

For July, 2012, the Johnson campaign had receipts of \$332,980 and spent \$323,934, leaving it with \$14,264 cash on hand. The income includes \$130,058 in Federal campaign matching funds, which are limited to discharging primary campaign debt. Donations from private persons and PACs therefore amounted to a shade under \$203,000. For July 2008, Barr raised \$259,041.

Of this money, \$284,500 was given to Political Advisors of Salt Lake City for "Media Buys, Advertising, Candidate Travel, and Advisory Services". In addition, \$25,000 went to EH2 for fundraising and consulting services, \$7000 went to Douglas Herbert's Law Office for Legal Services, \$2500 went to Charles Frohman and to Wagon Works LLC for fundraising and consulting, \$1895 went to Daines Goodwin for FEC reporting, \$670 went to Zions bank for various charges, and \$150 went to Media Temple for internet. The Johnson campaign admits to \$296,201 in debt.

Are there any media buys there? Or is the spending all for campaign advisors? Johnson has structured his campaign finances to make it impossible for donors to tell what his being done with their money — not an encouraging state of affairs.

He Urges Vote for Romney

Wayne Root, Gary Johnson's nominee for LNC At-Large member, has submitted his resignations as an At-Large member of the Libertarian National Committee, Chair of the Libertarian National Congressional Campaign Committee and "from the Libertarian Party". Root is now endorsing Romney. Root's resignation followed an increasingly emphatic series of calls for his resignation, censure, or removal from the LNC.

Root was our 2008 candidate for Vice President. He has now unambiguously endorsed the Presidential campaign of the Republican Presidential candidate. Root's resignation letter follows later in this newsletter.

The Libertarian National Committee will be choosing Root's successor. National Chair Geoff Neale has proposed, so far without resistance from the LNC, that the new member should be chosen at the November 17 LNC in-person meeting near Washington.

Our sources at the LNC say that the days on which Root's resignation became known were truly great days for LNC fundraising, reportedly including three life memberships being sold in one day.

Blessing Blasts Root

In a letter sent to all LNC members and widely circulated elsewhere prior to Root's resignation, LP New Mexico Chair Mike Blessing had condemned Root's efforts to support the Republican Presidential campaign while denying he was doing it as an LNC member. LNC Regional Alternate Paulie Frankel answered, reporting that there were not enough votes to remove Root from the LNC. In an extended letter with 53 attachments not included here, Blessing wrote

It seems that Wayne Allyn Root spent a good bit of June, July and August stumping for Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan (with a little bit for Scott Brown, etc.) on Fox News, townhall.com, and personalliberty.com, etc., and then posting about it to his Facebook and Twitter pages.

This is inexcusable.

I've never been one to join the anti-Root campaigns before, but this pushes me over the top. I know that he said he was just giving Team Romney some "free advice." How would George Bush have reacted if GEN McChrystal or GEN Petraeus had put out a press release with some "free advice" for al-Qaeda or the Taliban? SHOW ME the "branding" guy from Pepsi who gets ahead by talking up Coke in the media.

The proverbial "Duh" comes to mind here.

Hey, Wayne, I don't have any personal animosity towards you. If you were JUST an oddsmaker posting predictions, I could let some of this slide. If you were JUST a pundit expressing your views, I could let some of this slide. And there's too much, over too long of a time span, to blow this off as a "lapse in judgment" or "poor choice of words."

But the fact remains that you're ALSO the current chair of the LNCC, sitting on the LNC, and sitting on the Nevada LP's state-level Executive Committee, while stumping for GOP candidates (Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan) in direct opposition to the LP's candidates for the same offices (Gary Johnson and Jim Gray).

THE EVIDENCE

I've got a few screenshots and saved web pages. Here's some URLs for your examination (screenshots are attached [Ed:in the original letter]) -- I'm sure there's more to be found, so check these URLs, too:

<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root>
<http://facebook.com/WayneAllynRoot>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/>
<http://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/>

Articles, Radio Shows

http://www.700wlw.com/player/?station=WLW-AM&program_name=podcast&program_id=bill_cunningham.xml&mid=21977071
http://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/2012/06/18/how_romney_can_win_the_presidency_this_week
<http://www.newsmax.com/WayneAllynRoot/Marco-Rubio-VP-Latino/2012/06/19/id/442814>
http://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/2012/07/31/media_is_mad_because_mitt_told_the_truth
<http://personalliberty.com/2012/08/09/obamas-college-classmate-speaks-out-the-scandal-at-columbia-that-ends-the-obama-presidency/>
<http://www.spreecast.com/events/malzbergwayne-root-obama-a-fraud>
http://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/2012/08/13/how_to_turn_paul_ryan_into_obamas_shadow
<http://www.theblaze.com/contributions/what-mitt-romney-should-tell-harry-reid/>
http://townhall.com/columnists/wayneallynroot/2012/08/28/message_to_romney_own_the_word_extreme

Facebook

[Liberty for America](http://libertyforamerica.com)

<http://facebook.com/WayneAllynRoot/posts/510463435634165>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/4313584875483>
<http://facebook.com/WayneAllynRoot/posts/510461612301014>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/4178319213926>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/367818186623156>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/342215642522448>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/4313789680603>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/121689671308023>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/477182795640000>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/442302579133477>
<http://facebook.com/wayne.a.root/posts/468330509846315>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240649263498022912>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240638438162968577>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240638300971487234>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240636619831508993>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240636498309967872>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/240494434867875840>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/214724846796550145>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/213738681142476800>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/213738560250064896>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/213738446831882241>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/213738283291774976>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/213628779778674688>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/212968310189457410>
<https://twitter.com/WayneRoot/status/212963444016680960>

Paulie Frankel responds

Hi Mike, thanks for writing.

My sense is the votes are not there on the LNC to have 2/3 plus one for removal for cause plus survive an appeal to Judiciary Committee. I don't think the votes are there even for a censure. I don't think it would be a close call either.

Wayne has made the point that he is just the representative for a segment of delegates that voted for him (conservative-libertarians or "Republitarians" as some call them), and is staying on to represent them. From the other side of the fence, Angela Keaton did the same thing two terms ago, running for and winning a second LNC term *after* she concluded that the LP as a whole had become overall detrimental to the cause of liberty.

Were I in Wayne's position (or Angela's then) of effectively seeing the LP as "your party" (as Wayne has put it), I would not seek or accept a spot on the LNC, but at the same time I think attempts to purge or vote LNC members "off the island" wheth-

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er they be Keaton and Wrights two terms ago or Root and Lieberman this term – especially when the votes are not lined up – are a huge waste of time.

I suppose a point could be made that it would at least get LNC members on the record as to who would support removal or censure and who would not, but what I would like to see the LNC do instead is focus on a positive agenda of concrete actions which I have been repeatedly calling for on the LNC list to make the committee more useful to the party as a whole, and any time spent on considering censuring or removing LNC members would take away from the time we could possibly hope to have to consider matters involving improving outreach literature, better training for affiliates and party activists, and so on.

The solutions that I see instead are

1) Better organization in getting “our” people to the next national convention and better floor management to get better election results in electing the next LNC – we better be ready, because the other side (Wayne and friends) have already said they will step up their game in Columbus from what we saw in Vegas and they will be on their home turf in Columbus...

and

2) Better efforts at outreach to non-LP members (college students and others coming primarily from left-libertarian perspectives) along with efforts to sign them up as LP members and delegates to state conventions and the next national con-

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vention,

1 and 2 both working hand in hand.

I have been publicly and privately calling for these actions for at least 6 years repeatedly and people have largely ignored me, although William Sparkman did some of that with Texas delegates this year which helped improve LNC results quite a bit from my perspective.

We'll need a larger and more concerted effort like that in 2014, as I expect one from the “other side”.

We'll also need a college outreach effort and a media spoketeam and professional booking agency.

Anything you can do to help put these things together would be appreciated.

The closest thing I see to the college and media effort I would like to see is the Gary Johnson campaign, and I am going to spend as much time as I can between now and the election — and hopefully, continuously after that — to help those efforts, as I would like to see others doing. I would think that in New Mexico especially the field should be ripe — UNM and Nob Hill areas in Albuquerque, among many others, are good place to start concerted organizing.

If you aren't already, you can see any ensuing discussion at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LNCDiscussPublic/> or at <http://www.independentpoliticalreport.com/> if one of our writers chooses to publish it there. Please feel free to share elsewhere as well.

Oregon Ballot Status

While our State Affiliate (Wes Wagner, Chair) did put Gary Johnson on the ballot in Oregon, Oregon votes by mail. Key to candidate performance is a statement in the voter book, which may be inserted either by collecting 500 signatures or by paying \$3500. Our highly reliable Oregon sources indicate that the Johnson campaign turned to the Reeves faction to collect the signatures, on a candidate statement not, we are told, received positively by the LP Oregon as a way to influence Oregon voters.

The Reeves faction failed, we understand, to turn in the signatures by the due date.

In the end, after some pointed exchanges, the Johnson campaign agreed to pay \$3500 for a Johnson statement (but not another \$3500 for a matching Gray statement), to be drafted by Wes Wagner and our Oregon affiliate, which will now be seen in the voter guide. Readers will note that the payment was effectively (allowing for protective extra signatures) around \$5 a signature that the Johnson campaign paid. Our sources related to this matter suggest that the Johnson campaign has started to realize that they were given bad advice about LP internal politics.

The Oregon lawsuits are approaching the back and forth over summary dismissal of claims. The next hearing may be on September 24 if it is not postponed. There will then be extended litigation over the discovery phase, in which each side gets to question the other. Eventually matters will go to trial. Recall that the LPMA ballot access lawsuit, which at one point had an expedited trip straight to the state Supreme Judicial Court rather than a slow grind through lower-level courts, took four years.

Our state affiliate and its chair are most displeased that the LSLA State Chairs list talks to the wrong state chair in Oregon. The LSLA position may be found in the Minutes of the Teleconference Call of Libertarian State Leadership Alliance Officers for April 8, 2012, the officers at that time being Chair Michael Johnston, Secretary Aaron Starr and Treasurer Brett H. Pojunis. The officers agreed with respect to working with Oregon that they would recognize the Chair from Oregon, or their representative, selected by the convention credentials committee or in the event they are overturned by the convention delegates. We gather that the Oregon Chair suggested to the LSLA Chair that he could correct the matter or that the LSLA would face the wrath of Oregon Libertarians.

Where Your Money Went — LNC

For July 2012 the LNC had \$148,952 in receipts and \$113,730 in disbursements. Total LNC income for the year is \$981,464, including National Convention income. The income total includes \$35,384 in vendor refunds, notably \$33,333 from the Libertarian State Leadership alliance, leaving \$113,442 for conventional donations. If that donation rate extended for the year, the LNC would have an income close to \$1.5 million.

The Starchild Reflector list quotes LNC Treasurer Tim Hagan as writing: Revenues are \$99,242 below budget. Extrapolating out to the end of the year, revenues are on track to be \$214,148 below what the budget expects. Total Expenses are also below budget, by \$99,299. If the LNC continues spending at the same rate, I project that expenses will be \$254,427 below budget. The unrestricted checking account is above the reserve requirement. Hagan proposes that Reserve adequacy arises because expenses were kept down to match the lower than expected revenues.

New Members and Subscribers are doing much better than might have been expected from the recent past. New members and subscribers had been running 200-250 per month; for August there were 506 new members and new subscribers, 80% from the web, donating and average of \$41. The number of active donors with members increased from 12,870 two months prior to 13,361 at the end of August. There were 13 new life members in the last month.

More on Saratoga

Readers will recall our report on the issues arising within the Ohio Libertarian Party with respect to the Saratoga information technology project. We have had supplied to us three resolutions said to have been passed by the Ohio party's governing

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.

structure, namely

#1 WHEREAS, certain allegations have been made concerning the conduct of Michael Johnston; and WHEREAS, if the allegations contain truth, these alleged actions tend to injure the good name of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, disturb its well-being, and hamper it in its work; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an Investigative Committee be formed to investigate these allegations, and report back to the Central Committee resolutions covering its recommendations.

#2 WHEREAS, certain allegations have been made concerning the conduct of Jillian Mack; and WHEREAS, if the allegations contain truth, these alleged actions tend to injure the good name of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, disturb its well-being, and hamper it in its work; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an Investigative Committee be formed to investigate these allegations, and report back to the Central Committee resolutions covering its recommendations.

and #3 WHEREAS, all allegations concerning the conduct of both Jillian Mack and Michael Johnston are related to each other by a single set of events and separate committees to investigate them would be redundant and wasteful; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the investigative committee be formed with the same body of members for the both parties being investigated.

In an entirely separate but related communication, we had inquiry from Ohio asking us who our source was on the Johnston/Saratoga matters. Like all newspapers, we refuse to disclose our sources.

We have also had supplied to us the minutes of the LSLA Executive Committee for August 11, 2012. The meeting was called with almost no notice. The Chair ruled Roberts does not allow this. Roberts was inconvenient, so Aaron Starr moved to set aside the clear meaning of Roberts' on timely notice of special meetings. Starr was supported by his three cronies on the LSLA Board, namely Patrick Dixon, Shawn Levasseur, and Brett Bittner.

On the teleconference call were Chair Michael Johnston, Vice Chair Patrick Dixon, Secretary Aaron Starr, Treasurer Shawn Levasseur, and At-Large Member Brett Bittner, as well as invited guests Cisse Spragins, Brett H. Pojunis, Jillian A. Mack, and Glenn Nielsen. We quote from the meeting minutes:

The agenda adopted is as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review & Approve Agenda
- III. Consideration of Resolution of the LSLA Concerning Saratoga
- IV. Approval of Minutes and Adjournment

The Chair stated he received written requests for a special meeting of the LSLA Executive Board from 3 of the 5 LSLA officers this afternoon, and that this is in compliance with our Bylaws. He stated that the issue of appropriate timing was raised by multiple LSLA members on the State Chairs list. In the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, the timing of Special Meetings is addressed thusly:

Chapter IV, Section 9; Special Meetings:

A special meeting is a separate session of a society held at a time different from that of any regular meeting and convened only to consider one or more items of business specified in the call of the meeting. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting clearly and specifically describing the subject matter of the motions or items of business to be brought up must be sent to all members a reasonable number of days in advance.

In the absence of any specified notification requirement in the LSLA Bylaws, the Chair rules that neither the 2 hour 47 minute notice between receiving all written requests nor the initial notification presented approximately 8 hours before the proposed meeting meets the RONR test of being "a reasonable number of days in advance". As this meeting does not meet the standards for reasonable notification required under Roberts Rules, I will add this item to the agenda for 19 August 2012.

Aaron Starr challenges the ruling of the Chair stating that the particular section of Roberts does not apply to a board meeting and that all participants were present. Mr. Bittner seconds the challenge of the ruling of the Chair. Motion made to adjourn by Patrick Dixon. Motion fails for lack of a second. After debate of the ruling of the chair, the motion came to a vote to sustain the ruling of the chair.

Patrick Dixon - No
Aaron Starr – No
Shawn Levasseur – No
Brett Bittner – No
The ruling of the Chair has been overturned.

Adoption of Agenda

The motion to adopt the agenda was adopted without objection.

Consideration of Resolution

Due to potential pending litigation surrounding accusations about questions the Chair raised in the past few weeks, the Chair has decided to recuse himself from running of tonight's session. The Chair hereby reserves the right to participate in the discussion if directly asked to participate, to provide factual information, and to provide amendments during the debate. As LSLA Vice Chair, the responsibility to run this Special Meeting thus falls to Pat Dixon of Texas.

Mr. Dixon assumed the position of presiding chair for the balance of the meeting. Motion was made by Aaron Starr to con-

sider the Resolution of the LSLA Concerning Saratoga. Michael Johnston proposed a substitute motion, the details of which are included as an exhibit at the request of the board. The motion failed for lack of a second.

After debate, the main motion without amendment came to a vote.

Patrick Dixon - No
Aaron Starr – Yes
Shawn Levasseur – Yes
Brett Bittner – Yes
Michael Johnston – No
The motion was adopted.

Approval of minutes and adjourning of meeting

The minutes were approved without objection at 5:47 pm, whereupon the meeting adjourned.

Aaron Starr, Secretary

RESOLUTION OF THE LIBERTARIAN STATE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE CONCERNING SARATOGA

Whereas, Members of the Executive Board of the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance (LSLA) have received inquiries as to what our role is in the development of a combination content management system and customer relationship management platform by the name of Saratoga; and

Whereas, The Board desires to make clear its role and clarify any misconceptions that may exist;

now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Board of the LSLA issues the following statement on the matter:

On June 17, 2012 at a meeting of the LSLA Executive Board, former LSLA Treasurer Brett H. Pojunis spoke of the need to handle the development of Saratoga without the involvement of the Libertarian National Committee and that he will take on the project as a private venture as spelled out in an email authored by Brett H. Pojunis and Jillian A. Mack sent to the LSLA state chairs list on June 16 (attached for reference purposes). As a result of the information provided by Mr. Pojunis and Ms. Mack fully disclosing their intention to develop Saratoga as a private venture with private funds, the LSLA adopted without objection a motion to return to the Libertarian National Committee their \$33,333 initial installment for the LSLA to develop the Saratoga project. The LSLA no longer has the resources or a champion to develop Saratoga, and claims no ownership to the technical specifications developed principally by Mr. Pojunis and Ms. Mack with the input of LSLA state chairs. We look forward to the private development of this software, which we believe is very much needed by our state affiliates and candidates, and wish the principals success in their endeavor.

And while we stand willing to provide any feedback to the developers should they request it, the LSLA recognizes that it has no ownership in this software and will not interfere with any business transactions anticipated between the developers and those to whom they wish to market the software.

Furthermore, any other statements made by a member of the Board on this project not in keeping with the above were not authorized by the Board and are not representative of its views.

And be it further resolved, That the LSLA Secretary is instructed to distribute this resolution and its attached exhibit to the LSLA state chairs, the Libertarian National Committee and to anyone else who may have a misunderstanding of our position. Adopted this 11th day of August, 2012
Aaron Starr, LSLA Secretary

Exhibit – June 16, 2012 letter from Brett Pojunis and Jillian Mack addressed to State Chairs and Libertarian National Committee

LP Leadership;

We know that you all have a lot of responsibilities, but please do not skip over this email as it could affect some of the things you are doing in your state/region/party. As most of you know, Brett H. Pojunis and Jillian A. Mack have been working very hard on developing a piece of technology that will enable each state affiliate to have a website (CMS) with a tied in membership platform (CRM) for their State, Counties, Cities, Candidates and more. We named this technology Saratoga. This project has been supported by over 25 affiliates and is continuing to gain support, which we thank you for! Here is the quick background of what has happened with Saratoga:

Through the LSLA, we started this project by creating the Online Technology Standardization Committee to identify and select the best technologies to accomplish the goal. The selected technologies were Joomla for the CMS and CiviCRM for the CRM.

The LSLA presented to the LNC at the December 2011 meeting in Las Vegas and a motion was made to budget \$50,000 towards this project with the conditions that Randy Eshelman (former LNC At-Large Member and Vice Chair of Nebraska) would be the liaison between the LNC and the LSLA. The LSLA IT Committee had to develop a technical specification document and satisfy Mr. Eshelman in order to receive funding.

The LSLA created the LSLA IT Committee consisting of LP members from Ohio, California, Nebraska, Kentucky, Texas, Colorado, Missouri, and Nevada. We were pleased to see the talent we have on this committee! We named this project Saratoga 1.0. We worked very hard to determine the full scope of this project and put together a requirements specification to document that scope. We then spent literally 12 hours one week on conference calls with state chairs (or their appointees) to understand the needs for all of the states. We incorporated all of your ideas and drafted a Tech Spec.

We knew that if we started promptly, there was a good chance that we could complete the project in time for the National Convention.

As we were nearing the completion of our technical specifica-

tions document, both Mr. Eshelman and Brett H. Pojunis sent messages to then LNC Chairman Mark Hinkle and HQ informing them of our progress and provided the LSLA's banking information to ensure that we promptly received the down payment required to start development on schedule.

We were then attacked and criticized for many weeks by Staff and Chairman Hinkle, who was a vocal opponent of the project from the beginning. The supporters of this project on the LNC responded by adopting 4 (four) motions before the LSLA finally received the down payment 7 (seven) weeks late.

By the time payment was finally received, the project schedule had been thrown so far off track that we were unable to move the project forward at that time due to our other LP commitments (namely our state conventions and preparations for the national convention).

After the National Convention, three of us – Brett H. Pojunis (NV), Jillian A. Mack (OH) and Flavio Fiumerodo (CA) – stayed in town specifically to work on this project. Given the experience with the last administration and noting that a number of the project's supporters on the last LNC were not returned for another term of office, we made the decision to hold off development on this project until we received assurances that the remaining budgeted funds would be distributed to the LSLA upon completion of the project. We had not received such assurances from the LNC as a whole and, as you might imagine, we were unwilling to take the risk that we would personally owe the developers money if the LNC were to not honor the agreement made the prior term. As such, we had NOT started development and all of the seed money from the LNC is still in the LSLA bank account. We firmly believe that Saratoga is desperately needed to help this party get organized and grow. However, those of us working on the project are frustrated with the continual struggles getting this project 100% approved. And, frankly, we don't look forward to the prospect of encountering repeated pushback from the LNC each time we want to upgrade and improve upon the technology.

Therefore, about three and a half weeks ago we made the decision that we couldn't develop and support Saratoga in an environment where we lacked confidence the LNC would honor the current agreement and support future enhancements without needless drama and delays. Furthermore, most states supported Saratoga under one condition: they did not want any involvement from the LNC, period. More than ever, we have an appreciation for why state affiliates have that concern. Thus far, the tone of the conversations about Saratoga on the LNC indicates the LNC should and wants to play a major role. That approach does not work for us or the state affiliates. The solution to this problem is to develop Saratoga as a separate private venture that will offer the program to the States, Counties, Cities and Candidates directly. We have decided to go this route and we will not be accepting funds from the LNC or the LSLA to accomplish this; we will be using our own funds.

Brett H. Pojunis is planning on funding this entire development of Saratoga himself and if it gets too expensive, we have some other people willing to help out. We will work with Affiliates directly. Our intent is to initially roll out Saratoga to all Affili-

ates who want to use it. As part of the initial sign-up, it will be made available for free for the first few months, the number depending on the total costs incurred.

Based on how many States, Counties, Cities and Candidates want to use it, we will put together very reasonable monthly payment packages so we can cover the costs of monthly hosting and hopefully over time, recoup the investment to develop it, as well as accumulate funds for platform support and future upgrades. Obviously, the more participants who use the platform, the less we will need to charge. Our intention is to keep the costs very low so state parties can save money even while they are getting more functionality than what they presently have.

Currently, there are 8 states that have either requested and/or agreed to use Saratoga offered by a separate venture not associated with the LNC or any other politically run body. We expect a realistic launch date of Saratoga to be sometime mid to late July, followed by an aggressive roll out to the States. At this point, the three of us – Brett H. Pojunis, Jillian Mack, and Flavio Fiumerodo – are no longer involved in the LSLA or the LSLA IT Committee. Our involvement in this project will be outside the auspices of the LSLA and the LNC. Therefore, we request that the LSLA board return to the LNC the funds that have been advanced to them. Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to keeping you updated as the project progresses this summer.

P.S. We just launched www.GoLibertarian.Com, which is the first social network for Libertarians. Use Facebook Connect to Login and start using GoLibertarian.Com!

Sincerely,
Brett H. Pojunis
Libertarian National Committee (LNC) – Regional Representative
Libertarian Party of Nevada – Secretary & Executive Committee
Young Libertarian National Alliance - Co-Founder, Co-Chair
Ph: 202.505.3606 M: 702.325.7426 brett.pojunis@lp.org &
Jillian A. Mack
(513) 549-6248 [mobile/text]
Jillian.Mack@LP.org Libertarian National Committee
(www.LP.org): Region 3 Representative for Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio (elected) Libertarian Party of Ohio
(www.LPO.org): Finance Director, Central Committee Member (elected), Executive Committee At-Large (elected) Young Libertarian National Alliance (www.ylna.org): Co-Founder, Co-Chair

Exhibit – Proposed Substitute Motion by Michael Johnston placed in the minutes at the request of the board. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Whereas, The Board desires to make clear its role; now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Board of the LSLA issues the following statement on the matter:

On June 17, 2012 at a meeting of the LSLA Executive Board, former LSLA Treasurer Brett H. Pojunis spoke of the decision to handle the development of Saratoga without the involvement

of the Libertarian National Committee or the LSLA and that he intended to finance the project as a private venture. This was spelled out in an email authored by Brett H. Pojunis and Jillian A. Mack sent to the LSLA state chairs list on June 16 (attached for reference purposes).

As a result of the information provided by Mr. Pojunis stating his intent to develop Saratoga as a private venture with private funds, the LSLA adopted without objection a motion to return to the Libertarian National Committee their \$33,333 initial installment for the LSLA to develop the Saratoga project. The LSLA did not consult the other members of the LSLA IT Committee about this at any time prior to August 3, 2012. The LSLA Chair was urged not to lobby the LNC to secure the remaining funds committed by the previous LNC prior to the June 16, 2012 email from Brett H. Pojunis.

The LSLA no longer has the resources or a champion to develop Saratoga, and claims no organizational ownership to the technical specifications developed under the leadership of Mr. Pojunis and Ms. Mack with the input assistance of LSLA volunteers.

And be it further resolved, That the LSLA Secretary is instructed to distribute this resolution and its attached exhibit to the LSLA state chairs, the Libertarian National Committee and to anyone else who may have an interest.

The Root Resignation Letter

“To My LNC and Libertarian Party Friends,

“I have spent the last 60 days thinking about my political future. I have consulted with many friends and political experts I trust. I have listened to my wife and my family's wishes. And I have come to an important decision -- perhaps among the most important of my life.

“It has been a whirlwind last five years in my political career. I started as a S.O.B. (son of a butcher), small businessman, home-school dad, Las Vegas oddsmaker, and political newcomer running for the Libertarian Presidential nomination in 2007. Some thought my journey a longshot.

“But in America anything is possible. In this great country, never discount a longshot. I was elected the Libertarian Vice Presidential nominee in 2008. The Bob Barr/Wayne Root Presidential ticket went on to garner the second highest vote total in Libertarian history.

“I was then elected to the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) -- the governing Board of America's Third Party. Soon thereafter I was also elected Chairman of the Libertarian National Campaign Committee (LNCC). I was honored to be re-elected this past May to the LNC Board and LNCC Board.

“I dedicated myself to getting more media attention for the LP than anyone in our party's history – and did so with about 4000 media appearances in the past four years. My libertarian commentaries now reach millions of Americans at places like FoxNews.com, The Washington Times, Newsmax.com, Town-

Hall.com, TheBlaze.com, Breitbart.com, DailyCaller.com, PersonalLiberty.com, and many more.

“I sought a position in public office and was named by the Governor of Nevada to the Judicial Selection Commission in 2010, one of only two Libertarians nationwide to be given such an honor by their Governor.

“For me this has been a dream come true. I want to thank every Libertarian that voted for me in each of these elections, and the many words of support and encouragement you gave me. It was you who made this success possible. I will be forever grateful for the faith you placed in me.

“But it is now time for a change.

“Today I’m announcing the most important decision of my political career. Today I am stepping down from my roles in the LP, LNC, and LNCC. After six years of giving my heart and soul to our party, this decision does not come lightly. I leave with nothing but fond memories. I leave awed by the intensity, love, and loyalty of Libertarians, LP political candidates, LNC members, and LP leaders.

“The people I have worked with on the LNC and LNCC are warriors and patriots. I have met some of the most amazing people of my life. I hope to remain friends for the rest of our lives. I hope to work together to continue fighting for smaller government, expanded personal and economic freedoms, individual rights, and more power to the people.

“Like some of my political heroes who have fought the good fight for smaller government -- Ron Paul, Senator Rand Paul, Senator Jim DeMint, and in earlier generations Ronald Reagan and Barry Goldwater -- I have come to the conclusion that I’ll have more opportunity to elect good people and change the direction of this country outside of a third party.

“It is the exact same decision that Ron Paul (our former LP Presidential nominee) and his son U.S. Senator Rand Paul made. It is the decision that many libertarians have made- from David Koch (our former LP Vice Presidential nominee), to the founders of CATO. My personality is goal-oriented and highly competitive, and because of that, I aim for one metric as the indicator of success -- winning elections to change public policy. My colleagues are correct when they state that there is no point to winning without a philosophical foundation rooted in liberty. But I believe it’s also correct to state there is little point to having such a philosophical foundation, if you are not going to use it to improve people’s everyday lives. I owe it to my four young children to try to actually elect people that can change policy and make a difference in their future.

“But regardless of any differences there might be in matters of strategy, I will always have fond memories of my six years with the Libertarian Party. I salute all of my colleagues as heroes fighting for liberty. The hard work you do day in and day out is nothing short of remarkable. I remain amazed and stunned at your level of loyalty and work ethic. I leave with only positive things to say about my LP experience.

“But I’m not really leaving. I am a Lifetime Libertarian Party member and will always call myself a REAGAN Libertarian, or Libertarian conservative. Just like a Congressman Ron Paul or U.S. Senator Rand Paul, I have simply decided to move my Libertarian beliefs and the fight for smaller government to a different battlefield.

“Nothing will change with my goals. I will work harder than ever to get more media exposure than ever before. I simply think my skills and media megaphone will be more productive in a different venue. It will be easier to get my message of limited government out to mainstream voters who remain skeptical, cynical, or oblivious to third party politics. And you can bet I’ll always support ballot access for third parties too.

“I want to do more than talk about issues without actually affecting them...and I want to do more than attempt to move policy in the right direction. I want to elect people to office with the aim of creating a country built upon smaller, more limited government; lower taxes; less spending; a stress on individual rights and States’ Rights versus an all-powerful federal government; a balanced budget; more economic and personal freedom; energy independence; school choice; and the principles of our Founding Fathers as embodied in the U.S. Constitution.

“Perhaps most importantly, I want to restore a free market economy – one based on supporting the private sector, taxpayers, job creators, small business owners, and capitalism. History demonstrates time and again that the economics and politics of envy – taking wealth from those who have earned it and redistributing to those have not – leads to massive failure, economic collapse and eventually totalitarian government. And in the absence of economic liberty, personal liberty ceases to exist.

“After all, can one really have freedom of the press if it’s illegal to own one? I want to be in a leadership position in American politics to reverse the course our country is traveling down the Road to Serfdom, and to save the future for my four beautiful, wonderful children.

“To save our country and restore liberty, I have come to realize that I need to take practical steps to win office myself, so I can have a direct effect on the future of America. I plan to join Tea Party U.S. Senators like Rand Paul, Jim DeMint, Marco Rubio and Mike Lee in the near future, representing the great state of Nevada.

“Do those elected officials have imperfections in their beliefs or their track records? Absolutely! Every politician does. But I don’t see how one can make progress by demanding nothing less than perfection from others. Effective politics is about finding where you agree with others, and working with them to achieve mutual goals.

“I wish you all my best. And I sincerely hope there will be opportunities to work together to save our country, our economy, our Constitution, and make this world a more Libertarian place for ourselves and our children.

“God Bless. In Liberty,

Wayne Allyn Root

2008 Libertarian Vice Presidential Nominee

How We Got Here

Let's look back to last April. Mr. Root appeared to have made a media appearance on which he urged people to vote for Romney. His statement was promptly condemned by some LNC members

Sat, 07 Apr 2012 00:12:41 -0400 Stewart Flood wrote:

At this time I ask that Mr Root submit his resignation as chairman of the LNCC. His actions earlier today show a bias that clearly conflicts with his duties on that committee, or as a representative of our party in any capacity.

Since we are only four weeks from the end of our term of office on the LNC, I will not ask that any action be taken to remove him from this body for violation of his fiduciary responsibility.

I have reviewed the ByLaws, and I do not believe we have sufficient time to deal with this issue properly.

Sun, Apr 8, 2012 8:39 AM Mary Ruwart wrote:

I will join you in asking for Mr. Root's resignation from all LP positions on the LNC, LNCC, the Gary Johnson Campaign, and Nevada LP.

Last night, I attended a presidential debate in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. I had quite a bit of time to interact with Gary Johnson. He was stunned to find out that someone from his own team would tell a radio audience to vote for Romney.

I told Gary Johnson that my first reaction in hearing about Wayne Root's comments was sympathy for him. No presidential candidate should have to listen to his small business adviser or whatever Wayne Root's title is, telling a national audience to vote for the opposition.

The LP cannot control what its members say. However, it should not tolerate such betrayal in its leadership.

Apr 8, 2012, at 2:39 PM, Alicia Mattson wrote:

At the end of the interview, the last question asked by the host was basically: If Romney could beat Obama, would things be any better, or is it doom either way? In Wayne's answer, he said he didn't think we could survive either Obama or Romney, that someone has to fundamentally restructure the system to save it.

If that's an "endorsement" of Romney, then Wayne spent much more of the interview "endorsing" Obama. :-)

Sun, Apr 8, 2012 12:11 PM,

Stewart Flood wrote: I believe that some people are confusing what happened. Speaking for myself, I never said that Mr Root endorsed a candidate of another party. But he did, very clearly, state that the "only choice" was the candidate expected to be the nominee of another party.

That action directly conflicts with his responsibilities as a member of this body, as well as the chairman of the committee that this body created to assist our candidates.

I have seen no apology, no admittance that he violated his fiduciary responsibilities, and in fact have only seen further bragging on his part about how he believes his actions help us!

This has got to stop: Mr Root does not appear to be considering resigning from the LNCC. He does not admit his actions were wrong, and unfortunately some on this board have been drinking the "Root-aid" for so long that they can do nothing other than defend a man who uses this organization for personal gain and position in the media, while at the same time publicly stating that our cause is ineffective and our candidates cannot win!

Mr Root alternates in his interviews and commentary between calling himself a Reagan libertarian, a tea party conservative and various other permutations of self created labels designed to forward his ratings with listeners and readers.

Mr Root is not a libertarian, but he does try to play one on radio and tv. Are we to sit by and encourage bad acting?
Stewart Flood

Dan Wrener wrote:

You say "I have seen no apology" from Wayne. But if you read Wayne's statement ([at independentpoliticalreport.com/2012/04/wayne-roots-clarification-of-cunningham-show-comments/](http://independentpoliticalreport.com/2012/04/wayne-roots-clarification-of-cunningham-show-comments/)) he explicitly says "I do apologize for any confusion my words caused." He also admits that his choice of words was poor: "once in a while you'd like to reword a sentence or two. This is one of those times."

So I think the level of criticism you and several others have delivered over that one or two sentences is a bit over-the-top.

When someone makes a mistake, recognizes the mistake, and apologizes for it, it makes no sense to keep beating them up over it. The proper response to a mistake is to fix it to the extent possible. Wayne says he is now going to try "turning lemons into lemonade" by scheduling another interview with Bill Cunningham to promote Gary Johnson and the Libertarian Party. To me that sounds like an excellent "fix".

4/8/2012 4:12:26 P.M. Stewart Flood wrote:

An apology for "confusion" is not an apology. He is like a little boy caught with his hand in the cookie jar and crumbs on his face, who tries to say that we don't understand...he was just putting the lid back on the jar!

I am not delivering criticism over one or two sentences. The entire interview was bad. I have commented in the past on his use of terms like "Reagan Libertarian" and other misrepresentations of libertarian positions.

This is not the first interview or commentary of his that I have found problems with, but it is the first one I have heard while he has been serving on the LNC in which he openly encouraged support for another party's candidate.

Liberty for America

Liberty for America is not currently a political party.

To subscribe: <http://LibertyForAmerica.com>

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

In this issue:

Root Flees LNC!

Root Endorses Romney

Editorial: Vote Republican? You Must Be Joking!

Johnson 2012 Financials

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Paulie Frankel Responds

Oregon Ballot Status

Where Your Money Went—LNC

More on Saratoga

The Root Resignation Letter

How We Got Here

First Class Mail

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