

Liberty for America

Journal of the Libertarian Political Movement

Volume 5 Number 12

May 2013

Editorial More Crackpots!

Our last editorial was reprinted on Independent Political Report (IndependentPoliticalReport.com), where it drew an enormous number of comments. You can see them all at independentpoliticalreport.com/2013/04/libertarian-opinions-out-with-the-crackpots-and-a-modest-proposal-for-ending-the-drug-war/ The level of foolishness of some of the conspiracy sorts was astounding. There was, for example, the fellow who proposed that because people with some sense would hesitate to drink a large quantity of some of the antimicrobials used (in trace amounts) to preserve some vaccines, that therefore the vaccines themselves must be dangerous, as though dosage had no clinical consequence.

It is interesting to note that at least some conspiracy advocates apparently collect conspiracy nonsense the way other people collect stamps. The same person will be prepared to argue for vast numbers of totally unrelated pieces of pseudoscience and revisionist history. Of course, there can be good money in that collection: Several talk show hosts specialize in accumulating extended lists of odd beliefs, and find an audience willing to listen to their baroque interpretations of our world.

Readers will perhaps not be surprised to learn that in the IPR debate all sorts of other crackpots crept out from under their rocks. Debate rapidly drifted from the issues we had raised, e.g., global warming denial and United Nations Paranoia, to 9/11 trutherism. California LPer Brian Holtz spent what must have been a great deal of time doing the research needed to disprove various exotic claims. Each truther factoid (factoids are sort of like facts, except they are deficient in truthiness) apparently needed only a few minutes of internet search to disprove, but there were a great number of them.

The original 9/11 building investigation was run on the finest of libertarian principles. It was carried out by university fire researchers and insurance companies, the investigators working as volunteers. After all, as one of their lead researchers (and a good personal friend whom I trust) noted, we have had a large number of skyscraper fires, but never before has one collapsed the building. Was something wrong with our understanding of building fires? How much do we insurance companies need to adjust our reserve funds? In the end, no fundamental issues were found with the design. The level of damage was just outside what a building could survive. Only unusually resilient construction permitted as many people as escaped to get out alive. The causes of the building collapses were in the end entirely worked out; a later FEMA studied filled in a few details.

Kaplan to Run for NJ Governor

From the LP of New Jersey: "Pleased to announce our gubernatorial nomination, Kenneth Kaplan. A father of two grown children, Kaplan is a long time libertarian and commercial real estate broker. A graduate of Brandeis University and NYU School of Law, Kaplan is president of KenKap Realty Corp, and past president of the Livingston Lions Club. He is also a member of Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston, where he serves on the board of the Men's Club. Kaplan was admitted to the NJ Bar in 1972 and remains a member in good standing. Give it up for Ken Kaplan everyone!!" New Jersey and Virginia (next story) are the only states to elect a Governor this year.

Robert Sarvis for Virginia Governor

Robert Sarvis will be the Libertarian Party candidate for governor of Virginia. We quote his web site "Virginia needs intelligent, inclusive, economically literate leadership. But we can't get that from the Democrats or the Republicans, can we?"

The two major parties have put forward candidates that are terribly wrong for Virginia. The Republican, Ken Cuccinelli, is a hyper-partisan opportunist promising to foist a regressive ideology on all of us. The Democrat, Terry McAuliffe, is the poster child for crony capitalism and an economic know-nothing. Can't we find a candidate with more sense than these two?

Yes, we can! Virginia native **Robert Sarvis**, Libertarian candidate for Governor, who will stand up to Ken & Terry in defense of freedom, free markets, marriage equality, and the rule of law."

Sarvis needs 10,000 signatures to get on the ballot.

War, War, Glorious War!

Yes, once again America has launched itself into a foreign land war, this time in Mali, where we have now landed — well, flown in, as the country has no coastline — troops to assist the French in their struggle to support the Malian military dictatorship. Most Americans have not heard of our invasion. Indeed, many Americans would be hard-pressed to identify the continent in which Mali lies. The alleged excuse for the war is that Islamite residents of the country may take political power. Readers who have heard of the Constitution may notice that this is a war pertaining to the establishment of a religion, hence forbidden.

Some Americans will wonder why we are supporting a military dictatorship against its opponents. However, fighting for tyranny is apparently an Obama campaign theme, one he seems to have copied from his predecessors of the past sixty years.

Where Your Money Went LNC in April

LNC income is falling, from \$129 thousand in January to \$78,713 in February and now \$76,811 in March.

And where did the money go? \$25,524 went to employees and contractors, including \$3000 to the party's attorney, \$1500 for FEC filing, and \$1347.50 to a long-time petitioner. Staff travel -air came to \$1162. We believe that the petitioner payment may settle the payment issue noted some issues ago. \$11,584 went to state and Federal taxes, liability insurance, the bookkeeping operation, and the LNC 401K plan. Health Insurance came to \$3608. The LNC has six employees, plus one tele-fundraiser.

Then there were operational issues. \$9817 went for printing, mailing, shipping, and postage to companies including B&B Duplicators, Bigeye Direct, Direct Mail, FP Mailing, Great American Leasing, MacBain printing, Fedex Kinkos, the postmaster, and Worldwide Express.

The office itself cost \$11,472. Office supplies from various sources came to \$372. The copier lease and copier maintenance cost \$866. Bank and similar fees before money reached the office came to \$2571.

Then there are the information technology services, including \$1067 to Broadview Networks for phone, \$1375 to Rackspace for website hosting, \$1306 to Website Movers for web site maintenance, \$574 to SoftLayer for email server hosting, \$150 to MelissaData for member services, \$90.77 to Comcast for cable and internet, and \$35 to PhoneFusion for phone.

The last large expense was advertising, including \$1311 to Clearsky for promotional materials, \$1500 to FreedomFest, \$1279 to iContact for email marketing, and \$240 to Facebook.

That's at least 5% of the budget on advertising the party.

LNC in Action in April

The following articles summarize LNC activity for April. We were supplied with what we believe to be the contents of the LNC Discussion list for April. A few interesting statements appear as consequent articles. If I have made the LNC sound to have done very little, well, the mirror reflects the original.

There was an extended and heated discussion over the decision to place the 2014 convention someplace in Ohio rather than someplace else in Ohio. Accepting BitCoins as donations was discussed. A proposal to have a "BitCoin moneybomb" was considered. There is a newsletter "Libertarian Party News" that is not associated with the LNC, Independent Political Report, or this newsletter; some interest was expressed as to who this magazine is. Starchild did fliers for tax day protests.

A New York politician who ran on four ballot lines (fusion), one being Libertarian, was indicted. Is he a Libertarian or a Republican? The issue is confusing. He is listed on our web

site as an elected Libertarian, though he is registered Republican. He ran on several ballot lines, making the question of his party affiliation complicated. The NY State Chair objected to removing him from our web page list. An old argument about LPUS members who are registered with some other party returned. Some LNC members have, historically, been registered as R or D.

Old minutes are being fixed by the new Secretary. He seems to have inherited an enormous mess. LNC member Dianna Visek is playing a major constructive role in helping him straighten matters out. There was a question as to what non-member Aaron Starr had said at one meeting. LNC Alternate Paul Frankel took the radical step of asking Starr what he had meant. The issue was that Starr had reminded the LNC of their Policy-Manual-fixed policy on how contracts are reviewed and renewed, without himself taking a stand on whether or not the Executive Director should be renewed.

The LNC received a request from a substantial number of Nevadans to send observers to their state convention -- which has now been cancelled. Geoff Neale sent the LNC an extended note saying that he did not want a repeat of the Arizona and Oregon issues, and that having had observers in Arizona or Oregon, years ago, might have given the LNC a different perspective on what was going on.

The LNC discussed the Boston issue. Hostility to crackpot conspiracy theories related to Boston was expressed. Concern about the curfews was expressed. The LNC member who lives in Brookline noted that the "stay indoors" was voluntary. The LNC discussed a press statement. There was extensive confusion over Miranda rules and what the suspect might or might not have been told. The LNC's retained attorney was not asked. The Mass LP group considered issuing one.

R Lee Wrights wrote:

With all due respect to everyone involved, the time for press releases is *when* news happens, not days *after* an event. At the risk of sounding redundant, this is exactly why we NEED a press secretary. We need someone on the job to respond to news *when it happens*.

Lee Wrights

Vice Chair

Libertarian Party

Vohra: Future of LNC Facebook Page

Under the title "Why You Won't be seeing Ron Paul or Rand Paul on the facebook page for a while", LNC member Arvin Vohra has reportedly advised Libertarian activists:

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During the last few months, you often saw quotes from Ron Paul on our facebook page. This was both to help build bridges to the r3volution, which had been turned off by our 2008 ticket, and because Ron Paul has some excellent things to say.

But now it's time to move forward. People didn't respect Ron Paul because he was a congressman, or because he was charismatic. It was because he talked about cutting government and promoting liberty. He talked about it when it was popular, and when it was unpopular. In fact, he made unconventional views popular (e.g. End the Fed).

It's time for us to take up the mantle. That's not going to be accomplished by wearing r3volution t-shirts, but by talking about the cuts that others are afraid to talk about.

On our facebook page, we will be giving top priority to candidate memes. These are images of a candidate, with a quote from the candidate. Quotes should be about cutting government. To be blunt: no one cares if you have 3 kids and a dog. Tell us what you're going to cut, or what liberties you will increase.

Wrong: "I love my family, and I love America." -Fred Jones, Congressional Candidate

Right: "The Department of Education blocks educational innovation. If we eliminate it, American genius will give us the greatest educational services in the world." -Fred Jones, Congressional Candidate

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

Your Donations are not tax deductible. Federal law requires us to request the occupation and employer of donors of \$200 or more in a year. Paid for by Liberty for America. Your donations may be used in relation to a Federal Election.

Our candidates are our most important volunteers. They are the front line heroes of this movement. We should turn each of them, from parking committee candidates to candidates for president of the united states, into household names.

The same applies to state chairs, county chairs, staff, and LNC members.

Please send me (arvin.vohra at lp.org) Candidate memes, videos, events, blog posts, etc, as well as similar items from LNC members, state/county chairs, etc.

Note about events: we can target those to specific regions. For example, we can share a specific event only in Colorado, if the candidate is going to be speaking in Colorado.

-Arvin

Starchild on LNCC Political Leanings

Starchild is reported to have written the Libertarian National Congressional Committee, saying:

Evan,

When you spoke at the Libertarian Party of California convention a week and a half ago as executive director of the Libertarian National Campaign Committee, you said in response to my question about progress in moving the LNCC website away from the conservative tone/focus it had under Wayne Allyn Root that we could talk about that later. Unfortunately when I tried to approach you again just before the end of the convention, you apparently did not have time to talk, and the event concluded without us having that conversation. Therefore, and in light of the letter to Glenn Beck sent out by the LNCC today, I am following up, because I feel it is an important issue.

Having just looked at the committee's site (LNCC.org) again today, I'm sorry to say that I still do not see any major shift in the committee's approach since W.A.R. was replaced with Mark Rutherford as chair of the committee. The banner depicting two Democrats (Obama and Nancy Pelosi) along with one Republican largely discredited among conservatives (George W. Bush) as the bad examples America needs to get away from, remains at the top of the front page. The LNCC's issues page is overwhelmingly focused on issues that appeal more to people on the right than people on the left (see <http://www.lncc.org/issues/>), and the manner in which the issues are discussed doesn't do anything to offset that. Even the sole issue presented that is more likely to appeal to people on the left than on the right, Non-Intervention Policy, is discussed primarily in financial terms and in terms of Americans' self-interest. Not a word is said about the humanitarian impact that bombing, drone strikes, and waging war has on civilians in other countries (see <http://www.lncc.org/issues/non-intervention-policy/>)

Now I see that the LNCC is reaching out to talk show host Glenn Beck, who is generally seen by the public as a conservative and viewed by many on the left the way they view figures

like Sarah Palin and Rush Limbaugh. You have written to him, "I would like to welcome you to the Libertarian Party." You further encourage the conservative-leaning radio host to "openly and honestly discuss Libertarian philosophy." There's certainly nothing wrong with that, so long as either Beck himself understands that philosophy or is having that discussion with guests who do, but how can the LNCC credibly ask Beck to openly and honestly discuss libertarianism when the LNCC itself does not do it? At present the LNCC continues to dispense a conservative-flavored take on libertarian philosophy.

There are some other points in the letter to Glenn Beck that bear mention. The phrase you use to describe your own shift away from an interventionist foreign policy, "I drank the Kool-Aid and saw the light" seems to me an unfortunate choice of words that an additional pair of eyes or two looking at the letter before it was published might have caught. Was this letter submitted in advance to members of the LNC's Advertising & Publications Review Committee? The LNC Policy Manual (Section II.2, page 24) states that "The APRC shall review and advise whether public communications of the Party violate our bylaws, Policy Manual or advocate moving public policy in a different direction other than a libertarian direction, as delineated by the Party Platform." Your letter gives the impression of being a public communication of the Libertarian Party subject to this oversight.

You also write to Beck that,

"I would like for you to understand that the ire and outrage you've received in the past couple months from Libertarians comes not from some high-minded purity test or doubt in your sincerity. It swelled from the lack of any acknowledgment of how you have previously discussed and treated our Party's philosophy, leadership, candidates and our dedicated activists."

In fact I think many Libertarians do have doubts about Glenn Beck's sincerity in embracing libertarianism. Given the defections of both former conservative members of our 2008 presidential ticket, Bob Barr and Wayne Allyn Root, back to the Republican Party where they endorsed Mitt Romney over Gary Johnson for president, I think such doubts are entirely reasonable. But if Glenn Beck takes his cue from the LNCC, he may feel that all he has to do in order to show his commitment to libertarianism is pay some modest lip-service to the idea of a non-interventionist foreign policy, have "a couple" Libertarians on his show and make some vague statement about spiritual growth in accord with what you wrote in your letter, and that in other respects his present conservative-leaning approach will fit in just fine at the LP. If he comes away with this impression, the LNCC will have done our party and cause a disservice.

It seems to me that between conventions it is the job of the elected members of the Libertarian National Committee, not the unelected members of the Libertarian National Campaign Committee, to set tone and policy for the national Libertarian Party and to engage in outreach to major public figures on behalf of our party. This would seem to have nothing to do with the LNCC's mission of promoting the campaigns of Libertarian candidates. Is the LNCC experiencing "mission creep"? Where do you draw the line? This jurisdictional issue is only compounded in my mind by the fact that the LNCC appears to be

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.

making little effort to distance itself from the conservative tone established by Wayne Allyn Root, and the committee launching a special effort to welcome a figure like Glenn Beck to the Libertarian Party further reinforces this perception.

What do you and Mark Rutherford (copied on this email) have to say in response to these concerns?

Love & Liberty,

(((starchild)))

At-Large Representative, Libertarian National Committee

LP Nevada Cancels its State Convention

As seen at lpnevada.org/articles.html/_/lpn/lpnevada-2013-convention-postponed-r58 and widely discussed elsewhere:

"We regret to announce that we are forced to postpone the 2013 Libertarian Party of Nevada State Convention. The convention will no longer be held on Saturday April 27, 2013, as originally scheduled.

The Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Nevada does not take this decision lightly, but is compelled to do so because, during the past week, the resources of the National Libertarian Party were used in an unethical manner in an attempt to influence the outcome of the Convention. An email was sent from the official party address info at lp.org appearing to endorse a declared candidate for chairman of the Libertarian Party of Nevada, Brett Pojunis. The email also urged recipients to contact Brett Pojunis, who is not authorized to represent the Libertarian Party of Nevada in any official capacity, for further information.

Brett Pojunis drafted the email in question and presented it to the Libertarian National Committee Chairman under the pretense that it was intended to promote the 2013 Libertarian Party of Nevada State Convention. This was an abuse of authority by Brett Pojunis who currently serves as Region 4 Representative to the LNC, and a violation of the trust of the Chairman of the Libertarian National Committee.

In a follow up email, Libertarian National Committee Chairman Geoff Neale apologized to Nevada Libertarians for not reviewing the request in its entirety and acknowledged that it was inappropriate for Brett Pojunis, candidate for State Chair, to be featured in this email.

The current Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Nevada has never used party resources to promote any candidate for any Executive Committee position, and never will. In the case of a party office, such activity is completely unethical. Although there are no laws governing such behavior within a non-governmental body, it is highly unethical and would call into question the integrity of the organization.

Because of the intolerable interference of the National Party in the affairs of a State Party attempting to use its resources to influence the outcome of 2013 Libertarian Party of Nevada State Convention, the Executive Committee has decided that the appropriate action at this time is to postpone the 2013 State Convention until later in the year. The new date for the convention will be announced in accordance with party bylaws.

Furthermore, the Executive Committee has decided that Brett Pojunis must be held accountable for his actions. As a result, we are formally announcing that Brett Pojunis no longer represents the Libertarian Party of Nevada on the Libertarian National Committee and we officially withdraw from Region 4. Furthermore, we encourage other states in Region 4 to consider withdrawing their support for Mr. Pojunis as regional representative because of his unethical behavior.

We hope that these events do not discourage anyone from further involvement with the Libertarian Party of Nevada. Our goal is to ensure the party operates in a fair and ethical manner. We hope that you will join us for the 2013 Libertarian Party of Nevada State Convention later in the year.”

We have seen repeated suggestions that the serious problem with the LP Nevada State Convention was that the current state committee had counted noses and concluded that if they held a convention they would be thrown out of office.

A video of the meeting the LPNV State Committee organized is available through independentpoliticalreport.com/2013/04/video-of-confrontation-between-two-nevada-groups-april-27-2013/

Neale Apologized For Not Recognizing the Issue

As reported to us, Geoff Neale has apologized for not recognizing that the LPNV convention announcement needed some editing before being distributed.

To all LNC members and State Chairs:

Today the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Nevada postponed their convention. The text of their announcement in its entirety is included at the bottom of this email. [Ed: This is the previous article.]

This will be my humble attempt to shed as much light as possible on this regrettable occurrence, and clarify my involvement.

Brett Pojunis, currently the LNC Region 4 Representative for

the states of Nevada, Arkansas, New York and New Mexico. Region 4 also includes California, but under their regional structure, Brett is only a tertiary representative for California.

Brett has also declared and is actively seeking the position of Chair of LP Nevada.

Recently, Brett asked me if he could request an email notification be sent to the national members within Nevada regarding their convention. His stated intent was to make sure everyone in Nevada knew about the upcoming convention. I approved this in principle, as long as the intent and message was a facts based "public service" type of announcement, intended to promote overall involvement. LPHQ does make such notifications, and I feel it is completely consistent of LPHQ to enter into such activities at the request of either the affiliate or their Regional Representative.

The email that Brett crafted and forwarded to staff was predominantly a "public service" type announcement, except that it was "signed" by Brett, and included links and references to himself. For the record, there were clear and proper links to all the appropriate LP Nevada sites and links, and Brett's contact information was listed after the proper links.

I did NOT review this email before it was sent out. The primary reason is that, as Chair, I do not have the time or inclination to review every communication from our staff. I delegate.

I know staff reviewed this, because they asked me for the authority to send this email out. When asked, my response was that I would approve it as long as it was "just the facts", and did not present a biased position either for or against any candidate in the LP Nevada convention.

I was told by staff that it seemed reasonable and unbiased, so I approved it. Unfortunately, in hindsight, it was a mistake.

Last week, I was informed by Nevada Chair Joseph Silvestri about the email, and his displeasure with it. I offered to send out a new email, apologizing to the LP Nevada membership for my failure.

On Saturday, the original email was resent, without the portion referencing Brett Pojunis, prefaced with the following statement from me:

"Valued LP Nevada members:

I wish to apologize to you personally for a message you received recently from our national office regarding your upcoming state convention. The message below is MOST of what you received, but a portion of it has been removed.

Brett Pojunis, the LNC Regional Representative for Nevada, requested that I approve sending an email to all LP National Members in Nevada to promote your upcoming state convention. In my opinion, it is totally consistent with the purpose of the LP to promote any state convention, and also appropriate for LNC Regional Representatives to make this kind of request.

I did approve sending the previous message, but I did not catch the fact that this message contained links and information on contacting Mr. Pojunis directly in addition to your official websites.

Unfortunately, it really was inappropriate of me to approve the message in its entirety, since Mr. Pojunis is not currently in an any official role within your state party, and is also a declared candidate for Chair of the Libertarian Party of Nevada. While we on the LNC strongly support attendance at every state convention, we have now given the unwarranted impression that we are trying to influence the outcome of your upcoming election. We are not.

It is my strongest desire that your upcoming convention be well attended, that each and every rule of your Bylaws be resolutely followed, and that the entire Nevada membership have confidence in the processes of your convention, even if some do not like the outcome. For my part, I will be happy to work with whoever your delegates choose to lead them.

Geoffrey Neale
Chairman, Libertarian Party"

Neale reportedly continued by saying:

"Additionally, some time ago I received a letter from Mr. Pojunis, signed by more than twenty LP members from Nevada, requesting three things, one of which was for the LNC to assign a neutral observer to the Nevada Convention. [Ed: Letter is the following article.] I communicated this request to the LNC, and sought counsel. I also asked Mr. Silvestri if he would object to a neutral observer, and he asked to review the matter with his Executive Committee. Several members of the LNC communicated with me that it was completely in order for any LNC member to show up at any affiliate convention as an observer, and that no affiliate should refuse entry of an LNC member. Regardless of whether that opinion is correct or justified, I still sought to get the approval of the LP Nevada Executive Committee before officially asking someone to attend. In the meantime, Norm Olsen (Region 4 Representative) booked a flight. I subsequently asked Mr. Silvestri to please welcome Norm as a neutral observer as a favor to me, and stated that I had told Norm that he was to watch and listen, but not to intercede. At no time did I assert any kind of authority to require his attendance.

So why exactly do we need or want a neutral observer?

First off, I have been told by more than just a few people that Nevada has the potential to "go Oregon". If that were to happen, I would like to have someone be able to report to me and the LNC of what happened, without having any skin in the game.

Secondly, there have been numerous accusations flying around in Nevada between and about the principals in the now postponed election. Two of the announced candidates are also LNC members. In the absence of neutral input, there are already two LNC members who I would have to assume are bi-

ased, and by all rules of propriety, ought to recuse themselves from any affiliate issues brought to the LNC.

Thirdly, I was Regional Representative of both Arizona parties back in the 90's, and now we have two parties in Oregon. Regardless of the position that the LNC should stay out of affiliate relationships, we have no choice but to get involved if there is any kind of dispute as to who the real affiliate is. If having a neutral party there can help, then I think it's worth it.

And last of all, and perhaps most important of all, I am the Chair of the National Libertarian Party, and every one of its members, no matter what state they live in. I feel I have a modicum of responsibility to the general membership, and my way of manifesting that was to consider sending a neutral observer.

For the record, Mr. Silvestri asked if I would be willing to serve in that role, and normally I would, but I am already scheduled to be at the Ohio convention this weekend.

I cannot help but have opinions regarding the principals in this dispute -I'm only human. However, it will be the decision of the members of Nevada as to who leads them, and I will do my utmost to work with whoever those Nevada members choose.

In closing, I offer my humble apologies to one and all for my involvement in this. If there is blame assessed, it can only lie with me.

Geoffrey Neale
Chair Libertarian Party

Nevada Petition to LNC

As forwarded to us, the Nevada Petition was an email from Brett H. Pojunis to the LNC under the title PETITION: Libertarian National Committee: Please give us a fair Convention in Nevada!

To the members of the Libertarian Party of Nevada Executive Committee, State Leaders in Region 4, Libertarian State Leadership Alliance, and members of the Libertarian National Committee;

Libertarian National Committee: Please give us a fair Convention in Nevada!

We respectfully request that the Libertarian National Committee host, facilitate, credential, and oversee a fair, legal, and Libertarian convention for the Libertarian Party of Nevada during the July 2013 National Committee meeting in Las Vegas, NV.*

The LPNevada Executive Committee has indefinitely postponed the 2013 LPNevada State convention five (5) days prior to the convention! This has inconvenienced many members who had taken time off work, had plans already to travel to Las Vegas and rearranged their schedules to be able to participate in the convention.

Overview of our meeting on Saturday April 27th, 2013:

Concerned members of the LPNevada held a meeting next door to the original convention site at the J.W. Marriott Spa and Resort. We paid for the costs of the meeting space ourselves and took some donations from people who showed up. The meeting was very professional and the venue was fantastic.

We started the meeting by discussing why this was not a Convention and just a meeting. We did not have any intentions of hosting a "Rump Convention" as the LPNevada accused me of last week while making very negative claims against me in the process. Having a Convention would have caused more harm than good.

We printed up the attached document titled "2013 Strategic Operations Game Plan To Effectively Develop and Build the Libertarian Party in Nevada" This document, was printed and bound with a clear plastic cover and a nice hard cover back. Please review it as there is a lot of information. The document was broken up in the following main sections:

1. Solutions to building a Strong and Sustainable LPNevada
2. LPNevada Membership Decline & Projections
3. Our Candidates for the 2013—2015 LPNevada Executive Committee
4. Recent Activities from Our Slate
5. Topics of Discussion - This was for our Saturday meeting
6. Petition to LPNevada and LNC.
 1. We had a starting point prepared by Tim Hagan, David Colborne, Lou Pombo and myself.
 2. The group discussed the goals and voted on each line item together, then it was printed and each member present signed it.
7. Purpose of the Libertarian Party
8. Strategy Session - Building the Libertarian Party in Nevada

I feel we had a very productive meeting! The takeaway is that we are going to start setting up working groups and building the Libertarian Party IN Nevada! We will not sit idle while we wait for another convention or for National to take action. There are too many productive things we can do to grow the party now.

During the meeting we constructed a Petition to the LPNevada Executive Committee and the Libertarian National Committee. The petition is attached to this email with 33 signatures on it. Many more signatures are coming! We are working on getting the video from the meeting online. I have attached a few images to this email from the meeting. Please take this petition very seriously. The vast majority of the LPNevada membership is extremely upset at current leadership. They are clearly in violation of our Bylaws and no affiliate should be able to do what they are doing. Candidates who wish to run in the 2014 Elections must be selected by the membership of LPNevada at our convention in the beginning of March 2014. If we do not have a timely convention in 2013 this will hurt the 2014 election cycle. We have to give notice for our 2014 convention in December 2013. This does not allow enough time for us to recruit candidates nor build the infrastructure we need to win elections!

On a separate note, the LPNevada utilized the space reserved for the convention for a private function that only a select few members of LPNevada were invited to. When we showed up no one from the Executive Committee had the courage to speak with us and they had security escort us off property which was very embarrassing to our membership. Our group was very respectful and professional (it is all on camera) and did not do anything other than ask questions to ensure they were not holding a convention of their own. The actions of the LPNevada Executive Committee were in very bad taste.

We request a prompt response and immediate action! Best,
Brett H. Pojunis
Libertarian National Committee Region 4 Representative

Redpath urges \$25,000 for Arkansas Ballot Access

As forwarded to us.:

Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to request you to submit to the LNC a mail ballot to increase the LNC budget for Ballot Access expense for 2013 by \$25,000.

This would be to assist in funding a petition drive for the Libertarian Party of Arkansas.

Goal? The LP will complete a party petition in Arkansas (10,000 valid signatures within a 90 days window with a final deadline in April 2014). If the LPAR's gubernatorial candidate in 2014 earns at least 3% of the vote, we will retain ballot access for the 2016 election.

Rodger Paxton, LPAR Chair, says there are three people seeking the LPAR nomination for Governor. He says that any of the three will be a good candidate. He thinks it is very possible that even in a four-way race (with a Green Party candidate), the Governor candidate can get over 3% of the vote. He reports that the "L" word in being used with much greater frequency in Arkansas these days.

He also states that the LPAR will field a US Senate candidate in 2014. Arkansas is one of two LP state parties that has not yet fielded a candidate for US Senate. This would be a first.

Mr. Paxton also states that the LPAR would have candidates for all four US House elections in Arkansas in 2014.

He further estimates that the LPAR would field a total of about 30 candidates for various public offices in Arkansas in 2014.

For 10,000 valid signatures, the LPAR would probably have to gather about 14,000 gross sigs. With 3,000 volunteer sigs and the funds to pay for about 1,000 more gross sigs, that would leave about 10,000 gross sigs to be paid for by the LNC. Building in an all-in cost of \$2.50 per sig would leave an outside cost for Arkansas of \$25,000.

It would be best to get this petition drive going ASAP, as it is relatively slack period for petitioners and we could get this drive done before the height of the upcoming Summer heat in Arkansas.

I would also suggest a conference call with Rodger Paxton sometime by early next week with LNC members so that could ask him any questions they might have about the LPAR and this petition drive.

Thank you, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Bill Redpath

More State Party News

Oregon LP Elects State Committee. Voting was open to people who had showed their interest in the LP of Oregon by voting in their most recent primary. The people elected to the Board were Wes Wagner, Jeff Weston, Bruce Knight, Jim Karlock, Sharon Durbin, Lars Hedbor, Joe Tabor, Kyle Markley and Mark Vetanen. The Board elects its own officers.

The lawsuits between the Oregon Party and the Reeves faction are continuing. Filings are being reported on IPR and are appearing in full detail as Scribd pages, most recently <http://www.scribd.com/doc/138793097/Motion-to-Strike-Inadmissible-Statements-in-Plaintiffs-Declarations-W-Exhibits-P0330873>.

The LP of Washington had its state convention. There were 118 attendees; 12 joined as new members that day. 118 is nearly three times the attendance last year.

The LPPA convention is June 8-9. Speakers will include famous author Jim Bovard.

More on Johnson 2012 Finances

We continue our series on the remarkable finances of the Johnson 2012 campaign. As we reported in the February issue, Johnson's campaign debts were actually not \$150,000, but as of year's end actually \$1,134,602. In March, we reported that the FEC had filed a series of "Request for Additional Information" documents against the Johnson campaign, citing what were apparently viewed as being major deficiencies in the Johnson 2012 filings. Johnson 2012 submitted revised filings. In April, we were able to report that Johnson 2012 had massively underreported Johnson's campaign debts. We also reported that Johnson 2012 was paying astonishing salaries: \$95 an hour for mid-level management. \$150 an hour for press relations. \$225 an hour for creative advertising. \$325.00 an hour for a "Senior Political Advisor"

However, the Johnson 2012 filings are a complex mixture of statements of debt and statements that debt obligations are being paid, leaving one to wonder what was happening. We are now in the process of untangling the Johnson 2012 filings.

Our previous analysis had reported on Johnson 2012's amended campaign filing for April-June 2011. We missed one major interesting feature. An extended series of disbursements appeared in the original filings. In the revised filing made in February 2013, large numbers of payments are reported as having been made to a different entity at a different address, not always in the same amounts and in one case not on the same date as in the original filings. Only the grand total remained the same. That grand total, \$140,000, is an interestingly round number, even though some of the parts (e.g., \$7841.97, \$37,819.33) are not round at all. Payment is now reported as having been made to "Political Advisors" of 731 East South Temple rather than to "NSON Political Advisors" of 781 East South Temple, in both cases in Salt Lake City.

Now a brief reminder of the appearance of FEC filings. There are several pages of Summary Pages, giving, e.g., "total disbursements", and then a series of forms with details. There are actually a lot of types of form, but the major ones are A, B, D, and sometimes C. A gives the itemized donations, donations of \$200 and above. B gives the itemized disbursements, who was paid, how much, and on what date. D are the debts owed by the campaign. C gives the debts owed to the campaign. C is quite often empty. Then, within A, B, C, and D are several lines covering different types of donors, etc. Finally, individual items are given unique identifier numbers. Thus, in the following there is a debt line numbered 4173. That number was assigned when the debt was first reported. All future filings refer to the debt by the same number.

Comparison of the Part B and Part D of the April-June 2011 FEC filings show that in all cases, other than payments to Zion Bank for their services, payments reported in Part B correspond to debts being discharged in Part D. Thus, the detailed debt memoranda shown in part D indeed show where the campaign was spending all of its money. There are omissions. For example, people were being paid, but their names and addresses are missing. At least for April-June 2011, there are no expenditures being made without significant associated paperwork being generated via the form D. Those amounts were listed in last month's article.

We now advance farther into 2011. For July-September 2011, the Johnson 2012 campaign reported on its Summary pages \$236,193 in income and \$231,317 of disbursements, of which \$224,628 is apparent on the detailed list of disbursements in form B. Recall that the public detailed list of disbursements is generated by the FEC software, and omits certain items. Also, it appears that the electronics may have misplaced a Form B entry for debt payments in the amount of \$6600.

The itemized disbursements include \$5073 to Zions Bank, \$12000 each to Howard Bydlak and EH2 Consulting for fundraising, \$550 to Stephen Toglia for fundraising consulting, and \$403 to Daines Goodwin for accounting.

All the rest of the money went to "payment on debt obligation". However, those debts are now all itemized, so we can say with moderate accuracy how the Johnson campaign spent its money. The debt obligations being paid are numbered in the FEC report as 46658, 46660, 46662, and 46740. Of these, the first three

were paid off, while the fourth received \$69,729.78, the total paid being \$189,500, in agreement with the total disbursements on the Summary page. The debts that were paid off, and what they covered, are now listed.

There are debt lines for over \$100,000 each, corresponding to salaries being paid. Itemized staff hours run around 900 a month, enough for four full-time-equivalent staff members beyond the "Senior Campaign Advisor". There are much smaller debt lines covering candidate travel, email and web advertising, and office supplies.

Line #46658 was incurred in April-June. It had \$52,563 remaining in July-September, all of which was paid off. The original debts included:

- Senior Political Advisor 50 hours at \$16,250 (\$325.00/hour)
- Creative Advertising \$13,500 for 60 hours (\$225.00/hour)
- Press relations \$14,325 for 95.5 hours (\$150.00/hour)
- Press relations \$14,630 for 133 hours (\$110.00/hour)
- Mid-level Management \$18,886 for 199 hours (\$95.00/ hour)
- Mid-level Management \$14,630 for 357 hours (\$41.00/ hour)
- "Outside subcontracts per agreement" \$9427.50

These figures total to \$101,648, which is neither the original amount, nor the amount paid in April-June, nor the amount paid off in July-September.

Line #46660 was incurred in April-June. No payments were made in those months, but it was paid off in July-September. This line covered

- Mail Marketing \$851
- Ad Placement Web \$990
- Travel—Staff and Candidate \$6013
- Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$29,578

for a total of \$38,611.

Line #46662 was incurred in April-June. No payments were made in those months, but it was paid off in July-September. This line covered

- Travel, staff and candidate \$20,405
- Ad Placement, web \$4304
- EMail Marketing Costs \$1812
- Printing \$1453
- Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$329.

Debt lines remaining from May-June include #s 4169, 4170, 4171, 4172, 4173, and 46655, for a total of just under \$284,000.

However, the campaign also incurred new debt, some of which was even paid off. New debt lines are listed below. Readers will after a few of these notice a certain monotonous similarity. There are large bills, over \$100,000, for extremely ample hourly salaries. There are small bills, around \$20,000, about half being candidate travel and the rest being anything that might be described as advertising, either web or printing based.

Line #46740 for a total of \$106,379.10, of which \$69,729 was paid in the period, leaving \$36,649 to be paid. This line was remarkably close to line #46658, as seen above. The listed amounts were:

- Senior Political Advisor 50 hours at \$16,250 (\$325.00/hour)
- Creative Advertising \$13,500 for 60 hours (\$225.00/hour)
- Press relations \$14,325 for 95.5 hours (\$150.00/hour)
- Press relations \$17,543 for 158.67 hours (\$110.00/hour)
- Mid-level Management \$18,886 for 198.91 hours (\$95.00/hour)
- Mid-level Management \$14,630 for 357 hours (\$41.00/ hour)
- "Outside subcontracts per agreement" \$9,427.50

Line #46741 for \$18,481.62, none of which was paid in the period. Costs included

- Travel, staff and candidate \$12,231
- Ad Placement, web \$2605
- EMail Marketing Costs \$1436
- Shipping \$1704
- Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$504.

Line #46742 for \$22,001, none of which was paid in the period. Costs included

- Travel, staff and candidate \$9,833
- Ad Placement, web \$2391
- EMail Marketing Costs \$2540
- Printing \$3514
- Shipping \$2187
- Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$1534.

Line #46743 for \$127,645, none of which was paid in the period. Costs included:

- Senior Political Advisor 50 hours at \$16,250 (\$325.00/hour)
- Creative Advertising \$13,500 for 60 hours (\$225.00/hour)
- Press relations \$21,358 for 194 hours (\$110.00/hour)
- Mid-level Management \$38,873 for 311 hours (\$125.00/ hour, a 30% increase)
- Mid-level Management \$28,262 for 397.5 hours (\$71.00/hour, nearly a 75% increase)
- "Outside subcontracts per agreement" \$9,400.

Line #46745 for \$16,015, none of which was paid in the period. Costs included

- Travel, staff and candidate \$9,535
- Ad Placement, web \$1118
- EMail Marketing Costs \$1931
- Printing \$1150
- Shipping \$1467
- Miscellaneous/supplies/office \$812

Line #46746 for \$118,342, none of which was paid in the period. The listed amounts were:

- Senior Political Advisor 50 hours at \$16,250 (\$325.00/hour)
- Creative Advertising \$13,500 for 48 hours (\$281.25/hour, a 25% increase in the rate, achieved as fewer hours for exactly the same total price)
- Press relations \$19,368 for 176 hours (\$110.00/hour)
- Mid-level Management \$30,000 for 240 hours (\$125.00/ hour)
- Mid-level Management \$28,117 for 295.97 hours (\$95.00/hour, nearly a 25% increase)
- "Outside subcontracts per agreement" \$13,806

That phrase "outside subcontracts" is remarkably vague and may, one might suspect, end up being clarified.

Liberty for America

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